Behind-the-Scenes at the Oberlin Heritage Center

“Behind the Scenes at the Oberlin Heritage Center” is a free public program taking place on Wednesday, April 25 at 7:15 pm, in Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). Learn more about the decision-making process used by the Heritage Center’s Collections Committee, together with Collections Assistant Prue Richards and Executive Director Pat Murphy, when considering new donations of objects to the museum.

Whether it is the stub of a pencil from a no longer extant lumber company, or the contents of an abandoned house, museums such as the Heritage Center receive a steady flow of potential donation offers of all sizes and kinds. Like most museums that are accredited by the American Association of Museums, the Oberlin Heritage Center simply cannot accept everything that comes its way – some items do not fulfill the Heritage Center’s mission to preserve and share Oberlin’s community history, while others realistically cannot be contained in the limited storage and exhibit space available. How do history museums decide what to collect and why? How does a museum determine the best outcome for each offered object, whether it is accepted, declined, or recommended to another museum? Come hear how the talented, experienced, volunteer Collections Committee has helped the Oberlin Heritage Center evolve from a “community attic” to a professional collecting repository and museum with some surprising and stunning results!

For more information about the Oberlin Heritage Center or any of its upcoming community programs, visit www.oberlinheritage.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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