

NONPAREIL *online*

The Daily Nonpareil, Council Bluffs, Iowa

01/16/2009

Ames brewery brings its beer to Council Bluffs

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Attention, beer lovers.

A new brew is coming to Council Bluffs, and it's made right here in Iowa.

Officials of Ames-based Olde Main Brewing Co. have announced plans to bring its beers, along with its root beer, to local bars, restaurants and grocery stores.

"We're expanding our distribution in this area," said company spokesperson Jill Haverkamp. "It's working its way in right now."

The beverages are being brought in through Doll Distributing.

The beers fall into the category of the ever-popular craft beer industry, Haverkamp said.

"Craft beer is becoming much more popular. People are starting to look at beer like they look at wine."

Among the flavors people can enjoy, she said, includes Dinkey Wheat, a Belgium-styled wheat ale that's light in color with a light citrus taste, she said.

"Wheat beer is very popular."

There's Longface amber ale that's slightly darker in color with a hint of caramel, she said.

"There's a subtle bitterness, but not overpowering."

Another flavor is Off Kilter, a dark-colored Scottish ale.

The root beer is called Red Monkey.

"It's a good old-fashioned root beer," Haverkamp said.

The expansion here is because of ever-growing sales in the central part of the state, said Jeff Irvin, head brewer. The company began in 2004 and production has doubled every year, he said.

"I never anticipated Olde Main growing at such a rapid pace," he said. "The addition of Council Bluffs is just the beginning of a lot more things to come."

"We're the fastest growing brewery in Iowa," Haverkamp said. "We're excited to move this way, and our goal is to go statewide by the end of the year, and after that go regional."

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