



press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS 45 & 49 to Collect World War II Stories From Northeast Ohioans

*Project is part of national initiative in celebration of September premiere of **The War***

KENT, Ohio — Aug. 1, 2007 — In partnership with the Library of Congress and renowned filmmaker Ken Burns, PBS 45 & 49 will videotape oral histories from World War II veterans and others who have recollections of living stateside during the war on Thursday, Aug. 9 at both VFW Post 3747 in Canton or the War Vet Museum in Canfield. Oral histories will be collected between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

This project is part of a national effort sponsored by PBS and the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project in association with the September 2007 release of Ken Burns' World War II documentary, **The War**. "Short segments of some of the interviews will air during the two-week broadcast of **The War**," said Heidi Johnson, PBS 45 & 49 community outreach coordinator. "This is a great opportunity for veterans to share their stories, and we're happy to preserve them for future generations."

Ken Burns' film, a 14-hour epic that was six years in the making, tells the story of World War II through the personal accounts of nearly 50 men and women from four quintessentially American towns. The series honors and celebrates the bravery, endurance and sacrifice of the generation of Americans who lived through what will always be known simply as "the war." The Ken Burns documentary premieres on PBS 45 & 49 on Sept. 23, 2007 at 8 p.m.

Other PBS 45 & 49 events surrounding the broadcast of **The War** include oral history workshops and free film previews. For more information, visit pbs4549.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

Oral History Collection Sites

VFW Post 3747	War Vet Museum
1935 Avalon Ave. NE	23 E. Main St.
Canton, Ohio	Canfield, Ohio

About PBS 45 & 49

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, PBS 45 & 49 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. The only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio, PBS 45 & 49 is available to 1.8 million households and 4.6 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, the organization provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 257,400 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about PBS 45 & 49, visit www.pbs4549.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

PBS 45 & 49

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