

# TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS



## HALL OF FAME

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### **Twenty Sixth Induction Dinner**

**May 22, 2022**

Clarion Hotel and Conference Center  
815 Route 37 West  
Toms River, NJ



## **2022 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Jennifer Howe, President

Alex Mizenko, Vice President

Kathy Eagan

Ashley Lamb

Joe Nardini

Kevin Kidney

Anna Polozzo

Lisa Contessa

Michelle Williams

## **CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION**

Michael Citta, Superintendent of Schools

Richard Fastnacht, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

James Ricotta Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Cara DiMeo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

William Doering, Business Administrator

On February 24, 1987, Charlotte Ford Spillane, Assistant Principal of Toms River High School South, obtained approval of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools to found a Toms River Schools Hall of Fame to honor those who had attended or graduated from the public schools of Toms River and who had made significant contributions to the cause of humanity in their various fields of endeavor.

A Board of Trustees was formed with thirteen members, each of whom had either graduated from Toms River or had been employed in the school system for a long period of time. Responsibilities of the trustees would be to research possible candidates, to manage financial support, to collect memorabilia and other gifts, and to organize a display of the honorees.

**1988  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Charlotte F. Spillane  
Chair**

Claire Grover Bey  
Elinor Bryant  
Carolyn Campbell  
Angela Cazzola  
Joseph A. Citta  
Milton Gelzer  
William King  
Renée Lomell  
Bessie N. McLean  
Estelle Martin  
Gerald Rich  
Floyd Smith

**2022  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Matthew Malagiere  
Chair**

John Coleman  
Cara DiMeo  
Kim General  
Irene Hartmann  
Casey Kanarkowski  
Linuel Lloyd III  
Debra L. McKenna  
Kevin Smith

# Hall of Fame

## **CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

1. A candidate will begin to be considered for induction twenty years after leaving school.
2. A candidate must have attended one of the public schools in a town now included in the Toms River Regional School District.
3. A candidate shall have made a significant contribution to the cause of humanity, improved the quality of life, or achieved outstanding recognition in his or her career or education.



## **NOMINATIONS**

The public is encouraged to nominate those who have attended the Toms River Schools (graduation not a criterion) and who they feel are worthy of consideration. To nominate, send the name, address and telephone number of your candidate along with your recommendation to The Toms River Schools Hall of Fame, 1225 Raider Way, Toms River, New Jersey 08753. A questionnaire will be sent to the nominee or to a friend or relative. Upon receipt of the questionnaire, the Board of Trustees will continue the research to determine eligibility of the candidate nominated. Trustees vote once every other year to choose honorees. Those not selected remain on the eligible list for five years.

## PROGRAM

Welcome & Introduction of Distinguished Guests ..... Matthew Malagiere  
Chairperson/Secondary Social Studies Supervisor

Greetings ..... Michael Citta  
Superintendent of Schools

..... Jennifer Howe  
President, Board of Education

### Presentation of Awards

Criteria and Selection Process ..... Matthew Malagiere

### Honorees

2022 Distinguished Honoree

#### **The H. Hovnanian Family Foundation**

Presenter: Matthew Malagiere, Secondary Social Studies Supervisor

#### **Ocean County College**

Presenter: Irene Hartmann, Retired High School East English Teacher

### Last Year Attended or Year of Graduation

1962 **Roden Lightbody** .....  
(TR Schools)

Presenter: Casey Kanarkowski  
Intermediate East Social Studies Teacher

1988 **Bradley Billhimer** .....  
(South)

Presenter: Cara DiMeo  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools

1970 **Kenneth Anderson** .....  
(South)

Presenter: Matthew Malagiere  
Chairperson/Secondary Social Studies Supervisor

1997 **Beth Williams** .....  
(East)

Presenter: Debra L. McKenna  
Retired Assistant Superintendent of Schools

1982 **Maria Ressa** .....  
(North)

Presenter: Kim General  
High School North Social Studies Teacher

### **HONORARY AWARD**

In 1990 the Hall of Fame created a plaque on which a Hall of Fame medallion was mounted. The plaque, with an appropriate inscription engraved, was given that year to two individuals who sanctioned, championed, and facilitated the goals of the Toms River Schools Hall of Fame.

#### **Albert J. Dietrich**

Superintendent of Schools

*"For encouraging and supporting the founding of the Toms River Schools Hall of Fame with appreciation from the Board of Trustees."*

#### **John R. Garrabrant**

Senior Assistant Superintendent of Schools

*"For his dedication to and enthusiastic support of the ideals of the Toms River Schools Hall of Fame with appreciation from the Board of Trustees."*

### **DISTINGUISHED HONORARY MEDALLION**

In 1991 the Hall of Fame Distinguished Honorary Medallion was awarded for the first time. The medallion, which is mounted on a plaque, was created to honor those who did not attend the Toms River Schools but who contributed in an exemplary way to the ideals and educational philosophy of our school system.

1991 **Renee A. Ewart**

"Whose teaching inspired her students not only to love the French language but to respect all learning . . ."

"For a lifetime of excellence."

1992 **Elinor Bryant**

"For a lifetime of excellence in teaching."

