



Board of Commissioners

PRESS RELEASE

lakecountyohio.gov

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Commissioners Recognize December as *Be a Santa to a Senior* Month in Lake County

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, November 26, 2024— Home Instead Senior Care created the *Be a Santa to a Senior* program to support lonely or isolated older adults. This program aims to give to those in need by partnering with local organizations to make sure isolated seniors receive gifts and companionship during the holiday season.

The Board of Commissioners is one such partner and has hosted a tree for the previous five years and are hosting a tree this year as well. The tree is decorated with ornaments featuring seniors' first names and gift or gift card suggestions. The tree is located on the fifth floor of the Lake County Administration Center outside of chambers, at 105 Main St., in Painesville.

The Commissioners want to remind those who have taken an ornament from the tree to return the unwrapped gift item to the same location by December 6, 2024, in order to be delivered to seniors in time for the holidays.

"We are delighted to participate again in this heartwarming program. It plays a crucial role in demonstrating to older adults in Lake County that they are cherished, especially during the holiday season," said Commission President, John T. Plecnik.

As a franchise network, Home Instead® is celebrating the 21st year of this popular holiday campaign that gives back to older adults and reminds them that they are cherished by our community. The Home Instead Mentor office is partnering with community organizations serving older adults to provide gifts to over 600 Lake County seniors.

"It's an honor for us to host this tree for the sixth consecutive year," said Commissioner John R. Hamercheck. "This simple act of kindness can significantly impact the lives of our most vulnerable senior citizens."

"We extend our gratitude to everyone who has participated this year and in previous years. Many seniors may find themselves without the warmth of family or friends this holiday season, and the gifts from the 'Be a Santa to a Senior' program can help bring them some much-needed holiday joy," said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.



From the left: Commissioner John T. Plecnik, Therese Zdesar, President of Home Instead, Commissioners Richard J. Regovich and John R. Hamercheck.

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