

Valley retired educators craft 'warm fuzzies' for nursing homes

Residents of six Fox Valley nursing homes will be warmer this winter thanks to retired educators.

Aurora Area Retired Teachers Association members hand-crafted more than 111 fleece blankets and quilts in a 12th annual "Warm Fuzzies" community-service project.

Blankets and quilts were collected at the AARTA's June 5 luncheon meeting at Gaslite Manor banquet hall in Aurora.

Volunteer blanket makers contributed materials and labor over the past several months.



Dick Schindel, AARTA president, said volunteers will distribute blankets to residents of Batavia Rehabilitation Center and Jennings Terrace, Symphony of Orchard Valley, The Grove of Fox Valley, Presence McAuley Manor and Elmwood Terrace all in Aurora.

According to Schindel, AARTA volunteers have donated more than 100 blankets annually in recent years.

Aurora resident Eva Balek coordinated the 2018 project. She thanked Pat Larkin for donating fleece that became eight blankets.

Balek said, "Everyone from the talented crafters to the eager and willing delivery people make this drive a success."

PHOTO: Aurora Area Retired Teachers Association members hand-crafted more than 111 fleece blankets and quilts in an annual "Warm Fuzzies" community-service project. From left are Dick Schindel, Aurora, AARTA president; Linda Weiss, Batavia; Eva Balek, Aurora, project coordinator; and Marilyn Ruby, Geneva. (Al Benson photo)