**FRED A. & ADRIENNE C. CORDES MEMORIAL AWARD**

This scholarship is awarded to fulfill the wishes of a longtime friend of the Taconic Hills School District, Mr. Fred Cordes.

Mr. Cordes was a bus driver for our district for many years and he often volunteered when he saw a need at our athletic events.

Before he passed away, Mr. Cordes set up a $260,000 trust fund to allow us to award two scholarships each year to help students with their post high school educational expenses.

**RHEINSTROM HILL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship is awarded to fulfill the wishes of Carroll Rheinstrom of Craryville.

Mr. Rheinstrom believed strongly in the furtherance of education and he was a supporter of local institutions. The two recipients of this scholarship must be graduates of Taconic Hills furthering his or her education at Columbia Greene Community College. They will each receive $1500 per semester for four consecutive semesters.

**GINTHER MATHEMATICS AWARD**

This award is given by Raymond P. & Marie M. Ginther to a graduating senior who exels in Math. Mr. & Mrs. Ginther have a great interest in the fields of math and science are happy to honor a Taconic Hills graduate each year.

**DANA BESSETTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Dana Bessette Jr, class of 2001, was with us a short time but his time on earth was spent well. Dana was an honor student and a varsity letterman in three sports. He was also determined to make a difference in the lives of children through his volunteerism in Little League and the summer park program.

Dana lived life with passion and determination. He is remembered as a focused student, talented athlete, caring friend and a loving son.

To honor Dana, a scholarship has been awarded in his name to a student who exemplifies the traits that Dana possessed.

**MAURICE P. & ANNE M. SPILLANE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

In 2003, John Spillane of Hillsdale and NYC donated a parcel of land in North Hillsdale to Taconic Hills Dollars for Scholars. The Board of Directors decided to take the assessed value of the sale price of that land and establish a scholarship in memory of John’s parents, Maurice and Anne Spillane. These funds are awarded each year to a deserving senior.

**TIMOTHY KLIMA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Tim Klima, class of 2000, loved al sports but basketball and golf were his favorite. He enjoyed school especially business and math classes. He also enjoyed expressing himself through poetry. Those who were fortunate to know Tim remember his incredible smile, his many exceptional qualities, and his ability to be a good friend.

**JUSTIN F. BURGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Justin Burger, class of 2000, loved the outdoors. He enjoyed all sports but was particularly talented in soccer. Justin found his passion in art. He had an eye for the unusual and for finding beauty in his surroundings. His free spirit shined through in both his life and his art work. He was also passionate about music, laughter, friends and family. He treated each day as a gift and valued most the gift of love.

Justin’s parents hope this scholarship will help a graduating senior who shares Justin’s passion for the arts pursue his or her goals at the college level.

**H. DAVID DWY SCHOLARSHIP**

Dave Dwy was a graduate of the former Roeliff Jansen High School, class of 1947. After college, serving his country in the US Army, and a career in construction, he became the Business Manager for Taconic Hills where he remained for 26 years until his retirement. A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Dave was loved by all who knew him. His family established this scholarship in his memory as education was extremely important to Dave.

**MATTHEW N. TOMLIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This award was established by the family and many friends of Matthew. He is remembered by all who knew him as a kind, fun-loving guy who gave his all to baseball and football during his high school years. Matthew was a wonderful young man whose goal was to always help others. This scholarship is awarded to a deserving senior.

**FRED LAVERACK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Fred Laverack, class of 2000, was passionately involved in soccer and whole-heartedly supported the girls field hockey teams during his years in Junior and Senior high school. Fred valued friends and family. You could always depend on him to lend an ear or a hand to help anyone in need. Those who knew Fred remember his adoring smile and his genuine ability to make people happy.

**RUSSELL & EVELYN ROBERTSON SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship was set up by Paul & Kathy Robertson and their friends and family to honor Paul’s parents, Russell and Evelyn. Coach Robertson was a beloved Ockawamick teacher and Athletic Director and his wife, Evelyn, was very active in the local community. A scholarship is awarded each year to a deserving Taconic Hills senior.

**ANDREW M. VANTASSEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Andy’s scholarship was initiated by his countless friends and coworkers. He was a devoted friend and loved by all who lived in his circle. His passion for hunting and environmental issues have set the guidelines for this award given to an individual who shares his gits of life.

