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# 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



Wadsworth Center for Older Adults  
138 High Street  
Wadsworth, Ohio 44281

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## **From the Director -**

Dear Mayor Laubaugh and Friends,

I am thankful to Center staff, volunteers, the City of Wadsworth, the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation and our many Professional Friends for supporting the Center and those we serve. We are truly fortunate to live in a community that honors its past and also embraces the bright opportunities that the future will bring.

The Center for Older Adults has been a community focal point in Wadsworth and will remain so for many years to come. Our programs are as needed today as they were when the Center first opened its doors over thirty years ago at 138 High Street in downtown Wadsworth. The 2012 annual report reflects back on some of our milestones, shares our many accomplishments over the past year and looks forward with great anticipation to a new beginning at the Soprema Senior Center and Café.

As we move forward and realize our dream of moving to a brand new, state-of-the art Center on a vibrant multi-generational campus, we realize that our mission of promoting a high quality of life for seniors in the Wadsworth community is stronger than ever. Seniors will remain our number one priority and we will continue to work hard to ensure that they enjoy a healthy, active and meaningful lifestyle.

We are thankful for the memories at 138 High Street and we'll never forget the opportunities and friendships formed there. We also look forward to the many new opportunities that await us at the Soprema Senior Center and Café on the new Wadsworth Community Center campus.

Sincerely,

*Nancy A. Likens, Wadsworth Center for Older Adults Director*

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## **From the Commission Chair -**

Dear Mayor Robin Laubaugh and Friends,

I have just completed my sixth year as a member of the Wadsworth Senior Citizens Commission. I have served as Chairman of this Commission during this time frame.

I have enjoyed this opportunity to serve and have always marveled at the quality and quantity of the programs that the staff has offered to the senior citizens of Wadsworth. The efforts of our staff and senior member volunteers are beyond anything you could imagine. These many individuals provide countless hours of service to the Center and make this all possible.

The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation is another group of dedicated volunteers that needs to be recognized. Through their tireless efforts, funds are raised to sponsor and support the many programs and financial needs of the senior center. We also need to recognize our Professional Friends. This is a special group of business partners and individuals who contribute time and money to support our many activities. The number of members in this dedicated group has grown beyond our wildest dreams.

Lastly, we look forward to 2013 when we will experience the once in a lifetime opportunity to move into a brand new senior building that is much more user-friendly. The new facility will open the door to expanded programs for our senior community.

The Senior Citizens Commission would like to join the staff of the Center in presenting this 2012 annual report.

Respectfully,

*Richard H. Hontert, Wadsworth Senior Citizens Commission Chairman*

## Wadsworth Center for Older Adults

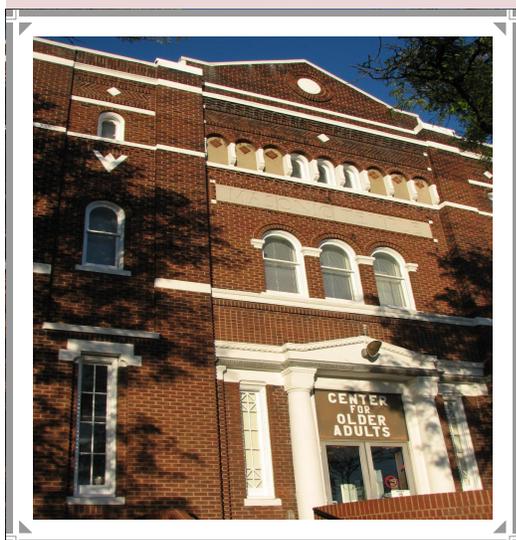
138 High Street  
 Wadsworth, Ohio 44281  
 (330) 335-1513  
[www.wadsworthcity.com](http://www.wadsworthcity.com)

### 2013 Staff

<b>Nancy Likens</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Lori Fultz</b>	<b>Activity/Volunteer Coordinator</b>
<b>Sheri Galat</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>
<b>Ellen Boetsky</b>	<b>Mature Services Program Aide</b>

### 2013 Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

<b>Dick Hontert</b>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>Richard Davis</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>Lynn Riley</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Betty Balarin</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Barb Leatherman</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Jim Riley</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Rea Dot Sprang</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>John Sharkey</b>	<b>City Council Liaison</b>



## Our Past

The Wadsworth Center for Older Adults began as a grass-roots effort initiated in the early 1970's by the *60 Plus or Minus Group*, comprised of forty two senior citizens in search of a meeting place. The City of Wadsworth responded by offering space at the "Civic Center" located at 138 High Street. The group held twice monthly meetings at the Civic Center with the City of Wadsworth providing a full-time Senior Citizens Advisor to plan programs and activities for the group.

