



# The Council Ledger

## First Female Tandem to Lead Council as Councilwoman Shapiro and Councilwoman Kurt are Elected President, Vice President for 2014

At their January 2, 2014 Organizational Meeting, Summit County Council elected Ilene Shapiro, At Large, to serve as Council President and Sandra Kurt, At Large, as Vice President for 2014. Shapiro succeeds Councilman Jerry Feehan (District 6) who served from 2011 through 2013. 2014 marks the first time that the 11 member Council will be headed by two women.

In her seventh year as an At-Large Member on Summit County Council, Shapiro has chaired the Planning and Economic Development Committee and serves on the Public Safety, Finance and Rules Committees. An accomplished business leader with a history of successful business ventures, Shapiro heads the Shapiro Consulting Firm specializing in the areas of Sales, Marketing, Business Planning, Workforce and Economic Development.

Actively involved in a variety of community organizations, Shapiro currently serves on the City of Akron Emergency Services Board (911), The University of Akron Research Foundation Board (UARF), the Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization (NEFCO) Board, and is a member of the Greater Akron Area ATHENA PowerLink governing body. She also serves as Vice President of the Summit County Planning Commission, Chair of the Summit County Green Task Force, Co-Chair of the Summit County Financial Stabilization Task Force and Vice-Chair of the Summit County Land Reutilization Corporation.

Councilwoman Shapiro has also served as Chair of the Summit County Charter Review Commission. She is an alumna of both Leadership America and Leadership Akron. She is a past president of the Women's Network and is a founder of the Women's Endowment Fund of the Akron Community Foundation.

In 2011, Kurt was appointed to Council to replace former Councilman Jon Poda. Formerly an Akron City Council Member (Ward 8), Kurt has chaired the Public Works Committee on County Council and serves on the Finance, Planning and Economic Development and Long Term Planning Committees. She is an engineer at Goodyear.

"As an engineer, I will continue to bring a different skill set and a different perspective. For me it's all about process and steps," Kurt said. "With five women on council, I don't think it will be vastly different than what we've already been doing. Women in politics have been known to be able to work across party lines more so than men."

"I appreciate my colleagues' support and I look forward to working with Executive Pry to maximize our resources as we continue to look for ways for Summit County to grow and prosper," said Shapiro.



Councilwomen At Large, Ilene Shapiro (left) and Sandra Kurt (right) are the first females to hold both President and Vice President positions on County Council.



Councilman Nick Kostandaras (District 1) is sworn in by former County Council Member, Judge Tom Teodosio as he takes the Oath of Office as the new President of the Ohio Association of County Commissioners in Columbus. See story on page 3.

**District 5 Councilwoman Tamela Lee will be hosting another FREE Expungement Clinic on Saturday, February 22nd, from 1 to 3 p.m. at OPEN M, 941 Princeton St., Akron, OH 44311. For more information go to: [www.uakron.edu/law/clinical/cqe-clinic.dot](http://www.uakron.edu/law/clinical/cqe-clinic.dot) or call 330-972-7462**

**INSIDE:** Councilman Comunale Hosts FREE Holiday Santa Event... Council Members Crawford and Prentice host "First Walk" 2014...

*In the Community... New Council Staff*

## Councilman Comunale Hosts FREE Holiday Santa Event at Highland Square Theatre

On Saturday, December 7th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. **Councilman Frank Comunale (District 4)** hosted a FREE Holiday Santa Event at the Highland Square Theatre in West Akron. Children of all ages and families were treated to a morning of fun and games with clowns, balloon artists, a juggler, an activity table with a Cuyahoga Valley National Park Ranger, a bike raffle, photos with Santa and a FREE movie, "Despicable Me."

Volunteers with GASP (Guardians Advocating for Child Safety and Protection) were there to offer FREE fingerprinting and child IDs for kids accompanied by a guardian. And, a canned food drive benefited People's Choice Food Pantry, Sarah's House and South Street Ministries.

The event was Co-Sponsored by Summit County Executive, Russ Pry, Summit County Sheriff Steve Barry, Summit County Engineer Alan Brubaker, Carpenter's Local 285, Electrical Workers 306, Plumbers Union 219, and Sheet Metal Union 33 along with support from Oriana House and Walgreens.



## Council Members Crawford and Prentice Host "First Walk 2014"

On Wednesday, January 1, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Summit County Council Members **Tim Crawford (District 7)** and **Paula Prentice (District 8)** hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "First Walk" on the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail in Summit County.

Walkers met at the Manchester Road Trailhead at Manchester Road in Akron and headed north or south on the towpath trail. Hot chocolate was served and FREE "Let's Move" winter hats and goodie bags were handed out to the first participants to arrive.

The First Walk was another "Let's Move Summit County" activity for Councilwoman Prentice who began the health conscious initiative in 2011 as part of First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move!" campaign which aims to curb childhood obesity in the United States.

"Let's Move Summit County" has been a collaborative effort between the Summit County Council and Summit County Executive's Office, Akron Public Schools, MetroParks Serving Summit County, Akron Children's Hospital, Akron General Medical Center, Akron Area YMCA and the Summit County Public Health Office.

The group has hosted First Night Akron fitness activities, family fitness hikes at the Goodyear and Firestone Metro Parks, a neighborhood Block Walk at Summit Lake and participated in the Michael Clayton Memorial Sickle Cell Walk over the past three years.

"The First Walk is an ideal time for kids and families to start or renew their plans to get in shape and adopt healthy lifestyles in the New Year," said Prentice. "The Towpath is truly an amazing, historical recreation area that is a wonderful attraction for northeast Ohio. We're proud to have the entire Summit County section complete for our residents and visitors to experience and enjoy," Crawford concluded.



