



CHS Alumni Association, Inc.

Volume 1, Issue 2

July 2018

Coventry High School Alumni Association, Inc. Donates Scholarships



Alexander Lansbury and Paige Greenwood were among the recipients of CHSAA scholarships this year.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the hard work of the CHSAA Committee, we were able to donate a total of \$16,000 in scholarships this year to honor many contributors the Town of Coventry and to the Coventry Public Schools in particular. These scholarships bring our total to \$83,000 since 2011.

Here is the entire list of recipients:

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First name</i>	<i>In honor/memory of</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Willet	Meagan	Class of 1987	\$1,000.00
Jacobs	Lauren	Mary Ann Cantino	\$2,000.00
D'Antico	Julia	Maureen Pontarelli	\$2,000.00
Greenwood	Paige	Dec. Mem. CHS Fac. & Staff	\$1,000.00
Rivera	Hector	James A. Blair	\$2,000.00
Whitten	Hayden	David L. Parenteau	\$2,000.00
Cerce	Deanna	Megan Anne Alexion Mello	\$1,000.00
Howard	Rachel	Erica Tremblay Shea	\$1,000.00
Plumley	Meghan	Margaret St. Pierre	\$2,000.00
Lansberry	Alexander	Arthur D. St. Jean	\$1,000.00
Clements	Brianna	Martha M. Barber	\$1,000.00

Scholarships in green were presented at Senior Awards Night (May 17th) while the others were presented as part of the CTA scholarship fund presentations on April 10th. We are grateful to the CTA Scholarship Committee for partnering with us to support CHS students.

Oaker Alumni Highlights



Anthony "Tony" Fusaro '54

A graduate of the Coventry High School class of 1954, Anthony Fusaro received a BA in Political Science from the University of Rhode Island in 1958 and an M.A. from URI in 1959. In 1962, he earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from Penn State University. Anthony then entered the military as a first lieutenant and served from 1963-64 at Fort Benning, GA and at Fort Dix, NJ, fulfilling his ROTC obligation. He was named Regimental Outstanding Lieutenant of the Year for 1963.

Anthony was married to his wife, Maria, on his birthday, May 29, 1976, and helped her to raise her orphaned children, Ottavio and Patricia. In 1978, Anthony and Maria had their third child, Annamaria. All have gone on to successful professional careers in teaching, architecture, and psychology.

After his military tour, Anthony began his teaching career in political science at Penn State University, then moved on to Northern Illinois University, teaching political science there from 1966 to 1976 during which time he served as Assistant Chairman of the Department, and Acting Chairman for one year. In 1976, he transitioned to full-time administration when he was appointed Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, a position he held until 1990, when he was named Head of the Penn State Abington Campus. He retired from that position

in 1994. During his working years, Anthony volunteered much time for several organizations including working as an active volunteer with migrant farm workers in Illinois, serving as his church choir director for 26 years first in Illinois and later in Florida, and serving as a Board member of the Red Cross, as an officer in his Knights of Columbus Council, and President of his local Kiwanis Club. He was national president of his college fraternity for 5 years, and president of its national educational foundation for 8 years.

After retiring, Anthony and his family moved to Lakeland, Florida. In 1997, Anthony began volunteering at Talbot House Ministries, a homeless shelter/rehab center/medical clinic in Lakeland. He eventually joined the staff there, and served as Executive Director until 2017. Talbot House Ministries provides comprehensive care for the homeless through a medical/dental clinic, supportive housing units, counseling, job skills training and employment services, educational support, and a memorial garden that serves as a last resting place for deceased homeless people. He was presented with the 2012 Human Rights Award by the Church Women United of Lakeland, Florida. Anthony has bettered the lives of many people and we



Susan "Suzy" Picket Chorney '64

Suzy Chorney has made helping others her life's work. She and her late husband Maurice "Moe" Chorney worked to support numerous charities while they lived in the Miami area, but never forgot their Rhode Island roots. They supported numerous causes and Suzy's achievements include: 1) serving on the board as head of fundraising for Project Newborn, a neo-natal program at Jackson Memorial Hospital which is affiliated with the University of Miami. 2) working with the Seminole tribe in Florida where she was appointed as a judge for their competitions with other Indian nations as well as serving on the board that planned fundraisers and charity events.

3) serving as vice president of the Bethesda Guardians, a volunteer service group that works to support a substance abuse program at St. Luke's Addiction Recovery Center where former crack houses were transformed in halfway houses. Former addicts were taught skills to help them qualify for employment. 4) working to support the Miami Chapter of the Providence College Alumni Association.

In addition to their work in Miami, the Chorneys were devout supporters of the Alyn Children's Hospital in Israel and sponsored the rehabilitation of three Ethiopian refugee children. Suzy also served on the board of Heifer, International. Suzy attributes her giving spirit to her parents, Red and Olga Picket, who were involved in many projects and both made giving part of who they were.

After her husband passed away, Suzy returned to Rhode Island and became a supporter of Hasbro Children's Hospital, having given an initial donation of \$250,000 and a more recent gift of \$25,000 to support the Refugee Clinic. In addition, she has made a bequest of \$100,000 for a permanent endowment, The Maurice I. and Susan Chorney Fund, to support the clinic. Suzy has also made a bequest to the Coventry High School Alumni Association of \$100,000 to support scholarship donations by our group.

Recently, Suzy was appointed to the board of governors of R.I. Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital and was featured in the Hasbro magazine as well as becoming a member of the Living Heritage Society of Hasbro. One of her responsibilities of this position is informing the public about their estate planning program.

