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NEWS RELEASE

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PROJECT LINUS AND CAPE COD COOPERATIVE BANK BRING COMFORT TO HURRICANE VICTIMS

YARMOUTH PORT, MASSACHUSETTS, September 19, 2005 ... Susan Provencher, Cape Cod Chapter Coordinator of Project Linus and Branch Manager of Cape Cod Cooperative Bank's Yarmouth Port office, received an urgent email from Project Linus National Headquarters. They needed blankets to help comfort some of the youngest victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Susan responded that she had fifty blankets that she could send from the annual "Make a Blanket Day" drive that the Bank sponsored in February. She let the Bank know of the National Headquarters' request and they said they would be happy to help by shipping the blankets down (see attached photo).

The mission of Project Linus is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade, washable blankets and afghans, lovingly crafted by volunteer "blanketeers." Nearly 300 chapters of Project Linus exist with more than 550,000 blankets delivered worldwide. Project Linus is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization.

While the annual drive is in February with Make a Blanket Day, Susan accepts blankets daily and as you can imagine the need transcends an annual drive. All blankets are usually distributed locally to organizations like Independence House, Safe Harbor and A Baby Center. However, when a national disaster of such magnitude strikes, the Project Linus community becomes one. If you would like to donate a new homemade blanket you may do so to:

Susan Provencher
Cape Cod Cooperative Bank
121 Main Street (Route 6A)
Yarmouth Port, MA 02675

Project Linus has a few specific health and safety guidelines for **Acceptable Blankets** which are:
"A Project Linus blanket is a **new, handmade, washable blanket**. Please insure that your blankets are **free from smoky smells or any chemicals**, which could cause problems for a child. While we love creativity, **please do not use embellishments such as buttons, glitter, beads or sequins, as these may pose a danger to the child.**"

"We continue to be a proud supporter of Susan and her work with Project Linus," said Joel Crowell, President and CEO of Cape Cod Cooperative Bank. "The devastation on the Gulf Coast serves as a grim reminder of the destruction that a hurricane can do. This could just as easily have been Cape Codders suffering so we are eager to help in whatever way we can. Shipping some blankets down to help comfort the youngest victims was an easy decision."

In addition, Cape Cod Cooperative Bank has teamed up with Qantum Communications to accept donations to go directly to the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. Those wishing to make a donation can stop by any branch of Cape Cod Cooperative Bank.

Cape Cod Cooperative Bank is a mutual, community bank with total assets of \$412 million. Established in 1921, they are headquartered in Yarmouth Port with branch locations in Yarmouth Port, East Dennis, West Barnstable, Sandwich and Independence Park in Hyannis.