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# THE NEWS-HERALD

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 \$2.50 FACEBOOK.COM/NEWSHERALDINOH X.COM/NEWSHERALDINOH

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LAKE COUNTY

## Cities to split NOACA grant

Willowick, Eastlake, Willoughby to use funds for Vine Street

By **Marah Morrison**  
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Willowick recently received a Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency grant that will go toward the Vine Street corridor project.

Vanni, the \$344,671 grant will be split between Willowick, Eastlake and Willoughby.

"The funds will be used toward new street lighting, upgraded pedestrian crossings, enhanced bus stops and updated landscaping along the Vine Street corridor," he said. "A special thank you goes out to Laketeran, our partner in this project, whose support was instrumental in securing not only this grant, but also the \$1.5 million award received from NOACA in 2023."

A prime consultant has been selected and construction is expected to begin in 2027 and

2028, Vanni said. Phase one of the Vine Street project will be consistent street lighting all the way from Willoughby through Willowick, new landscaping and upgrades to the bus shelters, Vanni said.

"We're excited to launch this project and confident it will bring meaningful benefits to our residents, and to the businesses along Vine Street through Willowick, Eastlake and Willoughby," he said.

Vanni said Willowick remains focused on infrastructure improvements in addition to Vine Street. A \$2 million grant from NOACA is aiding the East 305th Street sewer project, which was completed last year and will be repaved this year from

According to Mayor Michael

GRANT » PAGE 4

FAIRPORT HARBOR

## ALL MOVED IN



BILL DEBUS — THE NEWS-HERALD

Fairport Harbor Public Library Director Karen Zoller poses for a photo on March 31 inside the library's new location at 435 New Fourth St. The library was constructed as part of Fairport Harbor's new pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade school. Previously, Fairport Harbor Public Library had been located at 335 Vine St.

## Library begins operating at new location

By **Bill DeBus**  
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Fairport Harbor Public Library has started a new chapter in its 103-year history of serving the community.

The library opened at its new location — 435 New Fourth St. — on March 9. It was constructed as part of Fairport Harbor's new pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade school.

Previously, the library was based at 335 Vine St.

Classes began in January at Fairport Harbor School, located at 345 Vine St. However, it took construction crews a bit longer to complete the library, which is attached to the school building and has its front entrance on New Fourth Street.



BILL DEBUS — THE NEWS-HERALD

Circular lights suspended on wires hang from the ceiling in part of Fairport Harbor Public Library's new location at 435 New Fourth St. The library was constructed as part of Fairport Harbor's new pre-

Zoller said that the first month in the new building has been an exciting and challenging time for the organization's

staff. "It's been an adjustment for us, but it's good," she said. "And every day something happens that makes it better, or we solve a problem."

Patrons of the library also have shared plenty of positive comments about the new structure.

"They just love the look and how modern it is," Zoller said, noting that people have described the building as bright, airy and spacious.

The new library comprises about 6,500 square feet and has a lot more storage space than its previous location, Zoller said. Another advantage of the New Fourth Street building is that it's a one-story

LIBRARY » PAGE 4

EUCLID

## City moves forward with road projects

By **Frank Mecham**  
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Euclid City Council has approved an emergency measure to spend \$549,942 on a contract with GPD Group for construction administration and inspection services for multiple road-work projects in the city.

According to the ordinance, passed during the April 6 council meeting, the services will be used toward the "2026 Asphalt Road Program, 2026 Concrete Road Program, East 217th Street Waterline Reconstruction Project, the Coulter Avenue Waterline Project and coordinating and finalizing the remaining construction administration and inspection work associated with the completion of the 2025 Asphalt Road Program and the East 220th and East 221 st Street Improvements."

Mayor Kirsten Holzheimer

ROAD » PAGE 4

PERRY TOWNSHIP

## Spring trash drop-off program set to begin

By **Bill DeBus**  
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Perry Township will hold its annual spring trash drop-off event later this month.

The program is slated for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 25 at the township Service Department, located at 4720 Webb Road.

Residents of the township and Perry Village are invited to bring eligible types of trash to the program and deposit it, free of charge, in roll-off garbage bins. Major Disposal will provide the garbage bins.

Township Service Department employees will be on hand to help with unloading.

Participants who arrive to discard trash will be asked to confirm their home addresses with

TRASH » PAGE 4

MUSIC

### Young Artist Showcase Concert set

The Shore Cultural Centre Auditorium in Euclid will be filled with musical music on April 19. PAGE A3



COURTS

### Harvey Weinstein is going on trial again

Harvey Weinstein is again going on trial on a rape charge in New York City. PAGE A2

FINANCE

### Wall Street rallies to the edge of its all-time high

U.S. stocks rallied to the edge of an all-time high Tuesday, and oil prices eased. PAGE B5

COLUMN

### US economy is replaying 2000s

Comparing economies provides context and can help us navigate current conditions. PAGE A6



# Trash

FROM PAGE 1

drivers' licenses or utility bills. The event provides an opportunity to throw out items that sometimes are not picked up by residential trash haulers unless an extra fee is paid. These regulations must be followed at the trash drop-off program: No pieces of metal over 4 feet long (metal will be

collected at the Service Department garage). Items such as shingles and plasterboard must be boxed in containers. No tires. Other unacceptable items include batteries, hazardous materials, liquid paint, dead animals, propane tanks and gas tanks. Perry Township used to conduct a yearly cleanup event during which a private waste hauler would pick up specified types of trash from residents' curb-

sides on two consecutive Saturdays in the spring. That program also provided a prime opportunity for "pickers" to drive around and salvage reusable or recycle which were placed to the curb. However, starting in 2021, the township switched to a drop-off trash program. That's because township government leaders no longer can find any companies that are willing to carry out the community-wide curbside cleanup.

