

SPOTLIGHT ON: VOLUNTEERS

Jill's Blankets

by Nancy Frazier, Beebe Volunteer

It's summer time and visitors come and go here in Lewes and the surrounding towns, taking home memories of a beach vacation with them. But, Ann Hogge of Henrico, Va., has done the opposite - instead of taking her memories with her, she is leaving a touchable memory behind with Beebe's chemotherapy patients.

That touchable memory is a handmade fleece blanket made by volunteers. Ann's friend, Jill Ward, who in 2010 was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, learned firsthand the comfort and warmth of a blanket while undergoing chemo. Not many blankets were available where she was receiving treatment, so she began making blankets for other chemo patients. Over the next three years, Jill worked to provide blankets to local hospitals and encouraged her friends to join her in this endeavor.

From that simple beginning, the idea of Jill's Blankets caught on and after her death in 2014, a nonprofit was formed by her friends to carry on Jill's idea of sharing comfort and caring. To date more than 1,400 blankets have been created by volunteers to share with others.

Jill's Blankets has now come to Beebe and specifically, the Tunnell Cancer Center. Ann Hogge, reached out to Lee Halloran, Manager of Volunteer Services with the donation of 30 blankets. Tunnell volunteers accepted the blankets on behalf of the recipients and shared them immediately.



Above, Buzz and Lesley with blankets made in Jill's memory. Below, Nancy and Ann, are ready to hand out Jill's blankets.

When asked about the make-up of groups who create the blankets, Anne shared that children from the age of 5 up to seniors have created blankets in the name of Jill.



Thank you, Anne, for sharing this wonderful idea and thank you, Jill Ward, for your dynamic, kind and thoughtful idea!

For more information regarding Jill's Blanket contact: info@jillsblankets.org, WWW.JILLSBLANKETS.ORG, or check out their Facebook page at jillsblankets.

Don't Forget About Beebe Classifieds!

Beebe Classifieds are a place for employees to buy and sell items from their co-workers. It is also a great place to look for housing, services offered, and upcoming yard sales.

Be sure to check it out on [BBNet/Community Information/Beebe Classifieds](#)

If you would like to post a classified, send it to: classified@beebehealthcare.org.

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