In 1975, the Medina County Commissioners initiated a bus service for senior citizens in the Wadsworth area, enabling older adults without transportation to participate in programs at the Center. The Center's membership began to grow and the founding group changed its name to the *Lively Seniors*.

Due to the growing membership and the ongoing support of the Lively Seniors, a wide variety of programs and activities were initiated. In order to publicize the Center's programs and encourage attendance, the *Golden News* monthly newsletter was mailed to approximately eight hundred senior citizens in the Wadsworth area. In addition, volunteers were trained to canvas the community to locate households containing residents age sixty-plus and encourage them to participate at the Center.

In the early days of the Center's operation, fund raising events and donations from local businesses and community service organizations provided supplemental support for programs and activities and provided for needed equipment. Due to the small staff, volunteer support was an integral part of every function of the Center. Volunteers assisted with fund raising events, visited homebound seniors, made telephone reassurance calls, assembled the newsletter, served as bus escorts, and offered ongoing support that ensured the Center's growth and success.

Over the years, the Center has grown in scope and purpose, providing for the needs of an ever growing senior population. From its humble beginnings as a gathering place for less than fifty older adults the Center has grown to a current membership of more than 4,350 seniors. The Wadsworth Center for Older Adults, then and now, remains a community focal point committed to promoting successful aging by providing a full range of social, recreational, educational and supportive services for older adults. That commitment to the community will be expanded and enhanced, as the Center moves to the new Wadsworth High School and Community Center campus in 2013. Although Center staff, volunteers and participants look forward to the endless opportunities that await us at our new "home", we will always have fond memories of our humble beginnings and the many friends who inspired and supported us along the way.



## Our Future

The Wadsworth Center for Older Adults has called 138 High Street “home” for over thirty years. Friendships were formed, programs were created, ideas were launched and beautiful memories to last a lifetime were created. Although the building had served us well, challenges with accessibility and program development led the City of Wadsworth to participate in a new and exciting initiative that would benefit all Wadsworth residents.

In 2007, a group of community leaders representing the City of Wadsworth, Wadsworth City Schools, Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospital and the Wadsworth Public Library formed the Wadsworth Community Partnership to consider community-wide facility needs with the end mission of improving the quality of life for residents. A collaborative facilities plan was formed with plans to create a vibrant multi-generational campus that would include a new high school and community center with hospital rehab services, a new WCTV studio, library kiosk and new senior center.

The project was funded from a variety of sources including Ohio School Facilities Commission, contributions from Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospital, the City of Wadsworth, recreation providers, a 2008 school bond issue and a community-based capital campaign. Construction was successfully launched and the new Wadsworth High School was completed for the start of the fall 2012 school year and the Community Center was completed in December 2012.

The Wadsworth Community Center is a true focal point featuring a full-service aquatics and fitness center operated by the YMCA, a physical and occupational outpatient facility operated by Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospital, a Wadsworth Public Library lending kiosk, a new WCTV studio and a brand new Senior Center operated by the City of Wadsworth. A generous community donor, Soprema Inc., made a significant contribution to the facility capital campaign and received naming rights to the Senior Center, which is now named the Soprema Senior Center & Café.

The Soprema Senior Center & Café will offer a variety of programs, services and activities targeted to Wadsworth older adults, with an opening date of January 7, 2013.



## Education & Assistance

The Center offers a host of educational programs designed to provide valuable information and to assist older adults in remaining independent and active in the community. Many of these services are offered in collaboration with community-based partners who share the Center's mission of meeting the needs of Wadsworth's senior population.



### **AARP Income Tax Assistance Program**

AARP volunteers, trained by the IRS, prepare and electronically file income tax returns for senior citizens. This service is open to the public and is provided at no cost to service recipients.

