

# Quilting club's work will warm shelter residents

By Chris Mahoney  
The Patriot Ledger

HANOVER — Usually, when the Herring Run Quilting Club gets together, it's for workshops, demonstrations and chatting with people they hadn't seen since the last month's meeting.

Not this month. At their meeting Saturday, the members got down to the brass tax of quilting.

Sewing machines whirred almost non-stop for three hours in the Congregational Church Hall. Talking was at a minimum. And club members who sometimes spend months of loving care on favorite patterns made 10 quilts in assembly line fashion.

The results of all this speed-stitching won't be displayed at church raffles or

## Hanover

sent to grandchildren. They will grace the beds of homeless shelters and crisis centers.

For the first time since its founding three years ago the Hanover-based club donated its quilts to charity.

The Herring Run board members will decide next month where to send the quilts.

Among the organizations they're considering are Father Bill's homeless shelter in Quincy; Domestic Violence Ends (DOVE), a Quincy-based shelter for battered women; Family Counselling Guid-

ance Center in Braintree, and the Plymouth County Rape Crisis Center.

"We all love to quilt. But to do something for the homeless, for AIDS babies, is a great cause," said Vicky Webster of Easton. "It's a good cause, and it's a fun learning experience."

Club member Kathleen MacDonald of Marshfield came up with the charity idea. MacDonald, a sixth-grade teacher at the Plymouth Community Intermediate School, had her pupils make quilts to donate to the Ronald McDonald House.

"I figured if kids can do it, we can do it," MacDonald said.

"Everybody was for it," said Suzanne Fox of Hanover, co-coordinator of Herring Run.

Fifty of the club's 80 members partici-

pated Saturday. Coordinators divided the membership into 10 groups of five, told them to get themselves organized and make quilts.

Some of the 10 groups were comprised of people who had barely met since they joined the club.

"I'm surprised we worked together as well as we did," said Julie Vaughan of Easton. Her group was the first to finish its quilt.

"It worked out very well," Janice King of Rockland said. "The whole idea was to get together with people you normally didn't talk to."

"It was just a lot of fun," said co-coordinator Laurie Loughlin of East Bridgewater. "It's been so successful we're going to do it again."