



Wilton Rotary Drummer
February 8, 2008 **Vol. 27, No. 30**
Editor: Mark Kolier



Guests: *Matt Castaldi – whose application to join our club is already in*

Announcements

- All hailed Stephanie Barksdale on her honored for her ten years a Wilton Chamber of Commerce Director
- The Westport Special Olympics Winter plunge is fast approaching – talk to President Bill if you want to jump in!
- There will be a Board of Directors meeting Thursday 2/21. Location TBD. All are welcome
- Amber alert event March 7 at YMCA 6:30-8:30PM or 7-9 PM. There will be 4 future dates for Amber alert with details to follow.
- President elect Pat Russo is taking suggestions on where the 2008-2009 installation might take place. Talk about advance planning! He also mentioned that the club is in need of additional fundraising ideas and that the Oldies show might be resurrected. Perhaps not my best choice of words.
- Mark mentioned that the club sponsored RYLA student attended last weekend and would hopefully attend a lunch meeting in the spring along with some Interact members. New Generations for WHS students (up to 5 may be sponsored) in March.
- David Dephtereos' daughter Sarah participated in a forum on domestic violence and you can catch her on TV. on the educational access channel.
- Lots of kudos for the Giants. Pats fans were not so happy but appear to be looking forward to Red Sox baseball.

Program:

Stepping in for our last minute cancelled speaker was our own Dr. Keith Overland. Dr. O presented the contrasting Healthcare reform positions of the three remaining major candidates. (Mr. Huckabee is still hanging in there). Dr. O is third in line to be president of the American Chiropractic Association. Dr. O noted:

- We are far from the Marcus Welby M.D. days where doctors were perceived as infallible
- Non M.D.'s such as RN's and associates are acting more and more as the primary first line care givers at doctor's offices
- Dr. O heads a small PAC lobbying on health care issues
- The key question is does everyone in America have a right to healthcare?
- He contrasted the single payer system versus the market-based system in place today. Universal healthcare is about access to healthcare for all
- The U.S. ranks 42nd in the world for infant mortality – 19th in the world for chronic disease
- 16% or \$ 7,000 per person is spent annually on healthcare
- 33% of Americans are considered obese
- Primary care doctors are underpaid in comparison to specialists
- Proposed changes by Dr. O:
 - A)** people should take personal financial responsibility for their own health
 - B)** incent wellness to help prevent illness
 - C)** Offer small business tax credits to cover all employees
 - D)** Create national non-partisan guidelines for healthcare and do not allow healthcare companies to develop those guidelines.

See you next Friday at the Silvermine Tavern..... Mark