



Filling the

Gaps with

Public Programs

**Traci Manning**  
Curator of Education  
Mahoning Valley  
Historical Society

What stories are missing or  
under-represented in your  
collection?

# MVHS Collection

- Black history
- LGTBQIA+ history
- Religious groups
- Individuals
- Indigenous history
- Ethnic groups
- Socio-economic variety
- Modern history
- Smaller communities within service area
- ...the list goes on

# So what?

- Mission driven
- “Collect, preserve, and teach the history of the people of the Mahoning Valley.”
  - Which people?
  - Us people?
  - All people?
  - Some people?
  - What about those people?
  - Only the good people?
  - Who defines good?
  - Who picks the definers?
  - Who picks the pickers?
  - Who picks those pickers?

# Who Owns the Story?

...so who should tell it?

*A shared history is not always a shared memory*

# Is their story safe with you?

- It's not about breaking down walls, but opening windows and doors.

- You've identified what's missing... how do you find it?

# Community Events





# Partnerships



*Sisterhood in Blue*



Trailblazing Women of the Youngstown Police & Fire Departments



# 10 Tips for Building Great Partnerships

(Community Workshop LLC - [communityworkshopllc.com](http://communityworkshopllc.com))

- Go slow to go fast.
- Say, “I might be wrong.” Say it again and again.
- Find friends and get acquainted.
- Know yourself, your values, and your vision.
- Support first, then create.
- Get tactical and avoid perfection.
- Mark the lanes (then stay in yours).
- Make asks and offers.
- Get a backbone.
- Keep asking questions and checking in.

# Partnerships

- Goals

- Mutual goals?
- Are you “using” them for their audience, or is there a meaningful and defined goal established?
  - “Oh, that would get some new people in the room, help our attendance numbers.”
  - “Oh, it would be great to expand our membership and foster these new relationships into the future.”

- Institutional goals?

- Are you just trying to be the repository for the history or you actively want to share their story?
  - “Oh, we don’t have anything about that... we should get some stuff.”
  - “Oh, that’s not represented in our collection and its addition to help us tell a more inclusive and complete story.”

# Galleries and Exhibits

- Receptions & programs to go with exhibits



# BITES AND BITS OF HISTORY

LUNCHTIME PROGRAM



## Hidden History of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley

presented by Sean Posey  
historian and author

Thursday, February 17, 2022

Noon in the Tyler History Center's Ballroom



BITES AND BITS OF  
**HISTORY**  
LUNCHTIME PROGRAM

The History of  
the Local YWCAs

Watch it on  
 YouTube

**TODAY at Noon**

## Stacey Adger

local historian and genealogist



## BITES AND BITS OF HISTORY

LUNCHTIME PROGRAM

### What Brought Them Here:

African American Migrations into the Mahoning Valley

Watch it on  
 YouTube

**Thursday, June 18 at Noon**



Ласкаво просимо  
Welcome!

**"Hanukkah is  
the Festival of Lights"**

December 11, 2020

*Holiday*

**Time Capsules**

PRESENTED  
BY



**"Diwali, Kwanzaa, and  
Other Seasonal Holidays"**

December 25, 2020

*Holiday*

**Time Capsules**

PRESENTED  
BY



**"Many Calendars,  
Many Traditions: New Year's  
Around the World"**

January 1, 2021

*Holiday*

**Time Capsules**

PRESENTED  
BY



Gift of Edward Stonework



**MAHONING VALLEY**  
artiFACTS

*"We just couldn't believe it."*

Remembering  
Kent State | **50**  
YEARS



RICHARD RICHARDS.



The Mahoning Valley Historical Society Presents

## 12 Years A Slave: Understanding Slave Narratives



SOLOMON IN HIS PLANTATION SUIT.

*Solomon Northup*

*12 Years a Slave* recently hit the big screen and was received with great critical acclaim. Solomon Northup's story, along with many others, is told through the powerful literary form of Slave Narrative.

The stories told by fugitive slaves in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries helped to spark the Civil War and offered firsthand accounts of the horrors of slavery. After the Civil War, many newly freed slaves also told their stories. These narratives help to shape the true story behind our nation's darkest hours.

Join historians Vince Shivers and Kenneth King, Professor Sarah Brown-Clark, and Dr. Diane Barnes as they discuss the historic significance of slave narratives and offer insights into this literary movement.

Tuesday, February 25 – 7:00 pm  
Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center  
325 West Federal St., Youngstown

The event is free and open to the public.