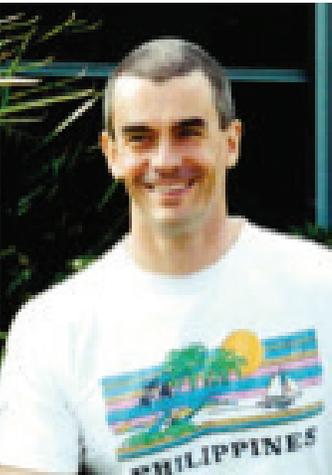
Suzy Chorney has and continues to make a difference in our world and is serving as an example to CHS students of what is possible for them to achieve.



Rita Anderson '66 – Taught in Coventry Public Schools

ANDERSON, Rita J. (Burnham), 70, of Pilgrim Ave., passed away on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at Kent Hospital. She was the wife of the late Stephen J. Anderson.

Rita was a well-known teacher who worked in many school systems throughout the State of Rhode Island. With over 30 years of experience in education, Rita spent most of her years teaching at St. Rocco's School in Johnston, followed by many more years in the Coventry Public School System where she retired from in 2015. She served as a State Representative of Rhode Island District 29 as well.



Lou Marshall '75 Graduate of CHS and son of Mary and the late Lou Marshall

Louis D. Marshall '75, age 60, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, in Waunakee, Wisconsin.

Lou was born on September 7, 1957 in Warwick, RI, to parents Louis J. and Mary E. Marshall (nee Cavanaugh). He was a graduate of Coventry High School, the University of Rhode Island and the McGeorge School of Law. He served as an officer in the United States Air Force from 1980 – 1992, attaining the rank of Captain. During his service, Lou was stationed in the United States, Japan and Korea. Lou received the Meritorious Service Medal for his outstanding service during Operation Desert Shield/Storm. He retired from the Air Force in 1992. Lou died just 10 weeks after his father, former CHS Vice Principal Lou Marshall.



Chester W. Kuipers '76, active in many civic activities and organizations

KUIPERS, Chester W. "Chet", 76, of Main St., Coventry, passed away on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 in Port Charlotte, FL. He was the beloved husband of 52 years to Nancy M. (Tatro) Kuipers.

Chet was employed with MetLife for 22 years before his retirement in 1997. He was a well-known member of the community and was involved in many community organizations including Pawtuxet Valley Rotary Club where he served as Club President and was awarded the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Award. Chet was also a member of the East Greenwich Veteran Fireman's Club and past member of the Camp E-Hun-Tee Advisory Board, Coventry 250th Anniversary Committee and member of the Steering

Committee for the 1984 National Student Council Convention as well as a coach in the Coventry Basketball Association. He also spent many years playing the role of Santa Claus for the Town of Coventry Christmas Tree Lighting.

Alumni Hall of Fame

The CHS Alumni Hall of Fame currently has 29 members who have brought honor to CHS and who have contributed greatly to the wider community. Their accomplishments serve as a model for CHS students and have made a great difference to our world.

Deserving candidates may be nominated to the Alumni Hall of Fame using the form on our website (www.oa-keralumni.org). It should be submitted by August 1, 2018 with supporting documentation. Selections are made by mid-September and the induction dinner will be held on November 1, 2018 at Quidnessett CC.

SAGE Scholars Tuition Rewards



Meagan Willet receives a \$1000 scholarship in honor of the Class of 1987.

The CHSAA is always looking for ways to support CHS students particularly those going on the further their education after high school. Due to an investment the CHSAA made, will be able to provide tuition points (which translates into dollars) to one CHS Senior per year. For the first year we will only be able to provide 1000 points to a junior who gets accepted at one of the colleges in the program. However, in future years, that number will grow to 3000 points.

The selection of the recipient is made by consultation with the guidance department. The recipient must be chosen by June 30th of his or her junior year with the points being awarded in June of the following year pending the acceptance of the student into one of the participating colleges. This year's nominated recipient is Abigail Regina Sinotte.

About Us

The Coventry High School Alumni Association (CHSAA) is a nonprofit, 501-3c tax-exempt organization founded in 2009. Our mission is to: 1) Provide scholarship for CHS seniors, 2) provide funds for school educational projects, and 3) to recognize successful and community-minded individuals who had attended CHS, been employed at CHS, or who have been benefactors to the CHS community.

Since 2011, the CHSAA has awarded \$83,000 in scholarships and donated \$2550 to school projects over the last two years. Our goal is to help students identify their career pathway before leaving high school to minimize the wasting time and money by changing colleges or majors, extending the time and increasing the cost of college.

All of the committee members are volunteers so virtually all the money raised through fundraisers or donations goes to the students of CHS. Our website is www.oakeralumni.org and donations may be made there via credit card or by mailing a check to

CHSAA P.O. Box 705 Coventry, RI 02816.

A debt of Gratitude.....

Many thanks to the members of the CHSAA committee, the Alumni Hall of Fame Selection Committee, and all our generous donors. Members of the committee give generously of their time and personal resources make the scholarships and grants possible.

CHSAA Committee members: John Ball, Jim Kuipers '85, Mary Ann Cantino, Mary Vandervelde '76, Kathy Lavallee Karen Bookbinder '75, Maureen Jendzjec '75, Andrea Hopkins '64, Kate McCarthy Barnett '85, Suzie Chorney '64, Stacy Ferrara '83, Kevin Dolan '80, Pat Johnson '81, Ernie DiMicco '66,

Hall of Fame Selection Committee

Michael Hobin, Kathy Patenaude, Robert Iannotti '81, Todd Fusco '81, Lynn Blanchette, Florence Duperry '81, Gail Grove '54