

Buffalo Wild Wings flying into Beloit

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The former Atlanta Bread building, at 2747 Milwaukee Road, has been sold and the new owner has received a lease from Buffalo Wild Wings to convert the building into the new restaurant.

Drew Pennington, Beloit director for planning and building services, said the city is currently reviewing the plans.

The owner has submitted a Conditional Use Permit request for a large outdoor patio area. Pennington said the request will go before the city's Plan Commission and City Council in the coming weeks.

"They've proposed a complete remodel of the restaurant, which will be another excellent improvement along the Milwaukee Road corridor," Pennington said.

Atlanta Bread closed its doors in October of 2012 after five years in Beloit. The restaurant had 17 employees, and general manager Levi Cousin said at the time the economic downturn caused the business to close. Cousin told the Daily News that sales began dropping in 2011, but took a sharp downturn in the beginning of 2012. Many of its 17 employees were with the restaurant from the beginning.

McGuire Mears and Associates took over the listing of the property in March 2013, and listed the building for \$1 million. The building is about 5,764 square feet and sits on about 1.3 acres of land.

Prior to it being home to Atlanta Bread Company, the building housed a Perkins Restaurant.

According to the listing information posted about the property in 2013, an average of 23,900 vehicles pass the property each day, and about 77,000 residents live within seven miles of the building. The property, near the intersection of Cranston and Milwaukee Roads, also is home to restaurants such as Applebee's, Qdoba, Culver's and others.

Buffalo Wild Wings was founded in Columbus, Ohio in 1982, and has more than 1,000 stores nationwide. The restaurant recently opened up its first franchises in Mexico, the Middle East and the Philippines in 2014. Buffalo Wild Wings is known for offering a wide variety of chicken wings with many sauces and seasonings to choose from.

The closest restaurants in the Stateline Area are currently in Janesville, Machesney Park and Rockford. The restaurant has listed an opening for a restaurant manager position in Beloit on several online job posting sites.