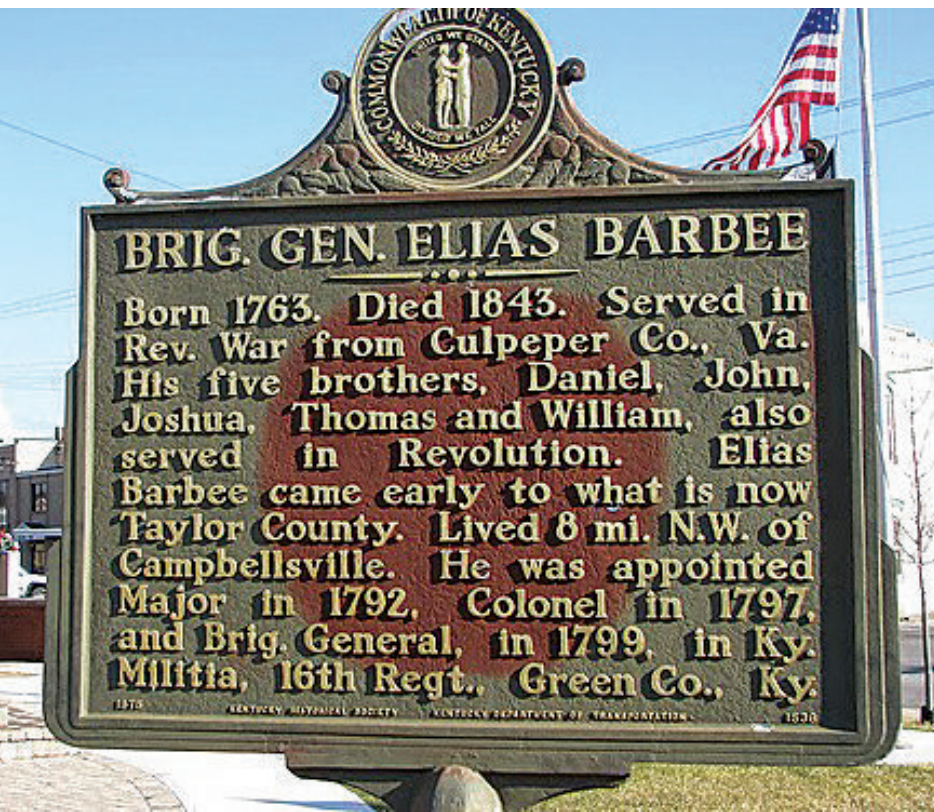
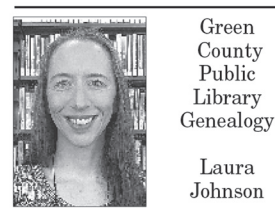




This historical marker in Campbellsville serves as a public tribute to Barbee.

Revolutionary Statesman of Green County



Green County Public Library Genealogy
Laura Johnson

Brigadier General Elias Barbee stands among the most influential early leaders of Green County; carrying with him the experiences of a Revolutionary War veteran and the ambitions of a frontier settler.

Born June 14, 1763, in Culpeper County, Virginia, Barbee grew up during the struggle for American independence. He and five brothers, Daniel, John, Joshua, Thomas, and William, all served in the Revolutionary War, a remarkable family contribution. Elias fought as a private in Colonel Gaskins' Virginia Regiment, marching through Fredericksburg, the Potomac, Albemarle County, and Jamestown before taking part in the Siege of Yorktown, where he remained until the British surrender.

On August 2, 1788, Barbee married Elizabeth Slaughter in Culpeper, Virginia. Together, they went on to have at least five sons and eight daughters.

Barbee and his new wife joined the wave of Virginians moving westward after the war. By the early 1790s they had settled

eight miles northwest of present day Campbellsville, then part of Green County. His leadership was quickly recognized. He was appointed Major in 1792, Colonel in 1797, and Brigadier General in 1799 in the Kentucky Militia's 16th Regiment. His name appears repeatedly in early county records: as one of the first commissioners to take land title depositions, as a trustee of the newly established town of Greensburg in 1794, and in 1802 as one of the commissioners charged with securing a suitable courthouse for the county.

