

## Writer responds to concerns about parade route

Editor:

I normally don't get involved in the sometimes mean-spirited, hateful letters that pass back and forth through *The Beacon*, but I believe I must respond to the recent letter from Tom and Belva Wiseman.

First, I want to make it clear that these are my personal thoughts and opinions and may not reflect those of my fellow board members. The Board of the Friends of the Buckeye Lake Library did not plan or organize the Memorial Day Parade. We were participants like all the other groups that day.

That said, I think the parade organizers did an excellent job and I appreciate the time and energy that these folks took from their busy personal lives to make such a successful event.

I think the recommendation that the parade route extend to the village fire house is an excellent one. I believe the organizers will seriously consider that as they plan next year's event. However, their decision to end at the state park was sincere, with no malicious intent nor devious plan to scam local people

or businesses. I believe they wanted to end the parade at a spot where children, other participants and spectators could celebrate post parade safely without risk of accident or injury. Personally for me, I enjoyed seeing everyone enjoying ice cream and playing around the fountain and new beach.

I sincerely do want to apologize to Joe Albanese and others if they felt slighted by the parade route. Joe has been a strong supporter of the library before the Memorial Day weekend and came to the rescue of the parade organizers by coming up with most of the money for a band so we could have music when we thought there was going to be none. We greatly appreciate that!

Lastly, I would like to suggest that if folks want to support local businesses and the people of this community, they should use the time spent writing letters doing something more constructive such as volunteering for activities or organizations that are trying to improve the lives of the people of Buckeye Lake.

**Pam Reed, Board President**  
Friends of the Buckeye Lake Library

## Writer surprised by gun sales at yard sales

Editor:

I was enjoying myself Saturday dropping in on all the National Road yard sales and happened to turn onto Chowning Street. As I drove up the street toward the sale, I saw a man holding a gun and looking through the barrel which was pointing toward traffic.

Needless to say, I did not stop at that yard sale. My first thought was whether I was going to be shot.

How do those people on Chowning Street know whether the person buying that gun is a felon or not?

I think I will be very careful as to which yard sales I go to from now on. I also called one of the township trustees. I'm not aware that guns can be sold at yard sales.

**Judy Vanostic**  
Buckeye Lake

## Help is available for summer cooling, electric bills

Editor:

Each year, many consumers suffer through the hot summer without air conditioning and many even struggle to pay their monthly electric bill. But there is a program that offers assistance to income eligible households and may provide consumers with an air conditioner, if they have not received one through this program in the past three years, or up to \$175 toward their electric bill.

The Summer Crisis Program, administered through the Ohio Department of Development, is available to any Ohio household that has an annual income at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty level. Each household must meet other

guidelines such as either having a member who is at least 60 years old or who has a health condition aggravated by the heat. This program is available between June 1 and August 31.

The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), your residential utility consumer advocate, can provide details on the specific qualifying requirements as well as the application process. Consumers can receive this information by calling toll free at 1-877-742-5622 or by visiting our website at [www.pickocc.org](http://www.pickocc.org).

**Janine Migden-Ostrander**  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel

## Writer says *The Beacon* can't be blamed for levy defeats

Editor:

Hooray for Brenda Hileman and Tory Wolfe for telling it the way it is. No one can blame *The Beacon* or any other paper for failure to pass levies. I am sure there are many of us who would believe Charlie Prince quicker than they would believe Mayor Frank Foster or Village Council.

The subject of water is getting to be a joke. We are paying for it (\$10/month), but are not getting anything for our money.

The leadership of our council and the members are a sham, so hold onto your wallets. The worst is yet to come.

**Gertrude Eddy**  
Buckeye Lake



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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**  
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Published by Impact Publications  
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### Letters to the Editor

Your letters are welcomed and encouraged. We would appreciate typewritten letters of 250 words or less. All letters must be signed and include your name, address, and a daytime phone number where we can reach you for confirmation purposes. All letters published will include the writer's name and community. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published.

We reserve the right to edit letters for length, clarity, and legal liability. We will endeavor to print all letters received, but reserve the right to refuse any letter at our discretion.

Letters may be faxed to 928-7960, e-mailed to [thebeaconnews@hotmail.com](mailto:thebeaconnews@hotmail.com) or mailed to PO Box 1542, Buckeye Lake, Ohio 43008.

## Public transit is alive and well in Licking County

Editor:

Good news for Licking County residents! Public transit is alive and well in Licking County! With the rising cost of fuel, I would like to invite Licking County residents that live outside the Newark/Heath area to call 670-5185 (ext. 1) to schedule their transportation to anywhere in Licking County. If you live in the Newark/Heath area, the Newark Heath Taxi Token Program is available for your use.

The Licking County Transit Board members, our General Manager Lorretta Frenton and the entire staff at our transit facility work daily to assure safe, handicap accessible, and well-trained drivers to assist you with your public transit needs. The growing need for reliable public transportation will continue to increase as the cost of fuel continues to rise. All citizens are impacted and it is with them in mind we continue to work to assure an alternative for transportation needs. This year over 2,000 young adults will graduate from our local high schools; we congratulate them on their achievement and encourage them to consider our reliable transportation when moving on to their next adventures and responsibilities.

The Licking County Transit Board (LCTB) provides curb-to-curb public transit throughout the County. One-way trips are \$5.00 if scheduled in advance (by 1:00

pm the day before). If you are an elderly or disabled citizen, you can complete a simple form to receive a discounted fare of \$2.50. Trips may be scheduled the same day, if there is room in the schedule. Same day one-way trips are \$6.00, or \$3.00 for the elderly and disabled citizen. The current hours of operation are 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If your gas costs driving to work are more than you are willing to pay, you can also call 1-888-742-RIDE (7433) to receive information on the many benefits of car or vanpooling. This service will match you up with others that want to travel to a similar destination. This is a great way to cost-share your trips to and from work. Please keep in mind that you can also car or vanpool to and from work right here in Licking County or any other work destination.

Licking County residents have some options to driving their own vehicles during these times of high fuel costs. Give us a call today at 670-5185 ext. 1 to schedule your public transit trip. If you need additional information, you can call 670-5185 ext. 4 and speak to Lorretta Frenton, LCTB General Manager.

We are going places and will take you with us!

**Marcia Phelps**  
Chair, Licking County Transit Board

**Your Letters are welcome!**