



NEWS RELEASE

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WEST FULTON ROD & GUN CLUB DONATES \$1,000 TOWARD BASSETT HEALTH CENTER IN MIDDLEBURGH

Middleburgh, NY— The West Fulton Rod & Gun Club, one of the oldest conservation groups in Schoharie County, continues to abide by its motto "Put Back More Than You Take." On April 4, the club voted to contribute \$1,000 toward the Marge & Randy Becker Challenge Grant to establish a Bassett Healthcare health center in Middleburgh.

"Each year club members raise funds to support a youth education or conservation project that will improve our environment," explained Gerald Hamm, club secretary. "With the recent passing of Randy Becker, one of the great ones, and the creation of the Marge & Randy Becker Challenge Grant, we decided to support the establishment of the Bassett health center, which will help improve the quality of life for residents throughout the area. Without the many contributions of the Beckers, both public and anonymous, and The Middleburgh Telephone Company, Middleburgh would not be in the state of rejuvenation that it is experiencing today."

Among the West Fulton Rod & Gun Club's projects supported by Marge and Randy Becker are the Timothy Murphy 10K Run & Walk for the Environment and the construction of Looking Glass Pond. "The Run would not exist without the annual support of Marge and Randy," said Mr. Hamm. "Typical of the Beckers' enthusiasm for and involvement in projects that benefit the community, in addition to their sponsorship, Marge Becker has competed in every Run since 1993," he added.

Headquartered in West Fulton, the 100-member club continues to put back more into the community. In 2005, the club provided funds for three SUNY/Cobleskill students to pursue special studies, for a Middleburgh Central School student who excelled in environmental studies and for support of the Valley Soccer Club, among other worthy causes. Club members hope that their new gift will encourage other organizations across the region to contribute to the Becker Challenge Grant to raise the \$100,000 start-up funds needed to open the Bassett Healthcare health center in Middleburgh.

Contributions to the Marge and Randy Becker Challenge Grant toward the establishment of Bassett Healthcare—Middleburgh can be made to: Scott A. Barrett, Executive Director, Friends of Bassett, One Atwell Rd., Cooperstown, NY 13326.

The West Fulton Rod & Gun Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the West Fulton Volunteer Fire House Facility. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m., and nonmembers are welcome.

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Photo caption: On April 10, three generations of the Becker Family were represented by (left to right) James Becker, who also is a trustee of Bassett Hospital of Schoharie County; Christopher Becker; and Marge Becker at a check-passing ceremony on the steps of the Middleburgh Library. Gerald Hamm, representing the West Fulton Rod & Gun Club, presented the Beckers with a \$1,000 check toward the Marge & Randy Becker Challenge Grant to help establish a Bassett Healthcare health center in Middleburgh. Scott A. Barrett (far right), executive director of the Friends of Bassett, also was present.