

# Give 270 hosting next round of Whiskey Wednesdays

**BY THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE**

Tickets are on sale for Round 15 of the weekly Whiskey Wednesdays charity raffle series, hosted by Elizabethtown-based nonprofit Give 270.

Set to take place each Wednesday through June 25, the Whiskey Wednesdays Round 15 — Odd or Even raffle series features a valuable lineup of 12 weekly prizes hidden behind 12 locker doors, plus two grand prizes at the end of the round, a news release from the nonprofit said.

All proceeds from the raffle series will support local organizations and initiatives, with weekly proceeds allocated to a different cause. Benefitting organizations will include the Elizabethtown Community and Technical College Foundation, Greenspace, the Stephen Foster Drama Association, Shelby County Special Olympics and the Kosair for Kids NICU at Baptist Health Hardin.

“Whiskey Wednesdays has become a staple here at Give 270, and Round

15 promises to be bigger and better than ever,” said Eric Clemens, board chairman of Give 270, in the release. “With incredible prizes and the chance to support incredible local causes, every ticket purchased makes a difference. We are grateful for the generosity of our participants, and we’re excited to continue making an impact through this raffle series.”

Prizes hidden behind the 12 locker doors include a six-bottle Weller “Rain-

bow” Vertical; a two-bottle George T. Stagg and Stagg Jr. Batch 1 set, a two-bottle Van Winkle Lot “B” 12 year and Old Rip Van Winkle 10 year set, four bottles of Van Winkle Lot “B” 12 year, four bottles of Old Rip Van Winkle 10 year, and a bottle of Pappy Van Winkle 15 year.

Plus, each ticket gives participants five chances to win each week, as four bonus prizes are also given away, including two Willet 8 year Rye MANABOUT-TOWN Give 270 Single

Barrels, a Luca Mariano Give 270 Pick and a Buffalo Trace Give 270 Pick.

In addition, each week of Round 15, the five winners drawn will advance for a one-in-30 chance to win one of the round’s two ultimate prizes: Buffalo Trace O.F.C. Vintage 2005 or Double Eagle Very Rare. Winners from weeks when an odd locker door is opened advance for a chance to win the 2005 O.F.C., while winners from weeks when an even locker door is

opened advance for a chance to win the Double Eagle Very Rare.

Whiskey Wednesdays Round 15 raffles are live at 8 p.m. each Wednesday through June 25 on Give 270’s Facebook page and YouTube channel. Priced at \$5 each, there is no limit to the amount of tickets purchased per individual each week.

To purchase tickets, see the full list of prizes and stay up-to-date on raffles and events hosted by Give 270, go to give270.org.

## Study could lead to gas fee increase for Elizabethtown customers

**BY GINA CLEAR**

THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

The city of Elizabethtown is conducting a rate study on its natural gas service and Gas System Engineer Matthew Hobbs said data collection is underway.

In his report Monday to Elizabethtown City Council during a work session, Hobbs said “what will likely come out” of the study is a rate increase.

“What they do is they pull in all of your financials, all of your personnel, all of your activities and they allocate where you’re spending your money and how you’re spending money,” Hobbs said. “Then they make recommendations for what you should adjust and should not adjust.”

The last “real rate increase,” Hobbs said, came after a rate study in 2009.

Part of the reason for a possible rate increase is from stagnated residential connections.

“We’re losing customers about as fast as we’re gaining them,” Hobbs said. “The industrial pool is still strong and holding pretty steady. It’s about 50% of our flow. The amount or volume of gas we’re using is staying pretty consistent but that customer number is not going up.”

The department, which is fully staffed with 14 employees, covers about 276 miles of distribution, 2.5 miles of transmission and then 15 storage wells in Cecilia, which begins inspections this week.

“I’m not sure when (the study) will be done, but it’s in progress,” Hobbs said.

In his report, Hobbs also said he is ready to present a “solid” budget in upcoming budget discussions with the council.

Of that budget, the “biggest ticket item” is a dehydration unit, which is used to dry gas as its being pulled from the storage field so it will burn more efficiently. It is budgeted for \$250,000.

