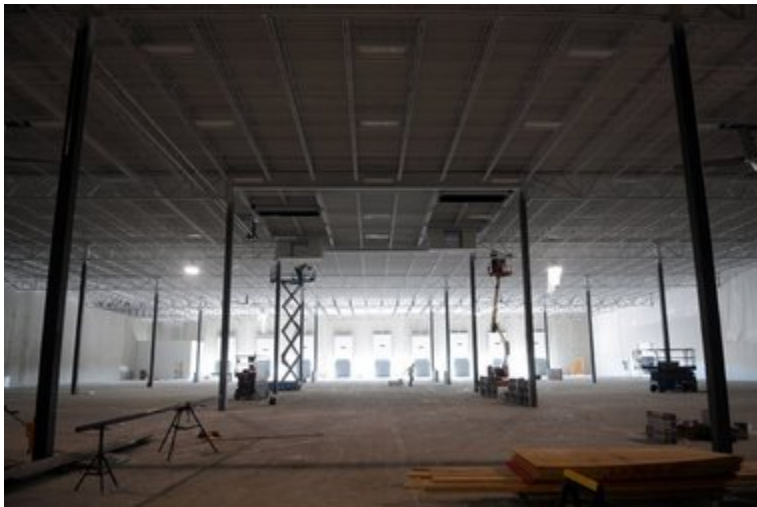


Millions of cases of beer waiting to move into Fabiano Bros. massive expansion in Bay County

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By **Andrew Dodson** | Booth Mid-Michigan



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Michigan Crews paint the ceilings inside of Fabiano Brothers' new 100,000-square-foot expansion currently under construction. The expansion comes after acquiring Flint-based Tom Ryan Distributing Co. in December, increasing the company's volume by 60 percent to 9 million cases per year. Construction is scheduled to be complete by December.

MONITOR TOWNSHIP — An expansion at Fabiano Bros. Inc. is nearing completion and will soon be the new home for millions of cases of beer.

For now, that beer, and other beverages, are stacked to the ceiling at the beverage distributor's existing 191,000-square-foot building at 1885 Bevanda Court near the US-10-Mackinaw Road exchange in Monitor Township.

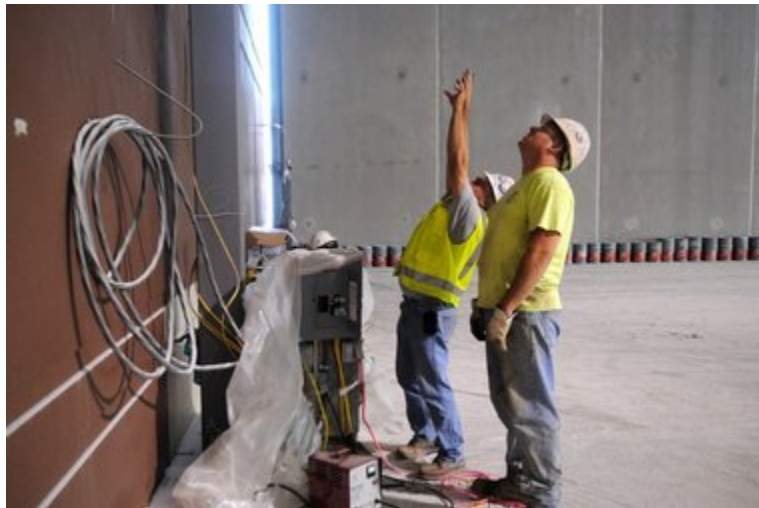
Fabiano purchased Flint-based Tom Ryan Distributing Co. in December, increasing the company's volume by 60 percent to 9 million cases per year.

"It's safe to say, we're busting at the seams right now," said Joe Fabiano, co-owner of the company.

"We're getting close to getting everything done around here — we're definitely ready to get everything in place."

The 100,000-square-foot expansion is expected to be completed by December. It includes another storage room, a larger recycling center and additional receiving and shipping doors.

Company officials declined to reveal the cost of the project.



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Michigan From left, Steve Williams, superintendent of St. Louis, Mo.-based S.M. Wilson and Co., the general contractor for Fabiano Brothers' 100,000-square-foot expansion project in Monitor Township, gives instructions on Wednesday to Tom Kirchner, a concrete cutter with Freeland-based Concrete Cutting Specialists.

About 70 percent of the expansion is to be used for case storage and 30 percent for the recycling and sorting center. A 20-foot-by-20-foot door that two forklifts can fit through provides entry from the existing building to the addition, which is located on the south end of Fabiano's property.

A giant walk-in, refrigerator-type room that stores kegs filled with beer has moved to the front of the existing building, making the trip from the cooler to the truck shorter and more efficient.

On Wednesday, crews painted the ceiling and walls inside the building, along with the building's exterior, and finished electrical wiring.

Steve Williams, superintendent of St. Louis-based S.M. Wilson and Co., the project's general contractor, said more than 100 construction workers have worked on the project.

"It's been a great project all the way around," Williams said. "The local sub-contractors are great workers and we've worked well with the owners."

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