



**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

Richard Olson

8-9:30 am

Gardening Consultants Breakfast

Program: "Building Food Security and Community Through Urban Agriculture"

Richard is the Director of the Berea Urban Farm and a founder of the non-profit Sustainable Berea. In 2013, he and his wife, Cheyenne, purchased 1.1 acres of land that is now home to the Berea Urban Farm. BUF is a project of Sustainable Berea and is a 1.4 acre educational market garden located in the center of Berea. Before planning and transformation of the property could begin, five condemned homes had to be removed. Today the urban farm is a beautiful, productive, and educational farm whose mission is to increase local food security and build community through urban agriculture. The BUF grows 150 species and varieties of vegetables, herbs, flowers, and fruits. The goals of their regenerative agriculture include healthy living soils, habitat for other species, and nutrient-dense food for the community.



**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

**Delores Carpenter and Ann Longworth**

NOON

Lunch-Scholarship and Enrichment Awardees

Program: "Celebrating Roadside Wildflowers"

Delores Carpenter/Ann Longworth

Delores Carpenter, a retired social worker from Mt. Vernon and Ann Longworth, a retired psychologist from Berea, have been wildflower buddies for at least twenty years. Ann's love of wildflowers was sparked by a class she took in college and has led to her use of all natives in her landscape. She is also the owner/guardian of the second largest known stand of the pale gentian (*Gentiana flavida*) in the state of Kentucky. Delores' interest in and love for wildflowers was nurtured by being surrounded by them in the hills of Rockcastle County. They enjoy hikes in nature preserves and parks, but they especially love to drive the backroads of Rockcastle and surrounding counties to see what flowers they can find at roadside. They will tell you that roadside botanizing presents challenges and uncertainty as they never know what has survived mowing and spraying from the road department, trampling from cattle that are on the other side of the fence, or pressure from invasive species. They look forward to sharing their "finds" with you and hope that you will enjoy being part of their backroads adventures. As they always like to remind their audience, they "...are just two little old ladies out having a good time."



**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

**Jon Carloftis**

6:30 pm Banquet

Program: "Inspirational Transformations", Jon Carloftis

Nationally renowned garden designer Jon Carloftis prides himself on his Kentucky roots and sincerely believes that the Bluegrass state is home to some of the most enchanting and inspired gardens in the world. With his Kentucky charm and keen eye for detail, Carloftis is as charismatic as he is talented. He returned to his native Kentucky after creating rooftop gardens in New York City for more than two decades. The meticulous attention to detail honed by working in small spaces served him well as he transitioned to larger, more complex projects. Whether small or grand, his gardens are equally welcoming and beautiful. His work has been featured in many publications including *Garden & Gun*, *Southern Living*, *Country Gardens*, *Country Home*, *Garden Design*, *House Beautiful*, *Martha Stewart Living*, and *Metropolitan Home*. He was the recipient of a landscape design award from the City of New York and is the author of *First a Garden* (Rockcastle River Trading Company, 2005), *Beyond the Windowsill* (Cool Springs Press, 2006), *Beautiful Gardens of Kentucky* (Canal House, 2010), and his newest *Jon Carloftis Fine Gardens* (West High LLC, 2023). He lives with his beloved yellow Labrador Retrievers, Gertrude and Magnolia (better known as "Baby Mags"), in a restored circa 1851 home in downtown Lexington, Kentucky, surrounded by an acre of gardens.