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News

## Celebration set for Lake County senior citizens at Great Lakes Mall

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If you're a senior citizen living in Lake County, you might want to circle May 14 on your calendar.

It's the day on which the Lake County Council on Aging will present its 33rd annual senior celebration at the Great Lakes Mall in Mentor.

From polka tunes by Joey Tomsick, the council's chief executive officer, to plenty of chances to win prizes, the event is filled with entertainment and activities as well as a special recognition of area volunteers.

Renee Lanzara, the mall's director of marketing and business development, said mall staffers are pleased to be hosting the senior day.

"Our core group of senior citizens who spend time at the mall has been increasing over the years, especially with the 2-year-old sponsorship of our mall walking program by the Cleveland Clinic," Lanzara said. "There are more activities to do at Great Lakes Mall for senior citizens because we realize they're an important part of our community. An event like senior day not only provides them with a social opportunity, but with an educational opportunity to learn more about the products and services that are available to them."

The mall's food court entrance will open at 8:30 a.m. and those who have donated \$1 to the senior citizens levy fund will receive a light morning snack, coffee and a goodie bag.

Tickets can be purchased at any of the Lake County senior centers or at the guest services desk at the mall.

Bingo, sponsored by Laketran and presented by WELW-AM 1330, will take place until 10 a.m.

For those rarin' to get up and go, a senior stroll around the mall will be from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. Dr. Ami Hall, medical director of the Geriatric Assessment Program at Euclid Hospital and a primary care physician at Willoughby Hills Family Health Center, will be on hand to provide some introductory comments.

At 11 a.m., Jeff Tanchak, WOIO-TV Channel 19 chief meteorologist, will be featured as a guest speaker on the stage in front of Macy's.

From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., attendees can check out spring and summer styles at a fashion show with senior center directors and representatives serving as models. Macy's, J.C. Penney, Dillard's, Christopher & Banks, and other mall

stores will showcase the latest trends in clothing.

Among several dozen exhibitors will be representatives from Sam's Club, Avon, Amelia Grace Assisted Living, Miracle Ear Hearing Center and Cleveland Clinic.

Ray Somich of WELW-AM 1330 will emcee an awards ceremony at which 10 seniors will be honored for their volunteer efforts.

A Chinese auction and door prizes will help round out the occasion.

"Seniors are an important part of what makes our community special. We're excited to host this annual event," Lanzara said. "We hope many of our loyal customers will come by, play some bingo and enjoy the many activities throughout the day."

In the past, attendance has ranged from 500 to 1,000 people, according to Lyle Shull, director of community services at the Council on Aging.

The following Lake County seniors have been chosen to be honored during the awards ceremony:

- Virginia Bizak — Mentor Senior Center volunteer for eight years; serves meals, helps with fitness equipment and library; donated multiple knitting projects.

- Bill Castrovinci — Fairport Harbor Senior Center volunteer for five years; serves as a board trustee; line dance classes instructor; helps with center's maintenance.

- Ronald Hooker — Meals on Wheels driver since 2005; LakeHealth transporter and emergency room assistant; singer with Mentor Music Makers, a group that visits Lake County retirement facilities.

- Maxine Hutchison — Eastlake Senior Center volunteer for four years; helps in kitchen, office, with cleaning and at center's sale table.

- Edeltrud Juhasz — Painesville Senior Center volunteer for four years; assists with food service and cooking.

- Lee Kall — Active with Retired Senior Volunteer Program; has given more than 600 hours of service since 2010; volunteers with Lake County Free Medical Clinic, St. Gabriel Catholic Church Food Bank, Willoughby-Eastlake School of Practical Nursing and as friendly visitor for homebound seniors.

- Marge Liebal — Madison Senior Center volunteer for three years; helps with fundraisers, craft classes and runs writers group; volunteers at food bank, library and Madison Historical Society.

- Mary Posipanka — Member of Willowick Senior Center since 1998; coordinates ceramics program; advisory board member; Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information program volunteer; president of Ladies Guild and Eucharistic minister at St. Mary Magdalene Church.

- James Roeder — Willoughby Senior Center volunteer for about 20 years; also volunteers with RSVP, LakeHealth and Lake Metroparks; past volunteer work as tutor at McKinley Elementary School and Wickliffe Library.

- Jane Zalar — Perry Senior Center volunteer for three years; serves meals, runs craft classes; Meals on Wheels volunteer.

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