**387 units of Tax Assistance were provided in 2012.**

### **Ask an Attorney**

Elder Law and Estate Planning Attorneys Gwen Perry and James Bates provided a valuable service for seniors who have simple legal questions regarding Medicaid, Veteran's benefits, estate planning, trusts, asset protection, taxes, and real estate transfers.

**52 seniors took advantage of free legal services in 2012.**

### **Community Legal Aid**

A representative of Community Legal Aid visited the Center to provide legal assistance to seniors. Services included: advance directives, consumer law, family law, health law, housing law, public benefits and probate matters.

**20 individuals were assisted in 2012.**

### **Information & Referral**

Senior citizens, family members, caregivers and concerned individuals in the community may contact us for reliable information and assistance in any area of need.

**5,161 Information and Referral phone requests were processed in 2012.**

### **Medicare & Insurance Assistance Program**

Community volunteers, trained by the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program, provided seniors with valuable one-on-one assistance with understanding Medicare and other insurance plans and with making decisions regarding plan selections.

**96 seniors received help via the Medicare Assistance Program in 2012.**

### **Roundtable with Dr. Lance**

Dr. David Lance, Medical Director of Hospice of Wadsworth-Rittman, offered seniors a chance to talk about important health issues via a monthly round table discussion, including plenty of time to "ask the expert".

**98 seniors (duplicated) participated in the Roundtable with Dr. Lance in 2012.**



### **Veteran's Assistance**

A representative of Medina County Veterans Service visited the Center twice monthly to answer questions and offer assistance regarding benefits and services for veterans and their spouses. Veterans of any age are welcome to take advantage of this important service.

**92 individuals were assisted at the Center in 2012.**

## SUPPORT GROUPS

The Center is sincerely committed to offering support to those involved in the care and well being of senior citizens. A grant from the *Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging* provides funding for our General and Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Support Groups with lunch and a special presentation offered at each monthly meeting.



### Alzheimer's Disease Support Group

Support is offered monthly to those caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's Disease or other memory impairment. This program is sponsored by the Greater East Ohio Alzheimer's Disease Association.

**86 caregivers (duplicated) participated in the Alzheimer's Support Group in 2012.**

### General Caregiver Support Group

Education, support and fellowship are important components offered by our General Caregiver Support Group via monthly meetings at the Center. Each meeting offers lunch, an educational presentation and time for sharing and friendship.

**184 individuals (duplicated) participated in the General Caregiver Support Group.**

### Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Support Group

Support is provided to those caring for individuals with Parkinson's Disease. Monthly meetings are held at the Center and feature lunch and a special program followed by plenty of time for visiting and sharing.

**209 individuals (duplicated) attended the Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Support Group.**



### Caregiver Luncheons

The Center continued to enjoy a special partnership and friendship with the *Women's Auxiliary of the Wadsworth Salvation Army*. Auxiliary volunteers prepared delicious and nutritious meals for our General and Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Support Groups. This partnership allowed the Center to offer meals while realizing savings to the grant that funds the program. The savings in 2012 enabled the Center to devote additional resources to programs, education and support for the two caregiver groups.

### Caregivers Day Out Retreat

The Caregivers Day Out retreat, funded by a grant from the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, is designed to honor, recognize and educate those special individuals who provide loving care for an older adult. The 2012 event was held at Liberty Residence I on March 27, 2012. Guests enjoyed a delicious lunch and pampering activities offered in a delightful garden themed setting.

*A special thank you to **Liberty Residence** for hosting the event, to **Altercare of Wadsworth** for providing the delicious lunch, and to the rest of the members of the planning committee from the **Center**, **Crossroads Hospice**, **Gentle Energy Healing**, **Heart to Heart Home Health Care**, **Home Instead Senior Care**, **Lake Anna YMCA**, **Right at Home** and **Wadsworth Pointe**.*

**42 caregivers attended 2012 Caregivers Day Out.**



## Health & Wellness

The Center offers a wide variety of programs designed to promote health and wellness for older adults in the community. Many of these programs are made possible through the generous contributions of our community-based partners.

### Arthritis Exercise

Weekly exercise classes targeted to seniors with arthritis are offered by our friends from Altercare of Wadsworth.

**856 individual units of Arthritis Exercise classes were offered.**



### Bible Study

The Wadsworth Salvation Army hosts weekly Bible study classes targeted to women's spiritual issues. Major Debbie Grace leads this group offering guidance, direction and friendship.

