

# OPERATION ELVES COMMUNITY

Giving to Those in Need



## Spotlight: New Operation Elves Headquarters

In the fall of 2024, Bill and I made the big move from Lavergne, TN to our lakehouse in Estill Springs, TN. Before we moved, I used to keep all my Operation Elves boxes tucked away in the spare closets here at the lakehouse. But with the move, those closets are now needed for other things!

You may remember from the February newsletter that the Farmington Elks had acquired a new building for their Operation Santa activities. Inspired by that, we decided to get a shed as a dedicated space for all the items we gather throughout the year. It's also a place where I can count and box up all the wonderful donations we receive. Now, I do share the space with Bill, so if you peek inside, you'll see: Operation Elves boxes, extra fleece waiting to be made into blankets, and some wood Bill is drying. It's a cozy, organized little corner of our world!

We're thrilled about this new space for a few reasons. First, it gives me one central location for everything related to Operation Elves. Second, I can keep track of the boxes as we pack them, and when it comes time to move everything to the trailer in the fall, it will be much easier. (You might recall that last year, Connie and Brian were absolute lifesavers as they helped us move around 86 boxes from the second floor of our lakehouse to the trailer). Currently, we have 40 boxes, and according to Bill, there's plenty of room to accommodate even more than last year. I'm already imagining how full the shed will be with all the goodies for this year's drive.

I'll keep you updated on our progress in the next newsletter!

## VOLUME 23 – JUNE 2025 UPDATES FOR THIS ISSUE

### 2025 OPERATION SANTA GIFT COUNTS

Blankets - 248 (70% to goal)  
Hat Sets - 172 (50% to goal)  
Books - 242 (51% to goal)  
Cash Donations: \$1,015

### SPECIAL THANKS

A big shout-out to individuals who have contributed to this year's goal in the past two months. A special thank you to:

- Beverly N
- Jean S
- Heather B
- Barbara O
- Ted D
- Dana D
- Susie M
- Jonathan W
- Kathy B
- Patty K

### HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED

You can reach me (Melissa Stack) at:

- [jusmel@comcast.net](mailto:jusmel@comcast.net)
- [www.operationelvescommunity.org](http://www.operationelvescommunity.org)
- [venmo:@melissa-stack-3](https://venmo.com/melissa-stack-3)
- 615-631-4920

Let me know if you would like to add anyone to our newsletter distribution. Go out to our website to see more pictures and back issues of the newsletter.

The next issue will September 2025





## Updates & General News

**Joann's Closed** – Many of you who help make fleece blankets know that the Joann's Fabric store closed its doors in May/June. Thanks to the amazing discounts, we were able to stock up on extra fleece, which we'll be turning into blankets for this year. I'm hopeful that we'll reach our goal of 350 blankets! As for next year, I'm not sure what the future holds, but one thing I've learned is that it always works out in the end.

**New Donations** – We're so excited to welcome a few new, talented contributors to our team. I feel incredibly blessed to have Dana D, a wonderful knitter, joining us. Her beautifully crafted hats (featured above) will make such a wonderful gift for our seniors. As always, if you know anyone who's a knitter or crocheter looking for a place to donate their creations, we're always in need of hats and scarves for children or the elderly. We've also received some generous dollar donations that will help us fill the cosmetic and toiletry bags. Thank you all so much for your continued generosity and to those of you contributing for the very first time – your support is deeply appreciated!

**Delivery Date** – We haven't nailed down an exact delivery date yet, but with all the activities and events coming up, it's likely to be late September. I still need to coordinate with the Farmington Elks, so stay tuned! If you have any items you'd like to donate, we'd love to have them by mid-September to ensure we're ready for our trip up North.

## Thank You for Your Support

I hope this newsletter brings a smile to your face. The world can always use more happy, uplifting messages, don't you think? If you're a regular reader, thank you for taking the time to stay updated. And if you're a contributor – whether monetarily or through donations – please know how much we appreciate you. You truly make a difference! You're bringing hope and joy to those who need it most, and your kindness radiates out, spreading positivity far and wide. I'm incredibly grateful to each and every one of you, and I can't thank you enough for your help!



**"Cutest little model ever"**

