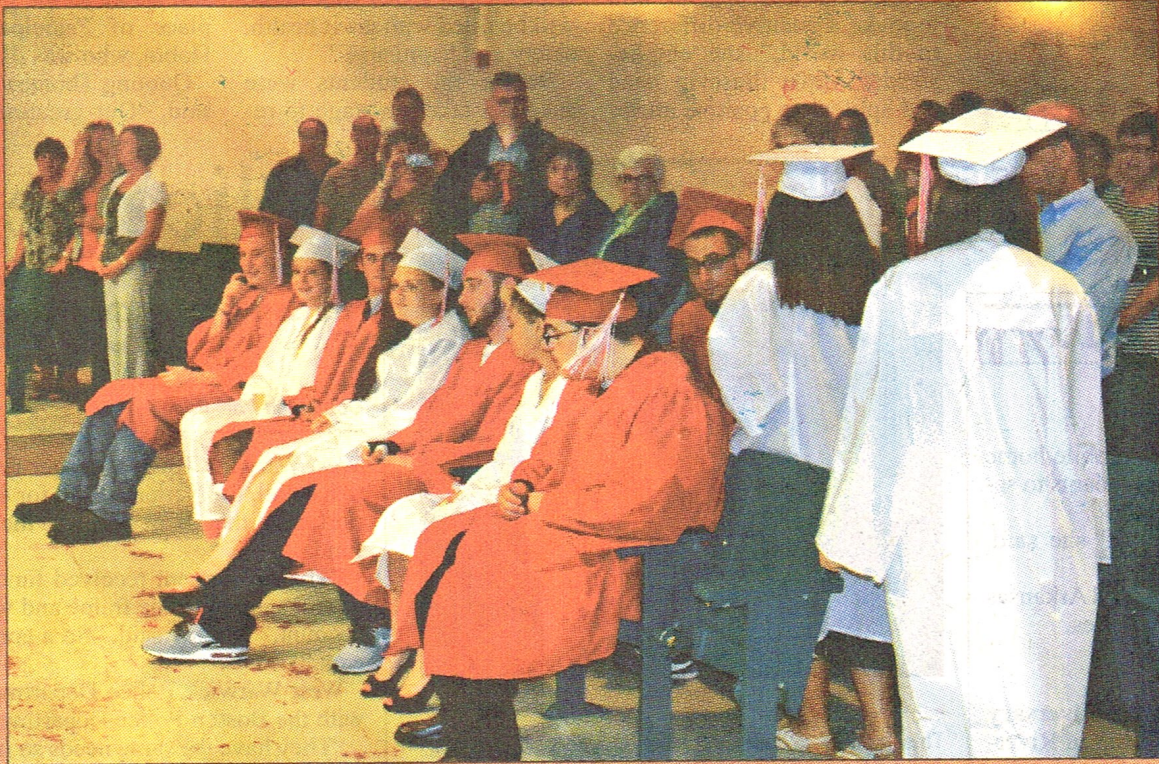
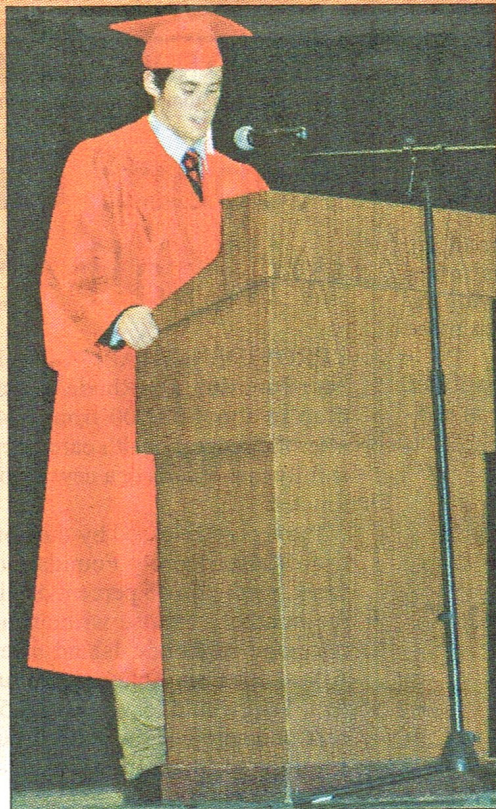


Oakers Out!



Jessica Boisclair • Daily Times

15 students in Coventry's Extended SchoolYear program picked up their high school diplomas yesterday, including Alex Carden (below), who told classmates, "We're moving on to bigger and better things."



