FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 24, 2008

CONTACT: Sandi Marlowe
823-6262 (ofc)
223-6168 (cell)
smarlowe@livingstonhealthcare.org

LIVINGSTON HEALTHCARE HOSPICE TREE OF LIFE FOCUSES ON SAVING LIVES IN 2008

Livingston HealthCare invites the Park County community to participate in a very special annual tradition—the Livingston HealthCare *Hospice Tree of Life*.

The Livingston HealthCare *Hospice Tree of Life* is an opportunity to honor life. Anyone can recognize the lives of loved ones by dedicating a light to shine in their honor on the *Hospice Tree of Life*.

This year, there is a very special purpose for the *Hospice Tree of Life* donations. The hospice staff has decided to use contributions towards the purchase of digital mammography at Livingston HealthCare to celebrate the lives of women in Park County. This technology, which costs an estimated $300,000, improves early detection of breast cancer, which is a key to better survival rates.

More than 48% of the Livingston HealthCare hospice patients suffer from some form of cancer. Breast cancer is the most common non-skin cancer for women and the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States. This investment will improve care for the women of Park County—and save lives.

"Livingston HealthCare Hospice is fortunate to have such great community support," said Julie Rost, Hospice and Home Care manager. "In the past, these essential donations have been used for equipment and education to support our staff as we provide compassionate care to seriously ill patients and their families through the final stages of illness and dying. Most recently, donations were used for a four wheel drive vehicle to allow access to hospice patients living in remote areas. This year, we decided we would like to ask our supporters to help us provide a vital service to all the women of Park County."

The *Hospice Tree of Life* shines outside the Livingston Depot Center from December 10th to January 1st this holiday season. The entire community is invited to the *Hospice Tree of Life* ceremony on Wednesday, December 10 at 5:30 pm at the Livingston Depot Center.

To honor and celebrate the life of a loved one on the *Hospice Tree of Life*, call 823-6261 or visit www.livingstonhealthcare.org by Wednesday, December 3.

###