Notification of News Release

December 6, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Further Information Contact
Faith Dickerhoof
Assistant Community Engagement Director
O 513-792-8358 C 513-227-6458
fdickerhoof@ci.montgomery.oh.us

(MONTGOMERY, Ohio) – **'Midnight Magic' captures win at the Festival of Trees Contest**

Mary Cole's 'Midnight Magic Tree' caught the eye of the hundreds of people who attended the Montgomery's Holiday in the Village event on December 3. Her tree was the winning entry in the Festival of Trees Contest.

Three locations including Ohio National Financial Services, where this tree was displayed, Historic Universalist Church and Bethesda North Hospital displayed a total of twelve trees submitted by different businesses, community members, volunteer groups and others. The trees, displayed at one of these three locations, added to the holiday festiveness of the annual Holiday in the Village event done in partnership with these sponsors and the City of Montgomery.

Winners were selected by attendees who placed votes for their favorite tree at the annual Holiday in the Village event. The tree with the highest total of votes from each of the 3 locations was entered into a raffle drawing. The highest votes from each of the three locations were: at Universalist Church, '*All Creatures Great and Small'* from Suzanne Heil and Angie McHugh; at Bethesda North, the '*Ohio State Buckeye Tree'* created by Staci Bradley; and at Ohio National Financial Services, '*Midnight Magic'* created by Mary Cole. Of those three, we conducted a random drawing and Mary Cole's tree was selected as the winner.

Many of the trees exploded with creative twists on this traditional holiday icon. Thanks to the following entries!
Suzanne Heil & Angie McHugh, *All Creatures Great & Small*
Mary Cole, *Midnight Magic*
Becky Cole, *Flapper Beauty*
Staci Bradley, *The Elvis Blue Christmas Tree*
James Bradley, *Ohio State Buckeyes*
Melissa Slay, *Home for the Holidays*
Jann Doering-Woodson, *Homemade Holiday*
Lea Peacock, *Your Neighborhood Hospital*
Bethesda Auxiliary, *Bethesda Auxiliary*
Tara Kressler, Symmes Library, *The Library Tree*
Miranda Vasquez, *Elves at Play*
Barrie Marten, *Thank you tree for the people and places that make our community great*

Photos of the entries can be found on the city's website, www.montgomeryohio.org.

###