



## **2020 Festival of Lights; Winners Announced**

MOUNT VERNON – The City of Mount Vernon is pleased to present the winners of the 2020 Festival of Lights competition! Thank you all who participated in this event to bring some hope and holiday spirit to our town! We look forward to this becoming an annual tradition for families all around Knox County. Mayor Matt Starr was thrilled with the public's response to what he referred to as an "old school" activity. "I remember driving around during Christmas season with my mom and dad just to see the decorations at night," said Starr. "I think this is endearing to see how a very simple old school idea can spark the Christmas spirit into so many. Not even Covid can take away Christmas."

Pictured from top to bottom: Griswold Winner – Carrie Knell; Glitter Winner – Marilyn Nagy; 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Winner – Louie Ballesteros; 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Winner – Cierra Selzer; 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Winner – Amy Riedel; Sights and Sounds Winner – Barbara Hammer; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Winner – Tamara and Jason Wood; Blow-ups Display Winner – Wendy Shipman; Colorful Lights Winner – Jennifer Beck; Best in Show Winner – Joleen and Rick Lanning.

###

### **ABOUT THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON:**

The City of Mount Vernon is an innovative community with an authentic hometown feel. Home to 17,000 people, Mount Vernon is the county seat for Knox County and boasts historic buildings and districts as well as business and professional, educational, and recreational opportunities through many adaptive reuses of the community's infrastructure and spaces. Specific attractions are the historic Woodward Opera House, the Knox County Memorial Building and Theater, and the 250-acre Ariel–Foundation Park adjacent to the state scenic Kokosing River. With strong ties to higher education, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Kenyon College, and Central Ohio Technical College have satellite locations in the historic downtown. Located 40 miles northeast of Columbus, Mount Vernon is near the geographic center of Ohio and has connections all over the globe.

CONTACT: Tanya Newell

PHONE: (740) 393-9517

DATE: December 18, 2020