

85 motorcycle riders thundered onto the grounds of Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Sunday, July 22, flanking a brand new 2012 Ford Starcraft 18 passenger bus as it arrived from American Legion Post #293. The only thing more inspiring than the sounds of those bikes was the sight of the beautifully decorated bus! It was certainly a stellar day for the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home residents and staff! After an exciting fund raising drive by Buddy Mastin, Past State Commander of the Sons of American Legion, the donated 2012 Ford Starcraft 18 passenger bus will head the fleet of vehicles used to transport residents. With over 500,000 miles of driving required each year to transport residents to medical appointments, as well as social activities and outings, this bus replaces a 12-year-old bus with over 245,000 miles. After designating CHVH the recipient of his Commander's Project for 2011-2012, Commander Mastin, along with the Sons of American Legion, The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and Legion Riders, proceeded to raise over \$90,000 dollars. The funds were then used to not only purchase the bus, but also outfit it for the comfort of residents and adorn it with patriotic and inspirational artwork and the names of Charlotte Hall Veterans Home and the American Legion. Amazingly, the fundraising efforts were able to not only raise enough funds for the bus, but will also cover the construction of a covered walkway for the comfort and safety of residents as they get on and off the vehicles. Thee CHVH family is overwhelmed by the generosity and efforts of all those involved in this effort. Thee Legion Family has time and again given tremendous gifts of support for our veterans and their families. Every one of our residents, staff members and family members are filled with gratitude for this unprecedented gift!

