



**WESTERN  
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PUBLIC MEDIA

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## news release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## New Time Slots for NEOTropolis and NewsNight Akron

*Western Reserve Public Media news programs air on Friday evenings*

KENT, Ohio — Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2010 — Western Reserve Public Media announces a schedule change for its two weekly news productions that air on Fridays, **NEOTropolis** and **NewsNight Akron**. On Western Reserve PBS (WNEO/WEO 45.1/49.1), **NEOTropolis**, a new regional business and economy program that premiered on Nov. 6, 2009, in the 9 p.m. time slot, will move to 8:30 p.m. It repeats on Saturdays at 4:30 a.m. and Sundays at 6:30 p.m. **NewsNight Akron** returns to its traditional broadcast time of 9 p.m. The program repeats on Saturdays at 5 a.m.

The shows' air dates and times on Western Reserve Public Media's Fusion channel (WNEO/WEO 45.2/49.2) also have changed. **NEOTropolis** airs on Saturdays at 9 p.m. and Mondays at 8 p.m. **NewsNight Akron** airs on Fusion on Saturdays at 9:30 p.m. and Mondays at 8:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

"We are fortunate to have a strong viewership for **NewsNight Akron**, which enabled us to use its time slot to introduce **NEOTropolis**," said Don Freeman, programmer for the stations. "Our Western Reserve PBS programming on Friday evenings now offers a comprehensive block of regional and national news programming, beginning with **Nightly Business Report** at 6:30 p.m. and also including **PBS NewsHour**, **Washington Week, Now** and **Bill Moyers Journal**."

### About NEOTropolis

**NEOTropolis**, a new Western Reserve Public Media production, explores the business and economy of northeast Ohio and the challenges and opportunities unfolding in our region. Thomas Mulready of Cool Cleveland hosts the program, which features short segments on the region's business headlines and stock reports; a long-form field piece taking a close look at some aspect of business or the economy relevant to current events; and reports on new and emerging business ventures, exploring the entrepreneurial work of the region's business incubators. **NEOTropolis** airs on Western Reserve PBS (WNEO/

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WEAO 45.1/49.1) on Fridays at 8:30 p.m., Saturdays at 4:30 a.m. and Sundays at 6:30 p.m. It airs on Fusion (WNEO/WEAO 45.2/49.2) on Saturdays at 9 p.m. and Mondays at 8 p.m.

Content partners for the program are Crain's Cleveland Business and The Business Journal of Youngstown. Funding for **NEOTropolis** has been provided by The Burton D. Morgan Foundation, Key Private Bank, KeyBank Foundation, MAGNET, Kent State University, Dominion Foundation, JumpStart Inc., The Raymond John Wean Foundation and Youngstown Business Incubator.

### **About NewsNight Akron**

**NewsNight Akron**, a Western Reserve Public Media production, is in its 11th season. The weekly program offers spontaneous, lively, in-depth discussions about issues that affect the lives of people in greater Akron. It airs on Western Reserve PBS (WNEO/WEAO 45.1/49.1) on Fridays at 9 p.m. and repeats on Saturdays at 5 a.m. The program also airs on Fusion (WNEO/WEAO 45.2/49.2) on Saturdays at 9:30 p.m. and Mondays at 8:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Hosted by Eric Mansfield, WKYC-TV3 evening news co-anchor, **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 Ed Esposito, news director at Rubber City Radio Group; Steve Hoffman, editorial writer at the Akron Beacon Journal; and freelance journalist Jody Miller.

### **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. The organization also operates three standard definition channels, Fusion (WNEO.2/WEAO.2), MHz Worldview (WNEO.3/WEAO.3) and V-me (WNEO.4/WEAO.4).

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](http://www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org) or call 1-800-554-4549.