

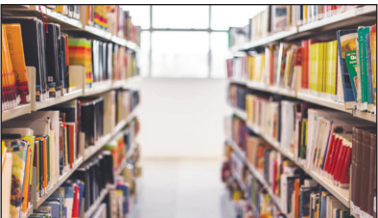


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Cardinals rout rival Eagles  
**>>SPORTS B1**



KDE program brings books to 34 districts, including Nelson Co.  
**>>NEWS A7**

# The Kentucky Standard

\$2 • Vol. 125, No. 33 • [www.kystandard.com](http://www.kystandard.com)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

## New Haven honors local first responders

City discusses next steps for streetlights and city pool

BY KATELYN NORRIS  
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The City of New Haven recognized its local fire department following early April's flooding across the county.

On Thursday at the Board of Commissioners' meeting, New Haven Mayor Linda Mattingly honored members of the Rolling Fork Fire Department. The local first responders put

in many hours of work earlier this month during the devastating rainstorms and flooding through the county and city.

City Clerk Joanie Corbin read aloud the resolution on Thursday as Mattingly awarded Fire Chief Freddy Dewitt with a certificate of recognition.

The proclamation is as follows: "The city of New Haven, Kentucky, would like to recognize the Rolling Fork Fire Department for dedicating its time and effort to serving the community of New Haven, Kentucky, providing numerous volunteer hours and support

to residents and businesses. Whereas the Rolling Fork Fire Department is an invaluable asset to our community and plays a vital role in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all residents. Now therefore be it resolved that the city of New Haven expresses their sincere appreciation for their unwavering commitment, and public safety ..."

Mattingly applauded their continued efforts to serve the community in the long haul between their work in February and into April with the rising

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New Haven Mayor Linda Mattingly recognized the dedication and hard work of the Rolling Fork Fire Department during last week's Board of Commissioners meeting.

KATELYN NORRIS/The Kentucky Standard



KATELYN NORRIS/The Kentucky Standard

Local students participated in the Bataan Memorial March on Saturday alongside multiple other Junior ROTC groups from across the state. Cadets in the Nelson County Air Force JROTC completed a 14-mile trek in memory of the Bataan Death March.

## Local JROTC hosts annual Bataan Memorial March

Cadets honor the past with 14-mile trek

BY KATELYN NORRIS  
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Each year, the Bataan Death March is honored through a memorial trek as U.S. service-

members remember those who were lost. This Saturday, local students in the Air Force JROTC completed the 14-mile march, bringing in other units from across the state.

More than 100 students came together to participate in the annual Bataan Memorial March

at Active Heroes in Shepherdsville. The Nelson County Air Force JROTC alongside the Nelson County Memorial VFW Post 12229 Youth Committee brought a new march to life for the young cadets to complete this year.

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## KYGUNCO, KDFWR host Kentucky Elk & Outdoor Fest

KYGUNCO, Federal Ammunition and Smith & Wesson will host the third annual Kentucky Elk & Outdoor Fest in conjunction with Kentucky Dept. of Fish & Wildlife on May 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the KYGUNCO Bardstown location.

The festival will include giveaways, raffles, food trucks, beer tents, vendor village, live music with Nashville recording artist Chase Mathews and the announcement of Kentucky's elk draw winners for 2025. Last year this event raised \$250,000, benefiting dozens of different youth organizations in the state of Kentucky.

"There is not a better time to be had in Kentucky on the second Saturday in May. Last year 5,000 people had a phenomenal time, all while raising money for a worthy cause," said KYGUNCO owner Patrick Hayden. "When the opportunity to host the Department of Fish and Wildlife's elk draw came about, we knew we could mold this into a signature event for the state of Kentucky. Hosting it for our third year, we have made it even bigger with more vendors, more prizes, more music and more fun."

Kentucky Elk & Outdoor Fest is a ticketed event. General admission

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## City to break ground on aquatic, sports center

The City of Bardstown will commemorate a significant advancement in community recreation with a groundbreaking ceremony for the indoor Bardstown Aquatic and Sports Center on Tuesday, April 29, at 11 a.m. The event will take place at the site of the existing Bardstown City Pool, and all members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

This momentous occasion marks the beginning of construction on a state-of-the-art facility that will provide year-round aquatic and sports amenities for residents of all ages. Once completed, the center is expected to serve as a regional hub for recreation and community

engagement.

The 80,000 sq ft. Bardstown Aquatic and Sports Center will feature indoor swimming pools, multipurpose courts, an indoor walking track, a fitness class studio in partnership with the Nelson County Public Library, a café, and versatile community gathering spaces. Additionally, the facility will include an outdoor splash pad, and a modern playground designed to accommodate children of varying ages and abilities.

"This groundbreaking signifies the City's ongoing investment in the health, wellness, and quality of life of our residents," stated

SEE **AQUATIC/PAGE A6**

## Inmates gain skills through new partnership

Community garden comes to life this summer

BY KATELYN NORRIS  
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This summer, the Nelson County Correctional Center will expand its offerings for inmates, providing another opportunity to gain real-world skills through a new partner-

ship with a local non-profit.

Jailer Justin Hall has continued his efforts to make the lives of the inmates at the Nelson County Correctional Center better. Through expanded work and skill-based programming to updated jail safety protocols, Hall has made significant changes within the jail.

Earlier this year, Hall and Lee Look, Guthrie

SEE **GAIN/PAGE A3**

## Bloomfield provides update on park project

Bloomfield City Council briefs

BY PETER W. ZUBATY  
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Despite a short break as the county recovered from the heavy rains and flooding earlier this month, the renovation of the Bloomfield Memorial Park is back on track.

Public Works superintendent Derrick Hagan said he's

expecting the new pickleball court to be completed in May, and once that is done, installation of the new playground equipment will proceed. He noted that the recent flooding did not cause too much damage at the park beyond construction delays.

Mayor Chris Dudgeon announced that there would not be enough space in the

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