



# News Release

**Russell M. Pry – Summit County Executive**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jill Hinig Skapin  
Director of Communications  
330-643-2627  
[jskapin@summitoh.net](mailto:jskapin@summitoh.net)

## Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry Hosts Summit on Economic Development, Dr. Ned Hill Speaks

On Tuesday, May 12, 2009, Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry hosted a Summit on Economic Development at the John S. Knight Center in downtown Akron. The event brought out over 150 community leaders, elected officials and members of the business community.

The all-day, county-wide, professional conference provided citizens with an opportunity to: network with economic development professionals, participate in educational breakout sessions and learn more about the programs, services and opportunities that are available to members of the business community.



Dr. Ned Hill, vice president of economic development, interim dean of the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University served as the event keynote speaker and spoke on the status of the macro economy; while, educational breakout sessions and industry related discussions focused on local issues and opportunities.

County Executive Russell M. Pry then closed the event by facilitating a panel discussion on issues relating to the efforts being put forth by his administration to boost economic development throughout Summit County. In addition to Pry, members of the panel included: The University of Akron College of Business Administration Dean Raj Aggarwal, State of Ohio Department of Development Business Manager Eric Neff, Summit County Council Member At-Large Ilene Shapiro and Summit County Department of Community and Economic Development Director Connie Krauss.

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In the recent past, Pry has hosted economic development forums in the communities of: Barberton, Green, Hudson, Macedonia, Stow and Twinsburg.

"By hosting this county-wide event, we were able to put members of the local business community in close contact with federal officials, programming experts, world renowned economists and more," stated Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry. "All participants found the event very informative and worthwhile."

Event sponsors include: the Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce (GAC), the Northeast Ohio Trade & Economic Consortium (NEOTEC), Robert W. Baird & Company, Roetzel & Andress, Silverlode Consulting Corporation and the Summit County Port Authority.

For more information on the services and opportunities being offered through the Summit County Department of Community and Economic Development, call 330-643-2893 or visit [www.co.summit.oh.us](http://www.co.summit.oh.us).

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