



press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS 45 & 49 CONGRATULATES CONNIE HUMBLE, 2004 AKRON NEWSMAKER OF THE YEAR

KENT, Ohio – Tuesday, January 11, 2005 – Connie Humble, executive director of Summit County Children Services, was named 2004 Akron Newsmaker of the Year by panelists of the PBS 45 & 49 program **NewsNight Akron**. The panel made the decision after a lively debate about the seven nominees during the show's Friday, Jan. 7, broadcast. The award recognizes the Summit County individual whose work has had the most positive effect on the area over the past year.

Panelists for the show were Vincent Duffy, program director at WKSU/89.7; Ed Esposito, news director at WAKR/WONE/WQMX; Jody Miller, senior associate editor of the *West Side Leader*; and Larry States, news anchor at WAKR/WONE/WQMX. They lauded Humble for her dedication to Summit County Children Services and for her ability to help the agency improve relations with other area organizations. "She was a reasoned individual who came in and was able to be a facilitator," States said.

Other 2004 nominees were Alex Arshinkoff, Summit County Republican Party chair; Robert Keegan, chairman and chief executive officer of Goodyear; Akron Mayor Donald Plusquellic; Luis Proenza, president of The University of Akron; Bryan Williams, John Schmidt and the staff of the Summit County Board of Elections; and James Williams, retiring Summit County Common Pleas judge.

For six seasons, PBS 45 & 49 has produced **NewsNight Akron**, a weekly show that reviews and analyzes Akron-area news. This is the third year that the show has presented the Akron Newsmaker of the Year Award. Past recipients were Dan Dahl and Rev. Curtis Thomas (tie-2002) and Mayor Donald Plusquellic (2003).

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of non-commercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire.

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