

Village of Buckeye Lake
Mayor's Report
August 26, 2019

1. Buckeye Lake resident and retired Columbus Division of Fire firefighter Doug Sanderson was sworn in as an Assistant Fire Chief on Tuesday, August 13. He had been serving as the department's safety officer.

2. Business Development and Funding Specialist Richard Waugh with ADR & Associates is resigning his position to become the Interim Director of the Licking Park District for four months. Afterwards, he and his family plan to move to Tarpon Springs, Florida. Richard has been instrumental in helping us with planning and funding our infrastructure projects for the last several years. He offered his time above and beyond what was required in guiding our projects, often attending our village council meetings. He will be sorely missed by our staff and difficult to replace.

3. We hosted a meeting on August 19 about the possibility of creating a storm water district or expanding the role of the current sewer district or the conservancy district for the South Fork of the Licking River. The new or expanded entity would focus on the storm water issues behind the 4.1 mile Buckeye Lake dam created by ODNR's recent ban on discharging any stormwater through or over the dam into Buckeye Lake. Thirty-two individuals were in attendance representing Licking, Fairfield and Perry counties.

4. Our police department is working with ODNR Law Enforcement to address the recent rash of vandalism incidents along the Buckeye Lake Dam. Our officers now have keys to all the dam access gates and an open invitation to patrol the bike path at all hours. Lt. Valerie Cox, who heads up ODNR Law Enforcement at Buckeye Lake is working to have ODNR added to the Licking County Mutual Aid Agreement through the prosecutor's office. Until that happens, Lt. Cox has outlined a specific protocol for handling incidents with Chief Wardlow. Residents are encouraged to quickly file reports if they experience any vandalism.

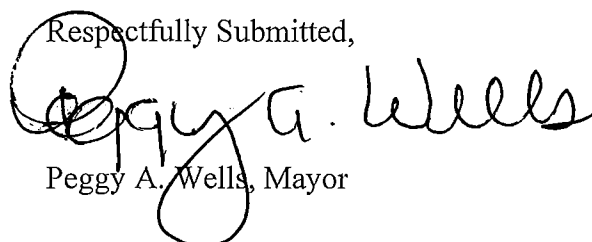
5. I joined five Friends of the Library board members on August 21 at a special board meeting of the Licking County Library Board of Trustees to discuss the renewal of the library's lease with The Friends and the operating hours at the Buckeye Lake branch. The trustees agreed to continue Saturday hours at our branch and will be renewing the lease an additional three years.

6. Bike Buckeye Lake's "Tour de Buckeye Lake" was a great success on August 24 with 500 participants. The group offered 45, 26 or 8-mile bicycle tours around the lake. New for this year were water taxi rides from the North Shore and Papa Boos to the start/finish point at the Buckeye Lake Winery. I participated as a Water Taxi Captain from Papa Boos.

7. I have received some inquiries about the future of the annual Trunk or Treat Halloween event at Ryan/Braden Park since the Buckeye Lake Youth Association has been disbanded. Anyone interested in helping keep his popular activity alive for our youth should contact the village office.

8. Our ~~former~~ Interim Clerk-Treasurer Chris Kerby has invited us to an Ethics Training Class. Everyone is welcome, including council candidates. The presentation will take place at Ohio University, Zanesville and Zane State College, Campus Center, Room 430, 1425 Newark Road, Zanesville on Thursday, August 29 from 10 a.m. to Noon. Doors open at 9:30. Speaker is Susan Willeke of the Ohio Ethics Commission. To register: Tia Sims, utility@villageofsouthzanesville.

Respectfully Submitted,


Peggy A. Wells, Mayor