

Writer wants to know when Fairfield Beach will be staffed

Editor:

I am writing with concern for the residents of Fairfield Beach. We have a "substation" here, but is it being used as a working fire/EMS station or a place for storage?

On April 24, Walnut Township Trustees signed a contract with the Village of Millersport which was presented to Mayor Dean Severance. At that meeting, the village was given a check for \$283,190.07 to provide fire protection and emergency medical services to Walnut Township residents. So why hasn't Chief Bill Yates scheduled personnel at The Beach substation? He has previously stated it was due to funding. Well, he has had the funding since April 24 and we still don't have personnel here.

Section 2 of the contract is "Staffing for Fairfield Beach, Ohio Substation." It states, "The Village of Millersport shall staff the Fairfield Beach, Ohio Substation with a crew consisting of at least one Advance EMT-Paramedic and at least one EMT-Basic, O.R.C. 4765.37 ten (10) hours a day, seven days per week, during peak hours determined by discussions with Fairfield Beach resident and from review of prior emergency runs to Fairfield Beach, Ohio."

After the township trustees signed the contract, three of the Millersport Village Council members present at this meeting gave a nod of their head that they would sign the contract at their next meeting. A trustee stated at this meeting that this was a payment in advance as the village had not signed the

contract as of this meeting. Now I read in the paper that the village has postponed their May 8 meeting to May 15 with no explanation. Why is the village dragging their feet on signing the contract? How much longer are they going to wait?

Considering the village was given their first payment per the contract, why is the Fairfield Beach station not being manned with a crew as per Section 2 of the contract? Per the contract, discussion with Fairfield Beach residents were to take place regarding manning of the substation during peak hours? Why has this not been done? What are the village council and/or the fire department waiting on? It can't be funding! It is in the signed contract by the trustees, why haven't we seen some staffing and discussion for the Fairfield Beach substation.

We, the residents of Fairfield Beach, deserve fire and emergency medical service protection the same as the rest of Walnut township receives and this is why the substation was built. Why is this not being done? They have the funding and the signed contract by the trustees. I don't understand why?

With Walnut Township Trustees providing funding to the fire department per the contract, let's start working together instead of against each other to provide the proper fire and EMS protection to all residents of Fairfield Beach and Walnut Township.

Harriett Refinati
Fairfield Beach

Donors for Millersport after prom party thanked

Editor:

"It takes an entire village to raise a child." For us, it took three villages. Millersport High's Jr./Sr. Prom was Saturday, May 5, followed by an after prom at the high school. More than 100 students enjoyed pizza, ice cream, a DJ and carnival games in a safe environment ending with a 3 a.m. prize drawing.

We couldn't have done this without the support of businesses in Millersport, Thornville, and Buckeye Lake/Hebron/Heath.

Thank you for helping ensure a memorable and safe evening for our kids: Watson Oil, Whetstone Medical Clinic, Fisher's Marina, Buckeye Lake Marina, Millersport Fire Department, Tom Turner Family, Dyanni Brothers, Dallas Williams Family, Buckeye Lake Eagles, Olde Canal Restaurant, Commodore Bank, Eye Site, Tom Jones Insurance, Away to Go Travel, Feeder Creek Veterinary Service, Millersport Lions Club, Bremen Bank, Child Care Express, Kreager Tire, Kenny's Collision, Island House, MD Services, Aqua Marin, Precious Memories Photography, Millersport Hardware, Excel Arts, Sammy J's Deli, Hometown Hotdogs, Snips Family Hair Care, W.O.L.F.E. Pack OCCL, Lotruse OCCL, Modern Mothers

OCCL, Little Blessings Pre-School, Millersport American Legion Auxiliary, Smokies, Lakeside Auto Body Shop, Scooters Sports Bar, Colucci's Pizza, Island Tanning, Millersport Family Hair Care, Millersport Pharmacy, A-1 Auto Parts, Millersport General Store, Kate Taylor (Mary Kay), New Village Pizza, Crazy Daisies, Aqua Nu, Krogers, Pizza Cotage, Buckeye Lake Hardware, Sunee Bunz tanning, Bush Tavern & Avondale Marina, Mr. Tas Tanning, Dollar General, Catfish Charley Pizza, PetPlex Animal Hospital, Albanese Food Gallery, National City Bank, Thornville Subway, TA Travel Center, Dukes, Go Kleen Car Wash Tumbleweed, Texas Road House, Dairy Queen, McDonald's, Wendy's, Wal-Mart-Lancaster, Sporting Goods, Regal Theatres, Crystal Falls Inc. and The Beacon.

