



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Western Reserve PBS to present “A Tree Grows in Washington: The John F. Seiberling Story”

*Longtime Akron-area congressman’s biography will premiere
Tuesday, Sept. 3, at 8 p.m.*

NORTHEAST OHIO — Aug. 26, 2013 — Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1) will premiere **A Tree Grows in Washington: The John F. Seiberling Story** on Tuesday, Sept. 3, at 8 p.m. In this hour-long production, producer Paul Jacoway follows the career and life of Akron-born Congressman John Seiberling, who was first elected in 1970 and was reelected seven more times. His siblings, children and colleagues talk about his impact, including his efforts to preserve our nation’s natural resources and his significant role in the creation of Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The program was co-written and is narrated by Michael Douglas, editorial page editor of the Akron Beacon Journal.

Additional air dates for the program are Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 2 a.m.; Saturday, Sept. 7, at 11 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. In celebration of the program’s premiere, Western Reserve PBS will air an encore presentation of Ken Burn’s series **National Parks: America’s Best Idea** from Monday, Sept. 2, through Saturday, Sept. 7, at 9 p.m. In addition, the Western Reserve PBS production **Generations: Cuyahoga Valley National Park** will air on Monday, Sept. 2, at 8 p.m. and repeat on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 3 a.m. Additional scheduling information for these programs and more can be found at WesternReservePBS.org/schedule.htm.

Founders of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the Seiberling family was an important employer in the Akron-Canton area. Seiberling’s mother was a prominent figure in the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous and his family’s one-time home was Stan Hywet, now a national museum.

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While in Congress, Seiberling served on the House Judiciary Committee that held the impeachment hearings against President Nixon. He also had a keen interest in preserving our nation's natural resources. He played a key role in the enactment of the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and was instrumental in the creation of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Born Sept. 8, 1918, he died in 2008.

Producer Paul Jacoway is best known locally for his film **Final Edition: Journalism According to Jack and Jim Knight**, which premiered on Western Reserve PBS in 2009 and won a regional Emmy Award for Nostalgia Program.

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. It serves the largest population (5.13 million people) of Ohio's eight PBS member stations.

Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1), a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of Northeast Ohio. It is available to 5.13 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average month, more than 1 million people tune in. The organization also operates three standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2), MHz Worldview (WNEO 45.3/WEAO 49.3) and V-me (WNEO 45.4/WEAO 49.4).

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 or call 1-800-554-4549.

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