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Heritage Center Salutes Local Women’s Impact on National History

In 1834, Oberlin “founding father” John J. Shipherd pledged his commitment to the elevation of the female character through education. Little did he know there was dynamite in that promise and women carried the matches! Oberlin Heritage Center Executive Director Liz Schultz shares powerful stories of Oberlin women who used Shipherd’s promise to shape what it meant to be a woman in Oberlin and in the United States. The illustrated program One Step More: Oberlin Women’s History takes place at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) on Thursday, March 17 at 7:15 p.m. as part of Kendal’s Third Thursday lecture series.

The program’s narrative originally was developed by the Heritage Center as a guided walking tour featuring Oberlin women’s stories and landmarks from both campus and community. This “indoor version” is rich in historic images and tales of Oberlin’s early years of co-education and its critics, female faculty and administrators, black feminism, women giving public presentations (heaven forbid!), a bit of scandal, and women leading social and public health movements. The event, which honors Women’s History Month, is free and open to the public.

Liz Schultz joined the Oberlin Heritage Center in 2007 as the organization’s Museum Education and Tour Coordinator. In that role, she expanded the Heritage Center’s tour offerings to include themed history walks while also developing numerous history outreach programs for both children and adults. She was named OHC’s Executive Director in 2015. Schultz has degrees in archaeology and anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Binghamton University (New York), and a Master’s degree in museum studies with a focus in museum education from the Cooperstown Graduate Program (New York).

For more information about the Oberlin Heritage Center and its calendar of upcoming events, including community programs, preservation workshops, tours and history walks, and children’s hands-on-history camps, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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