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The Kentucky Standard

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GO Center prepares for KY Gives Day

Nonprofit creating new program

BY KATELYN NORRIS
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Kentucky Gives Day is right around the corner and local nonprofit the Guthrie Opportunity Center aims high as it creates new programming for its service population. The GO Center offers a number of services to people in Nelson County with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Sarah Hite, a Board member and participant parent, said they've been developing a

SEE **GIVES/PAGE A3**

Bardstown presents \$44M budget for next fiscal year

Aquatic/rec center accounts for about half the total budget

BY PETER W. ZUBATY
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The City of Bardstown's budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1, is set to grow by 134% over last year, with more than \$20 million of the \$44 million total going toward construction costs on the new aquatic and rec center that will be completed by the end of 2026. City administrator Aaron Boles presented the budget at a recent workshop with the city council, and he said city

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Spirited Schedule for second National Bourbon Week

Tickets on sale for more than a dozen unique experiences

With unparalleled access and unique experiences, National Bourbon Week announced the full event schedule for the second weeklong celebration of America's native spirit, to be held in the Bourbon Capital of the World June 9-15, 2025. Presented by Buzick Construction, National Bourbon Week brings together world-class distilleries, exclusive

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Local Planning Committee OK's draft for facilities plan

Public hearing set for May 14 at TNHS

BY PETER W. ZUBATY
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By a vote Wednesday night of 13-2, the Nelson County School's Local Planning Committee approved its District Facilities Plan to address future construction needs in the school system. Four members of the LPC were

unable to attend Wednesday's meeting — Jeff Dickerson, Nicole Milburn, Sean Smith and Colleen Yates. After voicing their displeasure with the idea of moving forward with united 6-12 schools on the campuses of Nelson County High School and Thomas Nelson High School at the April 23 LPC meeting, Shelley Newton and Ashley Simpson registered the "no" votes at Wednesday's meeting. Newton is a teacher at New Haven School and Simpson is a Bloomfield Elementary parent.

The DFP draft for Nelson Schools will now be sent to the Kentucky Department of Education for approval. Presuming the KDE signs off on the draft in time, the DFP draft will be presented at a public forum 5:30 p.m. May 14 at Thomas Nelson High School. Wednesday's meeting featured presentations from Nelson Schools COO Alex Martin and architect Steven Ward with Studio Kremer.

SEE **DRAFT/PAGE A3**

Landon's Hope launches new bookmobile



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Landon's Hope, a local nonprofit dedicated to equitable access to books, unveiled a new bookmobile last month during the annual birthday and fundraiser for the foundation. This is a view inside the new mobile unit of the dozens of books awaiting for children.



Dallas Fowler and his team at Digital EFX Wraps LLC made the wrap for the new Landon's Hope mobile library, which was unveiled last month.

Family celebrates McCubbins' birthday

BY KATELYN NORRIS
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Local nonprofit Landon's Hope has launched its next phase for its organization with the unveiling of new bookmobile. Three years since the passing of 8-year-old Landon McCubbins, his family comes together each April to celebrate this birthday. Landon's Hope, a nonprofit started in his honor, is dedicated to bringing equitable access to books for children of all ages. At the end of April, at the annual birthday celebration and fundraiser, a new bookmobile for the organization made its debut. Emma McCubbins, Landon's aunt, said they'd bought the mobile more than a year ago, spending the time renovating and repairing. She said since they began the nonprofit, which started as a love letter to Landon's enthusiasm for reading, they've wanted a bookmobile — a way to reach more kids.

"This was one of our visions that we thought something we could do within, maybe, a five-year plan," she said "... It's only took two years, so we're happy about that. We could pull it together a lot faster than we thought we could. ... We took it over for renovations on the inside, to put the bookshelves in and get that wrap on the outside, to turn it over into the library." The inside of the bookmobile is filled with shelves and shelves of books. Emma said there is dedicated shelf space for many of Landon's favorite books and favorite topics to read about. The remainder of the library is packed full with books that were donated through the help of community. Chasity Carr with Paper Pie organized a book drive for the organization with many community members donating books. In addition

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>>OBITUARIES

Patsy Forsee Smith, 82
Brenda Coulter Mattingly Stevens, 81

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