“Ours, I think, date back to sometime in the mid- to late-’90s,” Hobbs said, adding newer units have improved technology. “... We’re still kind of in evaluation mode at the moment to see if it can be refurbished or if you have to go with a whole new one, so we hope to have that answered sooner than later.”

Hobbs also said the city found savings in its prepay system to purchase gas in which it saved about \$165,000 this year.

“It has been very helpful especially in the winter months,” Hobbs said, adding it saves the city in transportation costs on its

vehicles as well. “This past winter we broke all-time flow records on the system, just shy of 20,000 (million cubic feet) through the system. On a normal winter day, you’re at about 8 or 9,000, just to give you a reference.”

**IN OTHER BUSINESS**

The Central Avenue gas line construction project is nearing its conclusion as Hobbs said the contractor is completing punch list items and cleanup should be underway.

“That’s been an interesting project and we’ve tore up a lot of the downtown area,” Hobbs said. “That’s one of the first main replacement projects that we’ve done in quite some time.”

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## E’TOWN

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go and all ends,” Rhorer said. “It’s a reality of the public defender’s office. Our salary isn’t always the most competitive compared to other places, but were always recruiting. From time-to-time there are times that several people leave at the same time and everybody has to step up.”

In short term, Rhorer said that there could be potential delays in cases.

“We are making sure that all the serious cases are staffed,” Rhorer said. “Any delays are minimal, that’s what we want.”

Hartman had been representing both Rodshad Bowser-Highsmith in his complicity to commit murder trial and Dustin Caudill in his murder trial.

According to Rhorer,

both of those cases have had new public defenders assigned.

“In those two cases, I wouldn’t estimate any delays relating to our staffing,” Rhorer said.

Rhodes said the Elizabethtown office has a commitment to client representation.

“I’m proud of the way that folks have stepped up,” Rhorer said.

The plan is recruit law school students who are graduating in August,

Rhorer said.

“Help is on the way, but it’s a matter of us holding out and making sure that we get through until that time,” Rhorer said. “Folks that are still there still care about client representation. I have full confidence in their abilities.”

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## ECTC

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energy of being together,” said Jerisia Lamons, director of enrichment and engagement. “Our goal is to create a welcoming environment where people feel seen, valued and included.”

Lamons said the event is open and free to the public with several food trucks present allowing individuals to come by and grab lunch while learning about other cultures.

There will be live musical performances by three different culture groups

and food trucks that will serve German, Hawaiian and soul food. The ECTC international cuisine class also will present food from around the world, Lamons said.

“We’ve hosted fairs in the past, but this is the first time we’re presenting our annual fair under the new ‘CommUNITY’ theme. It’s a fresh take on something that’s always been close to our hearts: bringing people together in meaningful ways,” Lamons said. “CommUNITY is a theme we can build on year after year — it gives us space to grow, evolve and keep things fresh while still focusing

on connection and togetherness.”

According to Lamons, the fair reflects the heart of ECTC and what it stands for.

“It’s about creating opportunities for people to connect, feel a sense of belonging and build meaningful relationships across different experiences,” Lamons said. “Events like this help foster a campus culture where everyone feels welcomed and valued, and that sense of community continues long after the day.”

Despite it being an annual fair with a new name, Lamons said she is excited for participants to

enjoy a new experience.

“Honestly, seeing people light up when they experience something new, whether it’s a dish they’ve never tried, a performance they weren’t expecting or a connection they make with someone from a different background is what I look forward to,” Lamons said. “When people feel like they belong, they show up, shine bright and sprinkle a little bit of magic everywhere, and that’s when campus truly comes to life.”

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## SEWER

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surcharge of \$.56 per thousand gallons bringing the total rate charged to \$2.79 per thousand gallons.

Currently, the rate is \$2.19 per thousand gallons, along with an elevated service area surcharge of .53 cents per thousand. The total increase is .60 cents

per thousand gallons.

If the district chose to request a purchase water adjustment from the PSC, passing on a fraction of the cost to customers, “basically, it would be equivalent to two cents per thousand gallons,” Youravich said. “So, a minimum bill would increase by four cents.”

If the board chose to go that route, a resolution would need to be adopted

at the May meeting.

“I would definitely keep that going,” Tim Davis said. “Those pennies add up over time.”

