

TILTON RESIDENT NAMED 2006 SCHMITT UNSUNG WINNER

LACONIA: The fifth annual Annette P Schmitt UnSung Hero Award was presented to David Tryon of Tilton at the 2006 Belknap County Convocation on Children and Families on January 24th at the Winnepesaukee Exposition Center in Lakeport. Presented by Hon. Willard G Martin, this award honors a resident of Belknap County who has quietly worked on behalf of children and families in Belknap County.

This award is given each year in memory of Annette Schmitt, a woman from the Hanover and Lebanon area who at her death awarded a large portion of her estate to improving the lives of children and families in the Lakes Region and in New Hampshire.

Judge Martin described Dave Tryon as a longtime resident of Tilton who has been giving



back to his community for more than 20 years. “He is a gentleman who is steadfast in working with youth within the school setting, as well as in the community.”

He gives tirelessly of his time and resources and appears at the Winnisquam Middle School every day, spending more than 35 hours a week working and talking with many students who do not have a supportive adult in their lives.

According to Martin, Dave is “the consummate volunteer” and has devoted endless hours chaperoning school dances, joining in on a white-water rafting trip, organizing a “Drop In and Do-Nothing Night” for Winnisquam Regional youth, and writing and implementing an anti-smoking grant.

Says one community member of Tryon, “His many qualities stand out, but one in particular is his ability to invite kids to be a part of giving back to others. He gets kids to help him at the concession stand at football games, paint pictures for a project or help prepare a spaghetti dinner for parents night.

Tryon believes all children and families have dignity and worth. He works with juveniles, teaching them to be responsible for their behavior and to better understand the consequences of their actions.

Another enthusiastic supporter of this year's winner says, "The world responds warmly to Dave Tryon. He is an integral member of his community. His sincerity and kindness are never ending."

In addition to his volunteer duties in the Winnisquam Schools, Dave is vitally interested in his community. He has been a Board Member of the Pines Community Center for many years where he spent most of several summers volunteering in support of the Winnisquam Teen Camp. According to Ed Winters, Executive Director of the Pines Community Center, "On many days, Dave would drive his own van to transport kids. He also made certain these kids had their own swim trunks and a proper lunch."

Described as someone with a heart "as big as he is", Dave once gave the school principal a stack of envelopes requesting that this for kids that The Schmitt each January to a works "behind-the-positive change in in Belknap County; excellence,

persistence on behalf of children and families; who is respected and recognized as a positive role model in the community; and someone who supports the principles of Community Justice through words and actions.



Dave with some of the students from Winnisquam Middle School in Tilton just before his name is announced as the winner.



Dave with well wishers, including his wife and students.

and 100 one-dollar bills money be used to buy hot lunches otherwise would go without. UnSung Hero Award is presented resident of Belknap County who scenes" to bring meaningful and the lives of one or more families who demonstrates consistent enthusiasm, creativity, and

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