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News

Litchfield County Women's Network hosts 18th annual Daughter's Day

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By MIKE AGOGLIATI

TORRINGTON — The Litchfield County Women's Network hosted its 18th annual Daughter's Day, and the event was deemed a success by Network President Chana Monahan.

Community leaders and students gathered at the Elk's Club in Torrington for Daughter's Day on Thursday. The event featured about 40 area women who are local business leaders, and about 70 area eighth grade girls from Torrington Middle School, St. Peter's/St. Francis, Region 7 and St. Anthony's School.

"The girls really had a great time. They spoke with different mentors about goal setting and moving forward in life," Monahan said.

The girls sat in groups of about four, at each table with two mentors. The mentors spoke about their jobs and setting and achieving goals. The informal discussions also involved more things than just family.

"We need to show the girls that there are strong role models in the community for these girls to use as examples," Monahan said. "These girls are our future, so why not show them what they can be in life."

The event featured author Michele Bredice-Craemer, a Torrington High School graduate who now lives in Upton Mass. Craemer is the author of two children's books; "CoCo Loves to Tri" and "Pellie Runs a Marathon." Craemer also is the owner of Power Pack Presentations, a company that offers motivational and health and fitness publications.

"Michele was great, she had all the girls dancing on the floor at one point," Monahan said.

Daughter's Day was started in 1993 by Susan Carroll in an effort to give young girls a chance to meet community mentors.

"The program is kind of like 'Bring your Daughter to Work Day', but we found in the Torrington area, the program wasn't really working," Carroll said. "I decided we needed to bring the girls together with the women mentors to really have a great program."

Carroll said she wanted to give the girls an opportunity to meet area women and have a nice luncheon.

"A lot of these girls have never had a nice meal with crystal glasses and several courses. This is a great way for them to experience that and meet some great mentors."

The event has several sponsors including Brooker Memorial, Vision electric and Torrington Municipal and Teachers

Federal Credit Union. Two other sponsors, The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital and the Torrington Savings Bank have been sponsors for the entire 18 years.

"The hospital and savings bank have been so good to us over the years, they have been around to help us since the beginning," Carroll said. "We want to give the girls to dream big and pursue those dreams."

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