

2011 Community Betterment Award Nomination Form



The Pike County Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for its 3rd annual Community Betterment Award

This award is intended to recognize the contribution of an individual, or group of individuals whose vision and actions have bettered the city or village in which they live.

The Community Betterment Award will be presented at the Chamber's Annual Dinner Meeting to be held Thursday, March 29th at Colver Family Winery in Barry.

What contributions has this person or group made to merit this award?

(Please print)

Name of person or group: Western Community Center YMCA Group

Community: located in Barry, will serve all of Pike County

Job responsibility or role in the community:

Raise funds and membership for the YMCA project

What contributions has this person or group made to the community in which he or she (or they) live?

See attached

How have these actions benefited the community and/or the county?

See attached

Nomination submitted by: Shawn Rennecker

Your Phone: (217)-430-8511 email: Shawnr@e-co-op.com

Please return this form by Friday, March 16, 2012 to:

Pike County Chamber of Commerce

224 W. Washington, PO Box 283 Pittsfield, IL 62363

or the form can be **faxed** to 217-285-5251 or **emailed** to info@pikeil.org

Our Mission:

To advocate for our members and enhance the overall quality of life in the county.

Our Vision:

We are the front door to Pike County for people and businesses, and a trusted source of information, resources, and advocacy.

For more information please call Kaye Iftner, Executive Director, Pike County Chamber of Commerce at 217-285-2971.

Pike County Chamber of Commerce
Community Betterment Award



What contributions has this group made to the community in which they live?

In 2011, a group effort to develop a YMCA facility in Pike County, Illinois was kicked off. This committee comprised of local residents and YMCA staff worked diligently to raise funds to make this facility possible. The group was able to raise over \$300,000 for facility renovation in a short period of time. With large contributions coming from the Tracy Family Foundation, a Quincy Foundation, and local residents and businesses, the project was well on its way to becoming a reality.

At the end of 2011 and in to early 2012, the group has worked to secure charter memberships and possible membership lists throughout Pike County. In late February 2012, the group received word that the project would begin construction in March in time for a June 1 opening.

This group worked diligently for the last year to write grants, solicit donations, and create interest in memberships for this YMCA facility that will serve Pike County, Illinois. The project also received a generous contribution in late 2011 from a memorial fund in honor of the late John Shover. Mr. Shover was an advocate for the project from day 1 and had a great desire to see it happen.

How have these actions benefited the community and/or the county?

The efforts of this group to make a Pike County YMCA facility possible will benefit residents of Pike County in several ways. The presence of the YMCA in Pike County, Illinois will continue to improve the quality of life for residents in the communities of Pike County. Accessibility to health and wellness based activities is increasingly more important to residents of Pike County. The YMCA organization has a well established and credible record of providing wellness programming and services to its members.

The vision for this facility is to develop:

- A place where senior citizens can come and socialize and exercise with other seniors a couple of days a week – their daily living skills become easier as a result of their exercising and they make new friends along the way.
- A place where stay-at-home moms come to gather and share stories or their children while exercising together on the treadmills. The break from their kids makes them

better parents by being refreshed and taking care of their own health.

- A place where the middle-aged man finally has a place to come to take care of his overall health and reverse the weight gain and other medical issues he may be facing due to a sedentary lifestyle.
- A place where area children are learning the importance of exercise and nutrition so they can ultimately lead a longer life than their parents – reversing the current medical statement that indicated children born today will have a shorter lifespan than their parents.
- A place where people of all ages, faiths, and walks of life can come and feel a part of something larger – membership in an organization concerned about their health and the health of their neighbors. An organization that is focused on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

The project will see the renovation of the building into a wellness area. This area would offer 16 pieces of cardio equipment (treadmills, ellipticals, stationary bikes...etc.) and a 14-piece circuit of strength training equipment. Free weights/dumbbells will also be available. The building is connected to the former fellowship hall building. The fellowship building will be transformed into a facility that will accommodate both aerobic activity/courses and community meetings. The facility will also have family restrooms/showers, and a child watch area. An aerobic activity course schedule and youth programming will be developed after members are surveyed following the opening in June.

Committee Members

Pat Syrcle	Carolyn Dean
Shawn Rennecker	Becky Rennecker
Lance Kendrick	Rob Gates
Dave Knepper	Jan Gates
Rick Shover	Janice Shue
Bob Dieker	Bertha Badgley
Debbie Harshman	Amy Gates
Debbie Rennecker	Amelia Baugher
Richard Syrcle	Jeane Hurt
Linda Syrcle	Tammy Von Burg
Roger Harris	Mark Spiegelhoff
Karen Harris	Amy Earnest
Sandy Borrowman	Amanda Stotts