

News Release



Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summit County Celebrates International Day of the Girl

On October 11, 2018, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro, the County's first female Executive, celebrated International Day of the Girl. In 2011, the United Nations declared October 11 the International Day of the Girl with the mission "to help galvanize worldwide enthusiasm for goals to better girls' lives, providing an opportunity for them to show leadership and reach their full potential." The theme for International Day of the Girl 2018 is "With Her: A Skilled GirlForce".

According to the United Nations, girls still face adversity in education, workforce training, and employment, and globally, women have less access to information and communication technology and resources. Skills such as self-confidence, problem solving, teamwork and critical thinking are crucial for success in today's fast-paced global economy, and many girls are in need of strong mentors to aide in their professional development.

In recognition of the event, Executive Shapiro used social media to highlight women in Summit County who have set extraordinary examples for young girls today. Women recognized included Summit County Fiscal Officer Kristen M. Scalise, Summit County Council Member Elizabeth Walters, retired Judge Carla Moore, Bridgestone Chief Engineer Cara Adams, Stark State College President Dr. Para Jones, NASA Astronaut Judith Resnik, Goodyear Blimp Pilot Taylor Deen, and former U.S. Poet Laureate Rita Dove. Executive Shapiro also highlighted local groups supporting women and girls including the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio, Girls on the Run Northeast Ohio, and the Akron Community Foundation's Women's Endowment Fund.

"Summit County has a rich history of trailblazing women in a number of fields," said Executive Shapiro. "I am proud of the example we have set and the opportunities we have created, and cannot wait to see what the future holds for girls in our community."

For more information on International Day of the Girl, visit <http://www.un.org/en/events/girlchild/>.

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