# Road

FROM PAGE 1

Gail told council the work they were contracting out to the GPD Group was a way to make sure that contractors were doing what they were supposed to do. "Construction administration is an important element in that they are on-

site, making sure the contractors are doing what they need to do," Holzheimer Gail addressed council. "Inspecting the materials that they use, interacting with residents as needed. It's really an extra set of eyes to make sure the work is done appropriately, that our staff don't have the ability to do themselves. "...Typically, you have individual contracts for

each project but... we felt like it was advantageous this year to kind of come with one contract. But they will be funded separately." Funding for the inspection services will be pulled from the general fund, the general improvement fund, Peterson Trunk Line, Water Line improvement fund, and monies from the Ohio Public Works Commission.

# Library

FROM PAGE 1

structure, unlike the old library, where several offices were situated in a basement. "So everybody's on one floor, which is better for interaction," Zoller said. The library also benefits from advanced technology that was built into the entire school project. Along with offering an array of fiction and non-fiction books and DVDs, the new library includes a history room; reading and study room; conference and meeting room; and areas for teens, children and people who enjoy working on jigsaw puzzles. Fairport Harbor Library's Vine Street site provided its last day of service to the public on Dec. 20. In early January, a moving company delivered carts and crates, and library staffers started packing books and other items that would be relocated. All of those objects were temporarily stored in the former McKinley Elementary School on Plum Street and then delivered to the New Fourth Street structure around Feb. 18, Zoller recalled. "So (the library staff) came here to the new building and we all started unpacking," Zoller said. "Everybody worked super hard and it didn't take as long as we thought." The Fairport Harbor

Public Library was established in 1922. Its Vine Street building was constructed in 1934 and attached to Fairport Harding Middle and High School in 1965. Harding, which also closed in late December, was demolished along with the former library in early April. Fairport Harbor School District will use the vacant land once occupied by Harding and the Vine Street library to build a parking lot for the new pre-K through 12th-grade school. Original plans for the school construction project included a 4,500-square-foot library at a total cost of \$1,593,000. Of that amount, the state would have covered 93 percent of the price while the school district was responsible for 7 percent. But the district eventually chose to expand the space by 2,000 square feet, to adequately meet the library's needs. This expansion was funded locally through the 2021 bond issue approved by district voters, which increased from \$3.7 million to \$5 million to cover the added cost, Superintendent William Billington stated in an email. "The library expansion itself cost \$706,984.83 and included all furniture, fixtures and equipment," Billington stated. "With this addition, the total cost of the library space within the project is \$2,299,984."



The history room at Fairport Harbor Public Library's new location contains an interesting decoration: a life ring from the former Great Lakes freighter Richard Reiss. A man donated this artifact to the library, said the organization's director, Karen Zoller. Fairport Harbor Library, which is based at 435 New Fourth St., was constructed as part of Fairport Harbor's new pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade school. Previously, Fairport Harbor Public Library had been located at 335 Vine St.

# Grant

FROM PAGE 1

Lakeland Boulevard to Lakeshore Boulevard. Work has also commenced on two important sewer projects, which include the Lakeshore Bou-

levard trunk sewer west project, as well as the Forest Grove sewer improvements phase one project, funded by Ohio Public Works Commission grants. The city is set to start later this year on the culvert rehabilitation, which received a little over

\$525,000, another critical sewer project Willowick has been meaning to get done over the last few years, Vanni said. A \$65,000 Community Development Block Grant will also allow Willowick to make all new ADA-compliant upgrades in its fire station.

# OHIO

## Home whiskey-makers get court win

By David Beasley  
The Center Square contributor

A Central Ohio man hoping to continue making whiskey at home may have received good news from a recent court ruling. The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled recently that the federal ban against home whiskey distilleries is unconstitutional. The Buckeye Institute, a Central Ohio-based think tank, is one of the parties challenging the federal law. "Raise a glass to freedom!" Robert Alt, president and chief executive officer of the institute and one of the attorneys in the case, said in a statement. "The Fifth Circuit correctly recognized that Congress is indeed a body of limited and enumerated powers, and prohibiting hobby distilling in your own home is not among them." The plaintiffs in the law-

suit are members of the Hobby Distillers Association, which has pushed for legalizing making whiskey as a hobby in private homes. It has been illegal under federal law for the last 150 years. A person convicted of breaking the law could face a maximum prison sentence of five years. None of the home distillers Fifth Circuit case are from Ohio, although John Ream, a distiller from Newark, Ohio, is a plaintiff in a second case also brought by the Buckeye Institute, the organization's spokeswoman, Lisa Gates, told The Center Square. The federal government argued that the law is constitutional because it was enacted to prevent tax evasion and that it would be easier for a distiller working out of their home to conceal the business and therefore avoid paying taxes.

The Fifth Circuit, however, disagreed in its ruling. "Congress cannot prohibit intrastate activity solely because it might produce products hard to tax," the court ruled. "Put otherwise, preventing activity lest it give rise to tax evasion places no limit whatsoever on Congress's power under the taxation clause." It is likely the U.S. government will appeal Friday's Fifth Circuit decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, Andrew Grossman, attorney for the Buckeye Institute, told The Center Square. "That's almost always what it does when an appeals court declares a federal law unconstitutional, as the Fifth Circuit did here," Grossman said. "And the Supreme Court usually agrees to hear those cases. We anticipate that the plaintiffs will be able to distill during any appeal to the Supreme Court."

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