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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOWNTOWN SCARECROW CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Manchester, CT The votes have been counted and the winner of the First Annual Downtown Scarecrow Display and Contest are:

Viewer's Choice Winners: First Place Winner - Beauty Queen Scarecrow - created by Beth Coleman and Gerrie Dawson of Curves of Manchester. Second Place Winner - Grandmother Scarecrow - created by Megan Webb for Eldercare Consulting. Third Place Winner - Scholar Scarecrow - created by the students from Vernon Regional Adult Education.

Special Recognition Awards selected by the Manchester Art Assoc.

Best in Show, MAA Presidential Award - Bill Mahoney of Pinewood Furniture for his Classic Scarecrow.

"Kathleen Kelly Award" - Bennet Academy students from Team Jackie Robinson for their Scarecrow Tableau.

"Best Stuffed Award" - New Seasons Day Program for their Manchester Businessman.

Creativity Award - Church Mouse Thrift Shoppe and Community Enterprises, Inc. Partnership for their Punk Rocker Scarecrow; Salon Petite for their "At the Beauty Parlor" Scarecrow and Sabina Wilson for her Scarecrow Ghosts.

The Community Spirit Award - Manchester Police Explorers for their Explorer Scarecrow; Worldwide Lighthouse Missions Youth Group for their Scarecrow Family; The Curio Cabinet for its Lady Gardener Scarecrow; Silk City Flick Fest for its Flick Fest Girl Scarecrow; Silk City Antiques for its Dracula Scarecrow; Rob & Patti McAvoy of Randpx 2 Photography for its Photographer and Chef Scarecrows and Landmark Cafe for its Girl & Boy Scarecrow.

To view scarecrow photos go to www.downtownmanchester.org

The Scarecrow Display and Contest was sponsored by the Manchester Art Association and hosted by the Downtown Manchester Special Services District. Thirty scarecrows were created and displayed this year. Both groups look forward to holding the contest again in 2010.

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Photo Caption: Curves of Manchester owner, Beth Coleman, poses with the Downtown Scarecrow Contest First Place Viewer's Choice winner— The Manchester Beauty Queen – created by Curves of Manchester.