County Council Members **Tim Crawford** and **Paula Prentice** (second and third from left) pause for a photo with walkers at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "First Walk" on the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail.





## Councilman Nick Kostandaras Elected President of CCAO

Summit County Councilman Nick Kostandaras (District 1) was elected President of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) at the 133rd CCAO/CEAO Annual Winter Conference held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus on December 9th. CCAO has been in existence since 1880. The organization is a bipartisan group that works on behalf of Ohio's counties. "CCAO gets involved in all legislative matters pertaining to communities and municipalities, townships and villages. Any legislation that affects the way we do business," said Kostandaras.

Since becoming a Summit County Councilman in 2005, Kostandaras has been active with CCAO. Fellow County Council members Gloria Rodgers (District 3) and Paula Prentice (District 8) also are active in CCAO. The organization works closely with Gov. John Kasich. "We work together as a team," said Kostandaras. "We work on consensus and ... the bottom line is to do the very best we can for the counties."

As president, Kostandaras said he has three priorities, all pertaining to taking care of Ohioans who need help. "First, I want to make sure veterans are taken care of, and second, people with alcohol, drug and mental issues." His third concern is the number of children and adults facing hunger in Ohio. "There's no reason why in the richest country in the world that one in every five children goes to bed hungry, and one of every six senior citizens goes to bed hungry," he said. Kostandaras will be required to travel to Columbus once or twice a month for CCAO business, but he doesn't expect that his duties will affect his ability to serve his constituents. District 1 includes the northern and northwest areas of the county, including Richfield, Richfield Township, Peninsula, Boston and Boston Heights, Sagamore Hills, Northfield Center and Northfield, Macedonia, Twinsburg and Twinsburg Township and Reminderville. "It's a matter of putting priorities together and following through," he added. "Finish what you start and do the best each day for the people that put you here. We all have a purpose in life to do the best we can."

Kostandaras is the third Summit County official to lead CCAO. Former County Executive Tim Davis served as president in 1997, as did former Commissioner Oren Carter in 1957.



## Staff Notes

**Lucky Tisch** was hired as the new Executive Assistant to Council.



Ms. Tisch was formerly the Community Relations and Marketing Manager at the Summit DD Board.

**Jordan Reynolds** has joined the Council Staff as a part-time intern. Jordan is currently a Political Science Major at the University of Akron.

**WELCOME ABOARD LUCKY AND JORDAN!**

**Councilman Frank Comunale** (below center) with Portage Path CLC Students at Weathervane Playhouse Holiday Field Trip.

## In the Community



**Detective Larry S. Brown, and Deputies Danny E. Francis, Larry J. Peters, and Shane W. Smith** were honored by Council for receiving the FBI's Shield of Bravery. Out of more than 200 nominees, the four Summit County officers were among 12 worldwide to receive the award, presented for brave and courageous acts occurring in the line of duty that may extend to major assistance to a task force or undercover operation, grave situations, or crisis confrontations associated with the highest priority cases of the FBI.



**Councilman Tim Crawford** (far right) with S.A. Comunale Employees honored for Outstanding Safety Records at the Comunale Christmas Holiday Luncheon.



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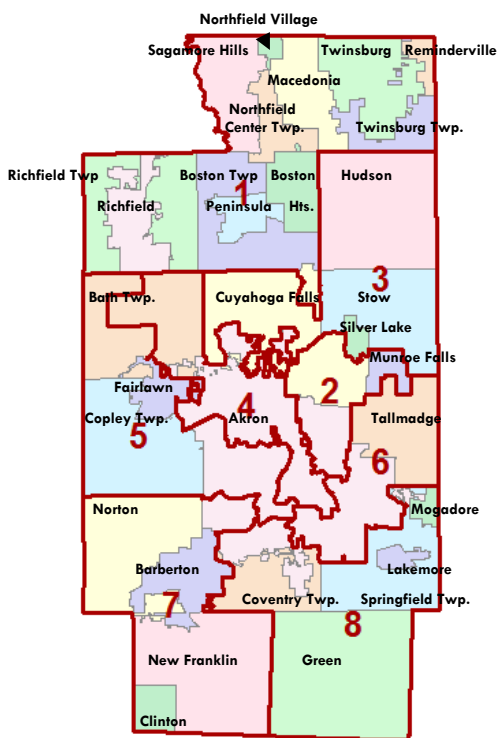


## 2014 Council Meeting Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
February 3	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
February 10	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
February 17	<b>Council Offices Closed For Presidents' Day</b>		
February 24	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 3	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 10	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 17	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 24	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 31	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 7	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 14	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 21	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 28	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.

## 2014 County Council Members

**Nick Kostandaras**  
District 1  
**John Schmidt**  
District 2  
**Gloria Rodgers**  
District 3  
**Frank C. Comunale**  
District 4  
**Tamela Lee**  
District 5  
**Jerry Feeman**  
District 6  
**Tim Crawford**  
District 7  
**Paula Prentice**  
District 8  
**\*Sandra Kurt**  
*Vice President*  
At Large  
**Bill Roemer**  
At Large  
**\*Ilene Shapiro**  
*President*  
At Large



## County Council Staff

**Mark Potter**  
Chief of Staff  
**Jennifer Novakovic**  
Clerk of Council  
**W. Kent Starks, II**  
Senior Research Analyst  
**Lucky Tisch**  
Executive Assistant To Council  
**Jordan Reynolds**  
Council Intern

*The Council Ledger is also available on-line. For this edition and past issues go to: [www.co.summit.oh.us](http://www.co.summit.oh.us)*

*Click on "County Council" and select "Social Media" and "Council Ledger" from the menu.*