"Love the children and let them know you love them."

1993 **Dr. Edgar M. Finck**

"Honored for a lifetime of creative educational ideas."

"Teaching is a joyous experience because it is a life of service; teaching is forever."

1994 Nathaniel S. Detwiler

"For a lifetime of excellence and innovation as an educational leader."  
"He understood, encouraged, created and inspired with unique enthusiasm."  
"G-R-R-R-R- Fight"

1995 Charlotte Ford Spillane

"Doing the right thing for students and the community is her delight."  
"Her joie de vivre inspires all who know her."

1996 Bessie N. McLean

"Honored for a lifetime of inspiring in students the love of books."  
"Treasured friendships make lasting memories."

1997 DeWitt E. "Doc" Ricketts

"A leader of teachers."  
"He had the knack of seeing what was true and important and framing it clearly."

1998 Gerald Rich

"And gladly would he learn, and gladly teach."

1999 Joseph D. Clouser

"Yes you can...if you try."

2000 William "Doc" Dougherty

"United States Marine, teacher, coach, family man, humanitarian, friend to all."  
"Try to be the best that you can be."

2001 Isadore M. Hirshblond

"The show must go on! Why? There's five dollars in the box office, and we can't return it."

2002 William E. "Bill" King

"Don't ever give up!"

2003 Albert J. Dietrich

"A leader in the pursuit of excellence for the Toms River Regional School District."

“Children are a product of their environment, and the Toms River community and schools provide a caring and safe environment.”

2004 Olga Clement

“For leadership and encouragement of teachers and children in the face of challenge.”

“Be prepared to give your best to everything you do.”

2005 Margaret F. Bartlett

“For outstanding contributions to the Toms River Regional School District.”  
“Anything worth doing is worth doing well.”

2007 Milton H. Gelzer

“I shall find the path or I shall build one.”

2009 P. David Correll

“Do As Much as You Can! To As Many as You Can! As Long As You can!  
“Always do what’s Right – No Matter what the Consequences!”  
And, of course: “Ask not what South can do for you, but what you can do for South!”

2011 Joseph Monti

My greatest goal was “To instill patriotism in the students and appreciation of veteran’s sacrifices for our freedoms throughout history.”

2013 Martin Meszaros

“And gladly wolde he lerne, and gladly teche”  
The Oxford Clerk, from *The Canterbury Tales*, By Geoffrey Chaucer

2015 Victoria Duff

“Our schools are learning organizations focused on increasing the knowledge and skills of our educators and students. We are the learners – using the power of our learning to build the capacity of those whose lives we touch to improve our world.”

2017 Ernest “Jack” Milkovitz

“Never underestimate the value of the Arts. They are essential for the intellectual and social development of all students at every level of education.”



2019 Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation

"We focus our philanthropy on driving economic growth throughout Monmouth and Ocean Counties by investing strategically in the arts, education and healthcare. Strong school systems and abundant educational opportunities, arts-rich programming and access to the arts, and world-class healthcare options that address the needs of the entire population, help to build a thriving economy. We are proud to have strong roots in Toms River and to have the opportunity to work with such incredible individuals, businesses and organizations throughout the Central Jersey Shore." - Jeremy Grunin, President, Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation

2022 The H. Hovnanian Family Foundation

"I have learned more from my mistakes than my successes – do not fear making a mistake."

2022 Ocean County College

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." Ralph Waldo Emerson

# Hall of Fame

## HONOREES

Last Year Attended  
or Graduation

Inducted

1882	Simon Lake	1989
1883	Ethleen Longstreet	1988
1883	William Henry Fischer	1991
1891	Philip Sheridan Bailey	1988
1904	Frank W. Sutton, Jr.	1989
1908	James Stanley McClenahan	1992
1910	Dorothy Jameson	1988
1914	Benjamin Novins	1989
1917	George Daniel Moore	1990
1920	Elizabeth Sculthorpe Force	1988
1922	Adolph E. Woolley	1989
1924	Johanna Wells-Smith	1988
1924	Mildred Worth Potter	1991
1925	Margaret Maisch Moore	1990
1926	Ethel Price Gaunt	1988
1926	Joseph A. Citta	1988
1927	Bartholomew Applegate Ellis	1990
1928	Arthur Cornelius, Jr.	1997
1931	Lewis H. Elverson	1988
1934	Dr. Robert E. White	2002

