



PRESS RELEASE

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New Licking County Library Director Selected

Newark, Ohio - The Licking County Library Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Babette Wofter has been selected as the new Library Director. Current Director, Steven Hawk, who has held the position for the last six years, announced his retirement late in 2009. The board contracted with the Ohio Library Council earlier this year to coordinate the search. Wofter was selected from a field of 17 applicants. Library Board President Barry M. Riley said: "We were pleased with our pool of candidates from which to select and believe that Babette is well qualified to lead the Library."

A twenty-one year veteran to the library profession, Wofter began her career in 1989 as a Children's Librarian at Muskingum County Library System. She served as Youth Services Coordinator and Assistant Director at Perry County District Library and has been Assistant Director at Licking County Library for the last five years. She is a graduate of Ohio University with a Bachelor's degree in Education and holds a Master of Library Science degree from Kent State University.

In her cover letter to the board, Wofter noted that she is familiar with the community, the staff, and the history of the organization and has hands-on experience in every department of the library. "I am delighted to have been chosen to lead Licking County Library. I can hit the ground running. I look forward to working with the board and the great staff at LCL, our customers, and local community groups. There will certainly be challenges ahead, but I am enthusiastic about what the future holds. My charge will be to ensure that our library remains a vital part of the community offering something for everyone all their life."

Wofter takes the post August 23.

The Licking County Library has been serving Newark and Licking County since 1908. Today, there are six convenient locations, including: the Newark Library in downtown Newark; Emerson R. Miller branch in west Newark; Hervey Memorial in Utica; Hebron Library; Buckeye Lake Library; and the Mary E. Babcock Library in Johnstown. A Bookmobile provides outreach services throughout Licking County.

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