We would like to especially thank David "Andy" Matyac of Community Central and Millersport Mortgage C. for sponsoring the big inflatable obstacle course and human sphere balls.

I have never been more proud to say that I am from a small village of the lake!

Nancy Hopkins
Millersport

Residents encouraged to keep interest in township zoning issues

Editor:

I would like to thank those residents who attended the April 18 Thorn Township Zoning Commission Meeting. I'm sure that you were both informed and enlightened. I would like to encourage your interest in zoning and attendance at the meetings. The effect and personal impact zoning has on our individual lives is too important not to become involved. I did not get involved un-

til it affected me personally. With that lesson learned, I am encouraging other residents to become educated about zoning and the far reaching effects it has before it affects their lives. We can bring about change by getting involved and using the democratic process to make our voices heard.

In addition to letting the zoning commission know how we feel, it is also important to let the trustees know how we feel. The



The BUCKEYE LAKE Beacon

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More Than 14,500 copies distributed in the Buckeye Lake area.

• Free in distribution area •
Mail \$29/year; Students (Sept.-May) \$22/year
Snowbirds (Nov.-April) \$15/year

News Deadline-Friday 4:00pm
P.O. Box 1542 • 4675 Walnut Rd. • Buckeye Lake, OH 43008
(740) 928-5541 • Fax (740) 928-7960
www.buckeyelakebeacon.com

Published by Impact Publications
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zoning commission only recommends. Trustee have to enact the recommendation to make it effective. It takes an unanimous vote by the trustees to override the commission's recommendation.

Trustees are our elected officials who appoint the members of the zoning commission. They are also very aware of our concerns about zoning issues. I encourage

you to speak with your trustees about your personal concerns with zoning and to attend their meetings which are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m. in the township hall on East Columbus Street in Thornville.

Robert Reed
Thorn Township

All Cranberry Bay residents can license docks with ODNR

Editor:

I regret having to write this letter but some inaccurate information about the Cranberry Bay dock licensing lawsuit needs to be corrected immediately.

According to an agreement made by Assistant Ohio Attorney General Raymond Studor on May 1 in Judge Marcelain's courtroom, anyone from the Cranberry Bay area that can provide proof of easement access to the shoreline, and were issued a dock license in 2006, will be issued a dock license directly by park management for the 2007 season. This is NOT limited to those named as Plaintiffs.

This week, the president and other board members of the Cranberry Bay Homeowners Association (CBHA, Inc.) continue to tell our residents that they must go through CBHA to get their dock permits and that their docks will be taken away from them if they don't sign their licensing contract. This simply is not true.

Unfortunately, if residents opt to have CBHA license their docks, they have to sign CBHA paperwork to do so, and in the process CBHA could claim the residents have ceded control and future assignment of those docks to CBHA as per their licensing contract.

Board members claim that only the named plaintiffs in the current court case can go directly to ODNR. This is NOT true! ODNR has drafted a letter to clarify the situation, and it has been circulated to

the lawyers involved. It should be mailed to property owners yet this week. In order to issue docks permits, ODNR will require a COPY of our deed and invoice of last year's dock fees.

The case has just begun. What we have so far is a gesture from ODNR to license docks for the current season until the property dispute can be settled. The president's inability to communicate factual information has forced this public letter to the editor. No wonder some residents are having difficulty placing their confidence with this organization.

Some residents who already signed the licensing contract with CBHA have sent a revocation letter to the association and have requested a refund of all fees including the \$75 administrative fee per dock. It's unclear as to whether CBHA will refund their money. However, the bigger question is, will CBHA maintain control of their docks?

No one has a right to charge us for accessing our boat docks except ODNR. It doesn't matter WHO owns the dirt under the easement. All Bounds Addition residents own real estate to the water's edge with our recorded grant of easement. If you have questions or want to join the Plaintiffs, call one of your Plaintiff neighbors.

Peggy Wells
Buckeye Lake

Your letters are welcome!