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Up and Running, The First Years of the Oberlin Oral History Project

The Oberlin Oral History Project has captured the history of this small northeastern Ohio town by interviewing local residents on a broad spectrum of topics over the course of dozens of years. Find out more about this fascinating long-term project, how it began and where it's heading in the future -- in a free, public presentation on **Thursday, March 20 at 7:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). This evolving project continues today under the banner of the Oberlin Heritage Center's Oberlin Oral History Project. The program is co-sponsored with the Kendal Third Thursday Lecture Series.

Featured speakers include **Allan Patterson**, a popular Oberlin middle school social studies teacher (now retired) who was a key driving force among a group of volunteers who began recording oral histories of long-time residents more than 30 years ago. Joining him will be **Priscilla Steinberg**, a former Oberlin Chamber of Commerce director and an Oberlin Heritage Center volunteer, who has worked on the project for over two decades. **Elizabeth Schultz**, from the Heritage Center staff, will provide a brief update on work currently underway with the oral history project.

The Oral History Project and the wealth of information that has been recorded through its collection of interviews have generated several Oberlin Heritage Center community programs in recent years, including "Fun in Oberlin: Past and Present" (April 2004; reprised April 2006), "Vignettes about Growing Up in Oberlin" (March 2009), "Oberlin in the 1930s & 1940s" (November 2009), and "Oberlin Memories of World War II" (November 2010). The Heritage Center will debut a new oral history production – a book featuring the voices of 20th century Oberlin women – later this spring.

For more information about this Oberlin Heritage Center event visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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