**Bible Study was provided to 236 individuals (duplicated) in 2012.**

### Blood Pressure Clinics

Courtesy of our steadfast friends from Altercare of Wadsworth, Magnolia Village and Visiting Nurse Service, life saving monthly blood pressure checks are offered at the Center.

**437 blood pressure checks were provided in 2012.**

### Chair Yoga

Under the direction of instructor Sue Bielawski, seniors were taught to improve strength, flexibility and balance using modified Yoga techniques.

**142 seniors (duplicated) participated in the Chair Yoga classes in 2012.**

### Senior Health Education

The Center offers an informative educational program focusing on senior health and wellness. This program includes educational presentations by health educators from the Medina County Health Department.

**33 seniors participated in the Diabetes & Senior Health Education program in 2012.**

### Indoor Walking Program

Seniors enjoyed the many health benefits of our indoor walking program.

**Walkers utilized the walking track on 568 occasions in 2012.**

### Nutrition Education

Monthly mini-educational seminars are offered at the Wadsworth Nutrition Site by a registered dietician from the Ohio State University Extension Services.

**202 individuals (duplicated) benefited from Nutrition Education in 2012.**

### Tai Chi

This gentle form of martial arts is the perfect exercise for seniors, as it promotes strength and balance and links the body, mind and spirit through purposeful and graceful movements.

**366 individual units of Tai Chi exercise were offered in 2012.**

**113 additional units of independent Tai Chi practice were offered.**



## Recreation Programs

The Center offers both traditional and innovative recreation programs in keeping with the needs of the diverse older adult population of Wadsworth.

### Art Deco

Monthly make-it/take-it classes are sponsored by *Professional Friends* of the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation and volunteer instructors. Participants also work on their own craft projects, including holiday service projects.

**139 individual units of Art Deco instruction were provided.**



### Bingo

Our friends from Autumnwood, Crossroads Hospice, Home Instead, Liberty Residence and Magnolia Village offer weekly Bingo games with a twist! Seniors play Bingo, win prizes and “Bingo Bucks” and then use their “Bucks” to bid on special gifts at a quarterly prize auction.

**1735 individuals (duplicated) tried their luck at Bingo in 2012.**

### Billiards

The Center has a dedicated group of seniors who participate in weekly billiards tournaments.

**Seniors engaged in Billiards Tournament play on 121 occasions.**

### Breakfast Out

The joy of dining with friends combined with the fact that breakfast is the most important meal of the day make our monthly Breakfast Out program a popular activity among seniors.

**97 individuals (duplicated) enjoyed the Breakfast Out program.**

### Cards & Games with Friends

Seniors had plenty of fun every second and fourth Tuesday at the Center playing cards and board games. Participants held friendly competitions to see who could master a variety of challenging and entertaining games.

**287 seniors (duplicated) enjoyed cards/games in 2012.**



### CARD GROUPS

Card playing remains a popular activity for Wadsworth area seniors. Our card groups offer opportunities to keep skills sharp while enjoying the company of others. Weekly card lessons are offered to seniors who want to learn how to play Euchre or Pinochle.

**131 card lessons were provided in 2012.**

### Bridge

736 (duplicated) individuals participated in weekly Bridge games in 2012.

### Euchre

458 (duplicated) individuals participated in monthly Euchre tournaments in 2012.

### Pinochle

96 (duplicated) individuals participated in monthly Pinochle tournaments in 2012.

## Recreation Programs

### Cooking Class

Seniors were busy cooking up delicious meals at this free program sponsored by Comfort Keepers. Participants also explored healthy food options with our program partner from the Cleveland Clinic.

**102 seniors donned their aprons in 2012.**

### Line Dancing

Seniors can learn new dance skills and improve their cardiovascular health at the same time at our weekly line dancing classes.

**Line Dance instruction was provided to 595 (duplicated) individuals in 2012.**



### Lunch Bunch

Seniors had a great time in 2012 trying out restaurants in Wadsworth and surrounding communities. What better way to spend an afternoon than enjoying good food in the company of good friends!

**124 seniors (duplicated) enjoyed the Lunch Bunch program in 2012.**

### Mahjongg

Seniors continued to enjoy playing and learning to play Mahjongg, a fun tile game that challenges the mind and provides great entertainment.

