An Introduction to Redlining in Oberlin, Ohio

Tuesday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m.

OHC has developed a program examining the history of redlining in Oberlin and the Oberlin Public Library will be hosting it Tuesday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m. Redlining is the discriminatory practice in which services, often financial services like loans, are withheld from neighborhoods often occupied by minorities, low-income, or otherwise marginalized groups. It is also a term used to describe many forms of housing segregation.

This program is free and registration is not required. It is also available for other groups interested in having it presented for their organization or club. For more information or to schedule a new presentation of this program please contact Liz Schultz at 440-774-1700.

Upcoming Events

Film Screening of "A Higher Law" at Oberlin High School

Thursday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Oberlin High School will be offering a free screening of “A Higher Law: The Oberlin-Wellington Rescue of 1858” on Thursday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. The Rescue was a key event in the history of abolitionism leading up to the Civil War, when a group of 37 men were charged with violating the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. This is the first time that a ‘higher law’ defense was used in a federal court case.

This screening is free and open to the public, no registration required. We were also pleased that Oberlin middle and high school students were able to view the documentary with support from Harriett Thomas and the J.B. Thomas Fund, Oberlin City Schools, Oberlin College, and the Apollo Theatre.
Parents Weekend Tour Offerings
Friday-Sunday November 3-5

The Oberlin Heritage Center is offering a number of options for guided and self-guided tours during this year's Parents Weekend. Tour fees range from $3-$6 for adults; OHC members and children under 18 enjoy ALL tours free. Drop-in visitors are welcome for the self-guided Oberlin Origins tour of the Monroe House or to reserve an outdoor tablet tour, while all other tours and history walks require advance registration. Please visit oberlinheritagecenter.org for more information and to make an online reservation. In case of rain at start time, the tour/history walk will be cancelled and fees refunded. All tours are open to the public.

Friday, November 3:
- Self Guided Tours 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Guided Tour of the Jewett House 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Saturday, November 4:
- Self Guided Tours 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Freedom's Friends 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Architecture Tour 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Sunday, November 5:
- Architecture Tour 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
- Civil War to Civil Rights 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Community Trivia Night
Friday, November 10 at 6:00 p.m.

OHC will host its annual Community Trivia Night on Friday, November 10. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the contest will begin at 6:00 p.m. at The First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. Families, friends, and individuals are welcome to compete in this friendly game of wits. Kurt G. Sarringhaus is returning as our premier sponsor, Arrc One is returning as a Co-Sponsor, and Kevin and Max Greenwood are returning as our MCs. Food and refreshments will be provided.

Pricing:
$20 for adults ($18 for OHC Members)
$15 for youths ($13 for OHC Members)
Also enjoy our early bird special of $5 off per adult or $4 per youth if you and your teammates register before Friday, November 3.
To register, please visit oberlinheritagecenter.org or call Liz Schultz at 440-774-1700. Team captains can register their whole team at once or advise their players to register themselves. We'll be in touch with the captains as soon as they register.

Teams this year will be limited to 8 adults, whether they’re playing or not. (Kids under 18 years old don’t count toward the team limit but still need to register.)

Call for Cookie Bakers!
We would greatly appreciate local support for this event. If you would like to help bake cookies to share with trivia participants please contact Liz Schultz at director@oberlinheritage.org or by calling 440-774-1700.

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Premier Sponsor

Kurt G. Sarrninghaus Co., L.P.A
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Jewett House Tours
First Friday of Every Month at 1:30 p.m.

OHC's house tour of the Jewett residence, 73 South Professor Street, is available the first Friday of every month and will highlight Frank Fanning Jewett, Sarah Frances Gulick Jewett, Charles Martin Hall, the aluminum reduction process and life in Oberlin during the Progressive Era. Additional topics include architecture, interior design, social reform, and student boarders who stayed with the family during their time at Oberlin College.

The next Jewett tour will be available on Friday, October 6. You can register for it in our events calendar on oberlinheritagecenter.org.

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News From OHC

Amanda Manahan Returns as Museum Education and Tour Manager
We are pleased to announce that Amanda Manahan applied and was selected to return to OHC as the Museum Education and Tour Manager. Amanda was already serving as the interim METM. Please enjoy the following statement by Amanda about her decision to return.

"I'm very excited to be back at the Oberlin Heritage Center and working with its staff, board, volunteers, and interns to share Oberlin's unique heritage. I have missed the sense of community that comes with working at such a dynamic, small organization such as OHC. Getting to know the former METM, Stephanie Bohnak, over the last year and witnessing the energy and ideas she
brought to the organization has been inspiring, and I know we are all proud of what she has done and congratulate her on her next journey at the National First Ladies Library. I am honored to continue this vital work.”

Welcome Back to Our Interns
With the beginning of the school year, OHC’s student interns have returned and we are excited to share that we have a new intern this term, Naiya Patel-Kapka.

Naiya is a first year Oberlin College student and is currently an undecided major but is considering something related to history and/or studio art. She grew up in Portland but comes to Oberlin from Jackson Heights in New York City. She is interested in music, art, gardening, and writing. We look forward to having her as a part of our team.

