

Ohio's First Charter County

The Council Ledger

Winter-Spring 2019

Upcoming Community Events

- Hudson Community Expo
Saturday, March 16 @ Hudson High School 10 am - 3 pm
- Cuyahoga Falls Expo
Saturday, March 23 @ Falls Natatorium 8 am - 2 pm
- Nardon Hills Community Expo
Saturday, March 23 @ Nardon Hills High School 9 am - 3:30 pm
- Tallmadge Community Expo
Saturday, April 6 @ Tallmadge Recreation Center 9am-3pm

Wilhite and Walters to lead Council in 2019



Jeff Wilhite (left) and Elizabeth Walters (right) will serve as President and Vice President of Summit County Council for 2019. Councilman Wilhite serves District 4 and Councilwoman Walters serves At Large.

At the January 7th Organizational Meeting, Summit County Councilmembers elected Councilman **Jeff Wilhite** as President and Councilwoman **Elizabeth Walters** as Vice President for 2019.

Wilhite and Walters both joined Council together in 2016. Wilhite replaced former District 4 member Frank Comunale and Walters replaced former At Large member Sandra Kurt.

Wilhite's district term runs through 2020 and Walters was recently re-elected for her second term at Large.

The new Council President currently serves as executive director of Family Promise of Summit County, a program serving homeless children and their families.

Walters is a senior associate at the Morino Institute. She will also Chair the Council's Planning and Economic Development Committee.

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Council Recognizes Former President

Photo Right: 2019 Council President **Jeff Wilhite** presents former Council President **John Schmidt** with a "Gavel Award" for his leadership of Council in 2017 and 2018. Schmidt represents District 2 which includes parts of the City of Akron (East Akron, Goodyear Heights, and North Hill), Munroe Falls and most of Cuyahoga Falls. Councilman Schmidt has dedicated much of his adult life to serving the public in various roles, including having served 20 years as a Cuyahoga Falls City Council member. Mr. Schmidt also has prior service to the County of Summit having worked on the County Executive's staff for thirteen years and formerly serving as Deputy Director for the Board of Elections.



Councilman Hamilton Adopts Local Families for “Not Just October” Christmas Event



During the recent Holiday Season, District 5 Summit County Councilman David Hamilton adopted 10 families as part of a collaborative effort with Lavar Jacobs’ “Not Just October” organization. “Not Just October” aids families dealing with hardship due to Breast Cancer. Both Jacobs and Councilman Hamilton lost their mothers to Breast Cancer.

All 10 Families were given the Christmas they deserved, with Jacobs and Hamilton personally delivering gifts to their homes with assistance from their volunteer “elves”.

“These families that we were blessed to serve are really dealing with a lot, and every child should have a nice Christmas regardless of their circumstances,” said Hamilton. “These women are amazing and we were very excited about the opportunity to help them. Christmas can be a hard time of the year and we didn’t want anyone to feel like they were lacking. We hope 2019 is even better for these families,” concluded Jacobs.



Top Photo Left – Lavar Jacobs (left) and Summit County Councilman David Hamilton (right) with volunteer “elves” make a delivery during their “Not Just October” Holiday Event.

Bottom Photo Left – Councilman Hamilton (left) and Lavar Jacobs (center) pose with an adopted family they assisted with the “Not Just October” Holiday Event.

Council Recognizes University of Akron Men’s Soccer Team for National Finalist Season

On January 28th, Summit County Council honored the University of Akron Men’s Soccer Team for their 2018 National Finalist Season. The Zips overcame a slow 6-6-2 start with a 9-0 run to their sixth College Cup appearance. Despite losing several key players from the 2017 College Cup team and adding 18 new players, the Zips captured their seventh consecutive Mid-American Conference Championship league tournament title, their 15th MAC Tournament title, 33rd NCAA Tournament berth and 13th straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

Led by Coach Jared Embick, the Zips defeated unseeded Rider at home 3-1; avenged an earlier season loss to 16th-seeded Syracuse on the road 3-1; knocked off top-seeded Wake Forest, the winningest program in the last four seasons, in an impressive 1-0 win on the road; then secured back to back trips to the NCAA College Cup with a 3-2 victory over three-time national champion Stanford, which had knocked the Zips out of the College Cup last season and in 2015.

The Zips capped their 2018 Season with a 5-1 win over Michigan State in the semifinals before falling 1-0 on a penalty kick to Maryland in the National Title Game. The Zips finished the campaign with a 15-7-2 record overall.