**236 seniors (duplicated) played Mahjongg in 2012.**

### Walking Wadsworth Wednesdays

The health benefits of walking are priceless and seniors took advantage of our new weekly outdoor walking program, planned in partnership with the *Whole Day Café*. Volunteers led the group and everyone had a great time.

**234 seniors (duplicated) enjoyed walking in and around Downtown Wadsworth in 2012.**



### Senior Theater

Our senior theater group was very successful in 2012. This lively group of performers entertained at the Center, local nursing homes, assisted living facilities and the County Home. Seniors were involved in every aspect of the theater including script writing, musical accompaniment, directing, publicity and, of course, performing!

**92 seniors (duplicated) participated in the Senior Theater group in 2012.**



### Watercolor Art Class

Volunteers from the Medina County Art League offer free instructional classes twice monthly.

**158 individuals (duplicated) received instruction via the Watercolor Art Class in 2012.**



## Travel Program

The Center has long served to meet the recreational needs of older adults through a well coordinated travel program. Our program, featuring both one-day and multi-day excursions, offers a number of travel options that appeal to a wide range of senior preferences and budgets. Our Travel Program provides older adults in our community with ample opportunities to explore the world!

**321 older adults expanded their horizons via the Travel Program in 2012.  
138 seniors attended the Center Travel Expo and Trip Previews in 2012.**

### CASINOS TRIPS 2012

January	Rivers Casino	Pittsburg, PA
March	Mountaineer Casino	Chester, West VA
April	Rivers Casino	Pittsburg, PA
June	Meadows Casino	Washington, PA
August	Horseshoe Casino	Cleveland, OH
September	Toledo Casino	Toledo, OH
November	Rivers Casino	Pittsburg, PA
December	Wheeling Island	Wheeling, West VA

### DAY TRIPS 2012

May	Columbus Capitol	Columbus, OH
June	Fabric Shop Hop	Amish Country, OH
August	Nautica Queen	Lake Erie - Cleveland, OH
September	Fun Day in Cleveland	Cleveland, OH

## Volunteer Program

Our volunteers offer support, assistance, time and expertise in every activity, program and service of the Center. Volunteer opportunities are available for all age groups and every effort is made to match the volunteer's needs with the Center's needs. We enjoy the service of senior volunteers, youth groups, school age children, community service workers and, of course, our many professional partners. Each year Center volunteers are thanked and recognized at a special *Volunteer Appreciation* event.\*



### 2012 VOLUNTEER HOURS

<i>Program</i>	<i>Volunteer Hours</i>
<b>AARP Tax</b>	<b>1620</b>
<b>Caregiver Support Groups</b>	<b>326</b>
<b>Courtyard Café</b>	<b>929</b>
<b>Games &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>788</b>
<b>Misc. Programs &amp; Services</b>	<b>361</b>
<b>Office Assistance</b>	<b>1738</b>
<b>OSHIIP/Medicare Assistance</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Rummage Sale</b>	<b>1235</b>
<b><i>Total 2012 Hours</i></b>	<b>7126</b>

**\*Over 164 volunteers assisted the Center in 2012!**

## Special Programs & Events

In addition to the wide range of educational programs, health/wellness programs and recreational programs, the Wadsworth Center for Older Adults offers special programs targeted to the specific needs of seniors. These programs are very popular and offer seniors ample opportunities to make new friends and create lasting memories. The Center has a rich history of offering special events that have become beloved traditions in addition to offering new programs that are contemporary and fresh.



### Center Christmas Party

The Center Christmas Party is an annual event that has become a longtime favorite in the Wadsworth community. In keeping with the spirit of giving during the holiday season, the event included a pot-luck luncheon with guests bringing their best holiday dishes to share. Beautiful decorations and holiday gifts were offered as door prizes to a number of lucky senior guests. In addition, delightful musical entertainment was provided by the talented Wadsworth High School Show Choir under the expert direction of Linda McNamara.

**136 guests celebrated the holidays at the 2012 Center Christmas Party.**



### Senior and Caregiver Expo

The Center played host to a mega information expo in the fall of 2012. Representatives of area businesses, organizations and agencies serving Wadsworth seniors provided information and assistance to both seniors and those caring for seniors in our community. In addition to the many Expo activities, representatives and volunteers from the state's *Ohio Senior Health Insurance Infor-*

*mation Program (OSHIIP)* and our own trained Center volunteers provided one-on-one assistance to seniors with Medicare and other insurance benefits. The event was funded by an Older Americans Act Family Caregiver Grant from the *Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging*.

