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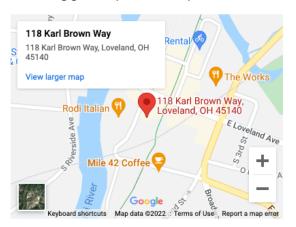
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## Pour-your-own bar with 60 taps opening adjacent to popular Cincinnati bike trail

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A large bar opening adjacent to one of the city's most popular bike trails will offer patrons the chance to pour their own beverages from 60 taps of beer, wine and seltzer.

Hops & Berry is opening at 118 Karl Brown Way, abutting the Loveland Bike Trail, with a goal of welcoming guests by the end of April.





PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF LOVELAND

Hops & Berry is opening adjacent to the

Montgomery Cyclery along the Loveland Bike Trail.

Hops & Berry is based out of Williston, N.D., and the owners of the Loveland location – Jill and Mark Barnett – were originally approached not to open a location, but to help sell the technology.

Jill Barnett works in sales for an electric vehicle infrastructure firm, and longtime friend T.J. Corcoran had developed a new technology that would allow bars and restaurants to give patrons the ability to pour their own beverages. He had asked Jill Barnett if she would help him sell it.

"I said, 'Well actually no, but I wanted to check it out, it sounds really cool," Barnett told me. "We saw a competitor's technology in Columbus and I thought it was brilliant and my husband and I needed to do it as a side hustle."

When patrons visit Hops & Berry Loveland they'll hand their driver's license and a payment card to a host and receive either a wristband or a key fob in return. That wristband or fob will allow them to approach any of the 60 tap handles throughout the establishment, wave it in front of the tap and then pour their own beverage.

Hops & Berry will have 60 taps, and 40 of those will be reserved for craft beer, primarily from local brewers, Barnett said. The other 20 taps will serve wine and hard seltzer.

Hops & Berry will not serve its own food, but it will invite food trucks into the facility to feed its patrons. The establishment will also have food runners who will visit local restaurants in nearby downtown Loveland to pick up online orders placed by bar patrons. Jill Barnett said she is open to leasing the building's kitchen space to a food entrepreneur in the future.

The Barnetts came across the building – formerly the Rozzi Fireworks office, and before that an IGA grocery store – by happenstance. It had just been listed for lease the previous day, and they worked with TC Bartoszek of Lee & Associates to secure their own lease on it.

The building's rear beer garden abuts the Loveland Bike Trail and will have benches and seating for about 80, along with room for people to park their bicycles.

The space was designed by Mark Barnett, a scenic artist who has worked on movies like "Shirley" and "Bones and All," and his brother Jon Barnett, along with Susan Barrett of Interior Project Management.

Mark Barnett told me he and Jon wanted the taproom to be themed for Loveland and its proximity to the bike trail and the Little Miami River. As such, the decoration makes use of bicycles and canoes, with canoes serving as chandeliers and bicycles from movies that Mark Barnett has worked on, like Timothee Chalamet's bike from the movie "Bones and All," which filmed in Cincinnati.

The 1,900-square-foot beer hall is themed after a boathouse with shiplap walls. Two large garage doors on either side will open to give it an indoor-outdoor feel. The concrete floor has been stained to make it appear as if the river is running through the beer hall.

Hops & Berry will tentatively be open Monday through Thursday, 4 p.m. until midnight, and Friday through Sunday noon until midnight.

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