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or send e-mail to members@oberlinheritage.org.

Community Celebrates 25th Annual Family Fun Fair Saturday, August 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Oberlin's long-time summer tradition of Family Fun Fair coordinated by the Oberlin Business Partnership features FREE activities all over town designed for families with young children. At the Heritage Center, visitors can try their hand at old-fashioned games on the lawn of the 1836 Little Red Schoolhouse or enter our raffle to win a goodie bag from Trader Joe's in Westlake. Youngsters and young-at-heart are invited to join us at 10 a.m. for a free "I Spy Oberlin History & Architecture Scavenger Hunt." This one-hour guided walking tour through historic Oberlin features historical markers, decorative details and Oberlin oddities. The hunt

begins at the Monroe House, and reservations are encouraged. Learn more about OHC's Family Fun Fair activities, by calling (440) 774-1700 or visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org. To find out what's happening around town at the Fun Fair, call (440) 774-6262 or visit www.oberlin.org.

Celebrate Our Local Indigenous History

OHC is Supporting Partner in Community Program Series



All are welcome to attend a two-part, free program series at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street) focusing on the achievements of local Indigenous Peoples as well as the challenges they face. The first event is **Wednesday, August 9 at 7:00 p.m.** in observance of the *International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples* as proclaimed in 1994 by the United Nations General Assembly. The program provides an opportunity to learn more about the ongoing struggle for native rights and a local citizen-led effort to change the Columbus Day holiday in Oberlin to a commemoration of Indigenous Peoples. The series continues on **Saturday, August 19 at 2:00 p.m.** with a family-friendly event celebrating the area's native origins.

Connecting with Oberlin's Indigenous Heritage includes an introduction to Native American roots in our community followed by outdoor demonstrations of drumming and dancing. The event begins at the public library then progresses to nearby Martin Luther King Jr. Park for the cultural demonstrations. The Indigenous Heritage series is a collaboration supported by many organizations and individuals throughout the community. Contact Jean Foggo Simon (foggo@oberlin.net) or the Reverend Mary Hammond (mary.hammond@oberlin.edu) for more.

Enjoy a Guided History Walk Before Summer Ends

Three Different Themed Walks Offered this Month!



If you've been meaning to enjoy one of the Heritage Center's summer History Walks -- now is the time. These popular history walks guide visitors through the community to see landmarks up-close, hear stories of local figures who once walked the same pathways, and view historical images that connect both past and present. The waning days of summer are a great time to see the world around you in a new enlightening way with one of these 60-to-90-minute strolls through history:

- ❖ **Freedom's Friends Abolition & Underground Railroad History Walk** - Saturdays, August 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 11 a.m.
- ❖ **"One Step More": Oberlin Women's History Walk** - Saturday, August 5 at 1 p.m. (*Last opportunity for the season!*)
- ❖ **Scholars & Settlers (Tappan Square) History Walk** - Saturdays, August 12 and 26 at 2 p.m.

Advance reservations are required. For fee information and starting locations, call (440) 774-1700 or visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.

Bienvenidos! Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures

Collaboration Features International Art, Artifacts, Bilingual Tours



Artifacts of Mexico (top/bottom left), Peru (top right) and Argentina (bottom right). Courtesy of Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures.

Make plans to visit the Monroe House during the month of September to view artifacts and art from Mexico, Spain, Puerto Rico, Peru, Costa Rica, Panama, Guatemala, Honduras and more! This collaboration between the Oberlin Heritage Center and the Lorain Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures honors shared and distinct histories, celebrates different customs, and draws community members together. The exhibit can be paired with the Heritage Center's "Upstairs/Downstairs" tour or viewed on its own -- and guided tours will be offered in both English and Spanish on Saturdays. Visitors also will have the opportunity to experience a self-guided exhibit tour on Saturdays if they prefer. Highlighting the month will be a **Fiesta en la Biblioteca on Saturday, September 23 (3-5 p.m.)** at the Oberlin Public Library. The lively gathering includes music, food, and fun for all ages. Find out more about tour dates, times and fees by calling (440) 774-1700 or visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.