**250 seniors attended the Expo in 2012.**

**48 caregivers attended the Expo in 2012.**



## Partners & Collaborators

The Center could not offer such a wide variety of programs, services and activities without the ongoing support of our community partners and collaborators. Some partners have supported the Center for many years, while others are the result of newly established connections. It is with sincere gratitude that we showcase the following special friends of the Wadsworth Center for Older Adults.

### **Feeding Medina County - New Partnership!**

Wadsworth area seniors were blessed by the efforts of Feeding Medina County. This agency coordinated a monthly food distribution program at the Center with surplus commodities from the countywide food distribution program. Seniors in need came to the Center to pick up fresh fruits, vegetables and other commodities to supplement their home pantries.

**225 seniors (unduplicated) received food at the new Food Distribution program in 2012.**

### **Hospice of Wadsworth-Rittman**

Hospice of Wadsworth-Rittman has been a long standing friend of the Center and had an active presence at the Center via the ongoing programs they support and several new initiatives launched in 2012, that had a positive impact on the seniors that we serve, including assistance with preparing Advance Directives, a moving Veteran's Pinning Ceremony and the popular Support Through Life's Journey seminar series with topics focusing on grief/depression, spirituality, stress management, senior nutrition and much more.



**13 seniors attended the Choices Advance Directives program in 2012.**

**22 veterans were recognized at a special Pinning Ceremony in 2012.**

**69 seniors took advantage of the Support Through Life's Journey seminars in 2012.**

### **HANDS Foundation - Making Prevention Work for Older Americans**

The HANDS Foundation sponsors a unique prevention project for older adults. *Making Prevention Work for Older Americans*, funded by the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission, is designed to address alcohol, substance abuse and medication mismanagement issues within the older adult population. The Center and the HANDS Foundation teamed up to offer the successful "Brown Bag" Medication Review Program. Seniors brought their prescription, non-prescription, over-the-counter and herbal remedies in a "brown bag" to be reviewed by local pharmacists for possible harmful interactions. Lunch was provided courtesy of Comfort Keepers. In addition, the HANDS Foundation, in cooperation with Cornerstone Wellness, offered the popular and informative Prevention Bingo program, which assists seniors in recognizing the warning signs of substance abuse and medication mismanagement issues in older adults.

**28 seniors participated in the Prevention Bingo program on April 13, 2012.**

**19 seniors participated in the Brown Bag Medication Review Program on May 16, 2012.**

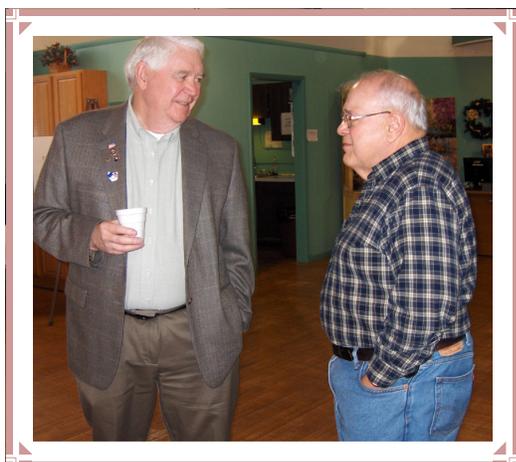
### **Medina County Office for Older Adults**

The Medina County Commissioners, through the Office for Older Adults, have formed a strong and lasting partnership with the Center. The County provides daily bus service to and from the Center. Such service has enabled Wadsworth seniors to frequent the Center and to take care of essential tasks around town, such as grocery shopping, medical appointments, etc. The County also supports the Center's senior Nutrition Site, which offers both congregate and home delivered meals Monday through Friday.

### **Medina County Senior Services Network**

In partnership with the Medina County Senior Services Network, the Center offered an educational seminar packed with useful information to help seniors avoid scams. The seminar featured a presentation by U.S. Postal Inspector, Lauren E. Cujuste, who provided valuable information on mail fraud and postal scams. An ice cream social served as a festive end to an interesting and informative day.

