

Butterfly Garden Ribbon Cutting Held



▲ PHOTO | H. D. OVERHOLT
Lead Forward, Inc., Project Co-Chair Blair Abner (microphone) relates partnership aspects of Friends of Barren River Lake Butterfly Garden project. The Leadership class will graduate within the next few weeks as Barren County Chamber of Commerce Director of Program and Events, Erin Hiles, (right) proudly listens to a very successful relationship with class participants. Seated, Charlotte Collins, president, Friends of Barren River Lake.

By **H.D. Overholt**
Staff Reporter

As urban development edges into rural areas, impact to the natural environment becomes noticeable within collected data within a few years. The picture perfect magazine cover landscape is very eye appealing yet sometimes loses the ability to sustain life giving organisms within the life chain of insects, birds and plants.

Wednesday, May 7, 2025, became a special ribbon cutting recognition event for the Butterfly Garden at Barren River Lake State Resort Park, 1149 State Park Road, Lucas, Ky. Multipliable organizations have dug in to supply, renovate and plant a small area adjacent to the public swimming pool and lodge as a butterfly garden. While the garden was establish in 2017 by the Barren County Garden Club, time had taken its toll with growth of plant life as nature tried to reclaim the area. Activity for the garden began months ago as Friends of Barren River Lake assumed the project of reclamation and over site.

A review of the area and ideas to enhance appearance of a backdrop of concrete retaining wall of the swimming pool created a project for a mural placement accenting the garden theme. Local mural artist Nellie B Lutzwolf, Barren, Inc., has the ability to create theme murals and several locations in Glasgow, Ky., provides opportunity for residents to pause and reflect on the beauty of the scenes. Lutzwolf consented to supply the talent for a mural framing the butterfly garden.

Friends of Barren River Lake and Park partnering with Wild Ones, a national non-profit organization with 100 plus local chapters that teach the benefits of native plants, started the labor to tackle the site of unwanted growth.

Barren County Chamber of Commerce for 35 years has managed a nine-month leadership program beginning in August each year to anyone 21 years of age or older with interest in area entities and relationships in the community. Non profits can submit an application to Lead Forward, Inc., for consideration of projects the Chamber will parter with for

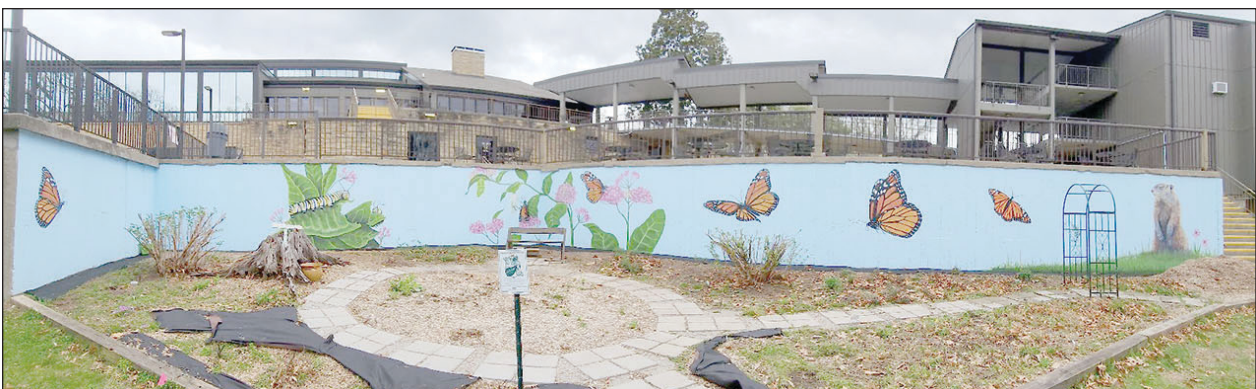
a particular goal in leadership. The 16 Lead Forward, Inc., class participants chose the Friends of Barren River Lake and Park proposed Butterfly Garden restoration project as one of their focus projects. Beginning with plans and implementation of a 5-K Run on March 1, 2025 at Barren River Park for funding the mural and planting of native species became a successful endeavor with \$4,000 toward the project.

Blair Aber and John Conatser, project co-chairs Lead Forward, Inc., contacted Dr. Andy Moore of Barren County School Agriculture Department concerning the propagation of selected native plants for the garden. Greenhouses usually deal with annuals easily grown for patrons landscapes instead of perennials within a nursery enterprise. Dr. Moore secured about four students to research supplied native seeds such as Golden Rod, Cone Flower and Milkweed. Another challenging areas involved germinating seed in the short period of time for spring planting with assuring the dormancy of seed was completed.

Fifteen Glasgow High School Beta students join Lead Forward, Inc., volunteers on a misty day in April at Barren River Park for transplanting the successful seedling propagations into the garden soil. Dr. Moore related an annual FFA Retreat held each summer at Barren River State Park will give opportunity for students to view the plants developing into an established garden. Barren River State



▲ PHOTO | H. D. OVERHOLT
Joy is reflected within member faces of Lead Forward, Inc., and Friends of Barren River Lake as co-chairs John Conatser and Blair Abner cut the ribbon for The Butterfly Garden at Barren River State Park. Mother Nature will begin nourishing native plants and inviting insects to enjoy a little respite amid the park recreational attractions.



