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Oberlin Heritage Center Presents New Research on Community's Underground Railroad Activity

The Oberlin Heritage Center's Executive Director **Liz Schultz** and Board member/docent **Ron Gorman** present *Old Secrets/New Stories of Oberlin's Underground Railroad* on **Wednesday, November 11 at 7:15 p.m.** in Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). Schultz and Gorman share their research on Oberlin's abolitionist history, the freedom seekers who made their way to town and beyond to Canada, and the community members who assisted these clandestine, illegal activities along the way. Even those who know Oberlin history well may be surprised to find out about Oberlin's *first* rescue – 17 years *before* the well-known Oberlin-Wellington Rescue! And who wouldn't be curious to hear the long-forgotten story of one of early Oberlin's most notorious villains? These and other new stories bring together period accounts from newspapers, autobiographies, and letters and shed more light on Oberlin's unique and powerful role in this national movement. The one-hour illustrated presentation is free and open to the public.

Liz Schultz has been with OHC since 2007 where she served as Museum Education and Tour Coordinator prior to being named the nonprofit organization's Executive Director in August 2015. She has degrees in archaeology and anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Binghamton University (NY), and a M.A. in museum studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program (NY). Schultz is a past chair of the City of Oberlin's Historic Preservation Commission, and currently is the President of the Friends of the Oberlin Public Library, and also is active as a board member of the Oberlin Rotary Club.

Ron Gorman is a software engineer with a Bachelor of Science in Electronic Technology from Cleveland State University. He is the proprietor of Magnum Labs, a computer-related consulting company based in Columbia Station, Ohio, which he established in 1993. Gorman has been active with the Heritage Center as a popular history walk docent, program presenter and blogger since 2012. He has been a member of OHC's Board of Trustees since April 2015. In addition to the Oberlin Heritage Center, Gorman is a member of the Western Reserve Historical Society, CivilWarTalk.com, Historum.com and the Sierra Club. He currently is partnering with the Heritage Center to research and write about local Underground Railroad activity for a future publication.

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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