1935	Rt. Rev. Albert Van Duzer	1988
1936	Dr. Faye Glenn Abdellah	1989
1936	Dorothy Dugan	1989
1936	Pauline S. Miller	1988
1936	Barbara T. Carlino	2003
1937	John H. Beddow	1996
1937	CDR George Cornelius USN (Ret.)	1990
1937	Nelson H. Cornell	1999
1938	Jack H. Milne	1989
1938	Hugh Connolly Clayton	1991
1938	Dr. Arthur A. Socolow	1993
1939	Dr. Edwin P. Mickiewicz	1998
1939	Lloyd R. Clayton	2003
1939	Bernard "Ben" Carroll	2004
1939	Rodger Gaitor	2015
1941	Carolyn M. Campbell	1995
1941	Sidney L. Harris	2009
1942	Wallace A. "Gub" Polhemus	2002
1942	George A. Lillie	1999
1942	Rt. Rev. Vincent King Pettit	1991
1942	Janet Loveman Taber	1998
1943	Dr. Alfred J. Casagrande, Jr.	1999
1943	Robert L. Garthwaite	1991
1943	Dave Johnson	2001
1943	Vincent J. Smith	1994
1944	Richard C. Clement	1990
1944	L. Manuel Hirshblond	1991
1944	The Rev. Lloyd Rogers Applegate	1993
1944	Robert F. Novins	2000
1944	Dan Kahler	2005
1944	Friar Emmett Carroll	2007
1946	Mary Ellen Hudson	2000
1946	Lester A. "Bud" Tice	2000
1946	William Lee Polhemus	2004
1946	William Skillman	2007
1947	Robert W. Camp	1998
1948	Clifford William Campbell	2001
1948	Dr. Allen H. Kassof	1988
1949	Juanita Carfora	1993
1949	Lolita Carfora	1993
1949	Burton K. Davis	1993
1950	Zev Rosen	1991
1951	Roberta Hornig Draper	1994
1951	Dr. Karl Engelman	1990
1951	Annette Brafman Meyers	1992
1952	Capt. Albert E. Graham	1998
1952	Dr. Walter J. Kahn	1995
1954	Max Culpepper	1989
1954	Richard D. Garretson	1994
1955	Robert Gasser	2007

1956	Alan Rinzler	1999
1956	William Sommeling	1993
1957	Dr. Carl E. Wagner	1990
1958	Maxine Glorsky	1990
1958	Charles H. Ehrmann	1991
1958	Richard Kuntz	2015
1959	Donald J. Bennett	2002
1959	David K. Jeffrey	2003
1959	Gia Maione Prima	2004
1959	Peter E. Thompson	2009
1960	Laurence M. Johmann	1992
1960	Diana Janusz Kedz	1997
1960	Roman Rudnytsky	1988
1961	Donald V. Browne	1992
1961	Carole Applegate Hedinger	1999
1962	Lloyd Keith Clayton	2013
1962	David Bailey Lee	2002
1962	Dr. Celia Genishi	1989
1962	Hon. Alexander D. Lehrer	1993
1962	Robert L. Pastine	1997
1962	Dorian Rudnytsky	1997
1962	Clarence E. "Bud" Aldrich III	2000
1962	Roden Lightbody	2022
1963	Dr. Heidi Hartmann	1989
1963	Dr. Bambi Bernhardt Schieffelin	1988
1963	Marie E. Snyder	1996
1963	RoseanneCitta	2011
1964	Judge Julio M. Fuentes	2001
1964	Dr. Susan D. Halsey	1992
1964	Dr. Noel Ritter Valis	1995
1964	Ellen Estomin	2004
1964	Paul Raffer, MD	2007
1964	Tai Sam Choo	2017
1966	Joseph Adelizzi	2019
1965	John C. Bartlett	2007
1965	Robert H. Ogle	1995
1965	Dr. Lewis Pyenson	1990
1965	Richard C. Ward	1998
1965	Frank Trembulak	2019
1966	Oscar Cradle	2019
1966	Howard Wolen	2015
1967	Laurence E. Bethune	1992
1967	Dr. Kenneth M. Green	1997
1967	Linda Troeller	1994
1967	Bonnie L. Nycz Blume	2002
1968	Tom Brown, Jr.	1994
1968	Marian Head	2009
1968	Louis Ureneck	2011
1969	William Campbell	1992
1969	Gary A. Jobson	1990

1969	Glenn R. Reichardt	1997
1969	Brig. Gen. Norton A. Schwartz	1996
1969	Nancy Hudson Aaberg	2002
1970 (South)	Dr. Russell C. Cattley	1995
1970 (South)	Dr. Eric Dinerstein	2009
1970 (South)	Thomas L. Finkbiner	1999
1970 (South)	Dr. Vivien Green Fryd	1996
1970 (South)	William "Rip" Scherer	1996
1970 (South)	William Malast	2005
1970 (South)	Robert Peck	2015
1970 (South)	Kenneth Anderson	2022
1971 (South)	Joan E. Bray	1994
1971 (South)	Dr. Dale Whilden	1992
1971 (South)	Miguel Reabold	2003
1971 (South)	Debrah Morante	2011
1972 (North)	Colonel Mike Applegate	2000
1972 (North)	E. David Millard	2001
1972 (South)	Miechelle O. Willis	2003
1972 (South)	Diana (Levine) Madaras	2005
1972 (North)	Theresa Lettman	2005
1972 (South)	Mark Perlmann	2011
1972 (North)	Deborah Ralph	2011
1973 (North)	Steve Mormando	1996
1973 (North)	Dr. Lee E. Schechter	1995
1973 (North)	Valerie R. Bencivenga	2004
1974 (North)	Sonya Naryshkin, M.D.	2001
1974 (South)	Geoffrey Rich	2005
1975 (North)	Mark Mutter	2015
1976 (North)	James Crane	2011
1977 (South)	Anthony G. Calamai	2003
1977(South)	Robert Tarver	2017
1978 (South)	Neal Mayer	2001
1978 (South)	Sandra D. Levine	2004
1979 (South)	Todd G. Buchholz	2000
1979 (North)	Marie DeNoia Aronsohn	2009
1981 (East)	Lori Grifa	2013
1982 (North)	Maria Ressa	2022
1979 (North)	Marie DeParis	2017
1979 (North)	Kurt Kaulback	2017
1980 (North)	Kyle Kaulback	2017
1982 (East)	Danny Clinch	2009
1983 (East)	Joseph W. Scott	2005
1983 (South)	Andrew Elliott	2017
1984 (East)	Michael Piscal	2007
1986 (North)	Jerry Dipoto	2015
1986 (East)	Kris Kaulback	2017
1987 (South)	Kimberley Babiak Phillips	2013
1988 (North)	Bradley Billhimer	2022
1989(East)	Michael Brune	2013
1991 (South)	David Gavin Duff	2013