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society  
648 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44502  
330-743-2589  
www.mahoninghistory.org



THE MAHONING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

## THE STORM, THE WHIRLWIND & THE EARTHQUAKE: PERSPECTIVES INTO THE BLACK ABOLITIONIST'S MOVEMENT



Panelists Stacey Adger, Vince Shivers, and Kenneth King will discuss the early black abolitionist movement, pre-1840's slave activity, John Brown, and Robert Adger. The discussion will be moderated by Dr. Diane Barnes.

Tuesday, February 19 - 7:00 pm  
Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center  
325 West Federal St., Youngstown

The event is Free and Open to the Public

Mahoning Valley Historical Society  
648 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44502

Phone: 330-743-2589

www.mahoninghistory.org



The Mahoning Valley Historical Society presents:

## Defining the Image of the African American in Film and Television



Join Traci Easley Williams as she discusses current images of African Americans within the film and television industry. Have negative portrayals of African American in Hollywood changed or have they stayed the same?

Traci Easley Williams is an associate lecturer in the Department of Pan-African Studies and School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kent State University.

Tuesday, February 24 – 7:00 pm  
Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center  
325 West Federal St., Youngstown

The event is free and open to the public

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society  
648 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44502

330-743-2589  
www.mahoninghistory.org



The Mahoning Valley Historical Society  
And The League Of Women Voters Of Greater Youngstown Present



## Founding Mothers

Great Women in  
Mahoning Valley History

Catherine Dougherty Hillman,  
Margaret Van Horn Dwight,  
Dora Schwebel, Mary Ann Campana...  
The lives of these women are woven into  
the history of the Mahoning Valley.

Join Traci Manning, the Historical  
Society's Curator of Education, for a  
celebration of women's history. Learn  
about the women who lived, worked, and  
learned here – and how their stories and  
struggles helped to shape and change the  
Mahoning Valley.

Tuesday, March 25 – 7:00 pm  
Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center  
325 West Federal St., Youngstown

The event is Free and open to the Public

Mahoning Valley Historical Society  
648 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44502

Phone: 330-743-2589  
www.MahoningHistory.org



The Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Sojourn to the Past, Youngstown State University, and  
Youngstown Unitarian Universalist Church Present:

## Clark Olsen *Selma and the Civil Rights Movement*



Clark Olsen, now a retired minister, became  
a critical part of the Civil Rights movement  
after witnessing the murder of James Reeb.

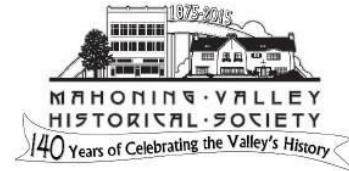
The eyes of the nation were on Selma,  
Alabama, following the attacks of Bloody  
Sunday and the Selma to Montgomery  
marches.

Olsen, along with Reverend James Reeb and  
Reverend Orloff Miller were in Selma to  
support African American voting rights  
when they were attacked. Reverend Reeb's  
death sparked a national outcry for an end  
to segregation and the violent hatred in the  
Deep South.

Join the Mahoning Valley Historical Society,  
Sojourn to the Past, Youngstown State  
University, and the Youngstown Unitarian  
Universalist Church as we welcome him for  
an evening of reflection and remembrance.

Saturday, September 26 – 7:00 pm  
Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center  
325 West Federal St., Youngstown

The event is free and open to the public



Youngstown  
STATE UNIVERSITY



330-743-2589  
www.mahoninghistory.org

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society and Ebony Lifeline  
Support Group present:

## Leadership and Legacy: The Significance of Athletics and the Negro Baseball League



Explore the rich influence local athletics,  
and how his participation in the Negro  
Baseball League lent to shaping the  
character and successful business mores of  
local entrepreneur W. James Cobbin.

Cobbin's Negro Baseball League career  
began while playing baseball at Allen  
University in Columbia, South Carolina.  
He was signed by the Pittsburgh Pirates'  
minor league team and played with the  
New York Black Yankees and Indianapolis  
Clowns from 1956-1958.

W. James Cobbin graduated from North  
Side High School in 1953 is the President  
& CEO of CCS Transportation.

Tuesday, February 23 – 7:00 pm  
Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center  
325 West Federal St., Youngstown

The event is free and open to the public

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society  
330-743-2589  
www.mahoninghistory.org





**FREE  
Admission**

# **Selma: 55 Years Later**

**Thursday,  
February 6,  
6:00 pm**

**Tyler History Center**

*After Selma, a documentary film about the Civil Rights Marches from Selma to Montgomery, Bloody Sunday, voting rights history, and voter repression.*

*Speakers and community discussion to follow.*

*Joanne Bland, co-founder and former director of the National Civil Rights Museum in Selma, AL, will be the main presenter.*

**Presented by:**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Planning Committee



**In partnership with:**

- Baptist Pastors Council of Youngstown
- Community Mobilization Coalition
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Alumnae Chapter
- Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance
- League of Women Voters
- Links, Inc. Youngstown Chapter
- Mahoning Valley Association of Churches
- Nonviolence Week Committee
- Unitarian Universalist Church
- Youngstown Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity
- Youngstown Warren Black Caucus

For more information, call **330-743-2589** or visit [mahoninghistory.org/events](http://mahoninghistory.org/events).

