

COVENTRY ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

Initial class of inductees left its mark

Coventry High's inaugural class of four displayed excellence, helped school develop as educational leader

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COVENTRY — With one of the largest enrollments of any public high school in the state, Coventry is bound to produce its share of success stories.

Now, thanks to the efforts of some alumni and faculty the school will have a Hall of Fame in which it will enshrine alumni.

Later this month, the school will induct its first-ever honorees into the Hall of Fame. Here are brief biographies of each attesting to their credentials and the cred-

ibility of their enshrinement.

James A. DiPrete

James A. DiPrete, Principal Emeritus of Coventry High School, came to CHS in the Fall of 1972 as its 4th principal. Under his leadership, Mr. DiPrete worked to get a new bond passed to complete construction of a new building, setting the stage for the end of double sessions and the beginning of a



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Inductees will be enshrined in late May

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golden age for CHS. Mr. DiPrete worked to revise and strengthen the curriculum and to revitalize the extracurricular programs. While principal, Mr. DiPrete networked by working with RIASP, chaired a number of NEASC visiting committees, and served a term on the National Association of Student Councils Executive Board. Mr. DiPrete brought Coventry High School to new academic heights and to national recognition as a school of excellence. Mr. DiPrete retired as principal of CHS in 1993 but has continued to serve the educational community by serving as the chairperson of the RI Board of Regents for 10 years and by serving in numerous interim positions around the state of Rhode Island.

Mr. DiPrete's people-centered brand of leadership and caring style have endeared him to all who have had the privilege to work with him. His legacy has endured well beyond his tenure and continues to inspire all who know him.

Andrea Hopkins

Andrea Hopkins is a graduate of Coventry High School and the University of Rhode Island with a major in political science and double minors in history and journalism. She is married to her high school sweetheart, Mark Hopkins. They have two daughters, Kathryn and Jennifer, and 3 grandchildren.



Ms. Hopkins recently retired as the liaison for state and federal government relations for the University of Rhode Island. She previously held leadership positions at AAA Southern New England, Meeting Street School and A.T. Cross.

As a major supporter of Kent County Hospital, Andrea served as the Vice Chair of the Board and actively participated on several hospital committees. She is currently a member of the Board of the Kent Hospital Foundation. Ms. Hopkins is the

President of the Coventry Public Library Foundation and the Anthony Lyceum Library. She is a Trustee of Centreville Bank, the first woman to hold this position.

Ms. Hopkins is active with the University of Rhode Island Alumni Association as an admissions representative, a member of the Government Relations Advisory Committee and a charter member of the Women's Development Council. Ms. Hopkins is also a trustee for the URI Foundation. Above and beyond her titles, both volunteer and professional, Andrea Hopkins is one of Rhode Island's truly exceptional mentors.

In recognition of her many contributions, the Coventry High School Alumni Association is honoring Andrea as an inductee in the initial class of the newly established Hall of Fame.

Bob Peltier

Bob Peltier was born in 1935 and raised in the Harris section of Coventry. He attended LaSalle Academy and proved to be an exceptional football and baseball player. After graduating in 1953, he attended Dean Academy where he continued to play both sports. Bob then went to the University of Rhode Island and graduated in 1959 with a degree in Physical Education. While at URI he excelled on the football and baseball teams. In 1959, Bob started his career teaching at Westerly High School where he also became the head football coach. Two years later he moved to West Warwick High School and was an assistant football coach under his mentor, Monk Maznicki. In 1964, Bob began teaching at Coventry High School and became their head football coach. During that time he had many accomplishments. He led the Coventry Football team to two state championships and also had an incredible two and a half year winning streak, 24 games undefeated. Bob Peltier taught school and



coached football for 34 years. Because of his outstanding athleticism, in 2004 he was inducted into the University Of Rhode Island Hall Of Fame.

Anne Proffitt Dupre

Anne Proffitt Dupre graduated from Coventry High School in 1970 and then from the University of Rhode Island with degrees in history and psychology in 1974. After teaching for 5 years, Anne found her passion in law. She attended law school at the University of Georgia where she graduated first in her class in 1988 and served as editor-in-chief of the Georgia



Law Review. She served as a judicial clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun following her clerkship with Judge J.L. Edmondson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. Anne then practiced law with the Washington, D.C., firm of Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge. In 1994 she joined the faculty at the University of Georgia, School of Law where she was a teacher, mentor, and researcher until her untimely death. Nationally recognized as an expert in education law and policy, and she published 2 books and numerous articles and book chapters. Throughout her life, Anne pursued her interests with the same passion that she pursued the law. A brilliant woman, she excelled at everything she did, seemingly without effort. Anne received the Blue Key Young Alumnus Award presented by UGA's Blue Key chapter. Her love of teaching and dedication to students was acknowledged in many ways. She was honored by law students with the 2011 Faculty Book Award for Excellence in Teaching, which is now the C. Ronald Ellington Award for Excellence in Teaching and the John C. O'Byrne Award for Significant Contributions Furthering Faculty-Student Relations. Anne will serve as an enduring example of the world of opportunity open to student with talent and the desire to work hard to develop it.