

prison at the Dallas County Jail, he asked other people

in a prison. The power is inside you, too." West's early days in pris-

— spiritually, mentally, and physically. He took said it's

of Good and the Morrison Foundation.

safely avoiding hazards and awareness that can be learned in class.

bikes at this course.

Finally, there's the Skilled Rider course, which is a one-day refresher course for veteran riders who, for whatever reason, have let their motorcycle endorsement lapse. Students learn more advanced skills on their own motorcycles.

Learn more about the Western Reserve Harley Davidson Riding Academy, 8567 Tyler Blvd., Mentor, OH 44060, by visiting <https://westernreservehd.com/> or calling (440) 974-6900.

Commissioners hear report on GOTL projects

BY GABRIEL MCVEY
Gazette Newspapers

JEFFERSON – Geneva-on-the-Lake administration presented a high-level overview of erosion-control and sanitary sewer projects planned and wished for to the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners during a Tuesday, May 9, work session.

Jeremy Shaffer, village administrator, began with how the village had secured funding for its erosion-control projects, most recently by joining the Lake County Special Improvement District, or SID.

Under a SID, a homeowner or a small group of homeowners, a business or community with a shoreline park or property are eligible for the funding that is to be repaid as a special assessment on property taxes. A property owner experiencing shoreline erosion has to submit an individual or group petition to their local mayor's office or legislative authority in one of the communities within the SID. This also allows for a special assessment of their property to pay for the costs of the improvements.

It also must include:

A description of the land improvements and costs.

The legislative authority notifies the SID and passes legislation to move forward with the special assessments on the property.

The SID manages the project funding and distribution of funds for the project obtained through bonds issued by the Lake Development Authority.

Special assessments are levied to

pay the bonds issued to finance the project. Special assessment terms are 15-30 years. Tax-exempt interest rates are paid at the same time as property taxes are paid.

The assessments are tied to the land rather than a specific property owner until they are paid off, meaning if the property owner sells his property, the purchaser assumes the special assessment. This is a unique feature provided for in the state legislation that created SIDs in 2018.

"Over the last four years we've met with multiple homeowners many, many times to create some projects," Shaffer said.

Two years ago, the village began taking an inventory of its shoreline to see what degree and sort of erosion is going on and finding that the worst area was at Geneva Township Park and some adjacent properties along old Lake Road, according to Shaffer.

"Funding is always the problem," he said.

Shaffer said the village has secured \$450,000 in state funding, has \$850,000 in federal grant applications submitted and SID funding to put toward the next phase of the project.

"We're going to put all these things together and have a tool box of funding and try and get this project done," he said.

Geneva Township will be joining the Lake County SID as well, according to Shaffer.

Erosion control along New Street at the former Buckeye beach is at an earlier phase, with public discussion and partnerships being worked out,

Shaffer said.

The village has \$75,000 committed to design work for the project, according to Shaffer.

Probably the most pressing erosion control project is the shoreline at the Jennie Munger Gregory Memorial Museum, which is losing ground to Lake Erie at an alarming rate.

"If you don't do anything, in another year, year and a half, it's going to be up to the back of that house," Shaffer said.

Work is at an early stage, with pre-design work and high-level concepts completed so far toward the estimated \$4.6 million project, according to Shaffer.

Palmetto Beach is a lakeshore property between Indian Creek and the s-curve on Lake Road and is the subject of another erosion control project.

"That area has seen a lot of erosion and a lot of the homeowners have just kind of done their own thing to the end of the shore where they're directly affected," Shaffer said.

Additionally, there is an active design to put sanitary sewer into Palmetto Beach and water as well, supplying 1,500 buildable parcels with water and wastewater utilities.

"That could really change the game at Geneva-on-the-Lake," Shaffer said.

Replacement of the village's sanitary sewer siphon should be getting underway soon, according to Shaffer as should the replacement of the main sewer trunk line supplying the wastewater treatment plant.

Both capital items are beyond their useful lives, according to Shaffer, and work should begin in the fall.

"No one should ever get caught by surprise by something you can plainly see down the road ahead of you," Rzepka said. "It's up to the motorcyclist to be 100 percent aware of those road conditions, prepare for them and ride safely through them."

For non-motorcycle drivers, awareness also plays a key role in safely sharing the road – be aware of other users of the road, closely check

ACMC Community Connection Fair provides valuable resource information

The ACMC Community Connection Fair is an opportunity for community members to gather valuable information about a variety of services available in Ashtabula County. This year's event features 27 agencies and organizations.

The Community Connection Fair is Friday, May 26, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the ACMC Health and Wellness Plaza, north of the hospital on Lake Avenue. There is no charge to attend.

The event is outdoors, with tables set up on the plaza walkway, so attendees can be out of the sun or rain. Guests can also enter a drawing to win a free prize.

Participating organizations at the ACMC Community Connection Fair include ACMC Foundation, ACMC Regional Home Health, Adoration Hospice, Alzheimer's Association, Apex Dermatology, Ashtabula County District Library, Ashtabula County Educational Services, Ashtabula County Health Department, Ashtabula County Mental Health & Recovery, A-Tech/Aspire Programs, Austinburg Nursing and Rehab, Brightview, Catholic Charities, Cleveland Dental Institute, Community Counseling Center, Country Club Rehab, Family Pride, Foundations Health, Glenbeigh, Help Me Grow, Homesafe Inc., Hospice of the Western Reserve, Job and Family Services, Premiere Fitness, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Signature Health, and Windsor Laurelwood.

In addition to the information tables, veteran-owned food truck Bomb Dogs Food & Catering will be there to take lunch orders. Attendees are responsible for the cost of their lunch.

Updates about the event can be found at www.acmchealth.org or on ACMC's Facebook Page.