1992 (East)	William Castner, Jr	2013
1992 (North)	Tara Cunningham	2019
1993 (East)	Brian Geraghty	2017
1996 (North)	Jaffar Mahmood	2019
1997 (East)	Beth Williams	2022
1998 (North)	Jared Gertner	2019

## **The H. Hovnanian Family Foundation**

The mission of The H. Hovnanian Family Foundation is to provide funding for charitable, educational, religious, scientific, literary or testing for public safety purposes, with a primary focus on providing such funding so as to assist Armenian communities worldwide. The Foundation assists charitable or educational organizations located in Ocean or Monmouth Counties, New Jersey whose primary activities include provision of healthcare or education and training in real estate development.

In 2017, the partnership between Toms River Schools and the Hovnanian Foundation began with the investment of \$125,000 in the district's Real Estate Incubator. As part of the Business Academy at High School South, the Real Estate Incubator offers a direct career path, helping students develop a passion for a lucrative, challenging, satisfying, and constantly evolving industry. Students learn about real estate ethics, listing services, the nature of markets, licenses, mortgages, marketing, contracting fields, and more from qualified teachers and local professionals. Outfitted with collaborative furniture, interactive displays, and a stock market ticker board, The Incubator remains true to the district's integrated learning philosophy, and blends market science with tech, engineering, art, and math.

Concurrently, The Hovnanian Foundation also invested \$130,000 into a new Anatomy and Physiology Lab that has become the anchor of the biomedical strand at the STEAM Academy of High School East. The grant has supported the creation of a state-of-the-art lab with anatomy models, appropriate technology, digital and physical resources, and science-oriented furniture, that is used by all students in the School of Biomedicine as well as others studying the biological sciences.

In 2019, the Hovnanian Foundation and Toms River Schools partnered up once again with two new grants totaling \$345,000 over the following three years. The first grant was dedicated to support a Youth Counseling Program to be hosted at all 18 district schools. The program included the development of a K-12 committee dedicated to a summer health and leadership camp, participation in the Toms River Family Health and Support Coalition, a focus in training on social-emotional learning, and the successful pilot of a counseling model. Once the training and pilot process was completed, the expanded program has offered individual sessions and parent/guardian support. The second grant focused specifically on Coding and Robotics totaling \$150,000 over two years for all three Intermediate schools that allow each to align with STEAM initiatives to facilitate hands-on learning models that use coding and robotics in real world applications.

Time and again, the H. Hovnanian Family Foundation has supported the students of Toms River. Toms River Schools is fortunate to have wonderful partners, like the Hovnanian Foundation, that recognize the importance of enhancing students' educational opportunities and experiences.

## Ocean County College

Starting in 1966, as the first New Jersey County junior college, OCC, for short, debuted as a free higher education institution with open admissions to those who applied. The concept had developed from a 1957 idea to produce an institution sponsored by Ocean County, the State of New Jersey, and the students of Ocean County College. On November 5, 1963, the citizens of the county approved the establishment of a college in Ocean County by public referendum. Immediately thereafter on January 15, 1964, the Ocean County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution that established college.

Not only does OCC now have 28 academic programs/program options and 19 certificates programs that produce, from 2020 statistics, 68 students in Performing Arts, 177 in Engineering, 337 in Nursing, 357 in Criminal Justice, 655 in Business Administration, and 2,629 in Liberal Arts. While devoting time and effort to on-campus accomplishments, the college extends effort to the Toms River Consolidated Regional School System in outreach and instruction by serving its students through workforce development pathways that include job training and enrichment and professional education courses, some of which may lead to credit-bearing programs. The college also holds events such as art exhibits, lectures and musical and dramatic productions in the theatre or the gallery at the Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts.

The Distinguished Honorees for the Toms River Schools Hall of Fame recognize contributions and promotions of actions on the school systems and these include the State programs of STARS for students achieving consistent B+ averages, the Early College opportunities allowing high school students to work on the college level, and the OCC Foundation that offers scholarships and special grant treatment.

According to the Vision Statement: "Ocean County College will be the boldest, most innovative and entrepreneurial student-centered college in the nation, will promote exemplary learning experiences, and will advance community college education internationally." And these precious words have been repeated to the college community by the president of the institution and leader for many years, Dr. Jon Larsen, who will accept this award.



