



Winter Wonderland: Bringing Holiday Joy to Stark County Veterans

The Veterans Service Commission of Stark County (VSC) has been spreading holiday cheer through its renowned Veteran Christmas program, Winter Wonderland since 2017. Dedicated to serving Stark County veterans and their dependents, Winter Wonderland has become a cherished tradition, bringing warmth and joy to those who have served our nation.

Program Overview

Winter Wonderland is a unique initiative designed to cultivate holiday merriment through gifts and a Christmas Celebration to Stark County veterans and their dependents. The program operates on the principle of community support and sponsorships.

How it Works

Wish List: Stark County veterans and their dependents are encouraged to complete the Winter Wonderland Wish List form via the VSC, specifying three desired items.

Wish Tags: Each registered request is transferred onto a Wish Tag, ensuring privacy and dignity for the recipients.

Wish Trees: Wish Tags are hung on designated Wish Trees throughout Stark County, allowing community members and sponsors to select a tag and fulfill a veteran's holiday wish.

Winter Wonderland Celebration: As the holiday season approaches, the VSC, in collaboration with numerous community sponsors, hosts a festive Christmas celebration called Winter Wonderland. This event serves as the culmination of the Winter Wonderland program, where veterans and their dependents gather to collect their gifts.

Winter Wonderland Celebration Highlights

Gift Distribution: Veterans and their dependents are invited to the Winter Wonderland celebration to receive the gifts generously provided by the community. This moment embodies the spirit of giving and gratitude.

Great Meal: Attendees are treated to a delicious meal, served with appreciation for their service. Sharing a meal fosters a sense of togetherness and community.

Fellowship: The Winter Wonderland celebration provides an opportunity for veterans to connect with one another, sharing stories, experiences, and camaraderie. It's a chance to forge new friendships and strengthen bonds.

Visit with Santa: For the younger attendees, a visit with Santa adds an extra layer of magic to the event where children can share their holiday wishes.

Entertainment: The Winter Wonderland Celebration features entertainment suitable for both adults and children, ranging from live music to festive activities and special appearances. Laughter and joy fill the air as attendees celebrate the holiday season together.

Community Impact

The heart of Winter Wonderland lies in the generosity of the Stark County community. Individuals, businesses, and organizations come together to purchase and donate gifts for the registered veterans and their dependents. Winter Wonderland extends far beyond the gifts exchanged and the festivities enjoyed. It symbolizes the community's deep appreciation for the sacrifices made by Stark County veterans and their dependents.

Through the collective efforts of the VSC, community sponsors, and caring individuals, Winter Wonderland continues to brighten the holiday season for Stark County veterans and their dependents, reminding them that their service is valued, and they are not forgotten.