



Friday, April 8, 2011

The Riverview

Simsbury, CT

7:00–11:00 p.m.

2011 Honorees

Connecticut Thoracic Society Award

Lynn Tanoue, MD

Emily Bissell Award

Gordon Bonetti Florist, Inc.

Healthy Air Ambassador

Jordan Reichgut and Alex Scaperotta/ YOUTH AWARD

Curtis Packaging Corporation/ CORPORATE AWARD

Board of Directors Award

Franklin Products

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

BREATH *of* SPRING

2011 GALA CELEBRATION

† AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

Healthy Air Ambassador **Jordan Reichgut** AND **Alex Scaperotta** / YOUTH AWARD

The Healthy Air Ambassador Award is presented by the American Lung Association for demonstrating a commitment to clean air through environmentally sound practices and a dedication to healthy lungs for all.

Alex Scaperotta and Jordan Reichgut, both of Wilton, are not your typical twelve year olds. By the time they were ten they had been recognized by the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change and were presented with the 2008 Climate Change Leadership Award.

The Healthy Air Ambassador Youth award is given to young people in the community who demonstrate a passion and initiative for making the air we breathe safe for all. At eight years old, Alex and Jordan founded "Little People, Big Changes," a club that encouraged 120 Wilton households to sign up for the state's Clean Energy Options Program. The program allows customers of Connecticut Light & Power to pay a voluntary clean energy surcharge which helps fund wind, hydroelectric and landfill gas projects that contribute to the nation's electric grid.

It all began when they saw the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth". The boys became aware of climate change and wanted to teach people to

help save energy and reduce carbon emissions. Little People, Big Changes was their answer to helping to make the world a better place. This kids' community action club's goal is to learn as much about global warming as possible and then take action to protect the environment.

When they noticed there was a serious issue with idling cars in school zones, they launched a "no idling" campaign in Wilton to reduce auto emissions. They created a PowerPoint presentation centered on this campaign and used the slogan, "If you're stopped for more than ten, turn it off and on again." Additionally, they have presented at schools and to various officials about the hazards of air pollution, green house gases and the need for clean energy.

The American Lung Association is proud to recognize these two outstanding children with the Healthy Air Ambassador Youth Award this evening.