

The Thread

September 2023

*"Stitching our community together,
one thread at a time!"*

Message from the President

It is hard to believe it already September with our crazy hot weather! The leaves are already starting to drop and fall is coming. Soon the temperatures will start to drop. With the changing seasons many of us start to think about what the cooler temperatures bring!

For me I start to think of fall favorite - warm apple cider, hot chocolate, turkey and more baking - love to bake when it is cooler.

Also, my mind (and hands) turns to making hats, shawls and blankets. the number of requests for these increases quickly. Our recipients really appreciate these items to help keep them warm and cozy.

Thank you for all you do for our community!

Pam



Our Mission Statement:

*Our mission is to serve the community
by providing items of warmth,
comfort and dignity,
hand crafted by our volunteers
and clothing donated by
our neighbors.*



New Members

Ferne Polk
Evelyn Rike

Although she started getting our newsletter earlier, we want to welcome Gisela Brant as she attended her first meeting this month and we were happy to see her!

Stitch Count	Last Month's #s	Grand Total since 11/22
Handcrafted Items	463	3,537
From the Closet	Last Month's #s	Grand Total since 11/22
Clothes	167	4,825

September Birthdays

- Candy Nash



If you don't see your birthday listed in the newsletter please let us know what month it is! We don't want to miss saying Happy Birthday to anyone. If we missed you due to not knowing when it was.....

Happy Belated Birthday!

\$\$\$\$ FUNdraising \$\$\$\$

Thank you to all who have donated!

The **Ruritan** does not charge us a fee to hold our meetings there but there will be a donation envelope at each meeting should you wish to make a donation to help with the operating costs of the facility.

Additionally, there will be a Community Threads donation envelope at each meeting should you wish to donate funds to help with the overhead and operating budget of our group.

If you know of a person or business that might be willing to make a donation or become a sponsor, please reach out to them. If you prefer not reach out, then provide us with the information and we will contact them.

Community Threads Clothes Closet!

Our only need of clothing is anything in ladies size small and medium. We have delivered almost everything we have to local assisted living/nursing homes.

If you know of anyone in need, please let us know, we will do our best to help.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us build up such an amazing inventory to help us meet the needs of the community!

Our current requests are for

...

- **Lap blankets** for men and women
- **Wheelchair (for back & side)**
- **Walker totes**
- **Shawls** for men and women

Why are these items needed? Several reasons, really. Some of the items we provide are seasonal, meaning an upcoming need can be anticipated and planned for — think hats and scarves for cooler weather. A location may have put in a special request for a specific item — patriotic blankets fall into this category. But the most common reason is that *the demand for these items exceeds our ability to meet that demand*, meaning that some recipients must wait to get their needed items. We have materials & patterns available if needed. As always, we encourage you make ANYTHING you like to make, and we will find a good home for it!

Community Spotlight: Thank you!



Interfaith Community Council School Dressing Days Event July 2023

In addition to thanking the 200 plus volunteers who helped out during School Dressing Days, we would like to thank the members of our affiliated organizations and sponsors who made financial and in-kind contributions.

Sponsors

The Community Foundation
Old Navy
Walmart
Harry's Ale House West
Wegmans
Kicks 4 Kids
Fredericksburg Dental Center - Dr. Archibald
Community Threads
Sophiola
SERVE
Lift Up Your Community

**1,038 students were assisted in getting
ready to go back to school.**

Event Schedule - Fredericksburg

Unless otherwise noted; all Events are at the Chancellor Ruritan Club 5994 Plank Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Member Meetings 9:30-12:30

Fredericksburg		
September	6th	Wednesday
September	19th	Tuesday
October	4th	Wednesday
October	17th	Tuesday
November	1st	Wednesday
November	4th	Saturday Workshop 10-3
November	14th	Tuesday
November	28th	Tuesday
December	12th	Wednesday
January	3rd	Tuesday
January	16th	Wednesday
February	7th	Tuesday
February	20th	Wednesday

Event Schedule - King George

All Events are at the Smoot Library Room A 9533 Kings Highway, King George, VA 22485

Member Meetings - Friday

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

King George	
August	4th
August	18th
September	1st
September	15th

Family Fall Festival

sponsored by Disability Resource Center

Community Threads was invited to have a booth and we hope to see you there!



Dear Community Threads,

On behalf of our organization, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation of hand-made blankets and children's items to our families. Your contribution is truly appreciated and has already brought smiles to the faces of many families.

It is wonderful to know that your creations are made with love and care. The families who have received your gifts are truly grateful and cherish them dearly.

Your donation has not only provided warmth and comfort to our families, but it has also brought a sense of community and support during a difficult time.