### **Roden Lightbody**

The Honorable Roden S. Lightbody, graduate of Toms River High School Class of 1962 the only high school in Toms River he would often say and attended Rutgers University.

He served as the Ocean County Traffic Safety Engineer for 48 years, retiring in 2011. Many would often be amazed at his ability to know the traffic patterns and conditions of the many roads within our county. He dedicated his career to identifying proactively unknown traffic hazards, pedestrian and traffic safety education and was intricate part to investigations. His

compassion went beyond the field as he held the hands and comforted many who lost loved ones from serious and fatal motor vehicle accidents.

Roden was a strong, well respected and very proud public servant. Roden was elected by the residents to serve as Dover Township Committeeman and was appointed as Mayor. He served many years as the liaison to the township's Police Department; Fire and EMS Service. Roden's long history of community involvement included many organizations and he received numerous awards and recognition throughout his lifetime. In the end, he would say, it was not the recognition that mattered, it was serving others that fulfilled him.

He wore many different faces, his most treasured was Santa. With a sparkle in his eye, he brought joy to many and cherished the ability to make a difference in the lives of others. Another face he wore many did not know, was that of Litterman for Toms River. He began a campaign to clean up our town, showing up in cape and mask encouraging all to be responsible citizens for a clean environment. He proudly wore his kilt and sash every St. Patrick's Day in pride and love of his Irish heritage and had a strong Irish tenor voice. Always quick with joke, Roden enjoyed making people smile and laugh even in the worse of situations. He advocated for many, was a voice for those who did not have one and he was truly good at everything that mattered.





## **Bradley D. Billhimer**

A native of Ocean County, Prosecutor Bradley D. Billhimer graduated from Toms River High School South after serving four consecutive years as Class President. Prosecutor Billhimer earned an Associate's Degree in General Education from Ocean County College before transferring to Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. As a Dean's List student, Prosecutor Billhimer graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1994.

Prosecutor Billhimer began his public service in Washington, D.C. in 1994, as an intern for former United States Senator Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ). Prosecutor Billhimer attended Widener University School of Law in Wilmington, Delaware, where he was Vice President of the Student Bar Association, campus liaison for the American Bar Association-Law School Division, and Vice President of the Sports & Entertainment Law Society. In 2000,

Prosecutor Billhimer earned his law degree, and was the recipient of the Dean Arthur A. Weeks Outstanding Service Award for his graduating class.

Prosecutor Billhimer served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Barbara Ann Villano, J.S.C. (now retired) in Ocean County for the 2000-2001 court term. Following his judicial clerkship, he entered into the private practice as an associate with the Law Offices of S. Karl Mohel, and then as a partner in the Law Offices of Mohel & Billhimer in Toms River from September 2001 through February 2010. Prosecutor Billhimer opened his own private law practice in February 2010 with a focus on criminal defense litigation in both the Superior and Municipal Courts. Prosecutor Billhimer derived great joy from sharing his legal acumen as an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure at Ocean County College from 2005 through 2018.

While in the private sector, Prosecutor Billhimer served two consecutive terms on the Supreme Court of New Jersey's District IIIA Ethics Committee, as well as the Supreme Court of New Jersey Committee on Character for applicants to the New Jersey State Bar. He is a former member of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointment Committee for the Ocean County Bar Association. He proudly served on the Board of Trustees for the Community Medical Center Foundation and the People's Pantry.

In September 2018, he was appointed by Governor Philip Murphy to be Ocean County Prosecutor – the chief law enforcement officer of the county. On October 09, 2018, with family, friends and colleagues present, Prosecutor Billhimer was sworn in by the Honorable Marlene Lynch Ford, A.J.S.C.

As the Ocean County Prosecutor, he has been a leader in the fight to curb opioid abuse and has worked diligently to stem the rising tide of opioid related fatal overdoses. Prosecutor Billhimer has also championed unique initiatives to promote the health and safety of children and teenagers in Ocean County such as Ocean County Helping Hand and Ocean County Special Needs Registry. Prosecutor Billhimer remains active in the community and frequently speaks at schools and community events all over Ocean County. Prosecutor Billhimer is committed to ensuring that all Ocean County residents feel safe in their respective communities

and works diligently to provide resources to all of thirty-three of Ocean County's local police departments.

Prosecutor Billhimer is an active member of the Ocean County Bar Association, New Jersey State Bar Association, County Prosecutor's Association of New Jersey, County Prosecutor's Association of New Jersey liaison to County Narcotics Commanders Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National District Attorney's Association. Prosecutor Billhimer is the current Treasurer of the County Prosecutor's Association of New Jersey.

Prosecutor Billhimer resides in Berkeley Township with his wife Alyn, and daughters Mackenzie and Riley.



