

# NEWS RELEASE

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## New Goodwill store opens Sept. 21 near Middletown Mall Plaza

FAIRMONT, W.Va., Sept. 14, 2011 – A newly constructed “next generation” Goodwill store near Middletown Mall Plaza will open for business at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21. Located at 50 Southland Drive across from Fairmont General Hospital’s HealthPlex fitness center, it was built for Goodwill of North Central West Virginia to replace an older Goodwill store in Middletown Mall, which will close on Sept. 20.

“This new store is a key part of the expansion and upgrading of our retail network that is now nearing completion,” said Robert Stape, Goodwill’s Vice President of Retail. “It is a new type of store designed specifically for Goodwill’s unique operations. Production and donation areas are arranged for maximum efficiency and the store is wide open and very green, with energy-efficient HVAC and electrical systems.”

Goodwill representatives and community leaders will take part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9 a.m. on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The public is invited to celebrate the store’s grand opening throughout the day with prizes, a raffle, and light refreshments.

Until the older store closes on Tuesday, shoppers are welcome to take advantage of tremendous values there with 50 percent off all donated items.

Mr. Stape said that during its two-year retail expansion program, Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania will have opened six new stores, increasing the number of stores in the region from 24 to 30, and replaced three older locations with new structures.

Martin Perry and Rick Dimidjian with Aegis Realty Partners are advising Goodwill on its retail expansion program and represented Goodwill in the lease/purchase arrangement for the new Fairmont store from The Glimcher Group for Commercial Land Development, Inc., owner of the new building.

Goodwill of North Central West Virginia is an affiliate unit of Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania, whose service area includes the West Virginia counties of Barbour, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph, Taylor and Upshur.

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