



Turning Clutter Into Cushion for Community Service: Cub Scouts Use Plastic Grocery Bags to Honor Homeless Hero With Sleeping Mat

Pack 163 demonstrates Cub Scout values by honoring a homeless hero with a sleeping mat that will be presented to Northwest Compass Legacy Corps on Sunday, March 19, 2017.

Mount Prospect, IL – February 23, 2017

During their annual Blue/Gold dinner at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Union, Illinois on Sunday, March 19, 2017, Cub Scouts from Pack 163 in McHenry County, Illinois will present a sleeping mat, made exclusively from recycled plastic grocery bags, to Northwest Compass Legacy Corps, Rockford.

Putting 500 or so left-over plastic grocery bags to good use, Pack 163 Scouts Marcus Ray, Trevor Harp, Mason Lampe and Sam Colella are making “plarn,” or plastic yarn, from which they will weave a 6’ x 3’ sleeping mat. In coordination with Den Leader, Scott Colella, and Cub Master, Bob Ray, the boys have generously decided to donate the mat to help a homeless hero.

Program Director, Donna Ballard-Roth, will be on hand at the Blue/Gold Dinner to accept the gift on behalf of Northwest Compass Legacy Corps, Rockford. Ballard-Roth will make sure the mat goes to a homeless veteran in her homeless outreach efforts.

“We are honored that the Scouts have chosen NWC Legacy Corps for this gift, and know that the sleeping mat will help a homeless hero rest just a little easier,” says Ballard-Roth. A veteran himself, Colella adds, “I’m very proud of the boys for giving back and the example they have set for other Scouts with this community service project.”

About the Cub Scouts

Since its origin, the Scouting program has been an educational experience concerned with values. In 1910, the first activities for Scouts were designed to build character, physical fitness, practical skills, and service. These elements were part of the original Cub Scout program and continue to be part of Cub Scouting today. For more information about Pack 163, visit <https://www.scoutlander.com/publicsite/unithome.aspx?UID=2873>.

About Northwest Compass, Inc. Legacy Corps

In partnership with AmeriCorps, Northwest Compass Legacy Corps provides support services and education to veterans of all wars, military family members and their caregivers of all ages. For more information, please visit <http://northwestcompass.org/how-we-help/legacy-corps/>

Media Contact:

Dr. Cheryl Novas, PhD

Managing Director, Partnership & Development, Northwest Compass

cnovas@northwestcompass.org | +1 847 637 0969

###