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Oberlin Women’s History Walk Offered by Heritage Center

Stroll through picturesque downtown Oberlin while learning about women’s rights and the fight to secure them in the Oberlin Heritage Center’s newest guided tour aptly titled “One Step More.” The 75-minute history walk is being offered Wednesday evenings in August at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary and may be made at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or by calling (440) 774-1700. The fee is $6 for adults, while OHC members, children and college students are free.

In 1834, “founding father” John J. Shipherd pledged Oberlin’s commitment to “the elevation of the female character” through education. Little did he know, there was dynamite in that promise, and women carried the matches. The Oberlin Heritage Center’s newest walking tour explores how Oberlin confronted and defined issues of femininity in the 19th and 20th centuries. Hear stories of powerful Oberlin women including Lucy Stone, Marianne Parker Dascomb, Adelia Field Johnston, Mary Church Terrell, and Lucy Stanton Day, and learn how they used John J. Shipherd’s promise to shape what it meant to be a woman in Oberlin and in the United States.

The Heritage Center offers several other themed history walks this summer and fall as well. The Freedom’s Friends (Underground Railroad) History Walk begins at 11 a.m. each Saturday in August. The Scholars & Settlers (Tappan Square) History Walk takes place Sundays in August at 1 p.m. The Radicals & Reformers (Westwood Cemetery) History Walk is offered Saturdays in September at 11 a.m. For the younger set, the Heritage Center will lead an “I Spy Oberlin: History & Architecture Scavenger Hunt” on the first Saturdays of August and September from 3-4 p.m. Designed for children ages 5-11 with an adult companion, this tour combines fun and learning as participants are encouraged to keep their eyes peeled for historic markers, decorative details and Oberlin oddities. Each of the history walks includes a fee and reservations may be made at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or by calling (440) 774-1700.

For more information about tours, history walks, and other special events at the Oberlin Heritage Center, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org, call (440) 774-1700, or stop by the Monroe House main office at 73 ½ South Professor Street during business hours, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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