

# • DISTILLERY |

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in November 2022 the first product went into a barrel, now waiting 4 years before it is bourbon.

The distillery, which is also a tourism and events project, is a labor of love for Junior Cecil, Dr. Mike Wilson and Kevin Daily.

They have been able to host weddings, birthday parties, a police group meeting and a class reunion while they have been waiting on the parts to get the fermentation and distilling process up and running.

Over two years the COVID-19 pandemic shutdowns world wide caused delays in getting the needed equipment manufactured and then shipped.

With everything coming together in November there were trial runs to get all for the equipment functioning in harmony, and now they are running about 20 barrels a



Junior Cecil explains how many barrels of Bourbon Whiskey Southern Kentucky Distillery is presently filling per week, and how they are storing them while the rickhouse is being completed.

day, five days a week.

"We expect to have 5,000 barrels this year," Cecil said.

The bourbon, which is all they are presently making, is named Broadhead, for the flint arrowheads found while building the distillery and rickhouse.

The Rye Whiskey they will run later in the year will be called Long Ridge, for the ridge running at the back of the property.

Bear Creek runs through the property, but since "Bear Creek" was already a registered name,

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Dan Graham, checks the Brix on a sample pulled straight from the distillate flow last week. The measurement is used to calculate the finished alcohol content. Behind him is the display from the computer monitoring every minute detail of the process, temperatures, flow rates, pressures and other information.



Junior Cecil, left, talks with Jason Thacker, facing away from the camera, while Thacker's crew works to install the first of the barrel racks in the rickhouse. The racks will extend several stories high and hold tens of thousands of barrels.



Setting up a display of the company's bottles and labels is Distillery Owner Junior Cecil. Cecil, along with his partners Dr. Mike Wilson and Kevin Daily recently realized their dream of running a distillery in Cumberland County and are racking barrels of bourbon already. Rye Whiskey, Vodka and Moonshine will soon follow.