OHC will be once again offering uniquely-themed history walks each month, June through August this summer. All history walks will be scheduled on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m., unless noted otherwise. History walks start at various locations around town, so please check our website or ask for more details when you register. Please note that because history walks take place outdoors, with little or no indoor stops, they may be canceled if there is inclement weather at the tour start time. Registrants will be refunded their tour fees in the event of a canceled history walk. Advance registration is recommended as there is limited capacity for each tour. Participants can register online or by calling 440-774-1700. History Walk Fees: $10/adult; children/students/members: Free.
Upcoming Events

June's History Walk: Freedom’s Friends
June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11:00 a.m.

This June, OHC is offering the Freedom's Friends: Abolition and the Underground Railroad walking tour on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. beginning at The First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. (106 N. Main Street; Oberlin). Hear stories about Oberlin’s most famous freedom seekers and the abolitionists known to have helped them make their way to freedom.

Advanced registration is strongly recommended.

Can't make it out on a Saturday? The Freedom’s Friends tour content is also available on a digital tablet that you can rent, Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Photo: The Oberlin Rescuers at the Cuyahoga County Jail in April 1859, Courtesy of Library of Congress

Westwood Anniversary and Community Reunion Celebration - June 8
On Saturday, June 8, 2024 the Friends of Westwood Cemetery are hosting a “Westwood Anniversary and Community Reunion” at the cemetery from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. This afternoon event will include a brief program of welcome, recognition of elders in attendance, blessings, and remarks at 1:30 p.m., to be followed by time for family and friends to enjoy each other’s company and that of so many ancestors. Speakers will include Cindy Bowens, Reverend Fred Bell of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and Steve Johnson, as well as musician Barb Sangiacomo. Optional activities will include a bubble release, assistance finding specific monuments, a story reading, and a demonstration of how to clean and care for cemetery stones without damaging them over time. Light snacks and cake will be provided free by the Friends.
Some chairs will be available although guests may want to bring their own lawn chairs to pay their respects in other areas of the cemetery.

Westwood Cemetery is located at 455 Morgan Street in Oberlin. Street parking will be available that afternoon and we strongly encourage all who are able to do so to walk, bike, or ride together. We ask that only those who need a shorter walk park in the cemetery. In the event of rain, the celebration will be held at the same time the next day, June 9. This will be announced on The Friends of Westwood’s Facebook page and Oberlin Heritage Center website by 10:00 a.m. on Saturday.

The Friends would like to thank the following planning partners:
City of Oberlin, Oberlin Heritage Center, Rev. Fred Bell and Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and Carlyle Shop.

**Oberlin Juneteenth 2024**
*Saturday, June 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

This year, Juneteenth will be held at the George A. Abram Pavilion on Edison Street. Juneteenth programming will include a reading of the Emancipation Proclamation by Oberlin College alum Donnay Edmund, and comments by Dr. Mary Ann Harris. Children’s activities and a live DJ will be offered all day along. Food vendors and other vendors will be on site for the celebration.

The Juneteenth Parade will take place at 12:00 p.m. and follow the same route as last year, beginning at Spring Street Park and moving along Pleasant Street to the Roundhouse and the Pavilion on Edison Street. The parade will feature a band led by Oberlin College alum Daniel Spearman, horsemen, a clown, candy, dancers, and other fun features.

The Maafa commemoration will be held at Westwood Cemetery in Oberlin from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Daniel Spearman will play the trumpet for a rendition of ‘Lift Every Voice and Sing.’

This event is hosted by Juneteenth Oberlin and OHC will be a participating vendor that day.

**Oberlin Chalk Walk**
*Saturday, June 22 (Rain Date 6/23) from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

Oberlin Chalk Walk is returning for its 17th year in 2024! Join families and friends for a day of artistic fun for people of all ages and skill levels! Chalk Walk provides pastels and other supplies to participants at no cost (monetary donations are appreciated to help keep this event free for everyone). Registration and information tents can be found throughout downtown on the day of the event - no preregistration required.

We still need a registration helper / greeter at OHC’s table near the Post Office from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in
helping at OHC’s table, contact Liz Schultz at director@oberlinheritage.org or call 440-774-1700.

**Event Sponsors:**
City of Oberlin - Allen Memorial Art Museum - Firelands Association for the Visual Arts - Oberlin Business Partnership - Oberlin Public Library - Oberlin Heritage Center - Ginko Gallery & Studios - Kendal at Oberlin - The Local - Oberlin Cable Co-op

The coordinators of Oberlin Chalk Walk ask that everyone respect the community and artistic nature of this event, so please no vendor tables or solicitations.

