I would just ask that people be patient with us and be kind with your criticism.

Sports and burger lovers like expressed excitement when they learned that Pete's on Johnston would be reopening its doors this month after closing for renovations and repairs in November.

But some of that excitement turned to frustration when Pete's fans learned that the sports-bar-turned-restaurant would only be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and wouldn't be open at all on Sunday.

Some turned to social media to express their feelings.

"Might as well just stay closed," Traci Broussard wrote.

"Fortunately, BWW (Buffalo Wild Wings), Hooters, Fat Pat's and Smitty's are more than happy to let us spend our money there!" Jay Kimbrough wrote.

But others stood up for the 27-year-old spot on Johnston Street, which will reopen to the public at 6 p.m. Monday.

"I think it's awesome!" wrote Nancy Scraton Stevens. "There are plenty of

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places to watch games, not too many good, clean family-oriented restaurants anymore! I can't wait to go!"

Pete's is back under original management after about 17 years of being operated by local entrepreneurs. And as the Guidry family prepares to open the doors to the public for the first time in eight months, they're also reacting to criticism they're receiving.

"I would just ask that people be patient with us and be kind with your criticism," says Danny Guidry, the son of Pete's owner Preston Guidry. "We're going to have to make some mistakes, that includes technology mistakes, that includes scheduling mistakes, that also includes food mistakes. That's why I'm asking for your patience and kindness."

The Guidry family chose to close one day each week to better clean the restaurant, prepare from the coming week and repair anything that may need fixing.

But why Sunday? That's the question Saints fans want answered.

"For my family, Sunday has always been a day to attend church and visit with family," Danny Guidry says. "I'm glad we're closed on Sunday so we can continue to do those things."

There are other places in town people can watch Sunday football, Danny Guidry says.

Football fans weren't just upset to learn that Pete's would be closed Sundays, but also that the sports restaurant would now close at 10 p.m. instead of 2 a.m. They argued that some football games begin late and would not be over by 10 p.m.

"I'm pretty sure we'll be flexible with that," Danny Guidry says. "This is our start. It may not be our ending point."

Pete's will start off with a limited menu and will not serve alcohol during the first week back in business. The five menu items that will kick off Pete's reopening will be burgers, chicken-fried steaks, hand-cut french fries and onion rings.

"We're ready to go now," says owner Preston Guidry. "We'll focus on getting real good at getting out those things fast with great quality."

"We're always looking for something new," Preston Guidry says. "I'm a great copier. I like to travel and find something new that would work well in Lafayette then try it out."

Once more of a sports bar that served food, the Guidry family hopes to rebrand Pete's as more of a sports-themed, family-friendly restaurant that serves alcohol.

The new Pete's is brighter, cleaner and a bit more modern. But at its core, it's not so terribly different from the Pete's of before.

Pete's is located at 3903 Johnston St. Learn more about Pete's by calling 337-981-4670.