

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans; and
- WHEREAS,** 20 years ago, more than one billion Eastern monarch butterflies migrated to Mexico, but populations of this iconic species have declined by 90% in the last two decades; and
- WHEREAS,** cities, towns and counties have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly; and
- WHEREAS,** Bella Vista, Arkansas has taken the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge to demonstrate the city's commitment to creating a habitat and educating citizens about how they can make a difference at home; and
- WHEREAS,** Every resident of Bella Vista can make a difference for the monarch by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat for the monarch and pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn, play and worship; and
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I John D. Flynn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Bella Vista, do hereby proclaim March 14, 2024 as: **Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day** in the city of Bella Vista, Arkansas.
- Further,** I officially recommit, today, to continue to take meaningful action to protect the monarch and to leave this legacy to the leaders following after me. I encourage all residents, city staff and visitors to participate in taking steps to increase the planting of milkweed and nectar plants to preserve and strengthen the monarch butterfly population.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2024

Mayor

