Beyond Black & White: Youngstown 2010 Town Hall Discussion airs on PBS 45 & 49

KENT, Ohio – Thursday, December 30, 2004 – As part of a revitalization initiative for the city of Youngstown, planners held community forums to address the issue of race relations. Beyond Black & White: Youngstown 2010 Town Hall Discussion is a compilation of two of these forums, which aired in late 2004 as part of PBS 45 & 49’s 2010 Moving Ahead series. The three-hour broadcast will air on Jan. 13 at 8 p.m. and will be simulcast on National Public Radio affiliate WYSU/88.5 FM.

“We’ve repackaged the two programs into a single show, adding new material recorded after we left the air in November,” said Jeremiah G. Blaylock, PBS 45 & 49 producer of the show. “This frank and open dialogue will help not only Youngstown but all of northeast Ohio in understanding the importance of discussing the underlying issues that affect our community’s future.”

Moderated by Youngstown Community Development Director Jay Williams, the town hall-style forums gave community members an opportunity to discuss the relevance of race relations to redevelopment plans for the city. PBS 45 & 49 will air four more forums in 2005, thanks to a generous donation from the Tony Lariccia family, who is sponsoring the series.

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of non-commercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire.

Comprehensive Plan to be Unveiled
On January 27 at 7 PM, the next phase of the Youngstown 2010 process, introduction of the Comprehensive Plan, will take place at Stambaugh Auditorium. Community members are invited to participate in this event of landmark importance to the entire Mahoning Valley.

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