

# Heaven Hill planning visitors center expansion, rebranding

## Details to come today as distiller seeks \$4.3 million tax incentives

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Heaven Hill is set to announce details on expanding its visitors center Friday, but a hearing earlier this week gave some idea of the expansion's scope. The Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet conducted a public hearing in

Frankfort Wednesday afternoon on the application for \$4,375,000 in tax incentives. If Heaven Hill generates enough sales tax from its visitors center to be eligible for the incentive, they could get the \$4.3 million back as a refund if approved, explained Jay Hall, executive director of the state Office of Film and Tourism Development. Mike Mangeot, tourism director for Bardstown and Nelson County, said he was excited about Heaven Hill's plans. "We're thrilled with any kind of expansion and the fact that the distilleries keep investing in their visitor experiences," he

said. He mentioned that the company is one of the pioneers of bourbon tourism. "Heaven Hill was one of the first to see the opportunity to build that brand loyalty through the visitor experience, and now they're just taking it to the next level. That's exciting for us," Mangeot said. Eric Gregory, president of the Kentucky Distillers Association, said many distilleries' visitors centers are undergoing "tremendous transformation" as a result of legislation to help Kentucky become "like Napa Valley for bourbon." The distillers, he said, are "building for

the future" to attract highly affluent and well-educated tourists who are coming to the state to experience bourbon. "Ten years ago, visitors to the Kentucky Bourbon Trail were just thrilled that our distilleries were open to tours," he said. "Now they want to know everything" about bourbon, including mash bills, cocktail recipes, bourbon-inspired cuisine, bourbon history and vintage spir- its. So many distilleries are increasing their visitor center experiences, he said, and that's "a boon for places like Bardstown with so many distilleries."

# As fire risks increase with cold, families reminded to 'close before you doze'

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Local fire departments are doing their part to promote fire prevention and safety in Nelson County as colder weather means more people will be using fireplaces and heaters in their homes. Scott Thompson, assistant chief of the Northeast Nelson Fire Protection District, met with the Young at Heart group at Bloomfield Baptist Church earlier this month to educate the seniors on how to prevent and escape a fire. Part of this year's push is reminding families to "close before you doze," a statement about the life-saving difference a closed door can make in the event of a fire. "It makes a huge difference," Thompson said, "You've got a much greater chance at keeping smoke, heat" and carbon monoxide at bay longer with the door closed. Thompson showed a video demonstrating the effects of a closed door versus an open door when he met with the group last week. The room in which



Scott Thompson of the Northeast Nelson Fire Protection District speaks with the Young at Heart group at Bloomfield Baptist Church about fire prevention and safety.

a door had been left open was nearly unrecognizable due to heat and smoke damage, while the room with the door closed had minor damage around the door. A person in the closed-door room would likely have escaped or would still have been conscious and easier to rescue when first responders arrived, Thompson said. A person

in the same fire in a room with an open door would have a much greater risk of being unconscious or even deceased by the time help arrived. The Close before you Doze campaign is part of the fire department's ongoing educational efforts and community outreach. Thompson and others have helped individuals and families throughout the

community through safety visits, talks at schools and with other groups, and by installing and checking smoke detectors at numerous homes. Some changes fire departments have seen in recent years is that more synthetic materials are being used in building construction and in everyday household items. Many of these materials burn faster and release harmful chemicals. The result is a shortened escape time in the event of a fire. "It used to be you'd have about 17 minutes to get out of a burning home," Thompson said. "Now, you have about three." With the holidays coming up and families coming to visit, fire officials want to remind locals to discuss escape routes and emergency meeting places with everyone visiting their home. "Take a couple seconds and talk about it," he said. "Bad things happen, and it's not only a matter of if but when. If everybody is on the same page and like-minded with safety, it makes our job a whole lot easier."

# Church volunteers to prepare Thanksgiving dinner for 500

## Meals must be reserved by today

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Volunteers for the Bardstown-Nelson County Ministerial Association will be preparing about 500 free Thanksgiving dinners this year for those who might not otherwise have a special meal for the holiday. "It's for those who are shut in or not able to have a meal on Thanksgiving Day," Becky Riggs of Faith Worship Center said. She said the 30 to 50 volunteers will be cooking 360 pounds of turkey as well as dressing, gravy, green beans and other side dishes for the meals, which will be available only for delivery and carryout at the Guthrie Opportunity Center, 900 Nutter Drive, Bardstown. Carryout meals may be picked up between 10 a.m. and noon next Thursday. Those who want a meal and haven't already signed up for one must do so by Friday, Nov. 16, by calling

Faith Worship Center at (502) 348-7380 to place an order. They should leave a message and include their full name, street address, phone number, the number of meals needed and whether the meals are for pickup or delivery. "We know there are people that are not able to prepare a meal for themselves because of their health or condition, and some people don't have a means monetarily to prepare a meal for themselves," Riggs said. "We regret that there is no facility for a sit-down meal because there are many homeless people who don't have anyone to share a meal with" for the holiday, she said. For many years, the Thanksgiving community meals were at the parish hall at the Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral, and people could eat there in the company of others, although most meals were delivered or picked up. Riggs, who is a minister and the wife of the new ministerial president, Pastor Freddy Riggs of Faith Worship Center, said this is the second year the Guthrie Opportunity Center has hosted the meal preparation and distribution.

Thanksgiving week

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Wed., Nov. 21st edition KY Standard  
Nelson County Shopper  
Fri., Nov. 16 @ 10 AM  
Classified Display Ad Sales & Reader Classified  
Fri., Nov. 16 @ 2 PM  
Retail Display  
Fri., Nov. 16 @ noon

Friday, Nov. 23rd edition KY Standard  
ROP & Classified Display Ad Sales  
Mon., Nov. 19 @ 10 AM  
Classified Readers  
Mon., Nov. 19 @ 3:00 PM

Sunday, Nov. 25th edition KY Standard  
ROP / Classified Display Ad Sales  
Wed., Nov. 21 @ noon  
Classified Readers  
Wed., Nov. 21 @ 2:00 PM



The Kentucky Standard  
and PLG-TV  
OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED  
Thursday, Nov. 22nd

Get Your Game Face On!



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ARE YOU READY FOR OUR

Pete's Pigskin Challenge

You could be a weekly  
\$50 WINNER!  
If you're a really good picker,  
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preselected high school, college and pro games  
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or enter online at [www.kystandard.com](http://www.kystandard.com).

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The Kentucky Standard

\*Perfect score is having picked all 15 winning teams for that week — plus the exact final score (not total points) of the "Game of the Week."

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