



news release

Contact: Diane Steinert, Communications Coordinator
330-677-4549 or dsteinert@WesternReservePublicMedia.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ralph Regula to be special guest on NewsNight Akron

Congressman to be featured on special newsmaker program on Dec. 26

KENT — Dec. 18, 2008 — From his farm in Navarre, retiring Congressman Ralph Regula reflects on his career as a U.S. Representative on a special edition of Western Reserve PBS's **NewsNight Akron** to air Friday, Dec. 26 at 9 p.m. The program will rebroadcast on Saturday, Dec. 27 at 5 a.m.

After 36 years and 18 consecutive terms of elected office in the House of Representatives for Ohio's 16th District, the "dean" of the Ohio delegation opted not to run for reelection in November. The 16th district includes Stark, Wayne and portions of Ashland and Medina counties.

NewsNight Akron panelist Jody Miller visits Regula at his farm to discuss his years in Congress. Regula talks about his accomplishments in office, including the many projects and benefits his tenure brought to Ohio, his love of serving his constituents, the importance of open spaces and the outdoors and how politics has changed since he first went to Washington in 1973.

A U.S. Navy veteran, Regula attended Mount Union College on the G.I. bill and began his career as a teacher and principal while attending the William McKinley School of Law at night. Upon completion of his degree, Regula opened his own law practice. Before being elected to Congress, Regula served on the Ohio Board of Education, in the Ohio House of Representatives and in the Ohio Senate.

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About NewsNight Akron

NewsNight Akron airs every Friday night at 9 p.m. on Western Reserve PBS and offers spontaneous, lively, in-depth discussions about issues that affect the lives of people in greater Akron. Hosted by Eric Mansfield, WKYC-TV3 evening news coanchor, **NewsNight Akron** features a roundtable discussion with a panel of local journalists that covers both breaking news stories on topics such as education, the community and local business, as well as ongoing subjects including elections and major news stories. Serving as regular panelists on the show are Steve Hoffman, political writer at the Akron Beacon Journal; Jody Miller, Western Reserve PBS reporter; and Ed Esposito, Joe Jastzremski and Larry States, all of whom are members of the Rubber City Radio Group news staff.

About Western Reserve Public Media

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. Western Reserve PBS, a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio. It is available to 1.8 million households and 4.4 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average week, over 500,000 households tune in. Through funding from eTech Ohio, Western Reserve Public Media provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about the organization, visit www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

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