



Blanketing Central Texas

The Mission of The Linus Connection is to provide a handmade Security blanket to every child who is in crisis or at-risk situation in Central Texas

April - June 2007

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CURRENT BLANKET COUNTS

<u>FACILITY TYPE</u>	<u>COUNT</u>
Foster Care/Protective Services	340
Grief Support	65
Medical/Hospital	596
Shelters	265
Distributed This Year	1,266
Distributed To Date	22,293

Linus Donations

There were three wonderful donations during the last quarter.

At the **February** Meeting, the Round Rock Sunrise Rotary Club made a \$500 donation.

In **March**, Mark Freerks of the Wal-Mart Foundation and Manager of the Wal-Mart located at 1325 and I-35 made \$1000 donation.

We would like to thank each of them for these wonderful donations. This money will certainly be put to good use.

Joe Brown from the Edward Jones office next to the church and member of the Sunrise Rotary Club also brought us doughnuts for the **March** meeting. Thanks Joe!

Monthly Demonstrations & Show and Tell

We will continue with our **Monthly Show and Tell** at 10 a.m. After Show and Tell we will have a demonstration of a favorite pattern or a quilting technique. Patterns will be provided after the demonstration. Anyone wishing to demonstrate a favorite pattern or technique please contact Ellen Dutkiewicz at 869-7616 or email her at redutkie@texas.net.

Upcoming Blanket Meetings

All Monthly meetings will continue to be at St. Phillips Church in Round Rock from 9 a.m. – noon on the third Saturday of each month. The next three dates are:

- * June 16th
- * July 21st
- * August 18th

If you would like to attend, but do not have transportation, please contact us and we will do our best to arrange a ride.

Honey Bee Workday

Honey Bee Quilt Store will be hosting their next Linus work day on June 23, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information please call the store at 512-257-1269 or visit their website at: www.honeybeequiltstore.com.

Summer Camp Quilts

Summer is just around the corner and it's time to start gathering quilts for the Summer Camps that request our help. Every year there are several camps that are in need of our assistance: Hospice's Camp Brave Heart and Royal Family Camp. The ages of the children range from 7 to 17 years. Each month our packers will pull a few quilts and we will put them aside so that we will have enough when the time comes. Of course, this means our monthly locations that are in need may not be getting as many quilts. If everyone could maybe try to do just one extra quilt a month that would certainly help us to fill all of Linus Connection demands. The blankets for the camps need to be quilted, NOT knitted or crocheted. The camps are in the woods and they get drug around on the ground and if they are knitted or crocheted they will get caught on grass, twigs etc. Of course we need some larger quilts for the older children.

This is a note we received this week from the Royal Family Camp:

I just can't tell you how much this means to the children. I don't think I have ever told you but what a blessing it is to the counselors to choose a blanket for their special camper on Sunday evening in preparation for them coming in on Monday morning. Each counselor chooses 2 and takes them to their dorm room and places them just so on the campers' bunks. They have told us how the campers come in to the dorm room in awe looking at their very own special blanket and teddy bear. Most of them set on the bed holding them for a bit. Of course throughout camp many of them bring them to the chapel and hold on to them for security or cover with them. Some that have been severely abused wrap them tightly around their legs to protect themselves from strangers (if they have not been to our camp before). By Tuesday evening they realize they are safe with us and just lay them on their laps. It is so amazing; we know what is going on with them but an outsider would probably not pick up on that.

That is why it is such a special camp....showing them unconditional love, giving positive memories and letting them be 'kids' for a week.

Please pass on many thanks for such beautiful blankets that have been sewn with such precious loving hands. If you only knew what these blankets do for children!!

**Calvin and Jeanie Estep
Royal Family Kid's Camp**

Support Linus – Shop Randall's

Support Linus when you shop at Randall's! You can link Linus to your Remarkable card by completing a Remarkable Application Form at any Randall's Courtesy Booth. Fill in the top portion and the "Good Neighbor Program" section, indicating account number **11267**.

Blanket Drop-Off Locations

Round Rock – Margarita - 255-9241
Cedar Park – Dee - 331-5847
Georgetown – Margaret - 863-2892
Austin – Stephanie - 266-9305

You can also drop off your blankets at the following businesses:

Honey Bee Quilt Shoppe – 9308 Anderson Mill Rd., Ste. 300 – Austin -- located in shopping center

at corner of Pond Springs and Anderson Mill by the Family Dollar Store.

Bluebonnet Yarn Shoppe – 2800 Whitestone Blvd., Ste. 127 -- located in shopping center at the corner of Parmer Land and Whitestone Blvd/1431, Cedar Park.

WAL-MART Eliminating Fabric?

I received a Newsletter from Sandra Hatch at Quilt Connections. I thought I would pass it on to ya'll.

It is as follows:

Lots of Quilt Connections readers wrote regarding Wal-Mart's decision to eliminate fabrics and notions from all their stores. I went right to the source to find out what their plans really are.

A [Wal-Mart] representative at this address replied to me as follows:

"Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the fabric department in your local store. In keeping with our emphasis on being a store of the community, Wal-Mart is converting the fabrics and crafts department in some stores to a newly expanded assortment of merchandise that focuses on life's celebrations.

"We are thrilled to offer our customers this exciting new crafts and celebrations center that makes available craft and party-planning needs along with information on current trends and new ideas in the area of life's celebrations, such as holidays, weddings and birthdays.

"In those stores where the new crafts and celebrations center is placed, merchandise commonly referred to as 'notions' will be included in the product offerings -- such as sewing machines, yarn, needles, thread, etc. As a part of this conversion, most of our new and remodeled stores opening in early 2007, as well as a small number of existing stores, will feature the new crafts and celebrations center in place of cut fabrics.

"Wal-Mart will continue to carry cut fabric in most of our stores. Due to the continued evaluation of our stores, we are unable to share a list of existing stores scheduled to receive the new crafts and celebrations center at this time.

*"Thank you,
Wal-Mart Customer Relations*