Councilman Clair Dickinson (At Large) presents a Commendation to Coach Jared Embick (center) and the UA Men’s Soccer team.

Commendations

Winter-Spring 2019



Prior to Veteran's Day, **Councilwoman At Large Elizabeth Walters** (right) presented a Commendation to 82nd Airborne Division Association Officers, Secretary LaDonna Blue Eye (center) and local Association Chair Charles Higgins (left).

The 82nd Airborne Division Association is for anyone who ever served or is currently serving in the 82nd Airborne Division, and anyone who is currently serving on active duty on jump status; or, has ever served in any of the uniformed services on either jump or glider status and was honorably discharged. The Association was organized in England, prior to the Normandy invasion in 1944. Akron is the oldest continuous Association Chapter in the United States.

On Christmas Eve, **Councilwoman Bethany McKenney (District 7)** presented a Commendation honoring the 70th Anniversary of Vincent Gerek, a patrolman who died in the line of duty investigating a holdup at the Kroger Grocery Store on Fourth Street at Creedmore Avenue in Barberton, on December 24, 1948. Officer Gerek courageously sacrificed his own life in his attempt to protect the store merchants and two patrons from harm inside the establishment. To date, Officer Gerek is the only Barberton Police Officer to die in the line of duty. His badge, #8, has been permanently retired within the department and his name has been inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial in Washington, D.C., which was erected in 1990. Accepting the Commendation in his honor is his nephew Tim Gerek (left).



Presented by the County of Summit and Summit County Council

SAVE THE DATE

2nd Annual Let's Move Summit County
Healthy Mom's, Healthy Babies,
Healthy Families Event
Door Prizes, Games,
Activities, Information



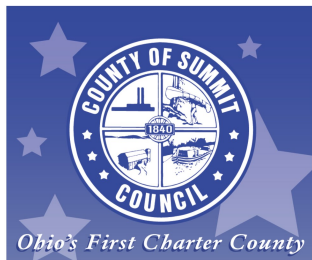
Saturday, May 11, 2019
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
FREE LUNCH at 11 a.m.
Buchtel Community Learning Center
1040 Copley Road, Akron, OH 44320

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Tonya Lewis Lee

feature filmmaker • author • women's health advocate
wife of 2019 Academy Award Winning director and producer, Spike Lee





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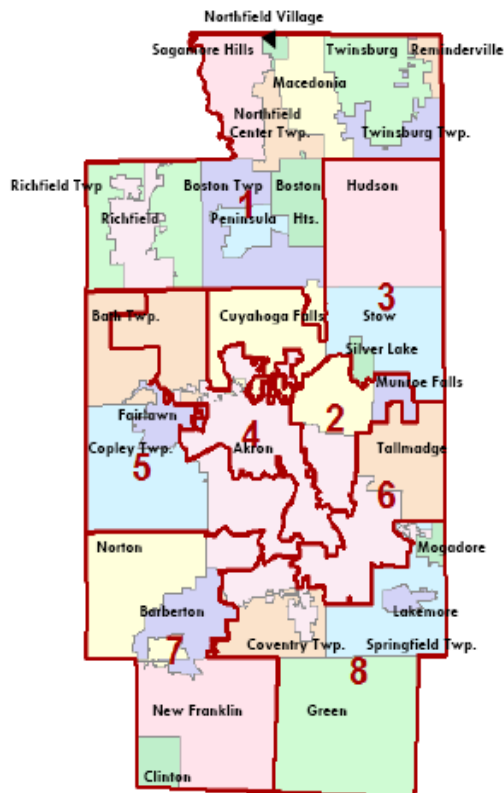
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2019 Council Meeting Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
March 4	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 11	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 18	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
March 25	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 1	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 8	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 15	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 22	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 29	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 6	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 13	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 20	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 27	Council Offices Closed for Memorial Day		

2019 County Council Members

- Jeff Wilhite**
President
District 4
- Elizabeth Walters**
Vice President
At-Large
- Ron Koehler**
District 1
- John Schmidt**
District 2
- Gloria Rodgers**
District 3
- David Hamilton**
District 5
- Jerry Feeman**
District 6
- Bethany McKenney**
District 7
- Paula Prentice**
District 8
- John Donofrio**
At-Large
- Clair Dickinson**
At-Large



County Council Staff

- Mark Potter**
Chief of Staff
- Jennifer Novakovic**
Clerk of Council
- W. Kent Starks, II**
Senior Research Analyst
- Jeannie Bozak**
Executive Assistant

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