

Mellotone Beer Project announces official grand opening in former Taft's Ale House space



Mellotone Beer Project has set its official opening in Over-the-Rhine. Image by: 3CDC
By [Christian LeDuc](#) – Staff reporter, Cincinnati Business Courier Nov 20, 2024

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Mellotone Beer Project opens Friday Nov. 22 in Cincinnati.
- Located at 1429 Race St., it occupies a historic church.
- The founders are Brewing Alums Dennis Kramer-Wine and Alexandra Nowell.

A highly anticipated new brewery coming to Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine neighborhood has just announced its grand opening date. [Mellotone Beer Project](#) is celebrating its first official day of service starting at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22, following a [public sneak peek of the space during last month's Blink](#) light and art festival. The 12,345-square-foot brewpub is located inside a historic church building at 1429 Race St. in the former Taft's Ale House, [which shuttered in November 2023](#). Mellotone was founded by Dennis Kramer-Wine, formerly of Rhinegeist Brewery, and Alexandra Nowell, the first brewmaster of Los Angeles-based Three Weavers. The brewpub's scratch kitchen will feature modern American cuisine with locally sourced ingredients designed to pair with an "uncomplicated beer selection." Brendan Martin, formerly of Boca Restaurant Group, is serving as Mellotone's director of food and hospitality. "We want Mellotone to be a place for everyone – where you see things you love on the menu and feel welcome when you walk through the door whether you're celebrating something or just stopping by to relax and grab a drink," Nowell said in a news release. "It was amazing to get a preview of that during BLINK, and it took the anticipation for our grand opening to a whole new level." Mellotone Beer Project will officially open its doors to the public Friday, Nov. 22.

The former church will be home to Mellotone's two concepts. The restaurant will occupy the building's main floor. The lower level features a neighborhood bar called Undertone. It will have a small stage for live music and other events, too. The top floor has been converted into an indoor beer garden that has first-come, first-served seating, pool tables and darts. Dominic Sansalone and Indio Design worked on the space. Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. (3CDC) is Mellotone's landlord.

"If BLINK was any indicator of how Mellotone is going to bring this space to life, we have a lot to look forward to," Lindzie Gunnels, director of commercial leasing with 3CDC, said in the release. "This iconic Race Street location has so much potential, and we believe that Mellotone will act as a catalyst for future growth along this Race Street corridor."

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MORE INFO

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Our annual Friendsgiving Dinner is here! Each year, we celebrate the community of friends that call Brink home. Whether you're a seasoned Mug Club veteran, Brink staff, a College Hill regular, or a first-time customer, on Friendsgiving, you are welcome at our table! This is the perfect way to unwind before the hectic holiday season begins, and we look forward to it every year! We'll provide the meat, you bring a side or a dessert, and we'll all drink beer!

Boston Beer Co. buys land in Cincinnati's West End for \$4M



Samuel Adams Brewery founder Jim Koch in Cincinnati in 2022. Photo By: Corrie Schaffeld | CBC

By [Brian Planalp](#) – Staff reporter, Cincinnati Business Courier Nov 15, 2024

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Boston Beer Co. purchased multiple West End properties for nearly \$4 million.
- The largest purchase was \$3.48 million for industrial buildings.
- The company paid cash for the properties.

The public brewing giant behind Sam Adams, Twisted Tea, Truly Hard Seltzer, Dogfish Head Brewery and more has purchased multiple pieces of property in the West End for nearly \$4 million.

Boston Beer Co., the fourth-largest brewery in the U.S., purchased the properties Nov. 6 near [its existing West End brewing facility](#) through American Craft Brewery LLC, according to public records. Taken as a whole, the properties represent nearly two full blocks of land. "The purchase of additional land in the West End is part of our overall investment in the Samuel Adams Cincinnati Brewery that is intended to help streamline operations and create efficiencies throughout the brewing, packaging, and shipping processes," Brittany Zahoruiko, senior manager of communications at Boston Beer Co., told the *Business Courier*. She declined to comment further.

The company's purchase was \$3.48 million for 517, 519, 521 and 523 Findlay St., a 1-acre block at the southwest intersection of Findlay and John streets mainly consisting of industrial buildings constructed in the 1950s. The properties were last appraised in July 2023 at a combined value of \$196,000. Boston Beer Co. paid for the properties entirely in cash. It also paid \$520,000 in cash for 13 consolidated parcels, totaling 0.63 acres, from 525 to 545 Findlay St. and 528 to 536 Livingston St. The properties consist of vacant land immediately west of the aforementioned industrial buildings.

