



2018 Economic Development Highlights and Indicators

Bardstown and Nelson County

January 2019

- In April, Site Selection Magazine ranked Bardstown as a “Top 10 Best Micropolitan in the U.S.” for economic development projects with over \$286 million in announced investments and 350 new jobs.
- Lux Row Distillers hosted a Grand Opening Ceremony on April 11th for their new state-of-the-art distillery, Visitor Center and rickhouses located in Bardstown on East John Rowan Boulevard.
- Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin and local leaders helped Takigawa Corporation, Bardstown’s newest manufacturing facility, break ground on its first U.S. facility. The company will open in the summer of 2019 in the Nelson County Industrial Park.
- An official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held by owners, Marci and Lou Pallatella, on May 1st to open Preservation Distillery. The distillery location is the former Bluegrass Exposition Center.
- American Greetings announced it would be closing its Bardstown facility after almost 35 years in business.
- Hardin Memorial Hospital (HMH) officials, physicians, and others held a Ribbon Cutting event for their new 70,000 sq. ft. medical facility on East John Rowan Boulevard, for the Family Medical Center and other medical specialists.
- Heaven Hill Distillery announced a \$17.5 million-dollar Bourbon Heritage Center expansion that will more than double the current facility. It will also include a roof top bar, hands-on laboratory experience, and an area for guests to bottle their own bourbon.
- Holiday Inn Express and Suites held a Groundbreaking Ceremony on December 19th for the new facility being built on Morton Avenue. The 80+ room hotel hopes to open at the end of 2019. Three other hotels announced plans to build in Bardstown in 2019.
- The Bardstown Bourbon Company opened Bottle & Bond Kitchen and Bar in June. This state-of-the-art restaurant features a full-service restaurant, bar, and vintage whiskey library.
- The Stoli Group unveiled their design for Kentucky Owl Park on November 15th in the Oscar Getz Museum of Whiskey History. Japanese Architect, Shigeru Ban presented the plan that includes a distillery, rickhouses, hotel/convention center, and restaurants.
- The Bardstown-Nelson County Chamber of Commerce welcomed 77 new business members to their organization. Bardstown-Nelson County Tourism Commission announced the hiring of Mike Mangeot as its new Executive Director. The Bardstown Mainstreet Board announced the hiring of Randi Mouser as its new Director.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR 2018



It is important to review historical data and see how we are trending. As we continue to focus our efforts on recruiting new businesses, expanding our tourism efforts, and enhancing our quality of life, we need to continue to strategically plan and prepare for the future of Nelson County.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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