

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Charles County, MD Chapter

NEWSLETTER FOURTH QUARTER 2011

January 2012

“Small things, done with great love, bring joy and peace.”
.....Mother Theresa

See ya later, 2011! Hello 2012! Hello to a bright new year for Charles County Project Linus. We are well on our way to celebrating our 10th birthday in September AND sometime during the year, if we pick up the pace a bit, we COULD click over the 20,000-mark in our number of blankets donated! Wow! All due to the amazing dedication and generosity of a fairly small group of "Blanketeers", and lots of community support. Thanks to everyone who has helped make 2011 a great, successful year and to all who will be joining us in 2012 for another great year.....Mary

OUR MISSION

Charles County Project Linus is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization. It is our mission and the mission of the National Project Linus organization to:

First, provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "Blanketeers".

Second, it is our mission to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

MAKE A BLANKET DAY 2012

Mark your calendar!!! Friday, Feb. 17, 2012 will be our annual Make A Blanket Day at the Richard R. Clark Senior Center in La Plata. For those of you who have joined us since last year, Make A Blanket Day (MABD) is sort of a one-day fun marathon blanket-making work day, at which we try to make, finish, label, tag, count, bag, list, count again, and then distribute as many blankets as possible! Last year, I think we did 354 blankets!! All blankets that come in from the January meeting through MABD will be counted. So, start making an extra blanket today!!! We usually give 144 to the Charles County Emergency Medical Services (one bag for each squad), to be used on ambulances throughout the County. We hope some of our recipient organizations will send representatives to speak with us briefly about how they use the blankets and that they will take some blankets as they leave.

In addition to our usual donation points, we also have coming up Hospice Camp Sunshine and TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.) We always send very special blankets to Hospice's Camp Sunshine, which is for children ages 8 through teen who have lost a loved-one to cancer during the past year....and special patriotic blankets to the TAPS program, which is held each year in D.C. on Memorial Day Weekend, where children of our military who have been killed during the past year are invited for a special weekend of activities in the Nation's Capital. Each child receives his own blanket to take home. Last year, Charles County donated 151 blankets to this cause, and approximately 1500 blankets were distributed, coming in from Project Linus Chapters across the United States!! Any patriotic color/themed blankets we get throughout the year are put aside for this special program. I have been told camouflage blankets are very popular at this gathering...we haven't gotten many of those in the past...something to think about when you're shopping for fabric/yarn between now and the middle of May. These are given to all the children - infants through age 18, so think of all the "kids"!

Anyway, back to Make A Blanket Day -

When: Friday, Feb. 17, 9 am to 3 pm

Where: - Clark Center - 1210 Charles Street, La Plata, 20646

What to bring: small sewing kit so you can use your own scissors, thread, etc. You can bring a project if you are working on something, or you can work on whatever we have going. Hopefully, there will be plenty to do!!

Lunch is being donated by Apple Spice Junction - will need to get fairly accurate head count, so please remember to **RSVP by Feb. 13** if you can make it. You will be getting emails about this. Those who don't receive email, please contact me to order lunch for you.



Project Linus Conference is 4 days of education, inspiration, fun and sharing all things Project Linus. It is open to anyone interested in learning more, and sharing in the Project Linus experience. Take part in classes, booths, lectures, and networking with chapters and volunteers from across the country, learn basic and new blanket making techniques, and more. Meet Carol, Mary, and all the Project Linus National team and a lot of their families!! Click on the Conference link above or go to www.ProjectLinus.org to see all the info about Conference. I have been 3 different years, and it is a BLAST. I am signed up this year. If interested, let me know!! Maybe we can travel together. Make your own registration arrangements on the website. If you do, I promise you won't be disappointed. It is FUN.

MY CAUSE WATER



Please continue to support MY CAUSE water!!! Buy a bottle; and follow the instructions on the bottle, enter Project Linus Charles County and the company will donate five cents a bottle to Charles County Project Linus!!! How easy is that?? Good water, too! Check it out at www.mycause.com; Any money not designated to a specific organization is given to a random charity in a drawing every month. Fingers crossed we win one month!!

CHANGES - PLEASE NOTE!!

1. Our meetings are now being held at the Clark Senior Center at 10 a.m. on the second Friday of each month.
2. NO MEETING - FEB. 10 - the regular Friday Clark Center Blanketeers will be at the Clark Center prepping for MABD. You are welcome to join, but it won't be a regular meeting.

