

Beer Notes

# Bolivar is latest burg to gain brewery

Lockport name pays tribute to lager once made in rural county

Andrew Marburger recalled some solid guidance from a craft beer veteran when he was deciding where to launch his new brewery and tasting room.

He was interested in the rural Bolivar area, where he and his wife, Lauren, grew up. But would sleepy — at least by big city standards — Bolivar in northern Tuscarawas County work?

Andy Tveekrem, the brewmaster at Market Garden Brewery in Cleveland, put Marburger's mind at ease early on, telling him: "You can put a brewery anywhere. If you make good beer and it's comfortable, people will come."

"That always kind of stuck with me," the bearded Marburger, 31, said. "That was our vision: Make good beer and make it comfortable."

Lockport Brewery, located just off Interstate 77 at 10891 State Route 212, is the latest craft brewery in Ohio to call a small town home.

Lisbon, Bryan, Maren-go, Columbiana and Maria Stein are among the communities that now have their own breweries as the craft beer phenomenon continues to spread around the state and country.

Lockport is aiming to open around Thanksgiving.

The Marburgers hope to create a neighborhood pub space where people can gather and socialize. The focus will be on quality beers and customer service, he said.

The brewpub features a U-shaped bar, with four fermenters directly behind it. The 3½-barrel stainless steel brewing system is off to the right and on full display.

Marburger, who brewed with Marty Lindon at Millersburg Brewing Co. and was a homebrewer for five years before that, plans to offer 12 beers on tap, with half of those rotating by the season. He expects some guest beers at the beginning as he ramps up production.

Drinkers will encounter a range of styles from IPAs to stouts. Marburger also would like to add lagers and kettle sours down the road. Considering there is an annual strawberry festival in Bolivar, there will be a strawberry ale.

Marburger, who previously worked in safety compliance at a Canton hospital, plans to distribute some of his beer on draft in the area, and also



Andrew Marburger will open Lockport Brewery, a new brewery just outside of Bolivar off of Interstate 77, around Thanksgiving. Marburger helped brew at Millersburg Brewing Co. before going out on his own in his hometown. | RICK ARMON/Akron Beacon Journal

wants to can a few styles using a mobile canning operation.

The 3,300-square-foot brewpub once served as office space, so the Marburgers are in the process of converting it into a brewery and tasting room.

There's a fenced outdoor patio with wooden picnic tables. There's also a garage door that can open or close, depending on the weather.

Marburger, a music fan, has adorned one wall with album covers ranging from the Black Keys to the Michael Stanley Band to Gladys Knight & the Pips.

The brewpub will offer a limited menu, focusing on paninis and meat and cheese trays — with as much of the ingredients being sourced locally as possible. The Marburgers also expect to have food trucks visit.

Marburger said he's proud that Lockport will be the first brewery in Tuscarawas County in at least 65 years. The county had a robust brewing scene before Prohibition, and Lockport's name pays homage to that history. Old Lockport Lager was the flagship beer for the New Philadelphia Brewing Co.

Marburger also is excited about joining the exploding Ohio craft beer scene.

"We feel like we're catching the tail end of this wave but there's a whole wave behind us as well," he said. "People aren't going to stop drinking beer."

Monumental beer

Hoppin' Frog Brewery, 1680 E. Waterloo

Road, Akron, will release a monumental beer on Black Friday, as in Gavel Slammer Monumental Dark Ale, a 17.4 percent brew.

Gavel Slammer will be sold on draft and in 22-ounce bottles exclusively at the brewery, which will open at 10 a.m. Nov. 25 and 26 and serve chicken and waffles to go along with the beer.

The beer pays tribute to House Bill 37, which was approved earlier this year and allowed Ohio brewers to start producing beer at more than 12 percent alcohol by volume. The label features a frog — who looks a lot like Kermit the Frog — in a white judge's wig and black

robe slamming a gavel that bears "H.B. 37." The frog also happens to be holding the Ohio flag.

In a ceremony earlier this year at the brewery, state Senate President Keith Faber, R-Celina, presented Hoppin' Frog owner Fred Karm with the gavel used when approving the state bill.

So what kind of style is Gavel Slammer?

"This does not fit into any style that I know of," Karm said. "If I entered it into a contest, that would be tricky because they'd need another category!"

The cost of a 22-ounce bottle hasn't been released yet.

Beer and ice cream

Ben & Jerry's and New Belgium Brewing are teaming up for an ice cream and beer event from 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday at Rock Mill Climbing, Yoga and Fitness, 677 Carroll St., Akron.

Pour Over Pairings will feature Chocolate



Chip Cookie Dough Ale and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough ice cream.

Professional skier Brody Leven will make an appearance and talk about climate change and how it affects the winter season. He also will host a special viewing of his ski film *Eclipse*.

A portion of the proceeds from Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Ale goes to the nonprofit Protect Our Winters.

The event is free to at-

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World Wide Stout

Dogfish Head World Wide Stout will hit the Ohio market for the first time — at least legally — starting Monday.

The seasonal beer, which clocks in each year between 15 and 20 percent alcohol by volume, previously was barred from being sold in the state because of the 12 percent cap.

World Wide Stout, described by the Delaware brewery as "more in line with a fine port or a rich madeira," debuted in the winter of 1999.

"Like Fort and 120 Minute IPA, World Wide Stout only gets better in its golden years," Dogfish Head founder Sam Calagione said in a statement.

"Allow it to mature in your beer cellar and you'll find the heat of

the booze fades into the background and the port notes and roastiness take over and merge harmoniously into a timeless aged ale."

Dogfish Head also will debut a new brew the same day called Beer for Breakfast, a 7.4 percent stout made with Rapa Scrapple.

Beer and doughnuts

Scenic Brewing Co., 7253 Whipple Ave. NW, Jackson Township, will host a special beer and doughnut pairing on Black Friday.

The brewery will pair four of its beers with four doughnuts from Peace Love & Little Donuts, 1310 S. Main St., North Canton.

There will be two sessions: 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15. For reservations, call 330-768-7788.

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