3 restaurant franchises have big plans for the Upstate

The Upstate is hot in terms of new restaurants right now, and many of those include franchises. In the past year, <u>Poke Bros.</u> has opened four locations, <u>Clean Eatz</u> opened and just last week, two new sweet franchises were announced, <u>Buttermilk Sky Pie Shop</u> and <u>River Street Sweets • Savannah's Candy Kitchen</u>.



Checkers & Rally's plans several new locations throughout the Upstate. (Photo: Courtesy of Checkers & Rally's)

Checkers & Rally's: This is the combination of two brands, Checker's and Rally's, and it specializes in burgers and fries. The dual brand has been growing over the past five years or so and plans some 25 new locations in the Upstate market, according to Robert

Bhagwandat, director of franchise development for the company. There are already talks in place with several interested franchisees.

Menu items stick closely to the fast burger and fry concept, but shine with added flavor and spice, Bhagwandat says. Fries are seasoned with a special blend and burgers come standard or pumped up with things like bacon and even fries.

Restaurant is known for its late-night hours.

Locations TBD

Opening: expected to open the first one within 16 months

https://www.checkers.com