

Starkville DAILY NEWS

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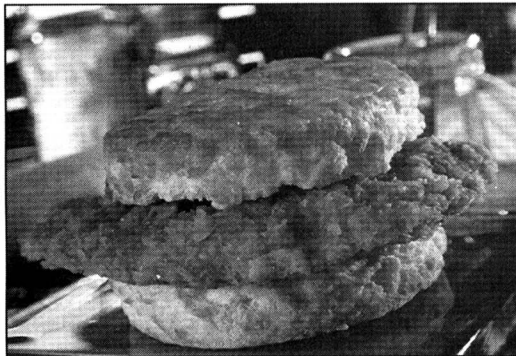


Photo submitted

Bojangles chicken and biscuits are part of an all-day breakfast menu.



Photo submitted

Chicken and their variety of side items are perfect for tailgating.

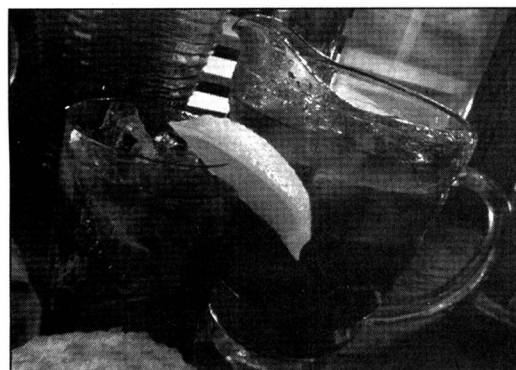


Photo submitted

Bojangles is known for its famous iced tea.

New restaurant set to open Tuesday

Special preview party tonight and grand opening Tuesday at 5 a.m.

By GWEN SISSON
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All biscuits more than 20 minutes old will be disposed of, according to the owner of one of Starkville's newest restaurants.

Cajun-spicy chicken, fresh biscuits and breakfast served throughout the day, will make the new Bojangles an interesting addition to the local food scene.

A special preview party is set for tonight and the grand opening of the new restaurant is scheduled for 5 a.m. Tuesday.

Bojangles owner, Bill Cunningham, is no stranger to the food business. Starkville residents will remember Cunningham as the former owner of 35 McDonald's Restaurants, based in Starkville and ranging throughout Mississippi.

In 2007, he and his wife retired, and began traveling. But it wasn't long before Cunningham was looking for a new adventure.

With vast experience in the food business, the Cunningham's began scouting the possibilities.

They have made their home in Starkville and knew they wanted start a new restaurant that would contribute long-term to the dining experience in Starkville, then possibly branch out from there.

They attended a restaurant trade show in South Beach, Fla., and thought Bojangles would be a perfect match for the area.

And the location at 500 Miss. Hwy. 12 East in Starkville, is rather nostalgic for the Cunninghams. Situated just a short drive from the Mississippi

State University campus, the new Bojangles stands in the same location as Cunningham's first McDonald's Restaurant location in Starkville.

Tuesday's opening marks the first Bojangles' location to open in the state of Mississippi and the first restaurant under the BO-J of MS, LLC ownership group, comprised of Bill and Pat Cunningham and their daughter, Stefanie Douglas.

"We are thrilled to bring the first Bojangles' restaurant to Starkville and serve residents of the local community with a large assortment of fresh, flavorful menu items," said Cunningham. "Bojangles' is sure to impress new and longtime fans of the brand and we look forward to offering the most flavorful chicken and biscuits in town."

The new 4,000 square-foot free-standing Starkville Bojangles' restaurant seats up to 92 people and offers free Wi-Fi as well as flat screen televisions.

The locations interior and exterior have been built according to Bojangles' updated design standards which features a southern traditional landscape. The brand's new prototype store includes a shift towards fast casual dining, blending quick service with a casual dining atmosphere.

The Starkville Bojangles' creates new meal options throughout the day. The hours of operation are 5 a.m. until 11 p.m. Sunday through Monday.

Company plans include opening five additional restaurants during the next



five years in towns such as Columbus, Jackson, Meridian and Tupelo.

Founded in 1977 in Charlotte, N.C., Bojangles' Restaurants Inc. serves all their proprietary menu items from scratch.

A special blend of seasonings gives the food its unique Bojangles' flavor.

The restaurants core menu features Bojangles' Cajun Spiced chicken, fresh, made-from-scratch buttermilk biscuits and legendary iced tea steeped the old-fashioned way.

The breakfast menu offers biscuit sandwiches such as Cajun Filet, seasoned sausage, steak, country ham, and egg and cheese biscuits. Bojangles' also features unique fixin's such as Dirty Rice, Cajun Pintos and Seasoned Fries.

First franchised in 1978, Bojangles' boasts more than 465 total locations throughout the southeast. Bojangles' has 300 franchised and more than 165 company operated locations. By the end of the first quarter of 2011, Bojangles' will have about 500 locations open.

For more information, visit www.bojangles.com or contact the Bo-J of MS, LLC office at 323-7075.