

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

April 2009

East Tennessee Chapter

Attn: Deb Miller
282 Orchard Valley Dr. Harriman, TN 37748
(Cell) 865 719-2862
Miller1219@aol.com
www.geocities.com/projectlinuseasttn

*The best kind of sleep under
heaven above, is under a blanket
handmade with love.*

Coordinator's Corner

Just about the time I think Spring is here, it snaps cold again. But, we are starting to see more warmer days and sunshine than we are the cold wintery days. My garden is starting to bloom and buds are appearing on everything. Speaking of Spring, be sure to check out the details inside for the Oak Ridge Project Linus Spring Fling on April 18th.



The best kind of sleep under heaven above,
is under a blanket handmade with love.

Project  Linus
Providing Security Through Blankets
East Tennessee Chapter

Thanks to help from many of you and above and beyond efforts from Patti Stewart we got the blankets delivered for the teen mother program. Each blanket had a special Project Linus label similar to the one to the left.

There will NOT be a May newsletter but it will return again in June.

Deb

Oak Ridge: Project Linus Spring Fling

The owners of *Friends Yarn and Quilt Shop* which includes *Friends Fabrics, Yarns Above, and Gone to Pieces Quilt Shop* are once again hosting a Project Linus Spring Fling at their store in Jackson Square. This is a great way to spend a couple of hours visiting with PL friends, sewing labels on blankets, browsing the store and walking around Jackson Square. (209 Jackson Square Oak Ridge, TN 37830 865.483.4006 – see map near end of newsletter) The Farmer's Market should also be open across from Jackson Square. We'll be outside if weather permits – if not we'll be inside.
HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE 18th.

Saturday, April 18 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Your Donations of Blankets and Other Items Truly Make A Difference in the Lives of Area Children. PLET has recently or will soon be delivering donated items to the following recipient

organizations:

- ❖ **Ronald McDonald House - Knoxville:** 35 blankets (April)
- ❖ Hope Resource Center - Knoxville:
- ❖ Smoky Mountain Children's Home – Sevierville:
- ❖ **East TN Children's Medical Center – Knoxville:** 59 blankets plus hats/caps
- ❖ UT Medical Center–Knoxville:
- ❖ **Baptist Hospital West/Baptist Hospital for Women:** 18 blankets plus hats
- ❖ CEASE Domestic Violence Shelter & Program – Morristown:
- ❖ Lisa Ross Center:
- ❖ Children's Center of the Cumberlands (Scott County):
- ❖ **Campbell County Children's Center:**
- ❖ **Community Health of East Tennessee (Campbell County):**
- ❖ Kids First Child Advocacy Center - 9th Judicial District (Loudon/ Meigs/Morgan/Roane):
- ❖ Mission of Hope:
- ❖ Department of Human Services:
- ❖ Good Samaritans – Cumberland County:
- ❖ Avalon Center–Cumberland County:
- ❖ Cumberland Medical Center:
- ❖ CHILDHELP USA (East TN):
- ❖ Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep – East TN:
- ❖ Saving Little Hearts (East TN):
- ❖ Family Promise:
- ❖ Clinch Valley Childrens Center (CAC Anderson County):
- ❖ MidEast Community Action Agency:
- ❖ Women's Care Center of Sevier County:

Wish List

- Stamps
- Gas Cards are appreciated
- Ink Cartridges: HP 54 and 57
- Yarn (bright child friendly colors – washable)
- We NEED \$\$\$: We always welcome financial donations to help with PL expenses including publishing the newsletter, brochures, buying labels for the blankets, etc. If you want to make a donation, please send it to Deb. We'd prefer a gift card (Staples, Target, Walmart, , K-Mart, etc.), check made out to Project Linus or cash.
- Remember Project Linus is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization. Be sure to check with your tax advisor regarding applicable tax deductions.

Thanks!

From Sue Beverly, Director, at Ronald McDonald House: From the children and families that call our house HOME, many thanks. Thank you for your donation of 26 beautiful hand-made blankets for our residents. We appreciate your support of our house.

Thinking of You

*To those of you that have lost loved ones recently,
our sympathies are with you.
To those of you that are ill,
we hope you are feeling better soon.*

Info from our Blanketeers:

I ran across a website with pretty good prices for quilt fabrics.

http://www.marshaldrygoods.com/store/index.php?l=product_list&c=4

Grace/Cricket

New Drop Off Location in Maryville:

Tina McCarter
Pappy's Quilting Place
3426 Sevierville Road
Maryville, TN 37804
(865) 980-0950
www.pappysquilting.com

Open 7 Days a Week 9 AM – 6 PM

This location is in addition to Lynda Everman at:
865-681-4499

TAPS

Don't forget TAPS Patriotic Blankets should be left at drop off locations no later than April 15th for this year's TAPS event in Washington, DC.

