## **NEWS RELEASE**

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

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## County officials encourage shopping local for Small Business Saturday

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**—In recognition of Summit County's vibrant small business community, County Executive Ilene Shapiro and County Council passed legislation declaring November 30 "Small Business Saturday." During Small Business Saturday, residents are encouraged to shop local and shop small, especially during the holidays, to support their community.

According to the <u>U.S. Small Business Administration</u>, Small Business Saturday reported an estimated \$17 billion in spending in 2023. With 72% of shoppers reporting that Small Business Saturday made them want to dine at small, independent retailers and restaurants all year long, it is clear that highlighting our small businesses can make a big impact.

"Small businesses are very much a piece of our local identity. They help set us apart, they help keep our communities unique and vibrant, and they are integral to our economy," said Executive Shapiro. "Shopping small is an easy and fun way to support these folks who work tirelessly to create their vision, and to boost job creation and talent development right here in our own backyard."

The County Executive has utilized this celebration to spotlight local businesses on her social media throughout the month of November. This year's businesses included <u>Hope Soap</u>, <u>Hair Geek Studios</u>, <u>Peninsula Coffee House and Market</u>, and Peppers Fresh Market.

With the holiday season upon us, take some time to dine at a local restaurant or café, browse through local shops to find your loved ones' presents, or grab a last-minute gift card on your way over. Check out your local Chamber of Commerce to find small businesses near you.

## **Chambers of Commerce in Summit County**

South Summit Chamber Springfield Chamber Green Chamber

Greater Akron Chamber Tallmadge Chamber Cuyahoga Falls Chamber

Fairlawn Chamber Stow-Munroe Falls Chamber Hudson Chamber

Richfield Chamber Nordonia Hills Chamber