Barbee also became a prominent voice in Kentucky politics. He represented Green County in the Kentucky House of Representatives (1809–1812, 1825–1827) and in the Kentucky Senate (1821–1823). It was during his Senate service that he authored his most enduring public achievement. Moved by the needs of his own deaf daughter, Lucy Barbee, he introduced legislation in 1822 to create a school for the deaf at Danville. Signed by Governor John Adair on April 10, 1823, the act established the Kentucky School for the Deaf, the first state funded institution of its kind in the United States. When the school opened that

November, Lucy Barbee was among its first students.

Elias Barbee died in Green County on October 6, 1843, at age eighty, and was buried beside his wife in what is now Taylor County's Winlock Barbee Cemetery. His will details the distribution of hundreds of acres of land across Green, Taylor, and Adair counties, and the division of slaves among his children. He directed that the family graveyard be preserved and provided a \$3,000 fund for the care of his daughter Lucy. He also left instruction to cover the expense of a slave woman named Hanner.

A Kentucky Historical Society marker on the courthouse lawn in Campbellsville honors his service as a Revolutionary War soldier, militia general, legislator, and advocate for education.

As Green County celebrates America 250, Barbee's life offers a vivid portrait of the courage, ambitions, and determination held by early Americans. His service as a Revolutionary War soldier, frontier militia leader, and persistent public servant left marks that stretched far beyond his own lifetime, from the courthouse in Greensburg to the halls of Kentucky's General Assembly.

Greensburg-Green County A proud past — A promising future

Way Back When

BY CAROL DIAL
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

July 3, 1996
DES members aid tornado victims - Members of Green County DES and Rescue Squad traveled to Pioneer Village in Jefferson County to help clean up debris after a tornado struck the area.

Obituaries - Rev. Flym J. Judd, 89, June 30; Olus Carr, 89, June 23; Ralph Jackson Bell, 69, June 29.

Homemakers visit Glendale - Members of the Summersville Homemakers enjoyed a trip to Glendale. They ate at the Whistle Stop and visited some of the shops.

Matney retires - Garland Matney has retired from Greensburg Manufacturing Company after 38 years as a lumber grader.

July 3, 1986
Soldier decorated - Spec 4 Timothy G. Judd was awarded the Army Achievement Medal at Fort Hood, Texas.

Ground breaking ceremony - The United Pentecostal Church of Kentucky held a ground breaking ceremony for a new tabernacle at their campground in Summersville June 1.

Green County

Junior Miss - Linda Wilcoxson was crowned the 1987 Green County Junior Miss.

Portland, Mrs. Ray Coffey - We have had hot weather the last few days with temperatures in the high 90s.

July 8, 1976
Hail storm damages crops - A severe hail storm caused extensive damage to crops from Old Salem to Buckner Hill.

Donations for Judds - Over \$5,000 has been donated to benefit Arnie and Anita Judd, who are recovering from a serious electrical shock.

Anniversary - Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Bradshaw were honored with a Golden Anniversary celebration by their friends and family.

McDowell Wing opens - The Jane Todd Crawford Hospital McDowell Skilled Nursing Facility is open to serve the community.

July 7, 1966
Gas explosion damages home - The home of Gleason Squires was damaged when a faulty gas water heater caused an explosion in the basement. Damages to the home exceeded \$9,000.

Cleanest and

Greenest Farm - The Jimmy O'Banion family received an award for the Cleanest and Greenest Farm at the Green County Fair.

Homemaker of the Year - Evelyn Montgomery, a member of the Greensburg Homemaker's Club, has been named Green County Homemaker of the Year.

Sullivan crowned - Dianne Sullivan was crowned Miss Green County at the Green County Fair.

Durham's Best-way ad - Sugar, 10 lb., 98 cents; crackers, 1 lb. box, 23 cents; Maxwell House coffee, 1 lb., 83 cents; apples, 2 lb., 29 cents; Chuck roast, 37 cents per lb.; rib roast, 69 cents per lb.; Gerber baby food, 4/45 cents; Silver Miss flour, 10 lb., 99 cents.

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