**66 seniors attended the Mail Fraud Seminar and Ice Cream Social in 2012.**



### **Medina County Veterans Service**

The Medina County Veterans Service has been a long standing friend to the Center, providing valuable information and assistance to those who served our country. In 2012, Veterans Services hosted a special benefits seminar designed to assist veterans, their spouses and caregivers in accessing benefits ranging from health care to pensions to compensation.

**68 veterans and their family members/caregivers attended the program on September 12, 2012.**

### **Wadsworth Public Library Monthly Movie Matinee**

The Center continued an exciting program partnership with the Wadsworth Public Library in 2012, offering our monthly movie matinee at the Library's beautiful venue. Our Library partners and Center staff greeted seniors each month and refreshments were offered courtesy of Professional Friends of the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation.

**263 seniors enjoyed the Movie Matinee and our new Library partnership in 2012.**





### **Wadsworth City Schools**

The Center is fortunate to have established a wonderful partnership with the Wadsworth City Schools. Wadsworth Schools and the Center share a mutual appreciation for the talents and gifts each group offers to the other. Students and seniors alike have benefited from the intergenerational connections made by the following collaborative programs and activities:

#### ***Leaf Raking Project***

Each year the Wadsworth High School senior class provides a valuable community service to assist and benefit older adults. The WHS Senior Class of 2013 assembled together on a blustery fall day to rake leaves for older adults throughout the city.

**234 senior households received assistance via the WHS Leaf Raking Project in 2012.**

#### ***Oasis Tutoring Program***

The Center continues to partner with Wadsworth City Schools to secure senior volunteers for the OASIS tutoring and mentoring program. Seniors are recruited and trained to serve as volunteer mentors to elementary age school children. The goal of the program is to have senior volunteers improve reading and language skills for the children. The recruiting efforts by the Center resulted in securing an ongoing core group of volunteers to participate in this important educational program for young children in our community.

**36 senior volunteers participated in the OASIS Program in 2012.**

#### ***Reality Day***

Parents (and grandparents) often lament that kids today need a good dose of reality in order to succeed in our complicated world. Wadsworth Middle School stepped up to that challenge in 2012 by offering a creative program to introduce 8th grade students to the “reality” of the working world, including home ownership, family obligations, managing a budget and employment responsibilities. Select senior volunteers were recruited to assist with this popular and successful event.

**15 volunteers assisted with the WMS Reality Day event in 2012.**

#### **Wadsworth Intergenerational Technology Collaborative**

The Intergenerational Technology Collaborative was strengthened in 2012, as our partners from the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation, Wadsworth City Schools and Wadsworth Public Library worked collaboratively with the Center to offer two unique technology based training programs for senior citizens. In keeping with the spirit of the Technology Collaborative, high school student volunteers provided one-on-one assistance with two training programs. The intergenerational connections were magical, as the high school students taught their new senior citizen friends how to use technology equipment and applications.

**23 seniors participated in the Technology “Gadget” Show & Tell class in 2012.**

**10 seniors participated in the Blogging & Social Media class in 2012.**

## Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation

**T**he Center is a proud beneficiary of the support of the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation. The Foundation serves as the fundraising “arm” of the Center and offers resources, volunteer support and friendship to staff and senior participants alike. The Foundation’s *Professional Friends* organization had another very successful year with over 50 active members representing area agencies, businesses and organizations who worked shoulder to shoulder with Center staff and volunteers to bring outstanding programs and events to Wadsworth seniors. The Center is greatly appreciative of the ongoing support of the Foundation and Professional Friends!

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation is to be proactive in providing supplemental support to the programs and services of the Wadsworth Center for Older Adults.

### **Vision Statement**

The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation shall establish itself as the premiere community resource to advocate for a high quality of life for seniors.

## 2013 Foundation Board of Trustees

**Dick Davis, President**

**Tammy Cruise, Vice President**

**Adam Palffy, Treasurer**

**Deb Fankhauser, Secretary**

**Cathy B. Hall, Historian**

**Marla Williams, Corresponding Secy.**

**Dawne Andrews Member**

**Jackie Cameron Member**

**Nancy Dunn Member**

**Dick Hontert Member**

**Beverly Long Member**

**Pam Myers Member**

**Janet Tektas Member**

**Jeff Teringo Member**

**Bryant Watson Member**

## 2012 Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation Events & Accomplishments

### Courtyard Café

The Courtyard Café continues to be a favorite summer activity in Wadsworth. The Café features affordable meals and live entertainment for seniors and the general public. The Café draws residents and guests to the square and enables the Center to show its support and appreciation of downtown Wadsworth. At the same time, the Café serves as a fund raising activity for the **Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation** and Center. The popularity and success of the Courtyard Cafe continued in 2012, largely due to the excellent combination and collaboration of staff, volunteers and the Foundation's *Professional Friends* organization.

