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NEWS RELEASE

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GOODWILL TO OPEN WADSWORTH STORE NEW STORE WILL OPEN IN GREAT OAKS SHOPPING PLAZA

WADSWORTH, Ohio—May 4, 2010—Residents of Wadsworth and surrounding neighborhoods will soon have the opportunity to help their community and save money all at the same time. Goodwill Industries of Akron will open a new 11,000 square-ft. Retail Store at 160 Great Oaks Trail in the Great Oaks Plaza (former Giant Eagle space) located in Wadsworth in the fourth quarter of 2010. Not only will the store feature quality items at affordable prices that Goodwill shoppers are accustomed to, but the store will also feature many new goods at bargain prices and serve as a donation site in the community for their gently used clothes, furniture, books, household items, and more.

With the cost of necessities like gas, bread, and milk going up, it makes sense for people to buy their clothes at Goodwill Retail Stores. Shoppers can find name-brand and designer clothing at a fraction of the cost they would pay at another retailer, making their dollar stretch farther.

"On behalf of Great Oaks Plaza, we welcome Goodwill Industries into our shopping center. Not only do they bring much needed pedestrian traffic into our center, they serve the community as well," said Michael Surnow of Wadsworth Associates.

Like Goodwill's other stores in its five-county region encompassing Summit, Portage, Medina, Ashland, and Richland Counties, the new store will be equipped with a Conference Room that can accommodate 10-15 people and is available to community groups on a first-come, first-serve basis. A Job Search Station will also be available on the sales floor, offering free Internet access for job seekers during store hours. The new store will serve as a training ground for Goodwill Vocational Program participants who will assist with daily operations such as donation processing and hanging clothes.

Goodwill anticipates hiring 13-15 full- and part-time staff for the new store. The new Wadsworth Retail Store will increase to 12 the number of store locations operated by Goodwill Industries, and the third Retail Store in Medina County. Net proceeds from the sale of items donated to the stores are used in assisting the agency in fulfilling its mission of helping individuals prepare for, find, and retain employment. Other sites include:

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<p><u>Summit County</u> Akron – 570 E. Waterloo Road Cuyahoga Falls – 1725 State Road Lakemore – 1500 Canton Road Northfield – 10211 Northfield Road Tallmadge – 15 Midway Plaza</p> <p><u>Portage County</u> Kent/Ravenna – 2528 State Route 59 Streetsboro – 9278 Market Square Drive</p>	<p><u>Medina County</u> Brunswick – 1733 Pearl Road Medina – 3500 Medina Road</p> <p><u>Ashland County</u> Ashland – 1611 Claremont Avenue</p> <p><u>Richland County</u> Mansfield/Ontario – 2154 W. Fourth Street</p>
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Quotes:

- “Goodwill Stores have a reputation for being ‘The Place’ to find deals, and we’re excited to open in Wadsworth,” said Nan McClenaghan, President & CEO. “In these times of economic stress, it makes sense for people to shop at Goodwill. Plus, every purchase from or donation to Goodwill help individuals in our local communities toward achieving their employment goals.”
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About Goodwill Industries

Goodwill Industries of Akron is a not-for-profit corporation that helps individuals prepare for, find, and retain employment. Operating in the five-county region of Summit, Portage, Medina, Ashland, and Richland, the Akron-based agency was established in 1927. It is a private, independent organization, operating as an affiliate member of Goodwill Industries International, and a United Way agency in Summit and Medina Counties. Goodwill helps to directly strengthen the region’s workforce through its employment programs and indirectly through the net proceeds from its retail outlets and contract services division. For more information about Goodwill, visit www.goodwillakron.org or call 800-989-8428. ###