

Flowers Foods on target to open in spring

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Flowers Foods, which is on target to open its bakery production plant this spring, was named the “best-managed” food company Monday by Forbes Magazine among 400 American companies.

The recognition is the fifth time the Thomasville, Ga.-based company has made the list and the second time it has been named best among 17 companies in the food, drink and tobacco category.

“We’re honored to once again be selected as ‘best of the best’ among our peers by Forbes,” said George E. Deese, Flowers Foods chairman of the board, CEO and president. “The entire organization takes pride in our ongoing dedication to executing on our long-term strategy that continues to build value for our shareholders.”

The article “America’s Best Big Companies,” which lists Flowers Foods as the best in its category, appeared in the Jan. 12, 2009, issue of Forbes. It is also available online at www.forbes.com/platinum.

As for the opening of the local bakery, construction and the hiring of the management team is on schedule, though a targeted opening date has not been set, according to Mary Krier, vice president of communications at Flowers Foods.

Flowers Baking Company of Bardstown — the subsidiary name of the bakery in Nelson County Industrial Park — expects to start accepting applications at the end of February for its production plant.

“A president has been named and that is Billy Donaldson,” Krier said.

“The senior team is close to being in place,” she said. “The team is coming together as anticipated and that’s why the application process will begin at the end of next month. We are asking people to check the careers page at www.flowersfoods.com and as soon as we have information, we will post the applications. We’ve updated the career information on the Flowers Foods Web site.”

There is not a phone number for Flowers Baking Company of Bardstown yet, Krier said, and she encourages job seekers to not go to the bakery location. The bakery is expected to employ 200. When applications become available, the information will be posted on Flowers Foods Web site, in *The Kentucky Standard* and at local employment agencies.

Flowers Baking Company of Bardstown will begin with a bread production line and add a bun line in spring 2010. The bread line will produce 10,000 loaves per hour, or 14,000 pounds.

For more information, including up-to-date information about careers at Flowers Foods, visit http://flowersfoods.com/FFC_Careers/index.cfm. Applications for employment at Flowers Baking Company of Bardstown will be available on the Web site.