



Lake County General Health District

**NEWS RELEASE
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LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT**

HEROES DAY RETURNS TO THE GREAT LAKES MALL ON SATURDAY, MAY 16TH FROM 10:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Heroes Day will take place on Saturday, May 16th from 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Throughout the day, law enforcement agencies, fire departments, military branches, and safety organizations will be hosting interactive displays and opportunities for the public to learn more about staying safe in their communities.

A highlight of Heroes Day will be the stage presentation at 12:00 p.m. Lake County will kick off its local Click It or Ticket campaign, which is part of a nationwide mobilization aimed at increasing seat belt use. Speakers for the kickoff include Lake County Sheriff's Office and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Information will be provided on local efforts to increase Lake County's 78.4% seat belt use rate, one of the lowest in Ohio. Click It or Ticket is part of national enforcement mobilization that will be taking place across the country May 18 – May 31, 2015.

The Lake Safe Communities Coalition will also be presenting its Outstanding Community Partner Award to Olive Garden of Mentor, and Mentor Police Department will be awarding the winners of its Third Grade Seat Belt Poster Contest and its First Grade 911 Awards. Other stage events scheduled throughout the day include a demonstration by ATA Karate for Kids, instruction on Personal Flotation Devices from the Ohio Division of Natural Resources Division of Watercraft, and a meet and greet with law enforcement K-9 units. The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary will also have a boat outside for guests to view.

Guests will want to be sure to visit Kirtland Hills Police Department, who will be hosting Ohio Department of Transportation's Distracted Drive Simulator, which looks like a video game and features a realistic simulation of texting while driving. It includes a steering wheel, turn signals, as well as gas and brake pedals. Safety vehicles will also be on display for mall guests to explore.

Lake County safety activities don't end on Heroes Day. To promote the Click It or Ticket Campaign, Lake County Safe Communities Coalition is again partnering with eight Lake County McDonald's restaurants owned by Mandovi Enterprises, Inc. and J & M. Powers, Inc. to host Buckle-Downs on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 from 11 a. m. – 1 p. m. During a Buckle-Down, those that are caught wearing their seat belts when approaching the drive-thru receive a small reward, while those that are not receive a friendly reminder to buckle up. Participating McDonald's locations include: 7575 Auburn Road in Concord; 3115 Vine St. in Willowick; 36141 Lakeshore Blvd. in Eastlake; 7700 Reynolds Rd. in Mentor; 8775 Mentor Ave. in Mentor; 8380 Broadmoor Rd. in Mentor; 559 River St. in Madison and 6083 Andrews Rd. in Mentor-on-the-Lake.