

Food & Lifestyle

New coffee house opens in Pioneer building



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Sydney Gile is the owner of Amped Coffee House.
SAM RAUDINS / ABR



By [Sam Raudins](#) – Reporter, Albany Business Review
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Story Highlights

- Sydney Gile opened Amped Coffee House in the Pioneer building.
- The shop is in spaced formerly occupied by Stacks.
- Gile previously ran a college coffee delivery business.

Sydney Gile's first experience in the coffee business was in college while working toward her master's degree.

Gile said she and a friend started their own coffee delivery business at Huntington University near Fort Wayne, Indiana. Gile and her business partner would drop off orders during preset time blocks to the university's dorms and nearby apartments.

"We delivered lattes to our college campus from our house. We had a little machine ... we built a website, and we had specific order drop-off times for your location," Gile said.

That business served as the precursor to Gile's first brick-and-mortar business, Amped Coffee House, which opened this past weekend in the former Stacks Espresso space at the Pioneer building in Colonie.

The coffee shop sells coffee-based drinks (with beans roasted by Utopia Coffee Roastery from Fort Wayne) as well as teas. The food menu includes all-day breakfast items like bagels, breakfast sandwiches/wraps, among others. Lunch options are available from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., like salads, sandwiches/wraps, soup and spätzle mac and cheese.

"When I get a coffee I like a good breakfast sandwich with my coffee. I'm not a huge pastry person, so I really wanted to just bring healthy comfort food options," Gile said.

Stacks closed its Colonie location in June. Gile said the Amped lease began in September, just one month after finishing her MBA. Her bachelor's degree is in entrepreneurial and small business operations.

Gile was attracted to the Pioneer building because it had built-in traffic with the nearby hotel, Afrim's Sports, Pioneer employees and proximity to Wolf Road.

Schuyler Bull, vice president and director of marketing and communications for Pioneer, said the company felt Gile was a personality match for the company and was receptive to feedback on what Pioneer employees were looking for from a building tenant.

She also had a strong support system in place, Bull said. Gile's cousin, Ben Gile, is the chef, and her family has a history of entrepreneurship. Her father and uncle own Web Services Group, an IT firm.

"You could just tell that she had the support. Even though she's a first-time business owner, the family has such a great track record of owning and running successful businesses, she has the support to be successful," Bull said.

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