



For More Information Contact:  
Marsha Gray  
Michigan Christmas Tree Association  
517-545-9971  
517-242-1630 (cell)  
[migray1@charter.net](mailto:migray1@charter.net)

### **Detroit Lions Alumnus, Herman Moore supports Trees for Troops in Michigan**

Detroit Lions Alumnus, Herman Moore, will be joining the owners of Candy Cane CHRISTmas Tree Farm as they load 100 farm-grown Christmas Trees to U.S. troops and military families through Trees for Troops®, a nationwide program of the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation in conjunction with the National Christmas Tree Association, the Michigan Christmas Tree Association and FedEx.

Herman Moore and Best Drug Rehabilitation will be presenting a \$6,000 donation to support the Trees for Troops program. **Moore will also join community and local retired military volunteers in loading the trees on the FedEx trailer on December 10<sup>th</sup> following a 10 am press conference at Candy Cane Christmas Tree Farm, 4780 Seymour Lake Rd. in Oxford.** The trees will then depart for Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico to help the troops and their families celebrate the Christmas season.

“Although all the trees are donated by growers and Fed Ex donates all of the shipping, there is still an estimated \$5 per tree cost to execute the Trees for Troops program,” comments Marsha Gray, Executive Director of the Michigan Christmas Tree Association. “Mr. Moore and Best Drug Rehab stepped up with a very generous \$6,000 donation that covers the cost of all of our Michigan trees. We are very grateful for this type of support.”

Statewide, Michigan’s Christmas tree growers are donating more than 1,200 trees this year. Last holiday season, nearly 19,000 trees were delivered to 65 military bases in the U.S. and overseas. This brought the total to more than 122,000 Real Christmas Trees delivered through Trees for Troops since 2005.

“Being involved with Trees for Troops is truly a gift that gives back,” said Nigel Manley, Christmas SPIRIT Foundation chairman. “It’s rewarding and meaningful to everyone involved, because it gives us the opportunity to say thank you to our troops, and help ensure military families have the kind of joyful, traditional Christmas memories that we would wish for America’s heroes.”

Each year, hundreds of military families visit the Trees for Troops website and Facebook page to leave heartfelt thank you messages and pictures of their families celebrating around their beautifully decorated Christmas Trees. For example, a message from the Pendleton family read, “Thank you for our beautiful Christmas tree! We weren’t sure what we were going to do this year...Trees for Troops was an answer to our prayers.”

#### About Trees for Troops and the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation

The Christmas SPIRIT Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization that works to recognize and support the true spirit of Christmas for U.S. troops through the Trees for Troops® program. The foundation was established in 2005 as the charitable branch of the National Christmas Tree Association and is among fewer than 5 percent of U.S. charities to be awarded the “Best in America” seal of excellence by Independent Charities of America. Trees for Troops was a Top 20 Finalist in the 2012 Joining Forces Campaign, a White House initiative that honors exemplary support organizations for military families. To learn more, visit [www.treesfortroops.org](http://www.treesfortroops.org) or call 636/449-5060.

#### About FedEx

FedEx Corp. (NYSE: FDX) provides customers and businesses worldwide with a broad portfolio of transportation, e-commerce and business services. With annual revenues of \$45 billion, the company offers integrated business applications through operating companies competing collectively and managed collaboratively, under the respected FedEx brand. Consistently ranked among the world's most admired and trusted employers, FedEx inspires its more than 300,000 team members to remain "absolutely, positively" focused on safety, the highest ethical and professional standards and the needs of their customers and communities. For more information, visit [news.fedex.com](http://news.fedex.com).

To make arrangements for on-site interviews and photos please contact Marsha Gray at the Michigan Christmas Tree Association: (517)545-9971 or (517)242-1630 (cell)

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