Your generosity and thoughtfulness have made a significant impact on the lives of our families, and we cannot thank you enough. We hope that you continue to spread kindness and joy through your wonderful creations.

Thank you once again for your kindness and generosity.

Best regards,
Healthy Families Rappahannock Area

Upcoming & Ongoing Needs

- Hats - kindergarten to adult sizes
- Blankets – lap/large and baby
- Dialysis mitts (fingerless gloves)
- Shirt protectors
- Ladies button shirts for making dignity bibs
- Toys



Have an idea for our newsletter - please let us know! the newsletter is for everyone and we are looking for ideas and suggestions.

One of members suggested we add a favorite recipe each month from one of our members. Do you have a favorite recipe you would like share?

Please keep in mind if it is not your own recipe we need to credit who it is from. If you got it from a website we can provide a link to the site you got it from.

Please respond to the poll on the right and if people are willing to provide the information we will post a recipe of the month, each month.

Would like to see a recipe of the month?

Yes, I would like to see recipes even if I don't share one

Yes, I will share a recipe

No



Meet the Board

Pam Greswolde – President 540-661-7967

Jeannie Duris – Secretary

Linda Foldvik – Treasurer 703-395-4064

Bertha Rector – 540-907-5259

Doris Bowling – 540-859-3081

Marcia Reed – 540-656-0474

Donna Edwards

Please reach out to any of the board members with comments, thoughts, and suggestions.

Tips, Tricks & Resources:

If you have a pattern you want to share, or a link to a great tutorial, send an email to communitythreads@comcast.net, then it can be posted in the newsletter next month to share with other members.



Tips of the Month:

Some of you may look at the list of needed items and think "I don't know how to make that" or "My skills aren't good enough to make one of those" or "I don't like making those".

If that's the case, challenge yourself to make just one of a needed item.

Just one. Challenge yourself to finish it and turn it in before the next issue of the newsletter comes out. You can do it. The recipients who are waiting for these needed items will be so glad you did.

Project Size Guidelines For Community Threads

Constantly Needed Items

Project	Size	Notes
Large Blankets	48"x 50" up to full bed size	Large rectangular
Lap Blankets	32-36" square	not necessarily square, no less 32" width & length
Chemo Blankets	32-34 x 48-50"	Rectangular
Chemo caps	all sizes	no wool, washable - male & female colors winter - acrylic mix, fun fur with acrylic summer -cotton, acrylic & fun fur, or cotton & fun fur
Baby blankets	30" to 40" square	no wool
Baby sweaters	newborn to toddler	no wool
Baby hats	fit a grapefruit or larger	no wool – hats should fit a 5" ball
Baby booties	newborn	no wool
Hats & Scarves	all sizes - child to adult	matching sets are helpful - male & female colors wool mix okay - tag with red yarn can be made & turned in year-round
Shawls	all sizes	

Appreciated when available

Project	Size	Notes
Book Totes	Approx. 8 x 10	Kits or fabric & ribbon available
Fiddle Mats		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern and fabric available)
Dignity Bibs		Men & Women
Shirt protectors		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern & fabric available) Velcro at neck
Sweaters	child to adult	all male & female colors
Walker totes		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern and fabric available)
Wheelchair tote for back		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern and fabric available)
Wheelchair tote for side	Approx. 8 x 10	Kits or fabric & ribbon available
Toys	all types	crochet, knit or sewn – example: blankets & hats for bears
Pet cozy	18" up to 3 feet any shape	Blankets for animals in distress great way to use slightly soiled yarn or scratchy yarn

The above projects are suggestions, but anything you want to make will warm the hearts and bodies of those in need.

Helpful Tips

- **Please tag every item.** There are tags available at every meeting, and you may take a stack home.
- **On items containing wool, please tie on the item tags using red yarn so that we can identify them. Some people are sensitive to wool.**
- Yarn is available at every meeting, or you can use your own. If you use Community Threads yarn, the yarn should be logged out on a *Sign-In/Sign-Out* sheet, and any completed items using Community Threads yarn should be logged in on a *Sign-In/Sign-Out* sheet.
- If you wash item(s), please do not use scented fabric softener, many are allergic.
- If you write on the back of the item tag, please put only your first name and/or washing instructions.
- Remember to tie at least 2 knots when not using the magic knot to ensure it does not come undone in washing.
- Weave ends in more than inch and trim closely.
- To ensure your donation is distributed to the intended group, please make sure it meets the requested size. Many times, you can add a border if needed.

If you need help, contact: communitythreads@comcast.net

Pam Greswolde (540) 661-7967



This is your newsletter - what would you like to see included. Please let us know by email, telling us at a meeting or email us at communitythreads@comcast.net

Community Threads | P.O. Box 204, Locust Grove, VA 22508

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