## **KENNETH JAMES ANDERSON**

Kenneth James Anderson was born on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1952 in Jersey City, New Jersey. He was a 1970 graduate of Toms River High School South. During his high school years, Ken was regarded as a hard-working student and dedicated athlete. He played football and baseball and was being recruited by Division 1 schools to play football after graduation. However, during the summer between his junior and senior years, he was involved in an unfortunate accident and lost his left eye. Because of Ken's new physical limitation, the Division 1 offers subsided, but he was offered an athletic scholarship at Upsala College, where he chose to play. Ken played football at Upsala and was voted team captain his senior year. He also demonstrated leadership skills when he was voted Vice President of the Junior Class, and the following year he was voted Vice President of his fraternity. At Upsala Ken completed a degree in Sociology/Anthropology and was invited to work on an archaeological excavation in Cyprus in 1974.

Ken met his wife, Sharon, at Upsala College, and they were married in 1975. After his experience in the Middle East, he decided to pursue a Master's Degree in Anthropology at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. The University offered him a research assistantship and later a teaching assistantship. Following his graduation in 1977, Ken was hired to be the Education Coordinator at the Idaho Museum of Natural History located on the ISU Campus. He created educational programs for students and adults including programs for junior and senior high students called the Idaho Discovery Tours. He arranged natural history tours for adults, backpacking and rafting trips for students, and simulated archaeological excavations for grade school students. Based upon his experiences from the museum, Ken decided to pursue education as a career choice and completed his teaching credentials, along with an additional degree in Secondary Administration.

After teaching and coaching junior high school for only four years, Ken was offered a position as the Assistant Principal of Highland High School in Pocatello. He developed an outstanding reputation as an Academic Administrator, as well as being Highland's successful Athletic Director. While at Highland High School, Ken was named "Outstanding Young Educator of the Year" by the Pocatello Jaycees, and nominated for the "Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year" through the National Association of Secondary Principals. As his reputation spread throughout the state, in 1988 Ken was offered a position as the Assistant Principal at Boise High School in Boise, Idaho.

After Ken's esteemed 10 years as one of Boise High's Assistant Principals, he was promoted to Principal. He was highly regarded by students, parents, faculty, and staff. Ken's favorite saying was that, "Boise High is a Special Place". It was because of Ken's leadership that it was so special. A strong emphasis was placed upon academics, athletics, and activities for all students. Boise High was ranked by Newsweek magazine as being one of the top 500 academic high schools in the nation. Athletic teams won numerous State Athletic Championships, and provided a wide range of activities in art, music, drama, debate, and school sponsored clubs. Ken placed a special emphasis on the character of the students, faculty, and staff. The "Character Counts" program was implemented under Ken's leadership to recognize those who did the right thing even if no one was watching. When Ken retired, the Boise High Parent Organization, (Brave

Parents), funded the “Ken and Sharon Anderson Character Counts Scholarship” for students who demonstrated outstanding character.

In 2010 Ken was awarded “The State of Idaho’s Outstanding Principal of the Year” by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.” Ken and his wife traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in a national ceremony recognizing principals from all 50 states and to meet with Idaho Senators and Representatives to discuss education issues effecting the students of Idaho.

What makes Ken unique, is that he touched the lives of countless students and teachers. He gave chances to students he believed just needed some confidence and a push in the right direction. Sometimes former students would stop him on the street or in a restaurant telling him that they owed their success to him because he was the only one who believed in them. He set a positive example to his staff, never asking them to do what he wasn’t willing to do himself. He counseled and inspired several teachers to become better at their craft. They worked hard because Ken led the way. Ken was and still is well respected , not only by the student, faculty and staff, but by parents and by his peers. Boise High was a special place because of Principal Ken Anderson.

Ken was not only an outstanding teacher and administrator, he is also an amazing husband, father, and grandfather. He and his wife of 47 years have raised two remarkable children, a daughter, who is a successful attorney and a son, who is an associate partner for a business consulting firm. He and Sharon have six grandchildren, including two sets of grand twins. Also, aside from being an avid mountain bike rider, skier, and hiker, Ken is an accomplished white water rafter. He has rowed rafts down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon seven times and his family has enjoyed countless adventurous white water river trips in Idaho, Utah, and Oregon.

### **Work Experience Beyond High School**

- Comparative Religion Teacher: St. Joseph’s High School, Toms River spring 1975
- Education Coordinator: Idaho Museum of Natural History, Pocatello 1977-1980
- Social Studies Teacher and Coach: Alameda Junior High, Pocatello 1980-1984
- Assistant Principal and Athletic Director: Highland High School, Pocatello 1984-1988
- Assistant Principal: Boise High School, Boise 1988-1998
- Principal: Boise High School 1998-2011

### **Career or Field of Employment (achievements, awards, and publications)**

- Archaeological Expedition in Cyprus summer 1974
- Contract Archaeology for the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service 1976-1979
- Master’s Thesis: PLAY: An Anthropological Definition and Analytical Model 1977
- Presenter Idaho Association Secondary Schools Principal Conference (School to Work and Block Scheduling); 1996, 1999, and 2007
- Union Pacific Railroad “Principal Partnership” Scheduled Presenter and Conference Facilitator 2006 and 2008

### **Educational Awards**

- Outstanding Young Educators Award (Pocatello Jaycees) 1984
- Outstanding Assistant Principal Award Nominee (IASSP) 1983, 1990
- Administrator of the Year 2009 (Ada County Association of Educational Office Personnel)
- Red Apple Award Winner (Boise Schools Special Recognition Award)