Important dates:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Feb. 10, 2012: | NO REGULAR MEETING |
| Feb. 13, 2012: | DEADLINE TO RESERVE LUNCH FOR MABD |
| Feb. 17 2012: | MAKE A BLANKET DAY!!!!!!!!!!!!
Clark Center 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| Mar. 9, 2012: | March Project Linus Meeting
Clark Center 10 a.m. |
| Apr. 13, 2012: | April Project Linus Meeting
Clark Center 10 a.m. |
| May 11, 2012: | May Project Linus Meeting
Clark Center 10 a.m. (Please bring TAPS blankets.) |
| May 17, 2012: | Deadline to have TAPS blankets to a Drop-Off Bin |

STATISTICS!!!

I know everyone is anxiously awaiting our NUMBERS!!

ORGANIZATION	# OF BLANKETS DELIVERED
Alabama PL Chapter (disaster relief)	24
American Red Cross	48
Catherine Foundation	282
Center for Children	12
CC Health Dept. - Infants & Toddlers	105
Charles County EMS	144
Children's Aid	60
Civista Medical Center	455
Children's National Medical Center	383
Charles County Hospice	41
Dentsville Emergency Medical Services	12
Individual donations	15
Ironsides Rescue Squad	26
J. C. Parks Elementary	4
Lifestyles	12
Prayer of Faith Ministries	24
Soldiers' Angels (Japan disaster)	81
TAPS	151
The Promise Resource Center	48
Thornton Funeral Home	24
Tri-County Youth Services Bureau	126
Williams Funeral Home	10
TOTAL BLANKETS DELIVERED IN 2011	2087

**TOTAL BLANKETS DONATED TO DATE BY CHARLES COUNTY
PROJECT LINUS: 17,026!!!**

NATIONAL STATS:

Vital Statistics <small>(as of Sep 30, 2011)</small>	
<i>Blankets Delivered</i>	<i>Total Chapters</i>
4,025,297	368



Remember, the Clark Center Blanketeers meet every Friday at the Clark Center from 9 to 12. You are welcome to join them any Friday.

The Happy Hookers Crochet Group meets every Tuesday at the Health Partners building on US 301, Waldorf, from 10 to 12. You are welcome to join them any Tuesday. Please call Kaye at 301-843-6122 or email kayememaw@aol.com for further information

PLEASE **DO**:

- ⇒ Use **NEW** machine washable/dryable fabrics
- ⇒ Leave us your contact information with your blankets if you drop off at one of the bins.
- ⇒ Launder blankets that have been exposed to pets to remove pet hair and/or dander.

PLEASE **DO NOT**:

- ⇒ **EXPOSE THE BLANKETS TO CIGARETTE SMOKE**
- ⇒ Attach bells, bows, buttons, snaps, ribbons or anything that could come off and harm a child. Ribbons woven in around the edges of blankets look beautiful, but are a hazard and will have to be removed.
- ⇒ Use wool, polyester double knits, upholstery or vinyl in the blankets.



WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU SCRAPS, MAKE QUILTS

(Afghans are good too!)

Mary Hancock, Coordinator
Project Linus - Charles County, MD
12010 Maryland Point Road
Nanjemoy, MD 20662
(301) 743-2114 home
(301) 653-4893 cell
CharlesCounty.MD@ProjectLinus.org

Let's support those who support us:

DROP-OFF BIN LOCATIONS

MATERIAL GIRLS QUILT.

The Henley Family
6750 B Crain Highway
La Plata, MD 20646
(301) 392-9575
www.materialgirlsqilt.com

THE HAIR GALLERY

Stephanie Walton
Bryans Road Shopping Center
P.O. Box 26
Bryans Road, MD 20616
(301) 283-6222

HANCOCK FABRICS

Sherry Shapiro
2920 Festival Way
Waldorf, MD 20601
(301) 645-4146

MICHELLE'S QUILTS

Michelle
8132 Old Leonardtown Road
Hughesville, MD 20637
(301) 274-1919
<http://www.michellesquilts.com>

APPLE SPICE JUNCTION

Loren Wash
6750 Crain Highway
La Plata, MD 20646
(301) 934-0034
www.applespice.com

BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB, INC

1000 St. Nicholas Drive
Waldorf, MD 20603

THE GREATER WALDORF
JAYCEE'S FOUNDATION, INC.
3090 Crain Highway
Waldorf, MD 20601

BEST IMPRESSIONS

Jeff Griffith, President
400 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703)518-1375

SOUTHERN BLEND BARBERSHOP QUARTET

call Fred Parsons for booking info
(301) 910-8385

WAL-MART OF LA PLATA

La Plata, MD 20601

WESTLAKE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

3352 Old Washington Road
Waldorf, MD 20602

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

POST 82 - Anna Mae Sackie
Crain Highway
La Plata, MD 20646

PIZZA HOTLINE

Chris Heinze
203 Charles Street
La Plata, MD 20646
(301) 934-4670

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