**Joanne Bland.  
See it through  
her eyes.  
Hear it through  
her words.**

**Thursday,  
February 6  
6:00pm**

# **Selma: 55 Years Later**

**TYLER HISTORY CENTER**



# Joan Mulholland is coming to Youngstown!

## Who exactly is Joan Mulholland?

Joan Mulholland was very active in the Civil Rights Movement and she was a freedom rider. She helped organize the March on Washington in 1963.

Joan Mulholland will speak at the Tyler Historical Center at 7pm on April 24th, 2014.

For more information, contact Penny Wells at 330-788-0545.

The event is sponsored by Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past, the Mahoning Valley Historical Society, and Youngstown City Schools.



Joan  
Trumpauer  
Mulholland

2020 Recipient



Simeon  
Booker  
Courage  
Award

Tuesday, October 6

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Zoom Meeting Format – Free

Contact:

(330) 207-4467

PennyWWells@sbcglobal.net



Ohio Nonviolence Week

Get Zoom Meeting details at:  
[ohiononviolenceweek.org/simeon-booker](http://ohiononviolenceweek.org/simeon-booker)

# 2022 JUNETEENTH WEEKLONG CELEBRATION

"Retrieving Our Legacies"



The McGuffey Centre



WWW.YOUNGSTOWNJUNETEENTH.COM



- 2022 JUNETEENTH WEEKLONG CELEBRATION PARTNERS & SPONSORS**
- HOLLYWOOD Gaming
  - 21 WEMJ
  - THE WEAN FOUNDATION
  - ROCKBROOK
  - NCUIS
  - eliminating racism empowering women ywca Mahoning Valley
  - THE CITY OF YOU
  - The Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County
  - GENE'S
  - OTE RONALD SHADD OHIO HOUSE 9TH DISTRICT
  - MAHONING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
  - CARTER HOUSE

# Other ways to tell stories...

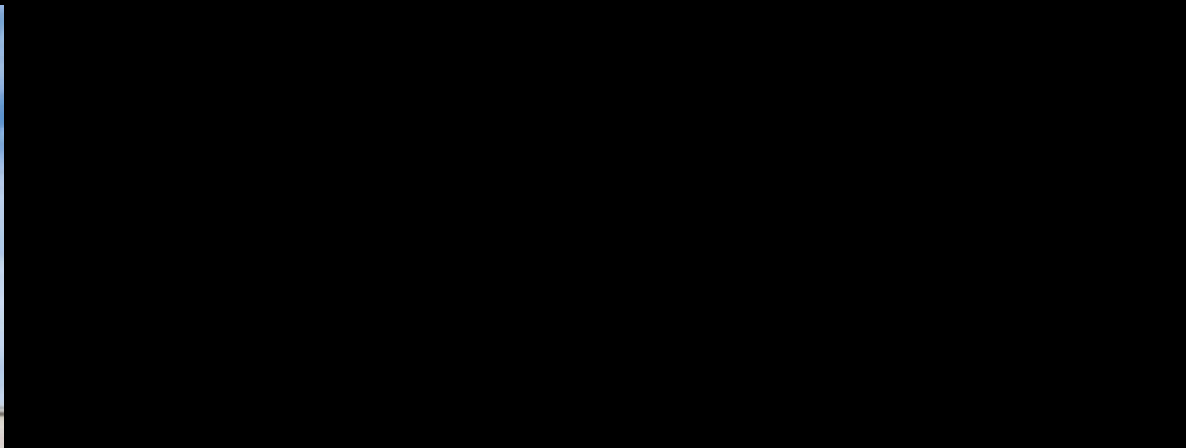
- Blog posts
- Images
- Social media posts
- TV or radio spots
- Videos
- Walking tours
- Film screenings
- Author talks
- Food tastings

It's not about "them" coming to "us" ...  
It is about "us" meeting "them" where "they" are

- What have we done to prove to minoritized communities that we are a safe space for their stories?
- Are we worthy of their trust in telling their stories?
- Sometimes the best and only way to build that trust is to let the community be included in the telling of their story.
- Remember, a shared history is not a shared memory.







You have to build the bridge before you can carry the cargo across it



# Fighting the Haters

- Pushback from staff, board, volunteers, community, donors...  
...do we care?