New Foodie Destination Featuring Braxton Brewing, Dewey's Pizza and Graeter's Set to Open in Union



A rendering of the new Union Braxton Brewing Company brewery and taproom | 8901 US-42, Union

Rendering: Tilsley Architects/Provided by Braxton Brewing Company

By [Katherine Barrier CityBeat](#) Nov 18, 2024

Braxton Brewing will host a grand opening for its new taproom on Wednesday, Nov. 27, giving attendees a chance to check on the new Union Commons. A new community gathering space featuring three of Cincinnati's favorite food and beverage brands is set to open in Northern Kentucky. Union Commons, a new family-oriented destination located on US-42 near Braxton Drive in Union, will open to the public at the end of November. The project features a Braxton Brewing Company brewery and taproom, a Dewey's Pizza restaurant and a Graeter's Ice Cream scoop shop.

Everything is centered around "The Lawn," a 20,000-square-foot greenspace and beer garden designed to be a family and community-centric space. The companies say in addition to being a foodie destination, they want to have specialty programming, music and events.

To celebrate Union Commons' opening, Braxton Brewing will host a grand opening on **Wednesday, Nov. 27**. The brewery will be open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. that day, with the grand opening happening from 4 p.m. to close. The event is free and open to the public and will have live music, ceremonial keg-tapping and more.

Braxton Brewing founders, brothers Jake and Evan Rouse and their father, Greg Rouse, say the new brewery's location is especially meaningful to them as it's right by where Jake and Evan grew up on Braxton Drive — the same street the brewery was named for.

"This is truly a full-circle moment for us," Jake said in a press release. "Opening this brewery so close to where we grew up is a testament to our commitment to Northern Kentucky. We couldn't be more excited to partner with Dewey's and Graeter's to create a place where families can come together and build memories so close to where our family did for years." Dewey's Pizza's Union location is also expected to open at the end of November. "At Dewey's, we've always been passionate about creating spaces where people can gather and enjoy great food. Union Commons is a natural fit for us, and we're thrilled to be part of a project that brings together such iconic brands from our region," Chuck Lipp, the president and CEO of Dewey's Pizza, said in the release. Graeter's has been open in the Union Commons space [since November 2023](#).

"For over 150 years, Graeter's has been proud to serve families across the Midwest. This collaboration allows us to continue that tradition in a new and exciting way. We're looking forward to sharing this space with the community and providing a place where families can create sweet memories," Graeter's CEO Richard Graeter said in the release.

Braxton Brewing Company at Union Commons is located at 8901 US-42, Union. More info: braxtonbrewing.com.

Both Locations are permanently closed!



Both Locations have been shuttered. After legal troubles with the NFL over Kenny's Dey Drinking Lager and multiple issues opening and sustaining a customer base at the Newport on the Levee location the end has come.

Here is the post directly from their Facebook page:

Well, friends, the sun has set at 16 Lots Brewing Company and 16 Lots Southern Outpost. As of today, we are permanently closed.

Major kudos to our amazing staff – you have been the heart and soul of both brewpubs all along ... thanks for all you've done.

Also, shout out to our landlords and Eclipse Bank for doing everything in their power to support us and give us the opportunity to make this work. We gave it our best shot, but unfortunately, the biz just wasn't sustainable. So long and cheers ... 16 Lots, out!



Season of the Stouts our Stout collab with Cycle Brewing



Thank you to all of those that came to our preview party for the collaboration stouts with Cycle Brewing! If you have not made it out to try these stouts yet, we still have some Hazelnut Coffee, Double Vanilla, Chocolate Covered Peanuts, Mississippi Mud Pie and White Chocolate Macadamia Nut available to-go and on tap. Come try a flight, find your favorite and take it to-go! You can also check out Jungle Jims for an exclusive bottle of Maple Bacon Coffee Stout.



THE SAUCE

A WEEKLY LOOK AT ALL THINGS LMBC

Drums Space IPA ABV 6.5% | IBU 60

Brewed and dry-hopped with Galaxy hops for a spacey and heady IPA inspired by one of our regulars and Deadhead Jeff Drum! This Galaxy IPA has a delicious flavor profile with big aromas of passionfruit, peach, and citrus with a crisp bitterness and higher IBU that makes you want to keep coming back for more!

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We have a new beer on tap at DVD called Caveat Emptor, something we don't think anyone else in the city has:

At 9% this beer is exactly what you need for the cold weather ahead. The aroma is rich and complex with scents of dried fruit. This richness carries over to the taste where you'll find a malty-rich balance of toast, malt and alcohol. The finish is smooth with just enough dryness to provide balance. This is a strong tasty easy drinking beer hence the name Caveat Emptor.

