

Press Release

WOSU PUBLIC MEDIA AND THE LONGABERGER COMPANY INVITE THE COMMUNITY TO SHARE WORLD WAR II STORIES, MEMORABILIA

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COLUMBUS, OHIO, MARCH 11, 2008 — WOSU Public Media and The Longaberger Company will host a special community event called Ohio War Stories: WWII on Thursday, April 3, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Longaberger Company Home Office, 1500 East Main Street, in Newark. This event, designed to help preserve World War II stories, extends the outreach efforts around Ken Burns' *The War*, a 14-hour television series that aired last September on WOSU TV.

Veterans, family members and anyone with a World War II interest are invited to tell their stories of World War II, from the battlefield experiences to what it was like on the home front. Participants also can bring WWII photos, letters, souvenirs and mementos to share along with their family stories. The stories will be videotaped and posted to WOSU's ohiowarstories.org, an online collection of shared stories, images, videos and blogs that tell the tale of a diverse range of Ohioans' experiences in World War II.

There is no fee to attend the Ohio War Stories: WWII event, but reservations are encouraged. To reserve time for your story, call (614) 292-9678 or send an e-mail to wosu@osu.edu. For those wishing to share memorabilia or other items, please do not bring weapons or munitions, as they are prohibited.

The project is being made possible through a grant provided by The Longaberger Foundation. Production support for the Ohio War Stories: WWII event will be provided by the Advanced Video Production Class from C-TEC and Newark High School.

"The Longaberger Foundation is supporting this project because we recognize that there are compelling stories right here in our own backyard," said Rachel Longaberger Stukeley, president of The Longaberger Foundation. "We must preserve these stories before the opportunity is lost. Beyond that, this is a wonderful learning experience for local students."

The Longaberger Foundation is a nonprofit organization separate from The Longaberger Company. The Foundation was established in

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1997 to focus efforts on four key areas, which include promoting entrepreneurial principles, preserving American history and ideals, strengthening families and addressing regional quality of life needs.

Founded in 1973, The Longaberger Company (www.longaberger.com) is America's premier maker of handcrafted baskets and offers a variety of other home and lifestyle products, including pottery and other tableware, wrought iron and fabric accessories. There are approximately 45,000 independent Home Consultants located in all U.S. states who sell Longaberger products directly to customers.

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