



73½ South Professor Street
P.O. Box 455
Oberlin, OH 44074-0455
Phone: 440-774-1700; Fax: 440-774-8061
Website: www.oberlinheritage.org
E-mail: members@oberlinheritage.org

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Contact: Patricia Murphy, Executive Director at (440) 774-1700 or patm@oberlinheritage.org

Oberlin Heritage Center Celebrates Milestones

The Oberlin Heritage Center has been part of the community for a long, long time, yet did you know it now is officially a *supercentenarian*, as the organization celebrates its 110th anniversary this year?! With roots going back to the founding of the Oberlin Village Improvement Society in 1913, the award-winning small museum complex, historical society and historic preservation group continues to make Oberlin a “better place to live, learn, work and visit” much as its forebears strived to do in its earliest beginnings more than a century before. On Sunday, September 8, 2013, the Heritage Center Board, staff, members and friends will gather to celebrate this super milestone with a festive lawn party on the OHC grounds from 5-7 p.m. Hearty hors d’oeuvres and plentiful sweets will be served al fresco beneath tents set up on the OHC grounds at 73 South Professor Street.

The Anniversary Celebration is a fundraiser for the OHC’s Endowment for History Education, a campaign underway since 2003 with a goal to raise \$800,000 and completely endow the full-time Museum Education and Tour Coordinator position on the organization’s professional staff. Now at the ten-year-mark, the Endowment for History Education is two-thirds of the way toward its ambitious goal.

Two Oberlin Heritage Center administrative staff members celebrate anniversaries this year as well. Executive Director, Patricia Murphy, and Assistant to the Director, Mary Anne Cunningham each began their OHC careers in 1993 as the organization transitioned from an all-volunteer group to one led by professional staff. Tied in with the 20-year milestone, the organization will focus on 20 significant accomplishments that have been achieved during the past two decades. Guests will have the opportunity to stroll down memory lane throughout the evening and take in some of these highlights in a self-guided “Then & Now” exploration of OHC’s historic buildings. Rounding out the festivities will be a raffle of creatively-themed gift baskets. All proceeds from the evening benefit the Endowment for History Education campaign.

Tickets for the celebration begin at \$40/single or \$75/duo; all donors above the \$40 per ticket level will be making a tax-deductible contribution to the nonprofit organization and contributors will be recognized in the event program. Reservations are requested by August 31, 2013. Additional information, including a downloadable ticket order form, is available at www.oberlinheritage.org or by calling (440) 774-1700.

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