## **News Release**



## **Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro Commemorates Holocaust Days of Remembrance

On Tuesday, April 25, 2017, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro participated in the City of Akron's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Holocaust Commemoration and 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts and Writing Awards Ceremony, held at the Akron-Summit County Public Library.

The local event is part of The Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust, the Annual National 8-day period designated by the United States Congress for civic commemorations, ceremonies and special education programs. April 23<sup>rd</sup> through 30<sup>th</sup> mark this year's Days of Remembrance.

"When we begin to outlaw that which we find different, and those individuals who do not look like us or who do not worship like those we were born of, we travel down a dark path of history to the 1930's and Nazi Germany. We must never forget the Holocaust so that we are vigilant in our prevention of it ever happening again. That is why what we do here today is not just about commemorating what did happen but also to be mindful about what could happen if we let fear dictate our actions or should I say inactions," stated Executive Ilene Shapiro.

A goal of Executive Shapiro is to further the inclusivity and welcoming nature of Summit County and she encourages citizens to join her in acknowledging this national time of remembrance.

"With our educators and community partners, we can hope to enlighten young minds to think about their world in broader terms and encourage them to speak out against oppression," said Executive Shapiro. "Whether it is in small moments of personal interaction or taking to a grand stage to decry hatred, each of these instances add up to a more peaceful and inclusive world and local community."

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