

Beer making tradition returns to Halton Hills

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along with it.

After some red-tape hiccups, the new craft brewery is set to open its doors next spring. The venture is the brainchild of longtime friends and beer aficionados, Mike Glockner and Jeff Sandifer.

About 10 years ago, Glockner and Sandifer began experimenting with small batches of home-brewed beer. Before long the pair says they were coming up with their own recipes.

"(Jeff) ended up brewing a brown ale just out of a can, so you boil, add your yeast and voilà - beer," said Glockner. "We tasted it and thought it was good, so from there it grew into trying to tweak things and have some fun - that's what it really started out as."

"We definitely wanted to improve the results and we just developed a passion for it. We love the art and the science of brewing," said

Sandifer. "I enjoy the ability to experiment with the palate and with different products."

Their passion grew from there, and before long the pair said they were brewing larger batches and friends began asking if they could buy some. Word began to spread.

"We started 10 years ago and it's just been a slow progression going forward. As we got better, of course we did pitch some beer - it wasn't all success - there was a lot that did go down the drain," said Glockner.

Eventually, the two old friends teamed up with another friend, Trent Chalecky, who introduced them to their other two partners in the venture, Mike Dykstra and Steve Leggat.

Fast forward a decade and what started out as a small homebrew operation in Sandifer's basement furnace room - where they got the name - has evolved into a fledgling business with plans to launch with four



furnaceroombrewery.co photo

A photo of the original Brain Brothers Brewery near Hornby. The operation was the last commercial brewery in the Halton Hills area and closed down in 1916 due to the implementation of prohibition.

distinct flavours next year.

The original plan was to open earlier this year, but due to unforeseen circumstances, construction wasn't able to begin until last month. With things now underway, Glockner and Sandifer said things

are on schedule for a spring 2018 grand opening.

"We've hit a few snags along the way, but our motto has been: 'if it was easy, everyone would be doing it,'" said Glockner.

The two friends have been longtime Halton Hills

residents and say their goal is to create a brewery that becomes a part of the local fabric and pays homage to the town and its roots.

To that end, they enlisted the help of local historian John McDonald to help them understand the area's

brewing tradition and long history dating back to the 1870s. A pair of blog entries on the company's website goes into great detail about the area's past in this regard and they hope to incorporate some of that history and local flavour into their corporate identity and branding.

"Craft beer is local, but we want to highlight some of the things around Georgetown that are local," said Glockner. "Georgetown is very supportive of their businesses, and there is a long tradition here of brewing."

"There are a lot of unique things to Georgetown and if we can highlight that through beer and through the experience, then that's our plan."

"We don't want to be just another brewery. Part of our responsibility in that case is highlighting what makes this place so great," added Glockner.

Visit furnaceroombrewery.com for more info.

Public Open House haltonhills.ca



We want your input on the draft Preferred Land Use Concept!

Planning is currently underway for a new community, which will be an extension to Georgetown. This new community is bound by 15 Side Road to the North, Eighth Line to the East, 10 Side Road to the South and Trafalgar Road to the West (see map). The area covers 1,000 acres and will be home to approximately 18,000 people and provide 1,700 jobs by 2031.

At the last public meeting in 2014, you provided input on three land use concepts. A draft Preferred Land Use Concept has now been prepared which takes into account the results of technical studies, public input we received on the three concepts in 2014 as well as the Vision and Guiding Principles established for the project.

Please join us to help shape this new community.

The Town of Halton Hills encourages you to participate in a Land Use Concept Workshop. Come out to the session and provide your input on the draft Preferred Land Use Concept.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2017
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Christ the King Secondary School (Cafeteria)
 161 Guelph Street, Georgetown

Please RSVP:

The main focus of this meeting is to hear from you. It will involve an informative presentation, followed by an interactive workshop. In order to assist with planning this event, please RSVP by calling 905-873-2601 ext. 2377 or by emailing visiongeorgetown@haltonhills.ca.

Join the Conversation!

There's a new way to connect with the Town of Halton Hills. "Let's Talk Halton Hills" is the Town's online engagement platform where residents can share ideas, join discussions and provide input on municipal issues and initiatives. Vision Georgetown is one of the topics on the site, so please take the time to visit www.letstalkhaltonhills.ca/ and answer some survey questions to let us know how you think we did.

For More Information

The draft Preferred Land Use Concept and additional background information can be found on the project website: www.visiongeorgetown.ca. You can also visit the Planning and Sustainability Department at the Town of Halton Hills, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, Ontario L7G 5G2, email us at visiongeorgetown@haltonhills.ca, or contact:

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