Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits releases first UK bourbon product

BY GRACE SOWARDS UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

A select group of students participating in a new course at the University of Kentucky have created the school's first distilled spirit brand.

Honorary Professor Herb Heneman's Commercialization of Distilled Spirits course at the UK James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits taught students how a bourbon brand is born after the spirit is made. In the fall, Heneman split the class into teams to brainstorm and pitch ideas to one another – what to name the brand, what the label should look like, how to bottle and process the spirit.

"We wanted to give students a foundation for actually taking a bourbon from concept to completion," Heneman said. "What better way to learn than by doing?

The four class groups created a name and label ideas for the spirit. Heneman gave students complete creative freedom and looked forward to learning what inspired them.

Mary Grace Vest, a senior studying biomedical engineering, was in the group that pitched WildCask.

"I thought since this was the first brand, it had to be something that represented not only the university, but the institute itself," Vest said. "Wild-Cask sort of just popped into my head, because it sounds like wildcat. The cask is the center of the story when it comes to



MATT BARTON/University of Kentucky Students from James B. Beam Institute at the University of Kentucky helped pack bottles of WildCask Bourbon off the bottling line at Bardstown Bourbon Company.

speaks to the craft."

To make their product stand out, students wanted the label to be different than the understated branding with minimal logos and text that often can be found on liquor store shelves. Vest explained another element of keeping craft and tradition front and center on the label: the White Oak tree centerpiece.

The tree, in combination with the sketch of the Beam Institute building and the bright blue label, encapsulates Wild-Cask's message: This spirit is for and inspired by the UK community.

William Bahan of WBahan Design took the final brand pitch, a collaborative effort of the whole class during the second semester and created the artwork.

"I couldn't be happier with what it looks like now," Vest said. "It's so bourbon. It spoke to the much better than our

university, but it also original pitch, so it's awesome."

The JBBI team, led by Director Seth DeBolt, has been waiting for this moment since before the Beam Institute was officially formed. Even before ground was broken on the building, they knew the goal was to make the first-ever distilled spirit from the world's largest teaching distillery.

Heneman got the project off the ground by donating bourbon from his personal stock at Bardstown Bourbon Co. to the Independent Stave Co. Boswell Family Warehouse on campus.

The 12 donated barrels were a variety of ages, with a total value of just under \$40,000. The liquid from Heneman's barrels was combined with the product of barrels donated by Freddie Noe and the James B. Beam Distilling Co. to make the unique blend that is Wild-Cask.

The class also used the Bardstown Bourbon Co. bottling facility, allowing for a behind-the-scenes look at how they bottle thousands of spirits every day.

"I'm so grateful to Herb for sharing his knowledge with us," Vest said.

JBBI offered the opportunity to reserve a bottle of the first batch at the 2025 JBBI Industry Conference in March. An in-person payment and pickup requirement allowed patrons to meet Heneman, DeBolt and the student creators, many of whom autographed bottles.

Proceeds from the sales of the inaugural release will be invested in students, research and JBBI programming, a statement from the university said.

WildCask creators also learned a lesson in distribution through Heneman's class. As a result, a small portion of bottles were sent to retailers including Liquor Barn and Kroger Wine and Spirits.

'Making the liquid is one very important part," DeBolt said. "But when you look at a pie chart of all the employment opportunities in this industry, probably about two-thirds of those opportunities are in the sales, marketing, procurement and other commercial aspects. Bringing this class in fills out our ability to meet our mission of creating the best graduates for the next generation of distillers and distillery workers."

Groundbreaking cancer care for rural Kentucky

UofL & UofL Health — Brown Cancer Center to start construction on \$25M Center for Rural Cancer Education and Research

Health — Brown Cancer Center Central and Western Kentucky. \$25 million regional cancer cen-

struction is underway on the UofL prehensive cancer care in South, County. This expansion of cancer care

BULLITT COUNTY - Con- center will increase access to com- - South Hospital campus in Bullitt is made possible with funding support Located along the growing Inter- from the Kentucky General Assembly.

The Nelson County Schools Local Planning Committee will host a Public Forum at 530pm on May 14th, 2025, at Thomas Nelson High School, located at 150 Generals Blvd., Bardstown KY 40004.



Public Notice Regarding Confidentiality and Child Find for Children with Disabilities in Need of Special Education, or

504 Services, or Preschool Services The Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School Districts keep educational records in a secure location in each school and Board office.

The Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School District obtain written consent from a parent or eligible student (age 18 or who is attending a postsecondary institution), before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA.

For students who have been determined eligible for Special Education, educational records will be

destroyed at the request of the parents when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. The Bard-stown Independent and Nelson County School District may destroy a child's educational records without a parent's request (3) years after they are no longer needed to provide educational pro grams or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School District may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance records, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Children eligible for Special Education include those children with disabilities who have autism,

deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental

disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment and who because of such an impairment need Special Education services.

Children eligible for 504 services include those children in public elementary and secondary

education programs who have a current physical or mental impairment that currently substantially

imits some major life activity, which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited.

