

COVENTRY

Mural artist works magic at Tiogue

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COVENTRY — Long-time artist, Claudette Delpozzo, has been busy at Tiogue Elementary School creating murals featuring beloved characters from classic books the students have chosen.

Many of the murals feature different areas of the state, which she created a decade ago. She also created murals in

the Western Coventry Elementary School.

"I wanted to do the story book characters to be more whimsical," Delpozzo said. "I'm doing the outline sketching, they'll do the fill-in work then I'll fine tune it."

Some of the books that were chosen are "Dr. Seuss," "Clifford the Big Red Dog," "Rainbow Fish," and "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."

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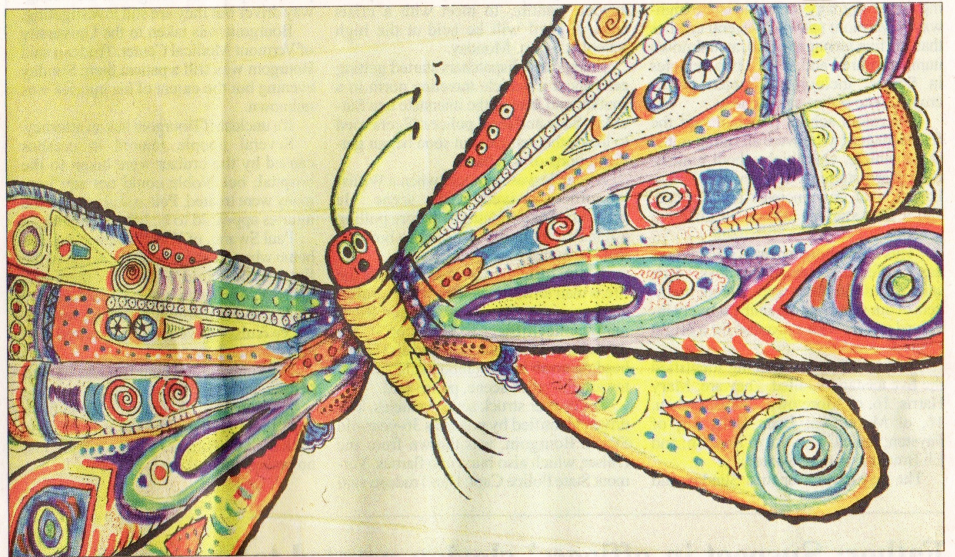


Photo by Kendra Leigh Miller

Artist Claudette Delpozzo created this mural at Tiogue Elementary School.

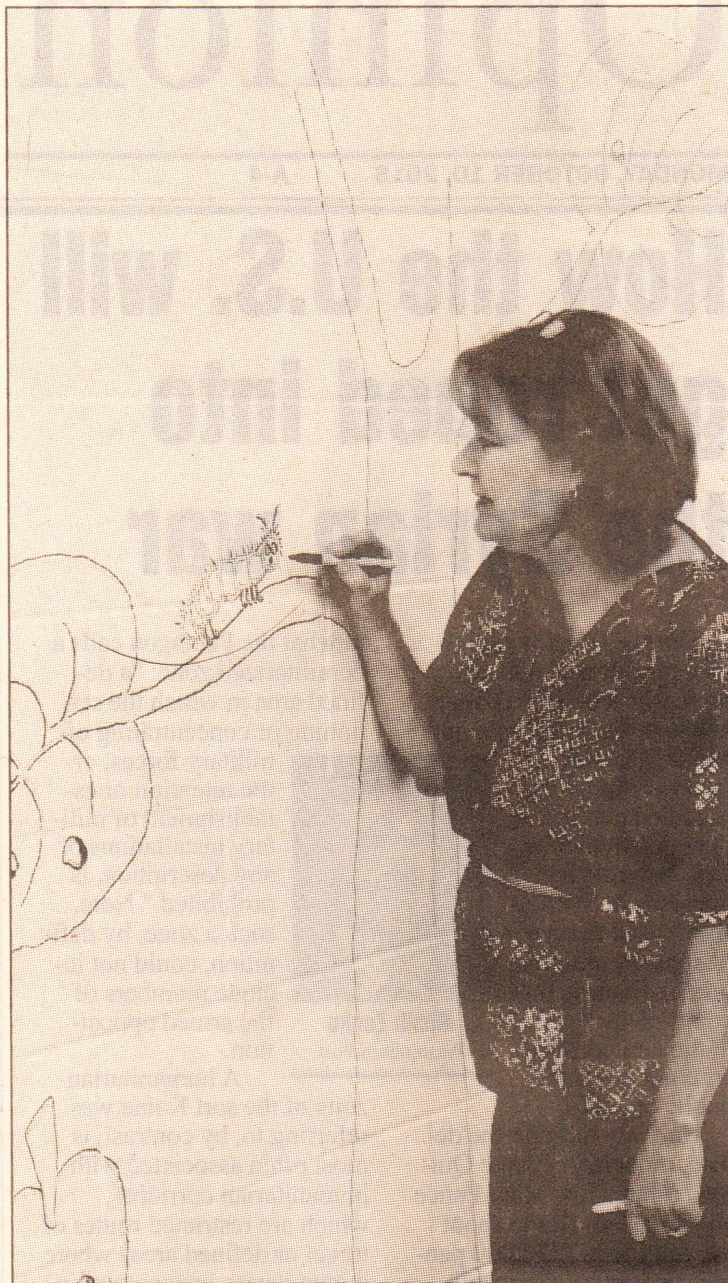


Photo by Kendra Leigh Miller

Artist Claudette Delpozso works on a mural at Tiogue Elementary School.

Artist

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She's been painting for 37 years and sees it as a talent everyone has, they just have to tap into it.

"I had some learning issues when I was young and I found some teachers to be intimidating so I was really uncomfortable, but once I learned I could use painting as a way to not be invisible and I could be creative, it gave me a whole out-

let," Delpozso said. "It was a saving grace for me."

Along with creating the murals in the schools, she also teaches classes at Hobby Lobby part-time and goes into nursing homes and teaches art for the rehabilitation programs and the intergenerational programs.

"Everyone is an artist, they just have to have the desire," she said, "and, one of the funniest comments I get, is 'Wow, you can write on the wall with permanent paint?'"