

NEW RELEASE

CONTACT: Bill Richards / 517-432-0013 / BillR@wkar.org
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'Medora' and Rural Midwest Featured at WKAR Community Cinema

(East Lansing, Mich.) – WKAR Community Cinema continues in March with a screening and discussion of **Medora**. This latest documentary from **Independent Lens** presents a deeply personal look at small town life in the midwest.

The WKAR Community Cinema event takes place **Thursday, Mar. 27, 7 p.m.** at WKAR on the Michigan State campus.

The public is invited for a short preview of the film and discussion with Bath township treasurer Jeff Garrity and boys basketball coach Gabe Sowa. They'll share their thoughts on similarities and differences between how basketball can impact a struggling town as revealed in **Medora**, and in their mid-Michigan community. The event is free, but online reservations are required at WKAR.org.

About 'Medora'

The new film from **Independent Lens** tells a story from Medora, Indiana -- a tiny town that was once bustling. Now, jobs are scarce, the poverty rate is high, and those who could, have left for greener pastures. The town is struggling to stay alive, and the one glimmer of hope resides in the high school and its basketball team. Like the town, the team is also struggling, trying to face down a string of losing seasons. **Medora** tells the story of a team and a small rural town whose fates are intertwined, both hoping for a win that will lift their spirits and give them a taste of former times.

On the Air

Medora airs Monday, Mar. 31, 10 p.m. on WKAR-TV/PBS.

This season of **WKAR Community Cinema** is sponsored by the **MSU Residential College in the Arts and Humanities**.

Community Cinema is a groundbreaking public education and civic engagement initiative featuring screenings of films from Independent Lens on location in 100 cities and online. Between September and June, Community Cinema brings together leading organizations, community members and public television stations to learn, discuss and get involved in today's critical social issues.

WKAR is part of Michigan State University's College of Communication Arts and Sciences and includes WKAR-TV, WKAR Radio, WKAR Radio Reading Service and WKAR Ready To Learn. WKAR is funded in large part by contributions from viewers and listeners with additional support from Michigan State University and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

