

# •RUN

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explained. “They were doing a Memorial Day program, and we were working on them with that, and out of that, after it was over, we branched into this.”

Hoskins explained that he wanted it to be a larger scale, several day event to raise awareness, with several events surrounding the 5K.

“You can walk, you can use a stroller, if you need to use a wheelchair, that’s a place that you can do that, or you can run in it,” Hoskins explained. “All of our proceeds are going to go toward suicide prevention.”

Hoskins explained that on the national level, 22 veterans take their own lives each day, and that raising awareness to help those in need

“I know of three incidents in the last two years where veterans have thought about committing suicide, and we’ve been influential in getting them the help they need so that that never happened,” Hoskins stated. “That’s a good thing.”

Hoskins explained that the statistic could be skewed, as it only accounts for veterans who are not homeless or those living “off the grid.”

“Nobody really knows what’s going on with them,” Hoskins added.

In the last six months, Hoskins explained that he has worked with the VA to conduct town halls in counties like Barren County, and in cities like Bowling Green, where veterans can get questions answered from them for a live response.

“We were really excited and grateful to be the host, and to be a part of the planning process.” D Porter, the Director of Development & Community Engagement at the park, said.

As of the time of writing, there have been 50 registrations, and walk-ups are welcome to participate in the event, but registration before the event is encouraged.

“This is a new 5K course and we designed it specifically this year,” Porter added. ‘(...) It does use trail space we (currently) have, and people who have ran 5Ks at the park, there are some similarities, but we decided that it made more sense for us to reposition both our starting line as well as now that we have (...) our grasslands trail now that it is completed.”

Porter explained that a map has been sent out to those that have registered, which utilizes the park’s entire trail system, starting from the amphitheater, running from there through the loop, the nature trail, the extended trail, over to the grasslands, looping there, back to the core trail, and back to the amphitheater.

“It’s essentially a 5K,” Porter explained. “It’s the entirety

of our current trail construction, with a couple of detours not taken. Unfortunately, we’re not going to have people run and pass the cave entrance, or because they’re going down further off the extended nature trail, we needed that mileage.”

Porter expressed that he hopes that the route at the Veteran’s 5K will be the route for any potential future 5K run.

“For me, I really see this as a way to allow people to show up in support,” Porter expressed. “The goal is that veterans who maybe are struggling can see this community participate and know that they are not alone. That there are people here that are interested in helping support and uplift their voices, and ensure that they have those connections.”

Porter said that beyond the 5K, he stated that he is excited for the VA S.A.V.E. training session on the previous Friday, May 30, at the VFW at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. doing public training, specifically to ensure that everyday community members can see the signs and know how to support veterans in crisis.

Additionally, Hoskins explained that Smuckers would do a training session on Thursday, May 29 that morning, and record it for later use, with approval being granted from the VA in Washington, D.C. due to the type of venue, being an open-air venue.

“That’s absolutely amazing,” Porter said. “It’s about identifying



▲ PHOTO | DAMON STONE  
Dugas Community Park is a 340 acre non-profit park located in Scottsville, Kentucky. Many amenities are offered to the public including walking/hiking trails, a pavilion, an amphitheater, and a playground.

the key steps in suicide prevention, which are Signs, Ask, Validate, Encourage, and Expedite. Being able to identify the signs, ask the right questions, validate feelings, and encourage them to seek resources or to get the help that they need, or encourage them essentially to continue to live, and that expedite is for people who are in critical crisis, and getting them immediately connected with the resources that we do have in place on a national level, but also within our local communities to ensure that they have trained professionals to help them navigate those moments.”

After the training session, at 6 p.m., the VFW will host a spaghetti pasta dinner, with support from the Daughters of the American Revolution with the desert, with all proceeds from the dinner going back to supporting the park.

At the event, Ernie Stafford and the staff from the Core will be at the park to time the runs for those who are more competitive with 5K events and running.

“I think our real hope

is that, one, that we get to make people aware that there are resources out there, and that they can reach out and utilize,” Hoskins expressed. “There’s no such thing as a correct approach, but there is an approach to dealing with it, instead of just acting like we didn’t see it. What I think we’re really trying to do is bring awareness to the fact that suicide is a real issue.”

With May being Mental Health Awareness Month, and with the events surrounding Memorial Day, Hoskins hopes that it is able to put an emphasis on remembering fallen veterans, whether that be in or out of combat.

Porter stated that while stigma exists surrounding mental health, he believes that everyday people struggle with mental health, and that it is special to have these resources available for those who need it.

Those interested in registering for the run can do so online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/KY/Scottsville/ACSVeterans5K>.



## S-AC Planning Commission Holds Public Hearings

By **Chris Cole**  
Staff Writer

On Monday, May 19, the Scottsville-Allen County Planning Commission held their monthly meeting in the circuit courtroom of the City-County Building. All but one member of the commission was present. There were four items up for a public hearing.

Public Hearing 2025-06 concerned a map amendment to the property at 1091 Smiths Grove Road. The detailed development plan showed a proposed expansion of five buildings which would total 10,700 square feet of the Store Safely storage facility. The plan also included a storm water basin. It was proposed by Zachary Boca and Mike and Evon Hymer.

The property has been a storage facility for many years and was discovered to have been improperly zoned for its use in 1998. The proposed map amendment would correct the improper zoning and also allow it to expand. The proposal includes land owned by Boca through Scottsville Storage, LLC and land under contract to expand the site by 3.04 acres currently owned by the Hymers.

The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the map amendment for 1091 Smiths Grove Road to the City Council. They also granted conditional approval of the detailed development plan for Store Safely Storage contingent on the full approval of the map amendment by the City Council.

Public Hearing 2025-07 involved Belmark, Inc. They proposed a detailed development plan for Belmark Plant 9 located at 50 Bell Way along Johnson Road.

The plan included an initial 208,330 square foot building with 135 parking spaces. There are also two potential future expansions with an expansion square footage of 55,410.

The plan currently includes landscaping along Johnson Road, Bell Way and at the pedestrian entrance, loading dock and tank areas. Two storm water basins near the eastern boundary of the property are also part of the plans.

The Planning Commission gave conditional approval for the detailed development plan of Belmark Plant 9 upon completion of the required table with site and building characteristics and storm water basin calculations.

Public Hearing 2025-08 involved the staff of the Planning Commission providing potential detailed revisions to the Scottsville Zoning Ordinance to align language throughout the document, as well as the use of engineering/planning terminology and alignment with proposed revisions to the subdivision regulations including clarifications where needed on tables and revisions to the signs and billboards article to reflect the zoning districts within the zoning ordinance.

After discussion, the commission recommended approval of the zoning ordinance revisions to the City Council.

Public Hearing 2025-08 involved the staff detailing potential revisions to the Scottsville-Allen County subdivision regulations.

They included, but are not limited to, definitions, authorization of the planning director to approve certain plats, requirement of 100 feet of street frontage for lots less than 10 acres and 60 feet of street frontage for lots over 10 acres, procedural clarifications and increasing the minor plat paper size.

After discussion, the commission approved the revisions to the subdivision regulations.



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