



Roy Lauth of Newport competes with his replica of a single shot cap-and-ball pistol circa 1840 in the Newport Rifle Club's charity marksmanship competition that raised nearly \$900 for Lucy's Hearth.

Club hosts competition, scouts

The Newport Rifle Club hosted a pistol competition recently that collected two overflowing large laundry baskets of food and raised nearly \$900 for Lucy's Hearth, a shelter for women and children.

The idea for the charity match came from Newport Rifle Club member and former Middletown deputy police chief Paul Dutra. The Tiverton Rod and Gun Club, Island Gun Shop and Newport Rifle Club cosponsored the shoot, which will likely become an annual Thanksgiving time event.

Twenty-five competitors from the Newport Rifle Club, Tiverton Rod and Gun and Ocean State Pistol League paid to shoot and to enter a lottery for prizes donated by Island Gun Shop, Mick's Muscle Mania and Newport Playhouse. Many people stopped by during the event to donate money and nonperishable food.

Winners of the three competition categories are: Dan Bartholomew of Newport for muzzleloading pistol, John Warszawski of Jamestown for single-action pistol, and Bob King of Middletown for cap-and-ball revolver.

Founded in 1876 and moved to Wyatt Road, Middletown in 1960, the Newport Rifle Club is the oldest continuously active gun club in the nation. With a membership limited to 700, the



Newport Rifle Club member Peter Delgatto of Middletown coaches Brady Poirier, 9, of Acushnet, Mass., one of the 19 Boy Scouts who received firearms safety and marksmanship training at the club recently to qualify for their riflery merit badge.

club provides numerous programs for men, women and youth in firearms safety and marksmanship and competitions ranging from informal within the club to formal ones with gun clubs throughout the state.

Located in Middletown, Lucy's Hearth is a 24-hour emergency and transitional shelter for mothers and their children who are homeless due to economic hardship, family crisis, divorce, eviction, and severe shortage of safe, affordable housing.

In other news

The Newport Rifle Club

recently played host to 19 Scouts from Troop 333 of East Freetown, Mass., who were trying to qualify for their riflery merit badge. Before coming to the club and while there, the Scouts learned about firearms safety, parts and functioning of rifles and marksmanship.

About a dozen highly experienced Newport Rifle Club members volunteered to provide one-on-one safety supervision and coaching for each Scout. The club helps as many as eight Boy Scout troops and Naval Sea Cadet units a year qualify in firearms safety and marksmanship.