**KOLBERT-RUBINSTEIN @ AMUR HILL FARM SCHOLARSHIP**

Mr. Richard Rubinstein and Ms. Katherine Kolbert established an annual scholarship many years ago to support a student from Taconic Hills furthering his or her education at a two or four year college.

**EARTH ANGELS SCHOLARSHIP**

In 2007 the Dollars for Scholars Board of Directors established this scholarship to thank the Earth Angels for sharing their incredible talent and wonderful friendship with us over the seven years they performed shows for us. During this time they helped to raise over $170,000. We all miss their shows but their legacy of giving and love for the arts lives on through this scholarship.

**BARBARA ULLMAN NURSING SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship was established by Dr. Sandy Ullman in honor of his wife, Barbara. Before retirement, Mrs. Ullman was a registered nurse working locally for many years. She was also a nursing teacher at Columbia-Greene Community College. Therefore, it is only fitting the criteria for this award is for the recipient to be pursuing a career in the field of nursing.

**STEVEN TIGER SCHOLARSHIP**

In recognition of his leadership, support, and advocacy for Taconic Hills Dollars for Scholars of 15 years has helped us grow to what we are today. We hold the utmost gratitude for all he has done for our students.

**STEIN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**

This award was established by the Stein family to support a Taconic Hills senior

continuing his or her education after high school. The Steins value education and generously give a scholarship each year with no particular criteria other than a worthy student.

**PHILMONT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF VERNON HIGGINS**

Each year the men and women of the Philmont Volunteer Fire Company award a generous scholarship to a graduating senior from Taconic Hills. It is awarded in memory of a local volunteer fireman and friend to many, Vernon Higgins.

**OCKAWAMICK CENTRAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP**

The Ockawamick Central Alumni Association graciously donated funds for a scholarship to be awarded to one of our Taconic Hills seniors every year. The members of this association believe it is important to support future generation and wish all the seniors a bright and healthy future.

**JULIE MARIE GABACCIA MCKENNA**

This scholarship was established by Julie’s sisters. Julie was a Roe Jan graduate and also a Vassar College alumni who loved the arts including the performing arts, visual arts and creative writing. Julie was a an avid volunteer and loved working with children through education, the library and mental health program.

**REMEMBER THE TITANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship was established by Joe & Sarah Raco to honor the memory of those Taconic Hills alumni we have lost over recent years. These former Titans are not forgotten. Each one of them left a positive mark on many of our lives, our school, and our community. The Raco family organizes fundraisers throughout the year to be able to offer a deserving senior a college scholarship in their memory.

**LEADERSHIP FOR TOMORROW SCHOLARSHIP**

This award is a perpetual scholarship that is presented in honor of retired Taconic Hills Superintendent, Dave Paciencia. It was funded by his friends and colleagues in recognition of his dedication and advocacy for children throughout his 35 year career in education.

**VITA BARSKY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Vita Barsky left Taconic Hills Dollars for Scholars over $27,000 in her will with no restrictions for the use of the funds. The Board of Directors established a scholarship in Ms. Barsky’s memory to honor this gift and awards a deserving senior scholarship each year to help with the cost of college expenses.

**LOIS DECKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Lois Decker, a lifelong resident of Hillsdale, worked at Taconic Hills for over 20 years. She is remembered as a kind, compassionate woman who loved children and touched the lives of all who knew her. Her family and friends established this scholarship to award a Taconic Hills senior who will continue their education after high school.

**MICHAEL & TAMI JOHNSTON SCHOLARSHIP**

The Johnston family proudly established a generous scholarship designated for a graduating senior within the Taconic Hills School District who plans to pursue a two year degree or training program at a trade school.

**GERDA & OLE SKAARUP SCHOLARSHIP**

This award is given in memory of a couple who strongly believed in the value of education and music. Ole had a great love of music and in playing a variety of musical instruments. This scholarship is awarded by their family to a deserving senior.

**BOB & MARIYLN LAURIE FOUNDATION AWARD**

This scholarship was established many years ago to honor Marilyn and Bob Laurie. Recently, their daughter, Amy, decided to continue this scholarship in her parents’ names through a generous donation from the Laurie Foundation. There is not set criteria for this scholarship other than to be awarded to a deserving senior of Taconic Hills.

**JACOB STICKLES LENDS A HELPING HAND AWARD**

Jacob was only 9 years old when he passed away from Nueroblastoma. He is remembered not only for his strength and bravery but for his beautiful smile and his ability to make others smile, too. This scholarship was established by Jacob’s family and friends to continue his dream of making others happy. The goal of this award is to make a difference in the world and hopefully, help a young student of Taconic Hills achieve their dream of furthering their education so they too can make a difference in society.

