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With business booming, ABC to expand

By Matt Rocheleau, Collegian Staff

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The plans also call for a small retail space at the main entrance where patrons can buy T-shirts and growlers, or half-gallon glass jugs filled with draft beer. The ABC will also offer "sauces, dressings, pickles and other stuff that no one really knows we sell," explained Korpita.

The expansion will also give more room for storage and the kitchen, which Korpita said is currently crammed.

When asked additional rent costs the ABC would incur, Korpita said, "We're like Park Place," he said referring to the brewery's prime location. "But, it's worth it."

Korpita said several regular customers have expressed excitement for the addition.

"I think they could use the additional room, and I like the idea behind it," said Glenn Coggins, a retired Amherst resident and a regular at ABC.

The ABC will also request to open at 9 a.m. instead of 11 a.m. on Sundays to accommodate for their recently introduced Sunday brunch menu, which is available until 2 p.m.

"There has been a good response to the brunch so far," said Korpita, who hopes an earlier opening time will increase the brunch's popularity.

The expansion and change in business hours proposals will go before a town hearing on Sept. 25. Korpita remains confident in gaining approval, as he believes the plans are straightforward.

Architectural plans of the expansion are on display in record store's old window. Since opening in 1997, the ABC has expanded and renovated on several occasions, most notably in 2002 when the second floor opened and became known as "The Upstairs at ABC," according to the company's Web site.

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POLL

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