Educators interested in bringing students to this special exhibit should contact the Heritage Center's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, Amanda Manahan, to schedule a visit (tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org). To learn more about the Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures, contact President and Curator Guillermo Arriaga (lorainhispanicmuseum@gmail.com).

Nord/McClintock Matching Challenge Met!

Ninety-four Donors Help Reach the \$20,000 Goal



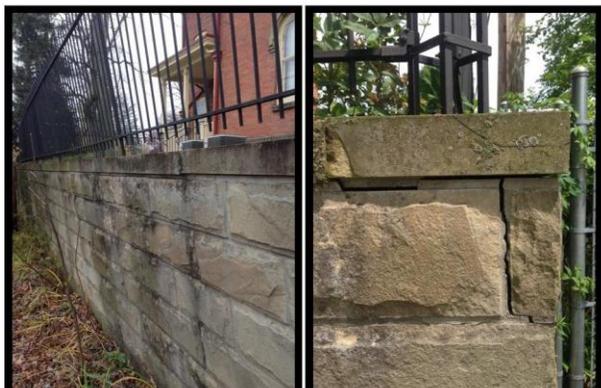
Oberlin Heritage Center members and friends really stepped up and answered the call following the recent announcement of a \$20,000 challenge gift contributed by OHC members **Jane B. Nord** and **T.K. & Emily (Nord) McClintock**. The Nord/McClintock gift matched dollar-for-dollar any new gifts or pledges to the Pat Murphy Endowment for Heritage Preservation. The challenge was announced by OHC Board President **Gail Wood** at the organization's Annual Meeting on April 5. By the first of July, the challenge had been met with cash gifts of \$15,509 in-hand, and \$4,500 more that had been pledged.

Presently the Endowment campaign's cumulative total stands at slightly more than \$432,000. The Vintage & Vintner fundraising event last month added just over \$1,000 toward the overall goal.

Watch for news of future special events that will help support the new Endowment fund. The Heritage Center is well on the way toward its mid-point goal of raising \$500,000 by the end of 2018, yet still has a long stretch before reaching the ultimate goal of building an endowment of one million dollars to support the ongoing care of OHC's four historic buildings and its collection of more than 5,000 artifacts. Help the Pat Murphy Endowment for Heritage Preservation keep growing by contributing to the fund at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org (click on the "Make a Gift" tab at the top of the home page).

OHC Receives Grant from The Nord Family Foundation

\$29,000 Award Will Partially Fund Major Repairs to Retaining Wall



The retaining wall on the east side of the Monroe House is severely bowed, requiring costly repairs in the near future.

The Heritage Center was very pleased to be the recipient of a \$29,000 grant to help correct a severely bowed retaining wall on the east side of the Monroe House, which separates the property from the rear of the Oberlin Post Office. The house sits higher up, with the 85-foot long wall functioning to hold back an embankment, while also serving as a secure barrier for the federal post office building. Constructed in the 1990s, the wall first showed signs of bowing several years ago. Now, cracks are appearing on the sandstone facing, the wall is noticeably heaving in places, and a depression has formed along the top of the wall

where it is leaning outward. The full cost of repair and reconstruction is estimated at about \$58,000, and The Nord Family Foundation's grant provides a tremendous boost that allows project plans to move forward. The Heritage Center intends to rebuild the wall and install improved drainage solutions within the year.

Heritage Center's Most Recent Audit Available on Website

The independent auditors' final report, conducted by **Cohen & Company** of Cleveland, is now available for review on the Oberlin Heritage Center website. The audit includes the organization's consolidated financial statements for the years ending December 31, 2016 and 2015. This report comes after a three day on-site visit by members of the Cohen staff this past May and a presentation from Tina Dzik (Senior Manager) to the OHC Board of Trustees in July. Review the latest audit at: <http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org/about/irsform990> or call (440) 774-1700 for more information.