Museum & Members Update

Thank you so much to everyone who helped make OHC’s Root Beer and Yesteryear event such a smashing success on Sept 23! We hope you enjoyed the free root beer floats, popcorn, live music, and history displays. We counted 379 visitors - our highest attendance on record!

There are so many people to thank including: our generous sponsor Oberlin IGA, The Front Porch Swatters, pianist Leo Lu, raffle donors Bethany Hobbs, Travis Jennings, and Green Circle Growers, Fr. Brian Wilbert & Yorki Encalada, and Camille Hamlin Allen for her first person interpretation of Sarah Jane Leary Evans. We also want to thank volunteers: Stephanie Bohnak, Jeff Hobbs, Lori Ebihara, Claudia Jones, Emily Bengston, Gail & Reid Wood, Jean Simon, Lynn Kusmin, Kay Sharp, Mary Worthington, Pat Serio, Mary Anne Cunningham, Elizabeth Elrod, Eboni Johnson, Lillian Gibson, Zaria Amerson, Ellie Lane, Anne Montoya, Alex LoPresto, Gail Powell, Bob & Marilyn Kasayka, Naiya Patel-Kapka, and Kathy & Mark Jaffee. You all helped make this exciting day run as smoothly as it did and we could not have done it without your assistance.
Also of Interest:

Grand Opening of the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center - Saturday October 7
The City of Oberlin and Oberlin College invite all to join them for the grand opening of the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center in the old Gasholder Building near the McDonalds on Saturday October 7, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be live exhibits on display and the City will also be accepting the donation of the Lee Dobbins Headstone, ca. 1853 from the Oberlin College Archives.

Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebrations- Monday, October 9 & Saturday, October 14
Join the Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee of Oberlin for the 7th annual Indigenous People's Day Vigil from Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the corner of Tappan Square near the site of the historic elm. This vigil is for people to come together in remembrance and celebration of indigenous cultures and resilience and is a moment to honor the rich history, traditions, and contributions of indigenous peoples.

There will also be a Community Celebration on Saturday, October 14 from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Oberlin Enrichment & Activity Center on 36 S. Prospect St. Celebrate the vibrant cultures and heritage of Indigenous peoples at this special event which will feature a variety of activities and performances.

Words, Music, Memory: (Re)Presenting Voices of the Holocaust
Curated by Adina Langer, an Oberlin College alum and a curator at the Kennesaw State Museum of Holocaust History and Education, “Words, Music, Memory: (Re)Presenting Voices of the Holocaust” is a ten-panel traveling exhibit and accompanying digital gallery guide highlighting the links along the chain of commemoration that connect past to present and generation to generation.

While the panels focus on the words of writers who witnessed the Holocaust, the gallery guide includes biographies of the writers, sketches by the panel illustrators, information about musical and dramatic pieces adapted from the writers' works, and interviews with composers, lyricists, performers, and producers. Visitors also have opportunities to access performance videos and share their perspectives. The exhibit will be on display at Terrell Library of Oberlin College from the beginning of October through November 18.

On Thursday, November 16, Adina will also be giving a lunchtime talk about curating histories of violence and resilience. That same evening, there will be a concert performed by Oberlin alum Sheena Ramirez of music based on the writings of young people who witnessed the Holocaust at 7:30 p.m. at the Kulas Recital Hall. You can register for these events on the Oberlin College Calendar.
Native Plant Seeds Available
The grounds and pollinator garden of OHC are home to several native Ohio plants, and these plants are starting to produce seeds. We welcome people to come harvest seeds at their convenience. The walnut trees near the brick intersection and back toward the pollinator garden (located behind the Monroe House) have been dropping fruit and nuts. Quick tip for collecting walnuts: bring gloves and a container you don't mind getting stained!

The pollinator garden is still flowering, but ultimately coming to its seasonal end. Currently, the following plants are ready to have seeds harvested: swamp milkweed, swamp rose mallow, and the purple and gray coneflowers (see pictures). The larger, common milkweeds have pods but need a little more time to fully develop.

If you plan to harvest seeds from the pollinator garden, please observe the following:
- Do not step into the raised garden beds to harvest from the plants.
- Bring a pair of clean scissors and clip the seed pods/heads at their base. Do not pull or cut further down the stems. Do not try to take clippings of plants.
- Harvest only 2-3 seeds pods/heads per plant in order to leave enough for others.

Please note that these native pollinator seeds require stratification and may take a couple of years to become established.

If you have any questions about the pollinator garden and its plants, please email Amanda Manahan (tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org)

Make a Gift to Support the 2023 OHC Annual Fund Today!

The Oberlin Heritage Center is working hard to fulfill its mission: to preserve and share Oberlin’s unique heritage and to make our community a better place to live, learn, work, and visit. Thanks to YOU—our members and supporters—we have been able to continue sharing Oberlin’s history. If you’ve enjoyed our programming this past year and want to help support OHC, please consider making a tax-deductible gift to our 2023 Annual Fund campaign. Your gift will help us deliver history experiences that are educational, fun, interactive, and relevant to all our members. You can make a gift online at oberlinheritagecenter.org today by following the link below. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Oberlin Heritage Center!

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