

NEWS RELEASE

TORRINGTON ROTARY CLUB BENEFITS GOSHEN COUNTY SIXTH GRADERS

Torrington Rotary Club is presenting journals and Rotary pens to sixth graders throughout Goshen County in January. A district matching literacy grant entitled Raising Writers helped fund the project that will involve many Rotarians in the distribution for schools in Torrington, Lingle-Ft. Laramie, Southeast, LaGrange, and St. Joseph's Children's Home. About 180 children will benefit and will be encouraged to journal as a way to help students clarify thoughts, make positive choices, and dream about the future.

The current 5440 District Governor, Charles Rutenberg, has made encouraging literacy activities a priority during his tenure and developed the grant program. Torrington Rotary Club has a variety of other literacy efforts including distributing third grade dictionaries to all third graders in Goshen, Platte and Niobrara counties; as well as Books for Babies born in Community Hospital, and First Birthday Books for those same babies as they approach their first birthday. Longtime literacy chair of the Torrington Club, Dee Ludwig, said, "We wanted to do something for older children this time and encouraging writing for sixth graders seemed like a perfect fit." Torrington Rotary President, Tim Pieper, indicated "Giving back to the community with this local project is one of many ways that Torrington Rotary Club is involved with humanitarian efforts that also include worldwide polio immunization efforts, clean water projects, and local requests for funding community efforts."

Photo Attached:

Torrington Rotarians: (l to r) Joan Brinkley, Wayne Gentry, Coby Romig, and Marci Cates at Torrington Middle School – ready to present journals to sixth graders