

Toad Creek Brewery to bring new jobs

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(Photo: Rebekah Stevens/Sun-News)

SILVER CITY — Economic Development Secretary Jon Barela visited Silver City on Friday to announce the expansion of Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, a small brewery and tavern owned by Silver City natives husband-and-wife team, David Crosley and Teresa Dahl-Bredine.

The expansion will come with the aid of \$100,000 that the New Mexico Economic Development Department is giving the tavern and brewery through the Local Economic Development Act.

Silver City Small Business Development Center Director Jane Janson opened the Little Toad Creek Brewery funding announcement event.

"The Country Toad originally opened as an inn at Lake Roberts, N.M. in 2012. In 2013, the inn expanded to include its own brewery. In 2014, Little Toad Creek Brewery opened in Silver City, as a beer tasting room," Janson said. "And in 2015, they are announcing they will be opening a brewery at the old skating rink."

Barela stated that through LEDA, New Mexico is able to encourage growth in communities including Silver City, "New Mexico continues to improve its business environment, which helps local manufacturers like Little Toad Creek Brewery expand and create new jobs. The state doesn't create jobs," Secretary Barela explained at Friday's announcement, "David Crosley and Teresa Dahl-Bredine do, and it is my job to create an environment where small businesses will thrive."

Representative John Zimmerman, who advocated for the Little Toad Creek Brewery's funding said he took every opportunity to recommend the tavern as an investment in Silver City, "I was very happy to speak as the mouthpiece for the Silver City community."

The Little Toad Creek Brewery owners say the community support is what helped them reach the point where they will be expanding,

"We have felt support from the entire community—the city, the county and the state," said Dahl-Bredine.

Her husband, David Crosely, oversees the brewery and said the expansion will mean a lot more beer for Silver City.

"Current brewing capabilities are at 250 barrels a year and after expansion we will reach 9,000 barrels of brew a year. We will be able to export beer and spirits out of Silver City, which means hiring not only more servers, but also brewers."

The expansion will result in 11 production jobs.

"New Mexico continues to improve its business environment, which helps local manufacturers like Little Toad Creek expand and create new jobs," Barela said. "Governor Susana Martinez and I congratulate Little Toad Creek as they partner with the state to diversify and grow the economy."

"We were raised in New Mexico and have a passionate commitment to New Mexico and New Mexicans so that is why we are thrilled the state is able to help small businesses like ours grow by offsetting the cost of critical infrastructure needs," said Dahl-Bredine. "After a successful first season of operating, we realized we were able to sell our product not just in New Mexico but beyond."

The project will create six new production jobs in the first year, and five additional production positions by the second year. Additionally, several other jobs will be created in the sales and service portion of the business.