

OBERLIN NEWS-TRIBUNE

OUR YEAR IN STORIES

There was no shortage of big stories in Oberlin in 2011. Many changed the face of the community and will continue to change in this new year.

Here are 10 headlines we picked as some of the most interesting of 2011:

1 Gasholder saved by deadline

It only took 13 years of talk, but construction on the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center finally began.

The project will transform the Gasholder building, a historical building from the late 1800s, into a state-of-the-art museum.

The center will also be a stop on the North Coast Inland Bicycle Trail and provide shelter for bicyclists, restrooms, a fountain, and even a charging station for electric cars.

The project was made possible by a community fundraising effort. While

construction on the project began in November, the city will still need to raise another \$150,000 to finish the project.

"This project is very unique, and not just because of Oberlin's Underground Railroad history," said assistant city manager Darlene Colaso. "You also have the park-and-ride aspect of the project, which is pretty unique too. And then you have the piece of history that is the Gasholder building itself. It's such a unique building, and it's one of the only ones still standing west of the Alleghenies."



Repairs to the gasholder building began with the roof this fall.