

•DISTILLERY |

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tourists to come in a tour the facilities, while even sampling some of their wares.

The men said they are planning to produce top-shelf products to be sold nationally, not just locally.

That rick house they are building will hold about 19,000 barrels of bourbon they said, and took over 200 concrete piers drilled down to the bedrock to start constructing.

That building alone cost about \$2.5 million Dailey said.

They are planning as many as three, to go with the warehouse space purchased in Burkesville.

Cecil said they are also going to be producing a rye whiskey in addition to the "wheated" bourbon.

The vodka, Dailey said, will go through multiple distillation and through a filtration process and even an ozone injection process to produce a premium product.

"I expect it to be comparable to Tito's," he added.

They said they're working with the Kentucky Distillers Association, and will join as soon as they are producing, and are planning to be on the group's Bourbon Trail, and, or, the other tour group for Craft Distillers.

Cecil explained that the tourism will impact the

economy of this county, and has the distillers association excited about coming on line.

They said that in addition to the tourism end of the business they do destination events, such as weddings and they will also be housing other producer's barrels and custom bottling other people's liquors.

The President of the Kentucky Distillers Association, Eric Gregory said this will be the most southern addition to their group, and the tour programs.

"You're looking at a couple of impacts," Gregory said.

Distillery itself will employ a number of people with what he said are good paying jobs as well as the taxes that will generate for the county's budget as well.

"There is not recessioin proof business," he added. "But in the last recession in 2010 manufacturing overall was down by 30%, while distilling was up by 20%."

Past County Judge Executive John Phelps who along with the county's Industrial Development Authority helped the men get this project running, pointed out that in addition to the tourism it will draw in, the distillery will directly benefit the county by adding anywhere from 12 to 20 jobs as the operation grows.

Luke King, the present Judge-Executive said,

"Tourism is not only a key part of our local economy but also one of the areas with the most potential. It's incredibly encouraging to see people traveling to and investing in our county.

"We've experienced growth in agritourism, short-term rental construction, adventure tourism, camping/glamping, boating, kayaking, and our local music festivals! Things are trending in the right direction and that's something we can all be excited about."

Burkesville Mayor Laurel Irby said, "They have helped to also create a sense of pride in our community, with visitors coming from near and far to sample our locally produced wines and spirits. Overall, the winery and distillery have been a wonderful addition to our community, and I look forward to the growth and success of this exciting industry."



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