**1,106 meals were served at the Café in 2012.**



### Barbeque Show Down

The *Professional Friends* of the **Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation** hosted the event of the summer season on Friday, July 6. Hungry guests lined up on King Street to sample delicious grilled favorites and local chefs participated in a competition for the best barbeque in Wadsworth. Top honors in the contest for **best barbeque** went to **BG's Main Event (Judges' Choice - Caesar Carrino, Jeff Davis, Pat Geissman, Jim Riley & David Wadsworth)** and **Wadsworth Pointe (People's Choice)**. The winners had stiff

competition from **Burbank Parke, Giant Eagle, Sonnets Espresso Bar & Restaurant, and the Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation.**

### Rummage Sale

The Center and Foundation continue to foster and execute an excellent partnership in the form of the annual Rummage Sale. This event serves not only as a major fund raising event, but also provides for a wide variety of volunteer opportunities, while giving local shoppers a chance to purchase treasures at bargain prices!



## Senior Advocate Hall of Fame



The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation welcomed a large crowd to a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception honoring the 2011 Senior Advocate Hall of Fame inductees on May 10, 2012 at the Galaxy Restaurant. These individuals were selected for induction into the Hall of Fame for the significant impact they have made and continue to make to improve the quality of life for older adults in our community.

### **Nancy Likens - Leatherman Lifetime Achievement Award**

Nancy Likens, Director of the Wadsworth Center for Older Adults, has served as a strong advocate for older adults and has worked in concert with community partners to expand program and service opportunities for senior citizens. She has served in a wide variety of leadership capacities, bringing new and innovative programming to the community. Likens has received a number of awards and recognition for her leadership and advocacy.

### **Thomas DeBord**

Tom DeBord, Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospital CEO, FACHE (fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives), is committed to leading his hospitals with integrity. He has a passion for professional excellence and a commitment to superior customer service and quality care. DeBord is very active in the community as well.

### **Dale Fortner**

Dr. Dale Fortner, Superintendent, Wadsworth City Schools, has been in school administration for 21 years, and his professional involvement includes committee work for the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Buckeye Association of School Administrators. His list of community-related organizations and services is long and varied, and he has received many honors and awards.

### **Robin Laubaugh**

City of Wadsworth Mayor, Robin Laubaugh, was honored for her extensive community affiliations and contributions. Her government experience began with Wadsworth City Council in 1998, and continued with various positions until she was elected Council President in 2004. She was elected Mayor in 2008, and is now in her second term. Laubaugh has been recognized widely for her dedication to the community.

### **C. Allen Nichols**

C. Allen Nichols has been the Wadsworth Public Library Director since 1997, and has served his profession through participation in various statewide and national organizations, including a term as president of the Ohio Library Association. Nichols is an active, contributing member of the community as well, and has received other awards and recognition for his services.

## Senior Citizens Prom

“Stardust Memories” was the theme for a dreamy dinner dance on Saturday, March 31. The 2012 Senior Prom was held at Wadsworth Middle School and this beautiful venue featured abundant and comfortable guest seating, ample room for dancing, and a spectacular stage and sound system. Keepsake photos were taken and served as a lasting memory of the lovely evening. Guests stepped into the beautiful venue, decorated by students from Wadsworth High School and enjoyed live music set to the sounds of the “*Good Grief!*” Band. A bountiful buffet provided by Wadsworth Pointe enticed the guests. Everyone enjoyed the excitement and romance of high school prom all over again as the 2012 Senior Prom King and Queen were crowned. To complete the evening, each guest received a special gift and beautiful door prizes were awarded to several lucky winners. Many thanks to members of the *Professional Friends* of the **Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation** for making the 2012 event a most memorable and enchanted evening.

**152 seniors danced the night away at the 2012 Senior Prom.**

