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For immediate release: September 26, 2016

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The Korean War: How it Changed Our World

The Oberlin Heritage Center presents historian Jiyul Kim in a thought-provoking discussion of the origins, the fighting, and the long-term impacts of the Korean War, which continue today and will for the foreseeable future. The illustrated presentation takes place on Tuesday, October 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Oberlin Public Library Community Room (65 South Main Street) and is free and open to the public.

Kim focuses on the war's complexities – from its beginnings in the rise of competing visions of Korean nationalism in the wake of WWI and Korea's liberation from Japanese colonialism by the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. at the end of WWII, to the “war without end” that fundamentally affected the course of the Cold War and, in turn, the world order. The talk also addresses a shift in American perception of military power and the challenges of studying the history of a country such as North Korea, which has cut itself off from the rest of the world.

Jiyul Kim retired from the U.S. Army after 28 years of service and settled in Oberlin to join his wife, who is a professor at Oberlin College, and their four children. He served in Korea, Japan, Germany, and the U.S. His most memorable day as a soldier was being in the Pentagon on 9/11. He has taught at the University of Maryland, Harvard, and the Army War College, and, since his retirement, Oberlin College, where he teaches courses on the role of war in the development of civilization, and the use of history in formulating national security policy.

The Oberlin Heritage Center is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is widely recognized as a model small museum, historical society and historic preservation organization. For more information about this program or the Heritage Center's full calendar of tours, history walks, and community programs, please visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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