



Photo/Alex von Kleydorff. L-r Sophomore Frank Ball, Senior Chloe Rosen and Senior Theresa Marino get the word out about Red Ribbon Day at Wilton High School

## Red Ribbon week is celebrated at schools

WILTON -- Students at Middlebrook and Wilton High School touted the importance of drug prevention with Red Ribbon Week.

Students wore red clothing, teachers passed out assignments on red paper, cafeteria tables were covered with red tablecloths and information about drug and alcohol prevention was handed out and posted in the schools this week.

"At the middle school the kids are very involved; they've been doing this for years," said Theresa Marino, 17, president of the student drug awareness group Youth to Youth. "This is the first time we've tried it at the high school."

Youth to Youth sponsored Red Ribbon week, which was spearheaded by social worker Kim Zemo and Middlebrook special education teacher Tanya Leonard. The students at both schools put together a week of activities aimed at raising awareness of the problems caused by drug and alcohol abuse.

Red Ribbon Week has been celebrated nationally for a decade. Sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, Red Ribbon week was launched by the DEA and former first lady Nancy Regan in memory of DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who was tortured and killed by drug traffickers in 1985.

The students say that other teens really responded to the events this week.

"I saw a lot of kids and teachers wearing red," said Chloe Rosen, 17, a member of Youth to Youth.

-- A.J. O'Connell