



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org



May 5, 2006

Vol. 25, No. 41

Editor: Kathy Leeds

Announcements

1. Crafts Fair (Saturday, May 27th): Richard Kent said that we had a poor turnout to canvas merchants for silent auction items and he asked that we all contact merchants and those who provide professional services individually. Ray asked us to check with him to see who has already been contacted. All those who want to have ads in the booklet must have their checks/reservations in by next Friday in order to be included in the Bulletin ad. Richard will distribute a signup sheet for the Fair next week.
2. Rose Sale (Tuesday, June 16th pickup): Bob Mills will distribute a signup sheet next week as well, and there will be a team competition for most sales.
3. Installation Dinner: The dinner will be held (tentatively) on June 20th. More details will be forthcoming.

Program

Dr. Gary Richards, Superintendent of the Wilton Public Schools System, spoke about the challenges facing educators today, not the least of which is determining the purpose of education: is it to teach the "3 R's," to ready students for the workplace, to create lifelong learners, to promote health, to promote worthy home membership (train future parents), promote civic participation, or promote ethical character? Actually, today's schools are striving to do all of the above, balancing academic skills with other attributes that will serve students in the future and beyond the academic setting.

Gary mentioned a quote he had heard years ago about the power of thought:

*Watch **thoughts** because they become words*

*Watch **words** because they become actions*

*Watch **actions** because they become habits*

*Watch **habits** because they become our character*

*Watch **character** because it becomes our destiny.*

He talked about an article on the “habit of mind” that educated people possess and recounted some of the attributes:

- persistence
- clear and precise thinking and communication
- managed impulsivity
- information gathering using all senses
- ability to listen and understand with empathy, respect and civility
- creativity, imagination and innovation
- ability to think flexibly
- metacognition – the ability to understand how we arrive at conclusions
- accuracy
- humor
- ability to question and pose problems
- interdependent thinking and collaborative behavior
- ability to apply information from the past to solve problems in the present

See you next Friday at the SilvermineKathy