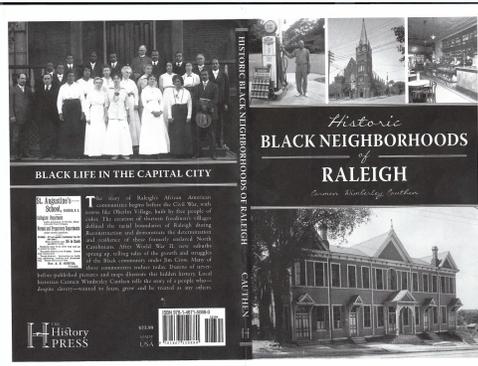


The Friends of Oberlin Village wishes you all a joyous holiday season. Thank you for your support of Friends of Oberlin Village this year.



Historic Black Neighborhoods Author Carmen Cauthen

Raleigh native and historian Carmen Cauthen will share readings from her book and have a Q&A follow up at our next FOV meeting on January 23. If you are interested in attending the January FOV meeting, please request an invite by completing the "Contact Us" form on our [FOV website](#).

Ms. Cauthen, a former Oberlin resident, is founder of Research and Resource and provides research, develops community engagement, and teaches about systemic racism. She honed her writing skills while writing the Journal for the NC House of Representatives. As a researcher and community activist, she writes and teaches about the history of Black America. Her book *Historic Black Neighborhoods of Raleigh*, which features the history of Oberlin Village, will be released in January 2023, and is available for pre-sale through [this link](#).



John Henry in Jeffrey's Store



As the Community Gro.

Community Deli Closes

With a heavy heart we share the news that the Community Deli has closed. This over 100-year-old structure prides itself for being one of the longest continuous service operations in Raleigh. The oldest listing found is in the 1930 Raleigh City Directory for Ligon and Grant as a soda shop. In 1940 confectioner Herman Starling, an African American, was apparently at the location. In 1945 James and Shirley Goodson, also African American, ran Goodson's Grocery. In the 1950s, AJ Jeffreys, a White man, owned it and the locals referred to it as

"Jeffrey's." It was sold in the early 1970s and became known as Community Gro(cery). In 2010 current owner Robbie Troxler purchased the property and the name was changed to Community Deli.

Thank you Crystal Bish for being a great steward of this historic gathering place. The Friends of Oberlin are hopeful that another preservationist will honor and assume management of this beloved Oberlin landmark, the last surviving historic commercial building in Oberlin.

FOV Call for Board Member Applications

Looking to get more involved in the preservation and advocacy of the Oberlin Village community? FOV is looking for new members to join the Board for a two-year term. The Board typically meets on Mondays five times a year, currently through Zoom. Members also lead or serve on an FOV Committee and should anticipate dedicating approximately five hours per week towards their FOV responsibilities. Interested individuals can find more information through a link on the [FOV website front page](#). Applications must be submitted by Tuesday January 17, 2023.



(Francis Dent, Edward Swan, Orsel McGhee, Willis Graves, Jr. and Minnie McGhee)

Oberlin Stories: Resident from Oberlin had National Influence

Recently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Orsel and Minnie McGhee House in Detroit has nationwide significance for its role in the struggle for fair housing rights and the Civil Rights Movement. The house was one of the locations in the Shelley vs. Kraemer US Supreme Court case about racially restrictive covenants.

Willis Graves Jr., who grew up in the Graves-Fields House, and his law partner Francis Dent were attorneys for the McGhees from trial court to the US Supreme Court.

Historic Oberlin Notecards Available For Order!



(Rendering by Beth Barger)

The John H. and Fairleen McGuire House

The house located on Bedford Avenue was once owned by John McGuire and following his death in 1997, various members of his family owned the home. John, whose nickname was Big Wade, worked as a cook at a local girls' college and his wife worked as a cook in a private home. They had two sons and a daughter. Keeping the dominant architecture features intact, the house has recently been restored by its current owner, Joy Goryn.

The 2022 series of FOV Notecards will be available later this week! Please support FOV and our area artists while also learning and educating others about the history of the homes located in Oberlin Village. The pack of 6 assorted cards and envelopes is \$12 and makes a great gift! Orders can be placed through the website [shop page](#) located near the bottom of the FOV home page. Pick up or shipping is available.

Walking Tours of Oberlin Village

If you have not taken a walking tour of Oberlin Village, you are missing out on the history of this unique community. The tour is a great excursion for family and friends to learn the history of several of our structures on the historic register and other fascinating facts. Tours are the 3rd Saturday of the month. (Next one Dec. 17 at 1:30) Registration is required. Register via the "[Contact Us](#)" form on the FOV website, and please let us know if you need to cancel.

FOV Website

Our FOV website is a rich repository of Oberlin research, community events, cemetery preservation, photo gallery and archives. Please make sure that you visit regularly to stay informed about our beloved neighborhood and organization. This month's updates include:

- Historical photos added to [Oberlin's Timeline](#)
 - [Photos](#) of Celebrate Oberlin and Oberlin Heritage 5K race
 - [New page](#) with Oberlin Stories featured in the newsletter
-

Christmas Potpourri Mix

by Sue Adley-Warrick

Ingredients:

Oranges
Lemons (optional)
Star anise
Bay leaf
Cinnamon sticks
Whole cloves

The part of the potpourri that requires just a little work on your part is to dry the oranges and (optional) lemons. Preheat the oven to 225 degrees. Slice the fruit approximately 1/4" thick. Place a baking rack on top of a [rimmed pan](#) or cookie sheet and arrange the oranges in a single layer. Bake approximately 3 hours or until mostly dry, turning every 45 minutes. The oranges will continue to dry after you remove them from the oven, so they don't have to be completely dried out when you're finished.

Next comes the fun part – mixing up your own potpourri concoction! Using a selection of dried spices, mix them in with the citrus slices to make a combination to fill a room with wonderful scents. No specific amounts of the spices are required – any combination is fine and you can create your own favorite blend. If you want to amp up the scent, you can also sprinkle on allspice or nutmeg.

To give as gifts, fill jars or sachet bags with the mix. Include instructions to use a non-reactive pot. Simmer the contents in water, adding water as needed so it doesn't scorch. This will be fragrant for hours.

Adapted from <https://thriftyjinx.com/homemade-orange-spice-potpourri-great-gift-idea/> accessed 11/22/17

2023 Save the Date for Two FOV Signature Events

- **April 29, 2023** - Celebrate Oberlin community gathering featuring BBQ, jazz band, and historic trolley tours of our community
- **June 17, 2023** - Oberlin Heritage 5K Race

(Additional information about both events will be communicated via our FOV website and newsletter.)

December Celebrations

- **Sandy Mueller's First Grandbaby, Philip James Mueller - 12/7**
- **Happy Anniversary to Floyd and Sharon Laisure - 12/30**

We invite you to send along birthdays, anniversaries, or other celebratory dates and events we can share as a community.

Have an Oberlin Village Memory to Share?

Some of the most interesting articles included in this newsletter have come from members of the FOV community. If you have photos and/or stories from the past or the present that you would like to share, please send them to friendsofoberlin@gmail.com for possible inclusion in a future newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

12/17 Oberlin Village Walking Tour 1:30pm

01/21 Oberlin Village Walking Tour 1:30pm

01/23 FOV Meeting 6pm Virtual/In Person

If interested in attending any of our Upcoming Events, email friendsofoberlin@gmail.com to sign up.

Did you know that donors can set up Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly or Yearly recurring donations through the Friends of Oberlin website?

Click on the button below to set up a recurring donation, or a one time donation, to support the preservation and education activities that Friends of Oberlin Village provides to the community.

DONATE

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