

BUSINESS

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019

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Courtesy

An artist's rendering shows the proposed barrel room and event center that will be at Two-EE's Winery.

Two-EE's starts expansion

Huntington winery adding event center, parking spots

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The Journal Gazette

A popular Huntington winery is investing more than \$2 million in an expansion that will include adding a 7,000-square-foot event venue.

Two-EE's Winery broke ground Monday on an expansion that will also add parking.

The new building, scheduled to be completed by late summer, will include larger facilities for winemaking.

"This will create opportunities

for wine tours and an immersive experience for customers," a news release said.

The winery currently has about 5,625 square feet, Stephanie McIntyre, director of marketing and events, said through email.

The new barrel room event venue will accommodate about 80 people, she said. Additional parking will help accommodate crowds for special activities, including concerts and fireworks.

Two-EE's has 55 parking spaces but will double its hard surface parking to 110 spaces, with an

additional 400 spaces in overflow parking. Of the 400 overflow spots, 125 will be new, McIntyre said.

Eric and Emily Harris, Fort Wayne natives and owners of the winery, opened Two-EE's in 2013 with the goal of expanding.

"Emily and I have dreamed up the details of this space since the day we opened our doors and realized, 'This is going to be big,'" Eric Harris said in a statement.

They are investing \$2.3 million in the first round of growth in building and equipment, McIntyre said.

A second phase involves expanding the patio and adding additional seating.

Construction will end by 3:30 p.m. daily, ensuring afternoon and evening guests can better enjoy the atmosphere, the news release said.

Eric Harris credits the expansion to support from the Huntington County community.

"Everyone, from the planning commission, to the building department, and community in general has been supportive," he said in a statement. "It made it an easy choice to continue to invest our future in Huntington County."

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