



The 18,000-square-foot building will house the Bedrooms & More store, some office space, and a top-floor condo for the owners.
Rendering by Stuart Silk Architects

Wallingford retailers planning a new store

By LYNN PORTER
Journal Staff Reporter

When Bedrooms & More owners Jeff and Wanda Garfield decided they wanted to move their Wallingford business after 39 years, they went down the street to their local architect.

They hired Stuart Silk Architects | The Commercial Studio to design an 18,000-square-foot building at 316 N.E. 45th St. that will house their store and some office space, with a condo unit on the top floor.

Construction should start next spring, according to John Adams, a principal with the architecture firm.

The new building will be down the block from their current store at 300 N.E. 45th St.

Quantum Consulting Engineers is the structural engineer and Mayfly Engineering is the civil engineer.

The building will have retail space in the basement, first and second floors and

mezzanine. There will be 5,000 square feet of office space above that and a residential condo on the top floor. The Garfields haven't decided if they will lease out the office space.

The new location will have twice as much retail space as the current store, said Jeff Garfield. "We were kind of running out of room."

The business sells bedroom furniture, mattresses and linens. Its inventory includes locally made furniture, two-sided flip-able mattress that Garfield said last three times as long as other one-sided mass-produced mattresses, and mattresses made with no synthetic materials.

The new store will have high ceilings and large windows to showcase the wares along Northeast 45th Street and Fourth Avenue Northeast.

At its current building, passersby can't see more than one floor of retail and the windows are smaller, Adams said.

He said new the building will be at a gateway to Wallingford because it's on a rise and one of the first buildings people will see as they enter the neighborhood from the Northeast 45th exit off Interstate 5.

"It's a great visual location for people that are driving into Wallingford" or along Northeast 45, he said.

The site now is a vacant lot. "It was supposed to be developed as a mixed-use building and then that project dried up during the downturn" and the lot sat vacant for a number of years, Adams said.

Bedrooms & More has only one store. The Garfields' three sons work in the business.

"Our sons came into the business four or five years ago and brought new energy," said Jeff Garfield.

Jeff and Wanda Garfield will live in the condo.

"It's the Ma and Pa store with a room above the store," said Garfield.