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Amber Lantern one of three additional winners in Brew in Livingston contest

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WARSAW — It didn't win one of the four available awards, but that's good news for Amber Lantern.

The Brew in Livingston contest winners were announced Friday morning and there were more than originally anticipated. The four awards that had been advertised were handed out, but three others also received a commitment from Livingston County.

The reward recipients are: Battle Street Brewery in Dansville; Mortalis Brewing Company in Avon; Quiet Storm Brewing Company in Geneseo; and Original Stump Blower Ciderworks in Lakeville.

The reason it is good news that Amber Lantern did not receive one of those rewards is because their operation is already "a little bit of a step further," Bill Bacon said, executive director of the Livingston County Economic Development office. That means Amber Lantern can qualify for other money based on its goals.

In fact, its business model ranked the highest of all the other entries, so the county wants to see Amber Lantern move to the area.

Of the news that essentially says their operation is too big for the award, Owner Kristi Streamer said "it's a great problem to have."

She added: "It was a business plan competition and we nailed it."

The other two breweries named alongside the Amber Lantern are Horns and Halos in Caledonia and Dublin Corners in York.

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Given the announcement, plans for the Warsaw-based craft brewery have “absolutely not slowed down,” Streamer said.

She, her husband Tommy and other members of Amber Lantern will be meeting with Bacon this coming Wednesday to discuss what the next move is. Together, they will work to find sources of funding for their plan, which Bacon described as “pretty much ready to go.”

Bacon said the plan is to apply for a Community Development Block Grant for Amber Lantern, but they will look into all the funding available for a project like this.

“We feel that our chances are very good,” Bacon said “They have a great plan and they’re great operators and we want to do this for them.”

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