

Heaven Hill building two new rik houses in Bardstown

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STAFF REPORT

Due to an increase in demand for bourbon and whiskey, Heaven Hill Distilleries is expanding its barrel storage in the form of two new rik houses in Bardstown. The two nearly 20,000-square-foot warehouses are being built adjacent to the Heaven Hill Bourbon Heritage Center. The new warehouses will bring the properties up to 20 at that location, each holding about 23,000 barrels.

Heaven Hill is investing \$4.2 million in the project, according to a press release from the Office of the Governor.

In addition, the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority preliminarily approved up to \$88,200 in tax incentives through the Kentucky Enterprise Initiative Act. The incentive program allows approved companies to recoup Kentucky sales and use tax on building and construction materials, equipment used for research and development and electronic processing systems.

Construction on the buildings began in June and is expected to be complete in the next four to six months.

Heaven Hill Distilleries was founded in 1934 and is the nation's largest independent family-owned and operated producer and marketer of distilled spirits. The company produces globally recognized brands such as Evan Williams, the world's second-largest selling Kentucky Straight Bourbon, and Christian Brothers Brandy, one of the top three selling brandies in the United States.

The expansion will increase the company's aging capacity by 45,936 barrels per year and give Heaven Hill a total storage capacity of nearly 1 million barrels.

"The additional barrel storage and aging facilities at Heaven Hill will only further enhance the company's standing as the world's second-largest bourbon producer and Bardstown's reputation as the bourbon capital of the world," Gov. Steve Beshear said.



Photo by LYDELLE ABBOTT/*The Kentucky Standard*

A foundation and footers stand on the Heaven Hill property in Bardstown where two new rik houses are being built. The 20,000 square-foot warehouses will bring the properties up to 20 at that location, each holding about 23,000 barrels.