



# 2016 Economic Development Highlights and Indicators

**Bardstown and Nelson County**

**January 2017**

- Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin announced that international automotive supplier Thai Summit would be locating their new \$110 million U.S. production facility in Bardstown.
- On May 6<sup>th</sup>, Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin joined local officials in a groundbreaking ceremony for LUXCO Distillery. The St. Louis based company purchased a 70 acre site off Highway 245. In September they announced that Lux Row Distillery will be the distillery's new name.
- Demipac, a producer of plastic packaging, purchased land in the Wilson Industrial Park and started construction on their new manufacturing facility.
- The former SEEMAC company in Boston was purchased by Chinese businessman Jack Li and has started production as Legend Lumber Lee.
- The Bardstown Bourbon Company began the production of bourbon at its new distillery in the Nelson County Industrial Park. The Visitor's Center is expected to open in the second quarter of 2017.
- Heaven Hill Distillery celebrated the opening of its new 55,000+ barrel warehouse at their new bourbon preserve on Louisville Road which will eventually be the site of 12 warehouses. Expansions also took place at Willett, Jim Beam and Barton distilleries in Nelson County.
- Lisanna Byrd was hired as the new Manager for the Bardstown Main Street program. In October she organized the most successful Bardstown Arts and Crafts Fair since its inception.
- The Bardstown-Nelson County Chamber of Commerce announced the hiring of Samantha Brady as its new Executive Director. Brady was formerly the Bardstown Main Street Manager.
- Governor Matt Bevin announced that Bardstown/Nelson County was named one of the Top 100 Micropolitans in the U.S. for new and expanding economic development projects by Site Selection Magazine.
- Manoj Patel and the Jay Hospitality Group announced they will build a 75-room Holiday Inn Express & Suites off West John Rowan Boulevard in Bardstown.
- Owners of the Talbott Tavern opened their new 15-room Talbott Inn on the Court Square in downtown Bardstown.
- The unemployment rate in November dropped to 3.6% which is the lowest in 16 years.
- Colton's Steakhouse opened its new restaurant on East John Rowan Boulevard.
- The Bardstown Bourbon Task Force was formed in an effort to enhance a better bourbon experience locally. Their first project included the development of the Bourbon Capital of the World Compass located in the plaza area of the Welcome Center featuring each Kentucky distillery.
- The Bardstown-Nelson County Tourism Commission distributed \$59,000 in grants to 14 organizations in Bardstown, New Haven, Bloomfield and Fairfield.
- The Bardstown-Nelson County Chamber of Commerce hosted 16 ribbon cuttings and grand-openings for new Nelson County businesses in Bardstown, New Haven and Bloomfield.
- In February, Southern Living Magazine named Bardstown as one of South's Best Small Towns.

