A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SWICKARD WOODS ARBORETUM

WHEREAS, New Albany is recognized as a Tree City USA community; and

WHEREAS, Naomi Swickard and her husband Jim Fodor wanted to share their love for the beauty of their land with future generations; and

WHEREAS, Naomi and Jim sold what is now known as Swickard Woods to the (then) Village of New Albany and New Albany-Plain Local Schools on the condition that the woodlands be preserved in a natural setting; and

WHEREAS, a hike through Swickard Woods today provides opportunities for the community to learn about 30 different kinds of trees, one of which is more than 300 years old; and

WHEREAS, Swickard Woods is now recognized as a city arboretum through a national program developed by Joy Morton, the daughter of J. Sterling Morton (the originator of Arbor Day); and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, cut heating and cooling costs, beautify our community, clean the air and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sloan Spalding, Mayor of the City of New Albany, County of Franklin, and Licking, State of Ohio, do hereby proclaim New Albany's ongoing commitment to our Swickard Woods Arboretum and support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands for future generations to enjoy.

WHEREBY, I set my hand and seal this 7th day of May, 2019.

Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor