

100 CHS seniors get help paying for college at scholarship night

Awarded scholarships of up to \$2,000 for freshman year

KENDRA LEIGH MILLER
kmiller@ricentral.com

COVENTRY – More than 100 seniors are a step closer to continuing their education after high school, thanks to scholarships they recently received at the 33rd annual Coventry Teachers' Alliance Scholarship Awards Night, held on April 10 at Coventry High School.

Scholarships are in the amounts of \$500, \$1,000 and \$2,000.

Teacher Tara D'Aleno said the fund was created by teachers to assist Coventry High School seniors as they move on to their next educational endeavor, whether that be a technical school, two-year college or four-year college.

"The event is very important to the community because as teachers, they know the importance of higher education, whether that be a trade school or college and this is the way to show students that we support them," she said.

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File photo

Coventry High School hosted its 33rd annual Coventry Teachers' Alliance scholarship night on Wednesday, recognizing over 100 seniors.

Seniors recognized at CHS

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Winners are chosen from the applicants by lottery at a public drawing held at school.

The scholarship night was attended by more than 450 people, including students, parents, faculty, staff members and community donors including, in part, Centreville Bank, Randolph Savings Bank, the Coventry/West Greenwich Lions Club, the CHS Alumni Association and many families of former CHS students and /or faculty members.

"As evidenced by our growing number of donors, this program is of high importance in the community to continue the program," she said.

D'Aleno said many recipients now work in the town or have children attending the schools and they will often comment on receiving this scholarship and how it helped them.

The fund has grown to include current and retired Coventry school employees who con-

tribute through weekly contributions, D'Aleno explained.

These contributions are matched by contributions made by over 70 community donors that include local businesses, community members and families of present and former Coventry High School students and teachers.

Over the past 30 years, more than \$1 million has been awarded to thousands of students.

"To our knowledge this is the only scholarship program of such magnitude in the state of Rhode Island that is funded by teacher and staff contributions," she said.

She said the program has one goal; to provide as much money as possible to as many students as possible.

"Everyone knows that these scholarships directly benefit the students, so they're willing to do whatever is needed to make the program a success. When everyone works together toward one goal, the results are amazing," she said.