Coventry High bids farewell to grads of extended school year

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COVENTRY—Fifteen students who showed hard work and dedication during the Coventry High School Extended School Year program this summer were awarded their diplomas at a ceremony held in the Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School auditorium Friday morning.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Alex Carden spoke to his fellow classmates about the hardships they've had to face during high school.

"Life isn't always easy," he said. "We have good times and bad times and we hit speed bumps along the way. But we got through it and now we're moving on to bigger and better things."

Although these 15 students didn't graduate with the rest of their class, Carden said, "we are graduating today as the Class of 2013."

He described how scared he and his classmates had been

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Oakers send off 15 summer grads

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as freshmen and how sad they had been as seniors to leave Coventry High School.

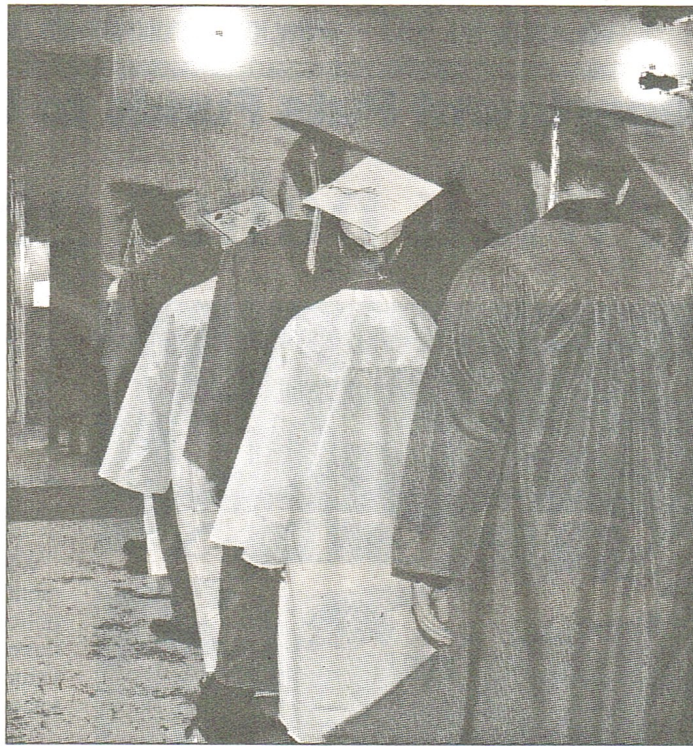
"Leaving Coventry High School we'll always treasure our last days walking through the halls and seeing our friends and favorite teachers," he added. "High school has been a great journey for all of us here today. I've learned a lot of lessons throughout the last four years — lessons I'll carry forever."

Along with friends and family, numerous members of the Coventry administration attended the graduation and representing the School Committee was Vice Chairwoman Judith Liner.

"I am extremely proud of you because your hard work, value of education and perseverance has led you to this very special day," she said to the graduates.

She expressed her hopes that the students continue to perseverer in whatever they do; whether in college, the workforce or the military.

"Know you're special, aim to make a positive difference in this world," she emphasized. "Assist those in need and appreciate positive attrib-



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Coventry's Extended School Year graduates persevered, said Career & Technical Center Director Lori Ferguson, and earned their diplomas.

utes of people and situations that surround you. Always remember who you are. My hope for you is that your future will be filled with great health, safety and happiness."

Before the students were asked to take the stage to re-

ceive their diplomas, Director of the Regional Career and Technical Center Lori Ferguson spoke to the graduates in place of Principal Michael Hobin, who was ill.

Quoting Thomas Edison she said, "Our greatest weakness

lies in giving up; the most certain way to success is always to try just once more."

Ferguson explained to the students that they never gave up on their education.

"Each of you tried until you succeeded," she said. "Today you will cross this stage as graduates, something you should be very proud of. As we all know and have experiences, it's easy to stumble and sometimes fall along that path but the challenges you faced, you have proven that you can get back on that path and continue."

2013 Coventry HS Extended School Year Graduates

Emily Andrews
Scott Behm Jr.
Nicole Blais
Alex Carden
Katelynn Chapman
Samuel Cleveland
Victoria Deus
David Grimaldi
Brittney Neuville
Alex Normandin
Tia-Alexi Roberts
Jamieson Silveira
Justin Stomberg
Brittany Stuchlik
Kyle Wallace