

Bill's Tavern & Brewhouse

188 N. Hemlock Street ■ Cannon Beach

■ STORY & PHOTOS: HEATHER DOUGLAS



Every Thursday night, nestled in the heart of down town Cannon Beach, Bill's Tavern and Brew House is sure to be packed. For nearly two decades, rollicking tourists and locals alike stomp their feet to The Floating Glass Balls — a group of local musicians with covers like Neil Young's "Long May You Run" and Bruce Springsteen's "Atlantic City." And you better bet beer will be involved.

In an ever-changing landscape, Bill's Tavern has been a constant since the early 1900s. The local watering hole has a colorful history that dates back

to the prohibition era. The spot first opened as The Imperial Café in 1923 as prohibition was repealed — back when a T-bone steak was 25 cents.

After a major remodel in 1997 by co-owners, Jim Oyala and Ken Campbell, the name became what we know today: "Bill's Tavern and Brew House." The Warren House Pub—Bill's "sister pub" is located in Tolovana Park and was established in 2000. The Warren Pub features Bill's beers on tap, guest taps such as Breakside IPA, Buoy's Czech Pils, a full bar, game room, and a menu that includes steak, seafood, and smoked goods; the location also features a beer garden and

seating for minors.

This year marks another growth spurt for Bill's, with a charcuterie behind the tavern slated to open at the end of September. Some of the possible offerings include a variety of smoked meats, a separate menu and of course their beer.

Even as the landscape changes, Bill's strives to stay classic. Owner Ken Campbell stated "we hang our hat on a classic menu and good beer." General Manger Steve Matthews added, "Bill's is a family friendly brew pub with a cozy atmosphere where locals and visitors can find great ale and some of the best chowder on the coast."

Downstairs, Bill's is a tavern and restaurant; upstairs is a small brewery that holds four fermenters and typically offers a rotation downstairs of nine beers on tap. About 25 different beer recipes rotate throughout the brewery in a given year.