Historian Richard Baznik Presents History of CWRU

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The Oberlin Heritage Center hosts author Richard E. Baznik presenting the story of the challenging, yet oh-so-fruitful merging of two respected institutions of higher learning in northeast Ohio. Forever Young: The History of Case Western Reserve University takes place on Tuesday, April 21 at 7:15 p.m. in Heiser Auditorium at Kendal at Oberlin (600 Kendal Drive). Baznik is a Trustee of the Oberlin Heritage Center, and the author of Beyond the Fence: A Social History of Case Western Reserve University. The illustrated program is free and open to the public.

Western Reserve College was the first permanent college in the Western Reserve of Connecticut. It was a product of the dreams and aspirations of leaders in the region, though they had to temper their religious goals to deal with the politics of the times. Nearly six decades later, and 26 miles northwest of the college’s home in Hudson, Leonard Case, Jr. left funds to create a school of applied science in Cleveland. Strangely, it was inevitable that the two institutions would get together one day, but it wasn’t easy. The story of the schools’ eventual consolidation also offers insights into the development of the broader region.

Baznik began his career at Case Western Reserve University in 1968 and served as Special Assistant to the President and Vice President for Public Affairs. Now retired, yet still serving as University Historian, his new book reflects more than ten years of research and writing.

For more information about this upcoming event or other activities of the Oberlin Heritage Center, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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