Children eligible for the State-Funded Preschool program include three- and four-year-old

children identified with disabilities and four-year-old children who are at-risk, as defined by

federal poverty levels up to 160%. Preschool children eligible for special education must have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) instead of a 504 plan to receive State-Funded Preschool program services

The Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School Districts have an ongoing "Child Find"

system, which is designed to locate, identify, and evaluate any child residing in a home, facility, or residence within its geographical boundaries, age three (3) to

twenty-one (21) years, who may have a disability and be in need of Special Education or 504 services. This includes children who are not in school; those who are in public, private, or home school; those who are highly mobile, such as children who are migrant or homeless; and those who are advancing from grade to grade, who may need but are not receiving Special Education or 504 services

The district's "Child Find" system includes children with disabilities who are attending private or

home schools within the school district boundaries and may need special education services

The Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School Districts will make sure any child enrolled in its district who qualifies for Special Education or 504 services, regardless of how severe the disability, is provided appropriate Special Education or 504 services at no cost to the parents of the child

Parents relatives public and private agency employees and

ter and Center for Rural Cancer state 65 corridor, the cancer center Education and Research. The new will become part of the UofL Health

SEE CANCER/PAGE B8

Central Kentucky Community Action Council celebrates Community Action Month

The Community Action skills to achieve long- our communities' par-Network is a robust state term financial freedom. and local force that helps empower hardworking families to achieve ecorather than keeping and families have access them reliant on government assistance. There need to thrive, while also are nearly 1,000 agencies across the country working every day to create economic opportunities, strengthen local communities, and help families find pathways to prosperity. This year, Central Kentucky Community Action Council, a proud member of the Community Action Network, commemorates over sixty years of service helping families throughout central Kentucky.

"Each May, during Community Action Month, we reflect on the impact Central Kentucky Community Action Council and our network has had on our citizens and families," said Bryan Conover, Executive Director of Central Kentucky Community Action Council. "Last year alone, we supported thousands of Kentuckians across the Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin, LaRue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, and Washington counties and over 15 million across the United States though the Community Action network with services like job training, financial education, small business support, early childhood education, and helping families build

Agencies across the country ensure that hard-worknomic independence ing American citizens ment helps us to be more to the opportunities they promoting local economic growth and reducing government dependency. All agencies are locally controlled with boards of directors composed of local elected officials, private and public sector representatives, and engaged community residents. "We are proud of



Frankfort, Ky. 40601, within 30 days of the date of this

ticipation in the devel-Community Action opment and oversight gencies across the coun- of our programs," said Conover. "Their engageeffective in our approach by determining what our community needs and how we can best use our resources to meet those needs."

Please join us in celebrating the continued success of Central Kentucky Community Action Council and all Community Action Agencies across the United States. Happy Community Action Month!

For more information, go to www.ckcac.org or call (270) 692-2136.



NOTIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF STUDENT SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS - NELSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

JUNE 1, 2025

In accordance with the state and federal regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), this is to inform the public of our intent to destroy personally identifiable information related to special education services

The Nelson County School District would like to make Parents/Guardians, Former Students, and Eligible (Adult) Students aware that Districts are required to maintain records for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of last activity. Special Education records of students who have not received special education services for the past 3 years will have those re-cords disposed of starting July 15, 2025. This includes students who were receiving special education services at the time of graduation, if they graduated during or prior to the 2021 2022 school year.

Special Education records collected by the Nelson County School District relate to the identification, evaluation, education al placement, or the provision of Special Education in the district. Special Education services end when the student is no longer eligible for services, graduates, or completes his or her educational program at age 21, or moves from the district.

This notification is solely to provide awareness to the students who graduated or who left school during that year. If no student, parent, or guardian responds to this public notice, the school district will assume consent to destroy all Special Edu-cation records specific to the student after July 15, 2024.

The District may maintain a permanent record, without limitation, of a student's name, address, phone number, his/her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Please be advised that the records may be needed by the student or parent(s) for social security benefits or other purposes

Request of student records may be forwarded to Madalyn Tucker, Nelson County Board of Education 502-349-7000.

rned citizens are urged to help the Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School Districts find any child who may have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. The Dis trict needs to know the name and age or date of birth of the child; the name, address, and phone number(s) of the parents or quardian: the possible disability: and other information to determ ne if Special Education or 504 services are needed.

Letters and phone calls are some of the ways the Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School District collect the information tion needed. The information the school District collects will be used to contact the parents of the child and find out if the child needs to be evaluated or referred for Special Education or 504 services.

If you know of a child who lives within the boundaries of the Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School Districts, who may have a disability and may need but is not receiving Special Education or 504 services, please call 502-331-8800 (for Bard-stown Independent) or 502-349-7000 (for Nelson Co. Schools) or send the information to:

Director of Special Education and Section 504 Coordinator Bardstown Independent Schools Attn: Lance Boston 308 North Fifth Street Bardstown, KY 40004 Phone: (502) 331-8800 Fax: (502) 331-8830

Director of Special Education and Section 504 Coordinator Nelson County Schools Attn: Madalyn Tucker 288 Wildcat Lane Bardstown, KY 40004 Phone: (502) 349-7000 Fax: (502) 349-7004

If you know of a child who attends a private or homeschool within the boundaries of the Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but are not receiving Special Education services, please call the numbers listed above or send the information to the addresses sted above

"Child Find" activities will continue throughout the school year. As part of these efforts, the

Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School District will use screening information, student records, and basic assess ment information it collects on all children in the District to help locate those children who have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. Any information the District collects hrough "Child Find" is maintained confidentially

Written Policies and Procedures have been developed that describe the District's requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information and "Child Find" activities. Copies of these Policies and Procedures may be obtained by ontacting

Directors of Special Education (Lance Boston) of Bardstown Independent and (Madalyn Tucker) of Nelson County Schools. Please see contact information for both districts above

The Nelson County District office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the Bardstown Independent Schools District office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Bardstown Independent and Nelson County School Districts provide public notice in the native language or other modes of communication of the various populations in the geographical boundaries of the District to the extent feasible.

f you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner or mode of communication,

please contact the Director of Special Education or the Section 504 Coordinator at the address or phone numbers listed above or the Bardstown Independent and Nelson County Schools.

Revised May 2024