

## Ramblin' With Ray

As I write to you on January 1, 2012, the greeting of course, is "Happy New Year". I encourage us all to make a happy new year and not just a casual wish.

For us involved in the Manchester Shepherd Center programs and activities, it is actually mid term of our weekly Wednesday gatherings which will begin for the winter/spring term on Wednesday, February 8, at the Town Life Center.



For those of you who have been regular in attendance, you will remember that there is such a joy to see people greeting each other, talking, and laughing right up to our starting time of 9:00, so that it is often difficult to get everyone's attention. This is good. It demonstrates energy and an excitement of being together for such a meaningful time. To offset the supposedly winter doldrums of February, I look forward to the uplift we will experience together on Wednesdays.

We certainly look forward to Dr. David Waas and "Newstalk". He will bring a gift of fresh air and a balanced presentation of the issues surrounding all of us in the next several months of the 2012 political campaign.

We seem to have a daily onslaught of that which is not so fresh air (I better stop at that). You get the idea. Yes, David, we are excited about experiencing your excellent researched presentations that enlightens and encourages our questioning minds.

And then to close out the morning, we anxiously look forward to "Adventures in Learning", the second hour presentation (not on third Wednesdays). JoAnne Mock and the committee have a variety of people coming to give presentations that will help us understand different topics of community or personal concerns.

On the third Wednesdays, we meet at 8:30 a.m. instead of the regular 9:00 hour. "Medtalk", under the leadership of Dr. Wilbur McFadden, brings the latest medical information presented by a medical doctor or other health care professionals. These always prove very timely and helpful for not only our personal health, but touches on a broader perspective of issues facing healthcare in our country.

So, put February 8th on your calendar as you join all your friends at the Manchester Shepherd Center. Please be proactive in inviting your friends to join us also. Thank you for all you do in this organization and others in which you give your time and talent.

**Larry Ray**