



## **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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sloan T. Spalding", is written over a horizontal line.

Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor