

Bartholow thanked for his service to the lake community

Editor:

Merv Bartholow recently stepped down after serving for many years as the Chair of the Buckeye Lake Area Civic Association. I have never seen anyone work to tirelessly, with such dedication, to benefit the people of their relatively 'new' home.

Under Merv, there were countless innovations at BLACA, including Crystal Beach- – I will leave it to BLACA to tell you of his other achievements there.

I'm writing to tell you some of what he did to help those of us in Perry County. When we needed a meeting with a legislator to get the final push for our sewer project, Merv helped set it up and attended the long conference in Columbus with then – State Senator Jay Hottinger. As recently as the middle of August, Merv attended a lengthy meeting in our home with State

Rep. Dan Dodd and Ohio EPA officials regarding development, wetlands, and the toxic algae issues, even though he knew his 're-retirement' was impending. Whenever I have needed any input, a connection, or the weight of his presence at meetings, Merv Bartholow has always been there. I can not begin to conceive of the hours that he puts in.

All that I can say is: "THANK YOU!!!!" for all of your efforts on behalf of the lake area residents, and, in particular, for those of us in Perry County. An unpaid "job" handled with expertise, effort, perseverance, grace, and the patience of Job. Congratulations, my friend.

Pete Myer
President
Honey Creek Homeowners Association

Millersport students congratulated

Editor:

I would like to congratulate three Millersport High School students: Alexandria Reasoner (Senior), Clayton Keller (Senior) and Nick Jones (Freshman) for doing an outstanding job at the Walnut Township "Meet The Candidates" Forum held at the Millersport Elementary School auditorium on Oct 21.

Seven candidates running for Walnut Township Trustee, three candidates for Walnut Township School Board and two candidates for Millersport Village Council attended, were seated on the stage, and were asked questions collected from voters

in the audience.

The students not only were in charge of asking the candidates to explain their views on submitted political questions, but were also given the challenging task of not allowing candidates to talk beyond their allotted time. The students did a professional and quite remarkable job.

Special thanks goes to Jody Phillips and to Millersport Government teacher Jennifer Swinehart.

Millersport is very proud of all of you!

Charles Mesko
Millersport

Ria puts Firebowl to rest

Editor:

This is the last thing I have to do to put the final Firebowl to rest. If there anything I have learned in the last ten years is that everyone thinks what they do for their cause is more important. I started Firebowl knowing it wasn't the most important and sometimes not even necessary but it was something I could do so I did it.

On Saturday, Oct. 10, we raised \$1,950 during our bowling event at Starlite Lanes. Brad Williams donated the lane time and shoes and he has automated scoring so it was a pleasure for all of us.

If you sent a check you have by now received a thank you card from me and if you gave cash to a bowler; Thank you. I personally only had two sponsor's this year so a big "Thank you" to Tom Jones Insurance Company of Millersport and Thornville Pharmacy.

Joanie Hines won Women's High Score and John Addison won Men's High Score.

John Layton, a fire fighter, raised the

most money and will receive the new Fire Helment donated by Bullard. Jared Poling, a fire fighter, sold the most raffle tickets for the Wheeling Island Raffle and Dave Whetstone of Thornville won the "Get-away Package"; hopefully he will use it for his birthday on November 18th.

There is only one other person that was at all 10 Firebowls, so I have to acknowledge this important person in my life – Bill Fox, my life partner for 24 years, my business partner for 20 years, and my gambling buddy for 10 years. My thanks to him for being there every day no matter what happens in our crazy life. The best way to describe our relationship is this: I am the flamethrower and he is the fireman!

So Firebowl is over and I did what I said I would do: stick a fork in me because I am done!

In friendship,
Ria Fox
Thurston/Walnut Township

'Lighten Up' columnist makes her days brighter

Editor:

As a single woman, caring for my parents who now reside at Autumn at The Lake in Thornville; caring for my furry friend, Emma; and commuting to Columbus daily, I want to say thank you to Daw Weer in Brownsville.

Her columns are enlightening and

uplifting. We all need to lighten up her column "Why do women save stuff?" says and cherish the important things in life. But maybe Dawn, we women save stuff because we can!

Ruth Anspach
Hebron



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Letters to the Editor

Your letters are welcomed and encouraged. We prefer 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 try 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 or mailed to PO Box 1542, Buckeye Lake, Ohio 43008.

'Records belong to the public'

Editor:

I received an email in early October from someone who tried to be anonymous. However, you are almost never anonymous if you are on the Internet. I found that the email address belongs to a woman who apparently is the daughter of former Kirkersville Police Officer, Dana Russell (the same officer whose wife sent me an insulting email a couple of months ago). Part of her email said "a little bird told me you like to have a few...drinking is bad for you." My response to her is that her entire email is full of FALSE accusations and she should tell her "little bird" to be very careful about spreading lies and using other people to harass someone.

Former police officer Dana Russell's tour of duty ended in Kirkersville on September 30th. He turned in a written resignation saying he was retiring as a police officer effective September 30, 2009. Russell was formerly a police officer in Shawnee Hills with Chief Mark Bossa.

Two members of the finance committee (Woods and Temple) wanted to make a rule

that a council member must request copies (of whatever bills, etc. they wanted to see) on a council night or they would have to pay for the copies. I was also told that the finance committee had considered keeping financial records from me until they reviewed them at a meeting.

Actions such as these are typical of GOB's (Good Ole Boys). To be fair, Brian Denton did speak up and remind members that they cannot make a council member pay for copies of records. All members need to realize they need these records to do their job properly and the records BELONG TO THE PUBLIC not the finance committee!

Some people think you can run a public office as you would a business. In some aspects you can...BUT...too many public officials forget who's the boss and who's the employee! You work FOR THE PEOPLE! Public officials who purposely ignore that fact are GOB's!

Bonnie Mansfield
Buckeye Lake

Thanks for Hudgens benefit

Editor:

We, the Hudgens family, wanted to say thank you to all the wonderful people who took time out of their lives to help & participate in the many benefits for Tom Hudgens.

We wish we could thank each of you personally for your prayers, support and

unbelievable generosity during these difficult times. We are so blessed to have so many good friends and family. We are so grateful and love you all.

Many thanks,

Tom, Beth, Travis & Tyler Hudgens
Harbor Hills

Your Letters are welcome!

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