This is an annual project and we can use the patriotic blankets for local needs also so don't worry if you miss the deadline – go ahead and turn them in and we'll save them for future needs.



Joyce Jarnigan: 1 blanket
Dorcus Quilters: 2 blankets
1st United Methodist Church: 14 blankets for TOPS; 26 blankets
Sharon Carey: 14 blankets for TOPS
Sandy Rea: 12 blankets for TOPS
Sandy Rea: 1 blanket (finished quilting a blanket that was donated but not quilted)
Mara and Tom Eckhardt: 14 blankets for TOPS
Parkwest Quilters: 2 blankets
Fran Burns: 5 blankets; 25 baby and children caps
Jackie Godden: 3 blankets; 15 preemie caps
Debbie Shepperd: 1 blanket
Carol Brown: 1 blanket
Pappy's Quilting Place: 6 blankets
Karen Benson: 8 Baby Blankets
Lynda Everman: 2 blankets
Parkwest Quiltrs: 19 blankets
Claire Racine: 3 blankets
Carol Brown: 3 blankets
Margaret Lindsey: 3 blankets
Judy Montgomery: 1 blanket with hat
Sharon Carey: 30 blankets
Ann Milner: 2 blankets for TOPS
Holy Hands Oral Baptist Church/Karen Feltner: 1 blanket
Tamsin Miller: Printer Ink
Kim Harris: Large Ziploc Bags

- **There were about 30 blankets and boxes/bags of yarn/fabric donated this month without names on them. So, if you aren't recognized, be sure to let me know.**

Donations in Memory of Jim Cole:

- Sue Beverly
- Mary Ann Ruff
- Deb Miller
- Susan Casada
- Tom and Mara Eckhardt
- Laura and Mike Herrick
- Robert and Lisa Drester
- Hooters Wings Investors Company, LTD.
- Friends and Employees of MP Media and Promotions - Melanie, Racheal, David, Wendy M., Wendy S., Tarran, Tiffany

Special thanks to Val Duncan, Cindy Yardley and Elise Williams for helping me with the folding and stuffing of the March newsletter.

Anonymous: \$50

Special thanks to:

- **Doris Cole** for donating postage and mailing the newsletter, deliveries/pick-ups and much much more.
- **Mara and Tom Eckhardt** for help with deliveries/pick-ups and many other things.
- **Karen Eidson** for help sewing labels.
- **Barb Loadholtz** for picking up blankets at Lucille Sherrod's, sewing labels and for providing yarn.
- **Denette Flynn, Kelley Thomas, Debbie Petree and Sug Sexton** for help with deliveries/pick-ups.
- **Thanks to the staffs at the TN Career Centers in Lenoir City and Rockwood**
- **Thanks to the gang at ETHRA Workforce Development.**
- **Dorothy Cameron** for her quilting services.
- **Dianna Mraz** for her quilting services.
- **Patti Stewart** for help with deliveries, shopping, cutting fabric and whatever I need!
- **Kathy Bates** for sewing on labels.
- my folks **Irene and Don Hawker** for delivery of blankets in Cumberland County
- **Wanda Nance** for the website.
- **Teresa Chasteen and WIN** for paying for the PL storage unit each month

If I missed thanking you for a donation, please accept my apologies and let me know so I can recognize you next time! Sometimes we get behind in picking up and unpacking blankets – please don't be offended; just let me know and we will be sure to get your items logged in and passed on to recipient organizations.

- Deb

From Judie Agee - Phoenix/NE Valley AZ, PL Coordinator:

One of our truly wonderful volunteers, Sandi Howlett, is a PhD and does counseling for grief centers. She also works with Hansen's Mortuary here in Phoenix to give counseling to grieving families. She wrote an article for our PL chapter's newsletter about the gift of our blankets. It is a bit long but I think you will feel that it is worthwhile reading.

Every little stitch.....

How long does it take to make a memory? A moment? A lifetime? Sometimes the moment IS the lifetime and that becomes the memory to grasp.

The young mother sat in the rocking chair holding her precious daughter in her arms. The tiny infant was wrapped in a soft, pale pink blanket with a shell stitch. As the mother rocked her child, she sang the song that mothers have sung for generations..."Lullaby and goodnight" At the same time, she traced the tiny features on baby Danielle's face and hands -- perfect fingers, tiny button nose, rosy mouth that looked like she had been kissed by an angel. Eyes closed, motionless, silent. Tears rolled down the mother's cheeks as she sang and rocked and looked at her newborn daughter - the daughter she had anticipated and loved before she was even conceived.