By contract HCWD No. 2 is obligated to purchase at least 2 million gallons of water per day.

“It’s tempting to forget it,” Talley said. “But we can never get that back.”

The district also discussed two county roads, Flint Hill Road and Mel-

rose Road, that have been identified for water line extensions that, at this time, are unserved roads. The length of the lines would be eight miles.

The board gave it’s approval for bidding materials to install four- and six-inch water lines.

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## Trump weighs auto tariff pause; parts exemptions key for industry

**BY ALEXA ST. JOHN**

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — President Donald Trump hinted that he might temporarily relieve the auto industry from “permanent” tariffs he previously imposed on the business. The president didn’t specify how long the potential pause would be or what it would entail, but the auto sector is awaiting how rules might change on 25% tariffs based on U.S. parts, if duties remain on assembled vehicles.

Experts have said short pauses aren’t likely to give carmakers enough of an opportunity to adjust their vast global supply chains, though parts exemptions would certainly bolster the industry amid Trump’s trade war whiplash.

Trump told reporters Monday that automakers “need a little bit of time because they’re going to make them here, but they need a little bit of time. So I’m talking about things like that,” referring to relocating production from Canada, Mexico and elsewhere. The news drove global auto stocks up Tuesday.

Matt Blunt, president of the American Automotive Policy Council, which represents domestic auto companies Ford, General Motors and Stellantis, said in a statement: “There is increasing awareness that broad tariffs on parts could undermine our shared goal of building a thriving and growing American auto industry, and that many of these supply chain transitions will take time.”

Trump first announced 25% automotive tariffs late March; the tariffs for completed vehicles took effect on April 3, while the parts tariffs were set to start

30 days later.


“The one-month delay is intended to give the U.S. government time to work out rules to exempt the value of automotive parts that contains U.S.-made materials, which will not be subject to the tariffs,” according to insights from law firm Foley & Lardner, noting a “carveout” for parts certified under regional trade pact, the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement. The Department of Commerce is expected to determine “a system to calculate non-U.S. content” by May 3.

At the same time, automakers are navigating steel and aluminum imports levies of at least 25%; 25% duties on all goods from Canada and Mexico; 10% global tariffs and reciprocal tariffs around the world — paused for 90 days, and both of which automotive is exempt from; and tariffs on China at 145%.

Autos Drive America, which represents foreign automakers, said in a statement that “hitting pause on auto tariffs would be a step in the right direction and would allow automakers to deliver more choices at better prices for consumers.”

“Tariffs raise costs across the board — making it more expensive to build cars in America and harder for families to find the vehicle that fits their needs,” the group added. “A pause on auto parts allows automakers to continue production in the U.S. without disruption while a pause on finished vehicles allows automakers to sell vehicles and keep investing in U.S. plants and jobs.”

The United Auto Workers labor union did not respond to a request for comment.



# LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Elizabethtown is requesting sealed bids for the University Drive Park Improvements projects located at 527 University Drive, Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Bids will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Third Floor, 200 West Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, until 10:00 am on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at which time each bid will be opened and read aloud.

Bid documents, including drawings and specifications, may be obtained from

CMW, 249 East Main Street, Suite 100, Lexington, KY 40507  
859.254.6623  
Contact Brad Boaz, bboaz@cmwaec.com

Bid documents will be available after April 21, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Bidders are encouraged to carefully read the bid documents and visit the site.

Bid bonds in the amount of 5% of the total bid are required. Performance and payment bonds in the amount of 100% of the contract amount are required upon the execution of the contract. Contractors and subcontractors will be required to comply with all Kentucky workers compensation and unemployment insurance requirements.

The City of Elizabethtown intends to award the contract on the best evaluated bid. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to let the project as a whole or in part, and to waive any formalities or irregularities in the bids received where the best interest of the City may be served.

No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled bid closing time for a period of 60 days.

Any questions regarding the project should be addressed by email to CMW to Brad Boaz at bboaz@cmwaec.com. Final questions must be submitted by 4:00 pm on April 30, 2025.

/s/ Honorable Jeffrey H. Gregory, Mayor  
Attest: Jessica J. Graham, City Clerk



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