

Taste



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BALTIMORE DINER

Sammy's Trattoria is expanding on two fronts

Mount Vernon site to add space as Fells Point location opens

BY SARAH MEEHAN
The Baltimore Sun

The owner of **Sammy's Trattoria** is planning to expand his Mount Vernon restaurant just as his second restaurant takes flight.

Sammy's Trattoria is creating a new wine cellar and private event space in the building next door at the corner of Biddle and Charles streets. The new space, about 800 square feet at 1202 N. Charles St., will provide about 40 extra seats, house a small bar and create room for private dining events.

Owner Sam Curreri said the new area will provide privacy the current restaurant can't. He envisioned the space, located downstairs, as a wine cellar from the first time he toured it — an amenity that would help meet customer demand.

"There's been some interest from cus-

tomers who have requested their own private lockers," Curreri said.

Curreri is still awaiting permits from the city, but once he receives approval, he expects the build-out to take two weeks.

Meanwhile, his other project, **Sammy's Enoteca**, opened quietly in Fells Point last week. Curreri is planning a grand opening for the new space from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. May 15.

At 623 S. Broadway in the Marketplace at Fells Point development, Sammy's Enoteca has 105 seats inside with nine outside. It's a smaller version of Sammy's Trattoria.

That project hit a number of roadblocks during construction, delaying the opening by several months. Other retailers and restaurants in the Marketplace at Fells Point include **Smashburger**, **Kippo Ramen** and **Unleashed by Petco**. The mixed-use development in the 600 block of South See **DINER**, page 6



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Sammy's Trattoria is creating a new wine cellar and private event space in a building next door in Mount Vernon, adding about 800 square feet.

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Broadway includes luxury apartments above street-level retail.

Sammy's Enoteca has a smaller menu than its sister restaurant in Mount Vernon, but the restaurant still serves some of the same dishes offered at the trattoria. The offerings are geared more toward small plates and smaller portions.

"We did cut the cord — it's not a complete remake of what we're doing" at Sammy's Trattoria, Curreri said.

The restaurant has been received well, he said, but Curreri is hoping to attract more foot traffic near the restaurant since it's slightly removed from the waterfront hub of Fells Point's retail and restaurant scene.