



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center

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Dayton, Ohio 45428

News Release

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## Dayton VA Medical Center celebrates An Evening of Illumination

The Dayton VA Medical Center will dedicate new lighting and a fountain at their Historic Grotto and Healing Gardens on Tuesday, October 17, at 6PM. The theme of this dedication will be “An Evening of Illumination”.

The celebration will include the unveiling of a fountain, 125 new lights donated by the Home Depot Foundation and 36 lights donated by Unique Lighting.

*An Evening of Illumination* will feature sky lanterns, illuminated pathways, music, seasonal cookies and apple cider for guests. This event will be the culmination of several years of dedicated work toward the goal of restoring the garden.

The Historic Grotto and healing Gardens were initially created by Civil War veterans in the 1860’s and 1870’s. In 2012, the Veterans Affairs Medical Center and The American Veterans Heritage Center initiated the current rejuvenation of the historic Grotto Gardens landscape. The Ohio State University Extension’s Greater Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers joined the team in 2013 to provide maintenance support, develop and maintain new gardens, and continue the reclamation process. Along the way, other volunteers have joined the team and there have been significant financial and in-kind donations by individual, organizations, garden clubs, and garden centers.

This program is free and open to the public.

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