- **2010 Idaho Principal of the Year** (National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP))

#### **Offices Held in Educational Associations**

- Pocatello Education Association Negotiations Committee and Chief Negotiator 1982-1984
- President of the Gem State Athletic Conference, Pocatello, ID 1983-1984
- President of the Southern Idaho Athletic Conference, Boise, ID 2002-2004

#### **Memberships in Education Associations**

- Pocatello Education Association 1980-1984
- Member of the following Educational Associations 1984-2011
  - Idaho Association of Secondary School Principal
  - National Association of Secondary School Principals
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development member 1984-2011
- Phi Delta Kappa (Educational Fraternity Induction)1984

#### **Community Service**

- Treasure Valley Youth Soccer Volunteer Coach 1989-1996
- Boise Y-Ball Volunteer Coach 1989-1994
- East Boise Little League Volunteer Coach 1989-1996
- United Way Community Task Force Member 1990-1996
- Downtown YMCA Advisory Board Member 1998-2004
- Parenting Solutions: Drug and Alcohol Prevention Seminars 2001-2008
- Boise Festival of Trees Volunteer 2005-2010
- Board of Directors Alzar School 2011-2016
- President of the Lakewood Homeowners Association 2014-2016
- Board of Directors for Idaho Rivers United and President elect 2011-2022



## **Beth A. Williams**

Beth A. (Schonmuller) Williams, Toms River High School East Class of 1997, served as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy at the U.S. Department of Justice from August 2017 to December 2020. In that role, she served as the primary policy advisor to the Attorney General and as the Chief Regulatory Officer for the Department. For much of that time, she was the highest-ranking woman at the Department of Justice. Ms. Williams also led the judicial nomination process for the Department, assisting in the selection and confirmation of more than 230 Article III judges to the bench, including two Supreme Court Justices — more than any President has appointed in a single term since 1980. For her service, Ms. Williams

was awarded the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service, the Department's second highest honor.

At the Department of Justice, Ms. Williams focused on policy initiatives geared at protecting the most vulnerable members of society, working with department components to combat violent crime, to prioritize the protection of children from online exploitation, to seek justice for victims of human trafficking, to ensure responsible policing, and to combat elder fraud and abuse. Under Ms. Williams's leadership, the Department of Justice took significant steps to make the regulatory process more lawful, accountable, and transparent. Ms. Williams also spearheaded departmental efforts to protect religious liberty. As part of this effort, her office worked closely with other department components to issue guidance making clear that recipients of grant funding would not be discriminated against on the basis of their faith.

During Ms. Williams's tenure as Assistant Attorney General, she played a lead role in the department's cyber policies, including coordinating the development of a recent white paper on cryptocurrency as part of the Cyber-Digital Task Force, and undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the department's work in the cyber area to identify how federal law enforcement can more effectively accomplish its mission.

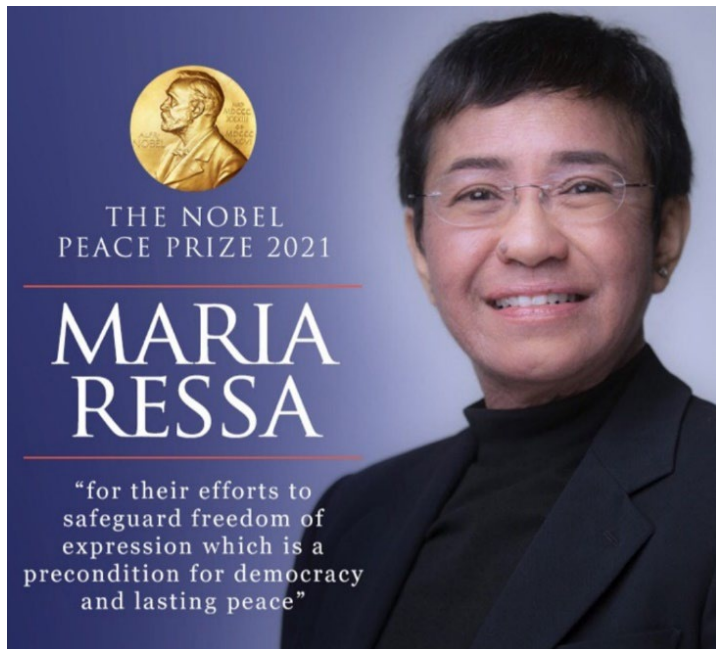
Prior to becoming Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Williams was a litigation and appellate partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where her practice focused on complex commercial, securities, and First Amendment litigation. Ms. Williams litigated cases in federal and state courts across the country. She also served as chair of the firm's Women's Leadership Initiative in Washington, D.C. Ms. Williams received the firm's Pro Bono Service Award seven years in a row for her dedication to pro bono work. As part of that work, she won a landmark decision allowing a New York state inmate who had been held in solitary confinement for 18 years to challenge his confinement, a right he previously had been denied.