"A Higher Law" Showing at The Palace Theater in Lorain
**Wednesday, June 19 at 6:00 p.m. (Doors open 5:00 p.m.)**

There will be a free screening of "A Higher Law: The Oberlin-Wellington Rescue of 1858" on Wednesday, June 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lorain Palace Theatre in downtown Lorain. 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.

We look forward to seeing filmmakers Scott Spears and Christina Paolucci at the showing!

This screening is sponsored by the YWCA Elyria / Lorain County Racial Equity Center and the Oberlin Heritage Center, in collaboration with Interfaith Ministries of Lorain County, NCNW Lorain County Section, Lorain Historical Society, Lorain Public Library System, Lorain NAACP, AKA Sorority / Iota Phi Omega, POWER 89.1 WNZN, and MainStreet Lorain.

*Photo: The "A Higher Law" Premiere at the Apollo, 2023*

This film was made possible, in part, by:
Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this film do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Ohio History Fund, a grant program of the Ohio History Connection. The Ohio History Fund is made possible by voluntary donations of state income tax refunds, sales of Ohio History “mastodon” license plates, and direct donations to the Ohio History Connection. www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund"
Lorain County Pride 2024 Schedule

Lorain County Pride this year will include three days of events and activities.

**Saturday, June 8**
- Pride Night with the Lake Erie Crushers - 6:00 p.m. at Mercy Health Stadium - First Pitch is at 6:05. Arrive early to see Kaydence Jayne sing the National Anthem and throw out the first pitch. Bring cash to participate in the 50/50 raffle. Purchase Tickets [Here](#).

**Friday, June 28**
- SafeZone Workshop - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Kendal - A free in-person training, open to all, to help participants gain a better understanding of the LGBTQ+ community and how to be an effective ally. Register [Here](#).
- Drag Show - 8:30 p.m. at the Sco’ - Dance, socialize, and connect. Ages 18+ are welcome. Register [Here](#).

**Saturday, June 29**
- Lorain County Pride - 12 to 4 p.m. in Tappan Square - Visit with vendors, grab lunch, watch performances, play games, and connect with queer and allied community members. If you are interested in helping at OHC’s table, greeting guests and helping them to information, contact Liz Schultz at director@oberlinheritage.org or call 440-774-1700.

All of the events except the Crusher’s game are free; donations are welcomed.

For more information visit [https://www.lgbtqloraincounty.com/](https://www.lgbtqloraincounty.com/)

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**Teen Museum Summer Workshop**
*July 15 - 17 (Mon-Wed, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)*

This three-day, behind-the-scenes workshop is designed for teens (grades 9-12) who are interested in community service, expanding their leadership and communication skills, and experiencing what it’s like to work at a museum. Teens will learn techniques of greeting visitors, giving tours, teaching historic games, working with museum collections, and much more! Following completion of the workshop, participants are invited to volunteer with the Oberlin Heritage Center for various tours, special events, and programs as their schedules permit.

The fee is $50 ($45 for children and grandchildren of OHC members) with a $25 reimbursement for students who complete at least 15 hours of volunteer service for OHC by the end of 2024.

This is a great opportunity to learn about local history, build up resumes and strengthen college applications, fulfill community service hours, and hang out with other students who have a passion for their communities.
This workshop will be led by OHC Museum Education & Tour Manager Amanda Manahan, who is eager to share the behind-the-scenes fun of being involved with a museum.

Note: This workshop is held in the Jewett House of the Oberlin Heritage Center, 73 S. Professor St.

OHC Members-Only Sneak Peek of WOBL/WDLW

Want to see a radio station in operation? Come on a mini tour of the WOBL/WDLW station just south of town. This free experience is open to current members of the Oberlin Heritage Center. If you are interested, please contact OHC Executive Director Liz Schultz to get signed up on a first come, first served basis for either of these two dates:

- Thursday, July 11 at 2:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 23 at 11:00 a.m.

It's a small station with a lot going on, so the mini tour (the same content on both days) will last about 20 minutes and include time for questions. The station has been broadcasting since 1971 and currently holds both WDLW Kool Kat (98.9 fm 1380 am) and WOBL Lorain County Country (107.7 fm 1320 am). The station is owned and operated by Gary and Renee' Tollett. To RSVP, contact: director@oberlinheritage.org or 440-774-1700.

Photo: c. 1939 Stewart Warner “Campus” model radio that was once used by student boarders in the Monroe House during the Tanner family residency.

Join The Team!

Museum Housekeeper (Part-Time)

The Oberlin Heritage Center is seeking a part-time, six-hour per week Museum Housekeeper to start in late August/early September. A flexible work schedule, to be set during the museum’s day-time open hours, will be determined by the employee in cooperation with the Executive Director and Collections Manager.

Position Summary:
The Museum Housekeeper works with other staff members and volunteers in cleaning and caring for the artifacts and interiors of the historic buildings at the Oberlin Heritage Center in accordance with accepted museum practices and standards for historic house museums.

