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For Immediate Release: May 6, 2014 Contact: Patricia Murphy, Executive Director at (440) 774-1700 or patm@oberlinheritage.org Photo available upon request

## **Community Reception Honors Pat Holsworth** 2014 Recipient of College's "Distinguished Service" Award

Greet and meet Oberlin College's recipient of the 2014 award for Distinguished Service to the Community, Patricia Holsworth, on Saturday, May 31 from 3:30 – 5 p.m., at a reception held at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street). The free event is hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center, the Friends of the Oberlin Public Library, and Oberlin Community Services. This informal gathering is open to the public, offering light refreshment and the opportunity to applaud and appreciate an exceptional volunteer and mentor to many in the Oberlin community.

Pat Holsworth served as a public library administrator for 30 years in Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties. From 1991-1996, she was the director of the Oberlin Public Library. Upon her retirement, she took up a second career with the Oberlin Heritage Center, where she worked as financial assistant and librarian. She has been active in many genealogical societies and has helped countless community members explore their own family histories. Through the years, Holsworth has created a database for the Heritage Center with information on Oberlinians from 1820 to 1970 with more than 70,000 names that is a tremendous genealogical resource for OHC visitors, teachers and members. In 2006, the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums recognized Pat and her husband, Dick, with Individual Outstanding Achievement awards in appreciation for their many contributions to the preservation of local history. She also received a Certificate of Appreciation in 2008 from the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Oberlin Wellington Rescue Committee for keeping Oberlin family histories alive.

Holsworth has served on many community boards including the Oberlin Cable Co-op, League of Women Voters (past president), Oberlin Heritage Center (past president and Honorary Trustee), Oberlin Community Services, and Oberlin Rotary (past president, secretary, and a Paul Harris fellow). Plan to attend this community reception and salute Pat Holsworth for all she does to make Oberlin a better place. For more information, contact the Oberlin Heritage Center at (440) 774-1700 or e-mail members@oberlinheritage.org.