

# Queens Tribune

## Ridgewood Coffee Shop Owners To Open Bar

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The owners of a popular Ridgewood coffee shop will soon open a business that serves a different type of beverage.

The business partners who run Norma's coffee shop will open a bar next month called Julia's. The bar, which will also serve some meals, will be located at 818 Woodward Ave., between Putnam Avenue and Cornelia Street.



The owners of the popular Ridgewood coffee shop Norma's will open a bar called Julia's next month.

The watering hole's co-owner, Crystal Williams, said the bar will mostly sell craft beer made in **New York** and the surrounding area, including Finback, Bridge and Tunnel and Transmitter, all of which are brewed in **Queens**. They will also sell wine and cheese, which are also made in **New York**.

Williams said that for her and Denise Plowman, who co-owns Norma's and is also part-owner of this new business venture, opening a bar was always a dream of theirs. After the success that Norma's has had, it allowed them to pursue that goal.

She said they chose Ridgewood to open the watering hole because it is where they live and they have a solid base of regular customers at Norma's they hope will translate to the new place.

It is also convenient to for them, Williams said, because when they would want to organize a social gathering or business meeting, they would often have to leave Ridgewood. That will not be the case anymore.

"When we want to have a meeting, we don't want to leave the neighborhood," Williams said.

The bar is not yet officially open for business, she said, but they had a beer and food tasting last week as an award to people who donated to their Kickstarter campaign.

According to their Kickstarter page, they raised \$5,611 for the beer and wine bar, with 103 people donating money to the project. Three people pledged \$500 or more for the establishment and there were two different prizes. One was to create a custom beverage that would be named after that person and sold at Julia's. The other was an invitation to an indoor picnic featuring tapas, cheese boards, lemonade and more.

Williams said they are still waiting to get the plumbing approved by the Dept. of Buildings and they hope to be open to the public within the next two to three weeks.

She said the duo will split time between the coffee shop and the bar, but they also have employees at Norma's who have worked there a long time and they feel comfortable with leaving the coffee place in their hands while they get the ball rolling on Julia's.

"We're not going to sleep much, that's for sure," Williams said.

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