Application Deadline: Friday, July 12

Special Projects Assistant (Part-Time)

Do you want to work in a museum, and contribute to long-term research projects concerning Oberlin's social history? If so, you're in luck! OHC is seeking a part-time special projects assistant to work for six hours on Saturdays starting in late August/early...
September. Primary duties include assisting with special events and projects, giving tours of the Heritage Center’s buildings, greeting the public, and some light administrative work.

**Application Deadline: Friday, July 12**

Apply for either of these positions at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org/work](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org/work).

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### News From OHC

#### New Outdoor Tour

OHC is excited to launch a new nature-focused self-guided tour. Learn about the plants and animals that inhabit the Heritage Center grounds, from squirrels to dawn redwoods. This tour, and several history-themed tours of Oberlin, is freely available on the izi.travel website or app. We also plan to install a QR code on the grounds so passersby can connect and learn on the fly.


All of the color drawings in this tour were created by local artist Zaria Amerson and several student interns researched and drafted the content.

#### "Lynds Jones: The Birdman of Oberlin" Video Now Available

We had a great turnout for Diana Steele's program about Oberlin’s own trendsetting ornithologist, but we also know that many people were not able to attend. Click the link below to learn more about the history of birding and how Jones led the way.

Watch it on the Oberlin Heritage Center’s YouTube Channel.

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#### OHC is a Blue Star Museum

OHC is happy to be offering free summer admission to active duty military and their families as part of the Blue Star Museum Program. This program allows for free access to OHC (as well as a number of other museums nationwide) for active-duty military, National Guard, and Reserve personnel and up to five family members from May 18, 2024 (Armed Forces Day) through September 2, 2024 (Labor Day). Thanks to a suggestion from an OHC member, we are delighted to also welcome active members of the foreign service and their families.
On May 23, 2024 a crowd shouted a countdown and then cheered as Amy and Wuu-Shung Chuang cut the ribbon to the new accessible ramp to the Jewett House! Adding ramp access to OHC’s three historic building has been a goal for decades and now we are proudly able to say that the 1836 Little Red Schoolhouse, 1866 Monroe House, and 1884 Jewett House are all accessible to wheelchairs, strollers, rollators, and more.

As readers can see, the ramp attempts to blend the distinct style of the Jewett House porch’s woodwork with ADA and safety requirements, while still getting visitors to the front door of the house for a welcoming experience. This challenging project was made possible first and foremost by the generosity of Amy and Wuu-Shung Chuang. Both are retired physicians and long-time community members of Oberlin and Amy is also a trustee of the Heritage Center and passionate volunteer. As OHC Executive Director Liz Schultz said in her remarks, “They knew how important this project was to our values as a community organization and what it could mean to untold visitors and future generations. And I think they are people who just like to make things happen...I want you both to know that your personal commitment and championing of this project made all the difference in the world.”

Additional project expertise and support came from architect and OHC member Randy Smith, the late Max Morgan of Kendal at Oberlin, Grunwell-Cashero Building Restoration, the City of Oberlin, Oberlin Historic Preservation Commission, Community Foundation of Lorain County and Lakeland Community Foundation Endowment Fund.

There’s always more work to be done to make our museum campus more accessible and welcoming, but it’s wonderful to be able to pause and celebrate. Please know that your generosity makes OHC’s work and strategic improvements like this possible. And keep an eye out for the final touches to the ramp - emergency lighting and a plaque that will honor Amy and Wuu-Shung for "Creating Pathways to History."
Thank you to the hearty and hardy volunteers of Grounds Day!

Angela Cecil, Joe Cross, Elizabeth Elrod, Craig Enos, Lori Ebihara-Flood and Denny Flood, Kathy MacLean, and Dorothy and Bill Washburn

OHC would like to thank new members Abraham Feingold, Dianne May, Elizabeth Meadows, Adrienne Sato, and Alissa Shuster and Paul Hungerford.

It is with great sorrow that we note the recent passing of OHC members Alison Ricker, among so many titles a passionate and caring community volunteer, and Lawrence Siddall, a former resident of OHC’s "Monroe House," world traveler, and skilled storyteller. Our sincere condolences go out to their families.

Also of Interest:

The Friends of the Oberlin Public Library (FOPL) invite the community to celebrate their 50th Anniversary with them. FOPL will be hosting an open house on Saturday, June 8 from 3 - 5 pm at the Oberlin Public Library (65 S. Main St).

Access Statement:
Events are held in wheelchair accessible spaces unless otherwise noted. Restrooms at most venues are gender-specific and visitors are welcome to use their preferred restroom. For any additional queries about accessibility information please email director@oberlinheritage.org.

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