She expected to be rocking her baby in her newly decorated nursery, not a funeral home. She expected to be welcoming family and friends to meet little Danielle, not greeting them at her wake. She expected to be choosing between onesies and a full layette of pink outfits perfect for a petite newborn princess. None of this was to be.

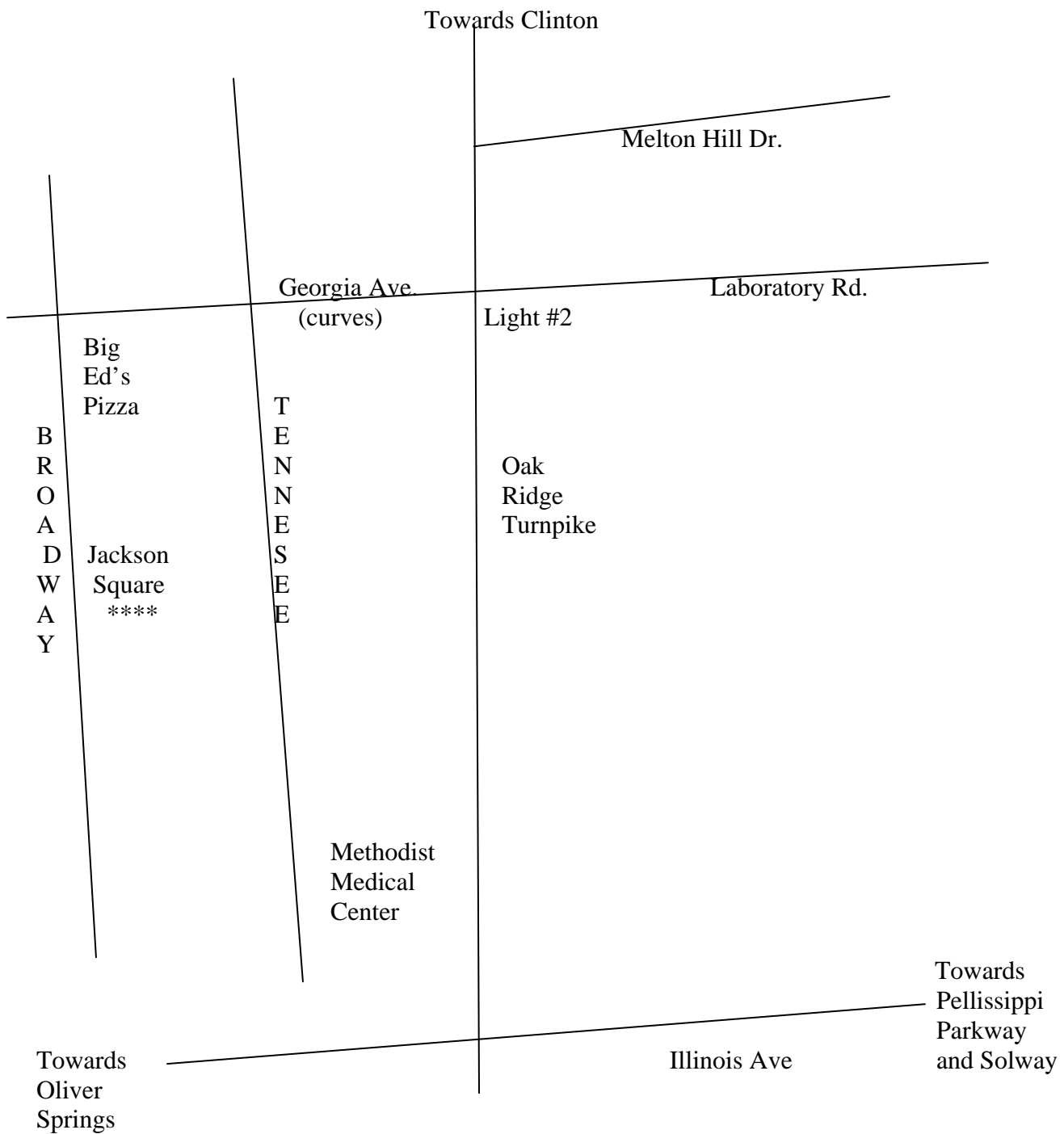
Instead, she held her daughter whose dreams would not be fulfilled. Her daughter whose life ended before it even began. Her daughter would never wear those frilly dresses and bonnets. Her daughter was swaddled in a blanket hand made by another mother perhaps a mother who knew the heartbreak of loss. She noticed a small blue and white tag sewn inside the blanket - Project Linus. How kind that someone she had never met would take the time to make such a beautiful blanket, the only one Danielle would ever know.

