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Preston Ehrler

<http://milfordnow.com/port-jervis-microbrewery/>

Sean Donnelly and David Krantz want to make an impact where they live. But for both of them, as New York City residents, they feel that being two of 8,000,000 people, it's hard to do in the city that never sleeps. Yet, in Port Jervis, New York, they may be about to make all the difference in a city that desperately needs an economic boost.

Donnelly and Krantz are planning to open Fox N Hare Brewing Co., a microbrewery and restaurant on Front Street in Port Jervis. As Donnelly outlines it, "The plan is to create a destination brewery and tap room that can be enjoyed by all walks of life. We hope to create a quality product using locally sourced ingredients, with an alluring environment that will attract people near and far."

Finding Port Jervis

Currently, Donnelly works at a microbrewery in Astoria, Queens, and Krantz is co-owner and operator of Arbuckle Industries in Manhattan, a video production company specializing in architectural videography. But when Krantz passed through Port Jervis on his way to a video shoot, he knew he had found a unique city. He was immediately drawn to Port Jervis' "ambiance, access to nature, historic downtown charm and welcoming people."

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"David passed through on the way to film a documentary, fell in love with the city, and shortly after, started looking for property," said Donnelly. Additionally, Donnelly discovered Port when he visited Krantz during the weekends, and spent the summer enjoying time on the Delaware River and "numerous other outdoor activities." Ultimately, Donnelly enjoyed the feel of the city so much that he purchased a home in the Second Ward. Discussing his new home and his new town, Donnelly says, beaming, "I love it. My house is walking distance from the heart of Port Jervis, the train station, and numerous hiking and biking trails. Plus, West End Beach is right there in the summer for putting in or out inner tubes. It couldn't be more ideal."

The Building

The building itself, located at 46-48 Front Street, has fallen into disrepair and requires a major renovation. According to Donnelly, the plan is to "bring the building up to code and restore many aspects of it back to its original state." But keeping the building's existing theme is an important part of the project. "We want a facade that will seamlessly fit the aesthetic of many other buildings in downtown Port Jervis. We will also need to reinforce part of the back wall of the building, which partially collapsed due to lack of maintenance."

Great Vision and Help

Donnelly was quick to point out that the vision of several individuals in Port Jervis was instrumental in getting the project off the ground and moving forward. "One of the many things we like about the city of Port Jervis is the urban fabric, we want to play a part in ensuring the future and character in the downtown. We have great admiration for the vision and determination of Mayor Kelly Decker and he has been a great supporter of our vision as well." Adding, "we have had stalwart support from so many people locally, but this project would not have left the starting line without the friendship of Debbie Raia and Gordon Graff."