



PILED ONTO Santa's lap were sisters Michaela (from left above), Allison, Lilly and Kimberly Rippe. The sisters waited in line after the Parade of Lights to see Santa at the Golden Age Center on Friday. Jack Benton (below left) with the Oberlin Lions Club helped hand out 99 bags of peanuts and candy.



Story and photos by Kimberly Davis

Santa hears wishes from kids after parade

Almost 100 kids, young and old, sat on Santa's lap Friday night to whisper their wishes into the old gent's ears.

Kids asked for dolls, building sets, pogo sticks, remote control vehicles and even Apple iPads.

Some of the youngsters didn't make it to Santa's lap despite coaxing from mom and dad, who just wanted to snap a picture. They'd just get close before starting to cry.

Others couldn't wait their turn to tell the big guy what they wanted, smile at the camera and get a bag of

goodies provided by the Oberlin Lions Club.

Jack Benton said the Lions prepared 125 bags of shelled peanuts and candy to hand out to the kids. He said they passed out 99 on Friday.

Santa arrived at the Golden Age Center on a bright red fire truck after appearing last in the Parade of Lights in downtown Oberlin.

He plans to be back from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Golden Age Center to visit with kids again.



ON FRIDAY NIGHT, Gabi Johnson stood next to Santa as she asked for an iPad for Christmas.