▲ PHOTO | SUBMITTED
With the background of the Lodge and swimming pool, the Butterfly Mural, created by local mural artist Nellie B. Lutzwolf, Wolf and Bell, enhances the Barren River State Park Butterfly Garden and was completed April 1, 2025. On the right is the sentry woodchuck (groundhog) observing complete life cycle of egg, cocoon, caterpillar and butterfly in a native environment. In May 2025 Regional Artist in Residence Lutzwolf, is creating a beautiful mural on an exterior wall at Bernheim Forest Visitor Center that will feature flora and fauna she researched during her hikes within the forest, along with insights from Bernheim's horticulture and natural areas.

Park Naturalist, Amanda Lasley, related the butterfly garden would assist tourists in understanding and appreciation of natural habitat within Kentucky. Lasley invites everyone to step aside the hustle and bustle of society and partake of the State Park amenities.

A butterfly garden can be created conveniently within most landscape plans involving a few square feet of insect attractive native plants and requires a minimal amount of labor after the establishing season. Early springtime butterflies will arrive from their winter migration locals with a need for nectar from blooming plants for survival.

While some plants supply abundant food supplies, some plants also provide a habitat for reproduction of butterflies during egg and larva stages. The Barren River Butterfly Garden is a small way station welcoming the insects during their journeys the same the Lodge and Park provides comfort for tourist travels.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

Hart County Fiscal Court, and/or its designated representative, Barren River Area Development District, is seeking proposals for services relating to the Multi-Purpose Facility Project. This facility would include a senior center with commodity distribution areas, an extension office, and a community center with possible auditorium and commercial kitchen space. Qualifications will be taken for design & engineering services.

Minimum requirements include previous experience in engineering design and inspection on similar projects.

All interested persons and firms should contact Emily Hathcock at emily.hathcock@bradd.org between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to obtain an informational packet. Qualifications must be received at the Office of the Judge Executive, P.O. Box 490, Munfordville, KY 42765 by 2pm June 11, 2025. Hart County reserves the right to reject any and all Qualifications not meeting the requirements of this Request for Qualifications for Consulting Engineers.

Kentucky Relay Service for the hearing and speech impaired: 1-800-648-6056.

Attention is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed under the contract, Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109, Title VI, and EO 11246. Local, minority and female-owned firms are encouraged to respond.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The 2nd Reading of the Hart County Fiscal Court proposed budget ordinance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 is scheduled to be held at the courthouse on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 9 : 00 am

BUDGET SUMMARY

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Annual Budget and Appropriations.
Be it ordained by the Hart County Fiscal Court of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

WHEREAS, the proposed budget was tentatively approved by the Hart County Fiscal Court on the 22 day of April, 2025, and approved as to form and classification by the State Local Finance Officer on Friday, May 09, 2025.

SECTION ONE. The following budget is adopted for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and the amounts stated are appropriated for the purposes indicated.

GENERAL Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$1,820,570.00
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	\$139,670.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	\$336,527.00
5300	SOCIAL SERVICES	\$14,000.00
5400	RECREATION AND CULTURE	\$10,000.00
7000	DEBT SERVICE	\$43,450.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$604,500.00
Total GENERAL Fund		\$2,968,717.00

ROAD Fund		
6100	ROADS	\$2,930,050.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$374,000.00
Total ROAD Fund		\$3,304,050.00

JAIL Fund		
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	\$2,094,250.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$808,000.00
Total JAIL Fund		\$2,902,250.00

LGEA Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$73,000.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	\$67,000.00
5400	RECREATION AND CULTURE	\$308,910.00

GRANTS Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$2,395,000.00
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	\$430,000.00
8000	CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$423,550.53
Total GRANTS Fund		\$3,248,550.53

911 Fund		
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	\$293,750.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$57,000.00
Total 911 Fund		\$350,750.00

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$1,330,750.00
7000	DEBT SERVICE	\$103,000.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$556,500.00
Total SHERIFF DEPARTMENT Fund		\$1,990,250.00

COUNTY CLERK Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$577,800.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$197,400.00
Total COUNTY CLERK Fund		\$775,200.00

ANIMAL SHELTER Fund		
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	\$225,700.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$90,200.00
Total ANIMAL SHELTER Fund		\$315,900.00

COUNTY CLERK-STORAGE Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$79,000.00
Total COUNTY CLERK-STORAGE Fund		\$79,000.00

TOURISM Fund		
5400	RECREATION AND CULTURE	\$200,000.00
Total TOURISM Fund		\$200,000.00

OPIOID SETTLEMENT Fund		
9000	ADMINISTRATION	\$292,000.00
Total OPIOID SETTLEMENT Fund		\$292,000.00

SECTION TWO. This ordinance shall be published in a local newspaper by title and summary within thirty (30) days following adoption.

SECTION THREE. This ordinance shall become effective upon passage and publication.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

All interested persons and organizations in the County are hereby notified that a copy of the County's adopted budget in full is available for public inspection at the office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.