When it was time to say the final goodbye to Danielle, the mother chose to keep the blanket - the only thing her daughter had ever touched. It would become one of her most cherished possessions, the only thing she would have left besides her memory.

Thanks to the generosity of Project Linus volunteers, Hansen Mortuary in Phoenix, Arizona provides bereavement blankets for families whose dreams have been shattered with the death of their child. The families who received these blankets are moved beyond words to have one thing, one precious thing, to keep that once held their baby.

To the volunteers who make these special blankets, you have your own story as to why you choose this particular mission. Many of you have losses of your own or are close to someone who has experienced this unique grief. For some of you, this is your way of paying it forward. Thank you for the humble healing mission you have chosen. You will never know the depth and breadth of your gift.

Sandi Howlett



“Friends Yarn and Quilt Shop” is located in Jackson Square off Broadway at 209 Jackson Square M-F 9 AM – 6 PM; Sat. 10 AM - 5 PM 865 483-4006 . As you are standing on Broadway looking towards Jackson Square, the store is near the front on your left.

Project Linus of East Tennessee: Drop-off Spots for Blankets

- **West Knoxville/Farragut: First Farragut United Methodist Church**, 12733 Kingston Pk, Farragut @ Dixie Lee Jct. (8AM-5 PM) in Church Office
- **Knoxville: Lisa Ross Birth and Women's Center**, 1925 B Ailor Avenue – From 17th street, turn left onto Ailor. Turn right on Citico, 3rd street to right. Main entrance is in the lower level, facing parking lot. Directly south of the new Food City and Cherokee Health - one block south of Middlebrook Pike and 2 blocks south of Western Avenue. Please tell receptionist that the blankets are for Project Linus. 865-524-4422 Hours Monday-Thursday 8:00 – 6:00, Closed Friday-Sunday
- **Knoxville: Park West Church of God**, 7635 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville. 9 AM – Noon and 1 - 4:30 PM Monday – Friday
- **Knoxville: The Yarn Haven** 464 N. Cedar Bluff Rd. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10 AM – 6 PM; Thursday 10 AM – 8 PM; Saturday 10 AM – 2 PM. <http://www.theyarnhaven.com/>
- **Oak Ridge: Bev Abele** 107 Dansworth Ln. Please call first. 481-3674 home/ 574-9451 work.
- **Oak Ridge: ETHRA Workforce Development** (same building as Anderson County Clerk's office behind the Senior Center) at 728E Emory Valley Rd. M-F 8 AM – 4:30 PM.
- **Oak Ridge: "Friends Yarn and Quilt Shop"** 209 Jackson Square M-F 9 AM – 6 PM; Sat. 10 AM - 5 PM 865 483-4006
- **Clinton/Anderson County Area: Clinton Recreation Center/Patti Stewart** at 101 S. Hicks St., Clinton, TN (behind the old Union Planters Bank Building)
- **Blount County:** Call **Lynda Everman** and make arrangements to drop off blankets. 865-681-4499
- **Blount County:** Tina McCarter - Pappy's Quilting Place, 3426 Sevierville Road Maryville, TN (865) 980-0950, www.pappysquilting.com Open 7 days/week 9 AM – 6 PM
- **Loudon County/Lenoir City- Loudon County Career Center** (part of the new Roane State Campus) downtown at 100 West Broadway Suite 141. They are open M-F 8 AM – 4:30 PM. Drop blankets at the reception desk of the Career Center for Kelley Thomas.
- **Roane County/Rockwood- Tennessee Career Center** located at 1082 N. Gateway (Old Big Lots Building) just south of the new Walmart. They are open M-F 8 AM – 4:30 PM. Drop blankets for Pat Taylor.
- **Cumberland County:** Call Irene Hawker (931) 456-0316
- **Blankets can be mailed directly to Project Linus Coordinator Deb Miller at 282 Orchard Valley Dr., Harriman, TN 37748**

Please be sure to put blankets in a tied plastic bag with a note IN the bag with the number of blankets and name of the person/organization donating the blankets. Contact Deb Miller with questions or to make special arrangements for blanket dropoff/pick-up. Miller1219@aol.com or 865 719-2862.

Revised April 2009