



## Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980

[www.wiltonrotaryclub.org](http://www.wiltonrotaryclub.org)

*Our 32<sup>nd</sup> Year of Service!*



**August 29, 2014**

**Vol. 34, No. 8**

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### Announcements:

- Carol Johnson called the meeting to order, wished everyone a Happy Labor Day weekend, and welcomed guest speakers Bruce Hampson and Karen Birck.
- Potential new members were introduced: Pam Brown, Facilities Manager - Wilton Congregational Church, and Christine Freedman, Development Director - Wilton Family Y.
- Frank Spencer reminisced on past Rotary events and initiatives by sharing photos and newspaper clippings in which several past Rotary presidents were featured.
- A Happy Birthday greeting was extended to Bud Boucher by Carol.
- Carol also announced that a plaque commemorating former member Ben Patt will be installed at the Gazebo.
- Paul Burnham spoke about a matching grant to support the "Stop Hunger Now" initiative. All hands on deck - Saturday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at WEBCO.
- Bud Boucher mentioned events sponsored by area Rotary clubs including the Norwalk club's oyster fest and the New Canaan club's lobster fest. Proceeds from the latter will benefit the installation of a memorial at the American Legion Post.
- Pat Russo announced there are 18 banner sponsors for the carnival to date. Additionally, Vento Refuse will be donating refuse containers for the event, and the Wilton Police Department will be donating some staff hours. He noted there were still a few vacant slots for member volunteers at the carnival. Due to construction, parking will be available at Cider Mill School. Pat also reminded us of the annual motor cycle ride via Route 7. It is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>; they will be riding through Wilton from 11:00am to noon.

### Program:

Bruce Hampson and Karen Birck, Co-Chairs of the Building Committee for the Miller-Driscoll School Project, gave an informative presentation on plans for the renovation project. Highlights noted were:

- Architectural firm - Tai Soo Kim Partners, and Turner Construction were selected for the project.
- The overall objective of the project is to update the facility, grounds and space to respond to the needs of the future. The goal is to extend the useful life of the building for at least the next 25 years. The project is estimated at \$50 Million with approximately \$6 million expected from the State. The cost to Wilton should be just under \$44 Million. While substantial, the total cost should be 40% less than that of building a new school.

- Targeted issues and areas to be addressed by the renovation are: HVAC, roof, skylights, windows, electrical and data communication systems, cafeteria, acoustics, safety & security, playgrounds, parking, expanded gym, flooring and cabinetry, and improved student traffic flow within the school.
- The importance of the project was emphasized by both speakers. There will be a Special Town Meeting on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:30PM at the Clune Center. Following the meeting, residents will have the opportunity to vote on the project. An Adjourned Meeting Vote is scheduled for Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. Approval of the project will be a simple majority vote.

In keeping with the mission of the worldwide Rotary organization to promote world peace through understanding, the speakers were asked to sign a country book in honor of their visit. The book will be donated to the Children's collection at Wilton Library.

***NEXT MEETING – Friday, September 5, 2014 at Marly's in Wilton***