**CHRIS GANZ BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Ganz family established these two scholarships to honor Chris’s memory by awarding one to a female student who loves softball and another to a male student who enjoys baseball. Chris was not only an avid baseball fan but also a talented pitcher as well.

Chris always looked out for others and would always strive to see the good in everyone. And everyone who knew him always saw the GOOD in Chris.

**STANLEY PESCHEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Mr. Peschel was an electrical engineer who founded Hipotronics, a manufacturing company to test equipment for the power and utility industry. With 23 patents to his name, he eventually sold his company and started High Voltage Incorporated in Copake with his sons. Mr. Peschel was eventually awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science PhD from Union College where the “Stanley G. Peschel Computer Science Center” was established in his honor. His family and friends offer this scholarship in his memory to a deserving senior.

**CARMEN AND ELAINE BARBATO SCHOLARSHIP**

Lifelong residents of the Taconic Hills community, Carmen graduated from Roeliff Jansen while Elaine attended Ockawamick. Together they built a local company whose core beliefs of honesty, hard work, and community are the roots of its success. Elaine also enjoyed a long career as a Registered Nurse in the Operating Room at Columbia Memorial Hospital. Carmen and Elaine’s four children have established this scholarship to honor their parents. Their hope is to help a Taconic Hill graduate pursue his or her career in the Construction, Engineering or Medical field.

**JON RICH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This award was established in memory of a former Titan alumni. Jon’s sister, Lisa, wishes to continue an annual scholarship in his name to honor the wonderful man Jon was.

**NANCY B. SHELDON & JANNETTE S. KEEFNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This mother-daughter relationship was unique in that Jan and Nancy were extremely close and considered each other their best friend. Nancy was a highly respected and well-known community leader in the town of Hillsdale. She touched the lives of many people through her kind heart and positive attitude.

Jan also worked for Hillsdale as Court Clerk for 30 years dedicating her life to the service of others. Both women are remembered for their generosity, friendship and commitment to family.

**HAROLD ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Mr. Albright was a local man raised on a farm in Harlemville and well known to many as a hard worker all of his life. He owned his own landscaping business and he and wife, Millie, had 15 children together. This scholarship is awarded each year to a student who demonstrates a high level of family devotion and personal integrity.

**LAWRENCE J. ANDREWS, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Larry Andrews, class of 1961, was a three-sport athlete and a member of choir and band. In 1965, Mr. Andrews began teaching at his alma mater where he taught elementary and middle school and then high school mathematics. He is also remembered as a beloved football and baseball coach. In 1981, he began a lengthy career serving his community as a town councilperson then Town of Ghent Supervisor. He was loved and respected by all who knew him.

**MARY RANKIN SCHOLARSHIP**

Mary Rankin’s family has ties to the Hillsdale area dating back 5 generations. Although she has relocated to Montana in recent years, Mary established this scholarship for a senior at Taconic Hills. She is known as a champion of education and believes passionately in providing equal opportunity to all students in pursuit of their dreams. She holds a PhD in Chinese History from Harvard University and has pursued academics throughout her life. Although now in retirement, Mary continues to inspire those around her with her tenacity.

**RABBI CHARLES SIMON AND MARY KATZIN SCHOLARSHIP**

This generous award was established by Rabbi Simon and his wife with no specific criteria other than to help a deserving senior pursue his or her college goals.

**ROGER DECKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship was established by Roger’s family and friends to honor his memory. A local man all of his life, he was well-known in the community for his friendship and his commitment to family. Roger’s family is pleased to help a Taconic Hills senior pursue his or her college goals through this award.

**DOROTHY HOFFMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Dorothy was a local homemaker to a dairy farmer and helped out on the farm. She was also an avid quilter, knitter, and fabulous baker. Her coveted quilts were absolutely beautiful and all hand stitched. Her friends and family have established this scholarship in her memory.

**DR. BARRY GERTZ AND LAURA FRIEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship is funded by a generous donation from Dr. Gertz and his wife, Laura, who wish to honor a Taconic Hills senior who is pursuing his or her education after high school at a two or four year college.

**DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIPS**

These particular scholarships are awarded by our Board of Directors and have been funded from our Dollars for Scholars annual fundraisers and income earned on our investments.