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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leadership Akron Selects Class XXVI Class of thirty-four to study community issues in Greater Akron

AKRON, OH - Leadership Akron has selected a class of 34 for the 2009/2010 program. The class includes participants from greater Akron's business, government, and non-profit sectors. Entering its twenty-sixth year, Leadership Akron enables participants to achieve greater levels of involvement and effectiveness in the community.

Over the course of the year, Leadership Akron Class XXVI will develop a broad, well-rounded perspective on the Akron community. Beginning the year with a City Tour and two-day Orientation Retreat, they will spend a full day each month focusing on a specific aspect of the community. Topics include: Social Services, Government, Health Care, Education, Justice, and others. Each day gives the class a hands-on look at the key organizations, decision-makers, and issues in that field.

Members of the new class are:

Brooks E. Ames

Auctioneer and Realtor

Russ Kiko and Associates

Beverly A. Bokovitz

Senior Vice President; Chief Nursing Officer

Akron General Medical Center

Roxia B. Boykin

Vice President, Community Relations and Diversity

Summa Health System

Charles A. Brown

Lieutenant

City of Akron Police Department

– MORE –

Tommy J. Bruno
General Manager
91.3FM The Summit WAPS

Amanda J. Comunale
Vice President, Operations Support
S.A. Comunale Co., Inc.

Terrence B. Dalton
President and Chief Executive Officer
Community Support Services, Inc.

LuAnne Decker
Managing Director, Human Resources
FedEx Custom Critical, Inc.

Donae C. Eckert
Vice President, Programs
Akron Community Foundation

Bennett L. Gaines
Vice President, Corporate Shared Services
FirstEnergy Corp.

Michael E. George
Partner
Stark & Knoll Co., L.P.A.

Leigh Gerstenberger
Senior Vice President-Regional Wealth Executive
FirstMerit Bank, N.A.

Daniel K. Glessner
Partner
Brouse McDowell, L.P.A.

Stanley O. "Neal" Gresham
Vice President, Construction Services
URS Corporation

Betsy L. B. Hartschuh
Judicial Attorney
Ohio Ninth District Court of Appeals

William J. Hauser, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Marketing & International Business
The University of Akron

Nancy Ray Jandrokovic
Director Global Airship Operations
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

Marki B. Johnson
Vice President, Operations
G. Stephens, Inc.

Sean M. Joyce
Chief Financial Officer
The Goodwill Industries of Akron, Ohio, Inc.

Carrie Ann Kandes
Vice President and Management Supervisor
Marcus Thomas LLC

Raymond A. Lampner
Director
BCG & Company

Jeri L. Mahoney
Area Manager, Production Services
Bridgestone Americas, Inc.

Drew R. Martin
Vice President, Northern Ohio Market Sales & Service Manager
National City Bank

Ellen K. McWilliams
Assistant Superintendent
Akron Public Schools

Charles F. Mullen
Principal/Head of the Tax Department
Apple Growth Partners

Marshal M. Pitchford
Attorney
Roetzel & Address, L.P.A.

Derrick W. Ransom, Jr.
Financial Consultant
AXA Advisors, LLC

Adele D. Roth
Economic Development Manager
City of Akron

Tamala M. Skipper
Executive Director
Fair Housing Contact Service

David K. Smith
Managing Pastor
The Chapel

Thomas E. Venarge
Vice President, Manufacturing
APV Engineered Coatings

Kathy K. Vidakovics
Vice President, Mortgage Lending
CFBank

Stephen D. Wilt
Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor
CAPTRUST Financial Advisor

Brittany Grimes Zaehring
Chief Operating Officer
Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

For more information on Leadership Akron, go to their web site at www.lakron.com.