

THE EXPONENT ONLINE

Pub's expansion will retain Irish ambiance

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The opening of Nine Irish Brothers was delayed for many years because the owners did not want their children to grow up around a pub.

Now that the kids are older and the restaurant, on Howard Avenue, is open for business, owner Jerry O'Bryan is making an addition a second pub on the east side of town.

The pub will be called Nine Irish Brothers E and be located at 3450 State Road 38. The opening is planned for Nov. 17. With business expanding, O'Bryan said his family will be running the second pub.

"I realized I can't be in two places at once," he said. "My nephew and his family will help us run the other one."

By having his nephew manage Nine Irish Brothers E, O'Bryan said he'll be able to keep his business operating the same way it does now.

Family is an important part of O'Bryan's business. He said his wife, daughters and two sons-in-law help manage the original pub.

"Everybody in Ireland is family-orientated," O'Bryan said. "That's how they do it in Ireland."

Patrons also feel welcome in Irish pubs because, traditionally, many had their starts in peoples' homes. Opening a second business on the other side of town will bring the Irish feel to those who can't make the trip to the west side.

"It takes the business to them," O'Bryan said, "and we wanted to expand anyhow."

O'Bryan said the new pub, unlike some expansions, will have a similar atmosphere to the original. He said all of the furniture and decorations are hundreds of years old and were purchased in Ireland. Some of the items are even from old pubs.

Matt Rose, general manager of Nine Irish Brothers and O'Bryan's father-in-law, said the best part of decorating the establishment was the research. Rose said he had the opportunity to visit pubs in Ireland and get a feel for what they were like, and to pick out furniture by hand.

"(It's) a place where everyone can come together," said Rose.

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