

**CLASSIFICATION:** John Wayne Barker presented his Classification Talk by focusing on a special project through Merrick, Inc. John is from Roseville where he attended school. He currently serves as Executive Director of Merrick, Inc, a nonprofit organization serving individuals with disabilities. His focus of today's talk was Merrick's Ambassadors For Respect Program, a special anti-bullying program which recently was recognized with a State of Minnesota innovation award. The program was started five years and serves fourth graders with disabilities in White Bear Lake schools who are affected by Bullying. Young ambassadors are assigned to help all fourth graders understand the negative impacts of bullying and ridicule. The ambassadors work directly with the students who have experienced bullying to help them build their self-esteem, their self-worth and cope with teasing tied to their condition. Research shows such pressure begins to affect students most around the fourth grade and mitigation is most effective at that age.

Thanks for the up-date John and for the work you do.

**TASTE OF WHITE BEAR LAKE  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7  
2 P.M.—5 P.M.  
PINE TREE APPLE ORCHARD**

Reminders for the Home Stretch...with only two days and a wake-up before the main event.....

- ⇒ If you have not already done so you need to get your ticket sale money and any unsold tickets to Pat McFarlane.
- ⇒ If you have not donated a bottle of wine for the Cork Pull please consider making a \$20 donation to the event through Rob Weber today and he will buy one for you.
- ⇒ Bring donations for Silent Auction
- ⇒ Set up and take down. We need all hands on deck so please sign up for various duties. Ken Baltzer is passing a clip board. Set up begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning at Pine Tree.

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

“The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page”

- St. Augustine

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...  
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September 1.....Nancy Watkins  
 September 4.....Bryan Belisle  
 September 9.....Debra Neutkens  
 September 9.....Gordy Beulke  
 September 13.....Pat McFarlane  
 September 13.....Scott Neilson  
 September 16.....Patty Hall  
 September 23.....Carter Johnson  
 September 28.....John Wayne Barker

**PROGRAM:**

**Tim Wald introduced White Bear Lake School District Superintendent Wayne Kazmierczak** to explain the up-coming ballot referendum requesting voter approval of issuance of \$326,000,000 in school bonds on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Wayne stated the bond issue request stems from 1) a school district strategy to provide a learning environment to enhance the student experience; 2) expected growth in enrollment; 3) student safety; 4) accumulated building maintenance needs; and, 5) future programs. A 90 person planning committee composed of students, staff, parents and community members recommend establishment of a four-year high school at the present North Campus junior high, a new elementary school in Hugo, conversion of South Campus high school to a junior high and conversion of Sunrise junior high to district offices as well as improvements to all school buildings. The financial impact on a home currently valued at \$275,000 (average value house) will be approximately \$276 per year during the 24 year debt repayment period. Wayne also explained that the State of Minnesota provides partial funding for education purposes. For many school districts such as White Bear Lake that funding may not be applied to building construction. The local district is responsible for construction costs.

Thanks for the explanation Tim and Wayne. All district residents remember to vote **November 5<sup>th</sup>**.

*Writer of the week: Mark Sather*

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**The Rotary Club of White Bear Lake—  
 building friendships and improving lives through hands-on  
 projects in the White Bear area and around the globe**  
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