



news release

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

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Western Reserve PBS to premiere new documentary featuring Summit County residents' involvement with World War I

Kent, Ohio — Oct. 31, 2018 — The new local production LOST VOICES OF THE GREAT WAR: SUMMIT COUNTY IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR will premiere on Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1 / WEAO 49.1) on Monday, Nov. 12, at 9 PM. A co-production of Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens and The University of Akron, the documentary recounts the story of Summit County residents' experiences at home and overseas during the First World War. It uses dramatic reenactment footage, narration, interviews, period music and sound effects to bring to life local hidden collections of 100-year-old letters, film, photographs, images and documents.

A wide variety of voices tell the story, including:

- Mary Gladwin, an Akronite who volunteered to serve with the International Red Cross three years before the United States declared war in 1917.
- F. A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, which produced blimps, tires and gas masks for the war, and his son, Fred, who enlisted with the Ohio National Guard before going overseas to serve with "Battery B" of the First Ohio Field Artillery.
- Several "Goodyearites," including Lester S. Himmelberger, who served in the "Balloon Division."
- Akronite Charles C. Jackson, the only known decorated African American officer from Ohio, who was awarded the French Croix de Guerre for bravery.

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- Grace Goulder, a Hudson resident, who quit her job as the first female reporter with the Cleveland Plain Dealer to serve in France with the YWCA.

LOST VOICES OF THE GREAT WAR was produced by Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens and The University of Akron as part of a larger partnership, Summit County and the Great War, formed to commemorate the 100th anniversary of American involvement in the First World War. More information on this collaboration and the film may be found at www.summitwwi.org. Find additional air dates for the documentary on Western Reserve PBS and Fusion (WNEO 45.2 / WEAO 49.2) at WesternReservePublicMedia.org.

The documentary was made possible, in part, by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

About Western Reserve Public Media

Western Reserve Public Media is the business name of Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

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 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 two standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2) and MHz Worldview (WNEO 45.3/WEAO 49.3).

Our Educational Services Department provides technology training and educational content to over 24,000 educators and over 300,000 K-12 students, plus Ready To Learn Services to over 100,000 preschool children's parents and child-care providers.

For more information about the organization, visit www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

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