From 2005-2006, Ms. Williams served as Special Counsel to the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, where she assisted with the confirmation of Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. and Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. to the United States

Supreme Court. Prior to her time at the Senate, Ms. Williams served as a law clerk to Hon. Richard C. Wesley on the United State Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Ms. Williams graduated from Harvard College *magna cum laude*, with a degree in History and Literature. At Harvard, she served as Secretary of the Undergraduate Council, and was awarded the John Harvard Scholarship, Agassiz Scholarship, and Detur Prize for being in the top 10% of her freshman class. She earned her law degree from Harvard Law School, where she served as Executive Editor of the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy and won the Dean's Award for Community Leadership. Ms. Williams is a proud graduate of Toms River Schools, having attended from kindergarten through high school (Cedar Grove, Intermediate East, Toms River High School East). At High School East, she was class valedictorian and a member of the Marching Raider Band.

Ms. Williams was recently confirmed unanimously by the Senate to be a Board Member of the United States Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, an independent bipartisan agency whose mission is to ensure that the federal government's efforts to prevent terrorism are balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties. She is a Senior Lecturing Fellow at Regent Law School and a Professorial Lecturer in Law at George Washington University Law School. She splits her time between Virginia and New Jersey, where she lives with her wonderful family, her husband, John, and two children, Caroline (10) and James (6), and near her delightful parents, Arnold and Judith Schonmuller, and sister, Laura, and her family.



## MARIA A. RESSA

Maria Ressa has been a journalist in Asia for more than 35 years. In 2012 she co-founded *Rappler*, a digital news site that is leading the fight for freedom of the press in the Philippines. As *Rappler's* CEO and president, Ms. Ressa has distinguished herself as a fearless defender of freedom of expression and has exposed the abuse of power, the use of violence and the increasing authoritarianism of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and his administration.

Using her skills as an investigative reporter, Ms. Ressa has focused critical attention on President Duterte's murderous, anti-drug campaign. A 2020 report by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights documented that between 2015 and 2019 at least 248 human rights defenders, legal professionals, journalists and trade unionists were killed in relation to their work. The report could not verify the number of extrajudicial killings during the anti-drug crackdown, but government figures indicate at least 8,663 people have been killed and some estimates put the toll at triple that number. The report also says the government's revocation of *Rappler's* license and the multiple arrests of Maria Ressa "have raised concerns about what appears to be 'a pattern of intimidation' of independent news sources" (OHCHR 12).

Ressa and *Rappler* have also documented how social media is being used to spread disinformation, harass opponents and manipulate public discourse. As a result, Ms. Ressa has endured constant political harassment and arrests by the Duterte government. Her battle for truth and democracy is the subject of the 2020 Sundance Film Festival documentary, *A Thousand Cuts*.

In October 2021, Maria was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in recognition of her efforts "to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace."

For her courage and her work on exposing disinformation in the media, Maria was named a Person of the Year by *Time* Magazine in 2018.





Ms. Ressa was among *Time's* 100 Most Influential People of 2019 and has been named as one of *Time's* Most Influential Women of the Century. She was also one of the BBC's 100 Most Inspiring and Influential Women of 2019 and one of *Prospect* magazine's World's Top 50 Thinkers. In 2020, Maria received the Journalist of the Year Award, the John Aubuchon Press Freedom Award, the Most Resilient Journalist Award, the Tucholsky Prize, the Truth to Power Award, and the Four Freedoms Award. In 2021, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) awarded her the Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize. Maria has received numerous awards for her principled reporting including the prestigious Golden Pen of Freedom Award from the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers, the Knight International Journalism Award from the International Center for Journalists, the Gwen Ifill Press Freedom Award from the Committee to Protect Journalists, the Shorenstein Journalism Award from Stanford University, the Columbia Journalism Award, the Free Media Pioneer Award from the International Press Institute, and the Sergei Magnitsky Award for Investigative Journalism.

Maria was born in Manila, the Philippines. At the age of nine, she moved to the United States with her family and in 1982 she graduated from Toms River High School North. Maria then attended Princeton University and in 1986 she graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and certificates in theater and dance. Maria then returned to Manila on a Fulbright Fellowship and earned a master's degree from the University of the Philippines Diliman. She also worked for the newly liberated government station, People's Television 4, as the director of newscasts and then as head of its special projects team. In 1987, she began reporting for CNN and joined ABS-CBN as the director and producer of *Probe*, the first and longest running investigative news magazine in the Philippines.

In 1988, Maria became CNN's Manila bureau chief. She focused on investigating terrorism in Southeast Asia for nearly a decade before moving to Indonesia and opening the network's Jakarta bureau, which she ran from 1995 to 2005. She then returned to Manila as the senior vice president in charge of ABS-CBN's multimedia news operations, managing about a thousand journalists for the largest news organization in the country.

Maria is the author of *Seeds of Terror: An Eyewitness Account of al-Qaeda's Newest Center of Operations in Southeast Asia* and *From Bin Laden to Facebook: 10 Days of Abduction, 10 Years of Terrorism*. She is currently working on her third book, *How to Stand up to a Dictator*, slated for publication in 2022.

Source:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. "Advance Edited Version - Ohchr.org." *Situation of Human Rights in the Philippines*, 29 June 2020, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Countries/PH/Philippines-HRC44-AEV.pdf>.



**Class of 1982**

**Inducted May 22, 2022**