OHC's Mighty ELMs

Endowed Life Members Now 100 Strong



*Oberlin's Historic Elm.
Photo courtesy of Oberlin
College Archives.*

Like Oberlin's Historic Elm tree, the Heritage Center's ELMs (Endowed Life Members) are deeply rooted in their support of the organization. How wonderful it was to reach #100 in this circle of friends when OHC welcomed **Paul "Bud" Spierling & Pauline Handman** as the organization's newest ELMs. (Endowed Life members are donors whose cumulative giving to OHC endowment funds totals \$2,000 or more.) We'd love to see the ELMs group continue to grow -- gifts to the endowment provide permanent, lasting support to the essential work of the organization and the care of its collections. Consider a gift or pledge (which may be paid over a period of five years) to be recognized among this great group of supporters. (And you'll become an OHC member for life -- never being asked to pay annual membership dues again!) To learn more about how to become an ELM at the Heritage Center, contact Mary Anne Cunningham at (440) 774-1700 or members@oberlinheritage.org.

Members Update

Welcome to new members: **Deborah Ciprus** (Sheffield Village), **Robert H. Close** (Avon Lake), **Karen Fountain** (Oberlin), **Brian Hedges** (Remington, VA), **Catherine Hoyle** (Oberlin), **Rhonda Kunselman** (Litchfield), **Gail Powell**(Homerville), and **Irene Smith** (Oberlin). We're glad you joined OHC!

We note with sorrow the recent passing of **Sarah MacLennan Kerr**, the very first recipient of OHC's Volunteer of the Year award (2002). Sally helped create the Westwood Cemetery database and the self-guided tour brochure for the Cemetery. She contributed countless hours of time over the past two decades as an editorial advisor, layout and design volunteer for many OHC award-winning publications including *Bonnets to Boardrooms: Women's Stories from a Historic College Town*. Sally's talents, generosity, humor and warmth will be greatly missed.

Summer is a perfect time to become a new OHC member -- with opportunities to enjoy FREE history walks or to tap into Time Travelers reciprocal benefits at more than 300 history museums when vacationing around the state or across the country. Find out more about the Time Travelers Network at <http://timetravelers.mohistory.org/>. Join or renew your OHC membership at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org (and click on the "Join Now" tab at the top of the home page).

OHC Staff News



Mateys at the "Oberlin Ahoy! Pirates and Life on the High Seas" summer camp ended the week with a pirate skit for family and friend landlubbers. ☺

It's a busy summer visitor season at the Heritage Center! Staff, interns and volunteers are frequently out and about leading tours and history walks. Summer kids' camps have completely filled up. Volunteers are helping to install newly inscribed bricks along the walkways, mow the grass, trim trees, and pull weeds to keep the grounds welcoming to guests and passersby. In the midst of all this activity, Museum Education & Tour Coordinator **Amanda Manahan** and her fiancé Joseph Cross are putting the final touches on their mid-August wedding plans. Everyone at the Oberlin Heritage Center wishes Amanda and Joe a lifetime of love and happiness together!

Also of Interest



Thinking about replacing windows in your older home before cold weather strikes? "**6 Historic Window Renovations That Keep Their Charm**" is a quick read from the National Trust for Historic Preservation that may have you thinking of alternate solutions that are both efficient and economical. Read the article at <https://savingplaces.org/stories/6-historic-window-renovations-that-keep-their-charm>.



All are invited to a free public program at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street) on **Saturday, August 5 at 11 a.m.** when the **Oberlin African-American Genealogy & History Group (OAAGHG)** presents author Brinase Merritt. Merritt will discuss and sign copies of her book *I Ain't Noways Tired: Grandma Hands, "The Story of a Tuskegee Midwife."* The program includes a small traveling exhibit relating to Merritt's non-fiction story. Find out more about OAAGHG and this event at http://oaaghg.com/activity_calendar/i_aint_noways_tired.



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