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The Kirk Memorial Scholarship

This annual scholarship, administered under the auspices of the Woodbury Historical Society (WHS), honors Margaret S. and Adam Kirk, educators and community leaders well known in the area for over 50 years. Both had wide-ranging talents and interests and were lifelong learners in the truest sense.

Margaret Kirk was particularly interested in local history and drama. Her family was among the earliest Woodbury residents, and she was instrumental in the formation of the Woodbury Historical Society. She contributed her time, expertise, and memorabilia to the Society continuously until her death in 1991. She had also assisted with the design of the auditorium stages at the present Central Valley Elementary (then M-W Jr./Sr. High) School and North Junior High School in Newburgh, both of which at the time of completion, were the finest theater spaces in Orange County. She taught English and drama and later was a librarian at Newburgh Free Academy for many years.

Adam Kirk taught science at South Junior High School in Newburgh for over 35 years. For much of that period, he was also a member of the Monroe Woodbury Board of Education, always making sure a teacher's viewpoint was heard by the Board. As a member of the first M-W Board, he was instrumental in the creation of the consolidated Monroe Woodbury district in 1952. Mr. Kirk was also an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hiking, camping and teaching friends and family about our natural surroundings. Like a true Renaissance man, he was interested in most everything and enjoyed learning and teaching continuously until his death at age 91 in the year 2000.

The **Kirk Memorial Scholarship** endeavors to perpetuate the compassion, spirit and intellectual curiosity that both Margaret and Adam exemplified.

Application Guidelines:

The Kirk Scholarship is awarded to a high school senior who is a Town of Woodbury resident. Interested students should contact their Guidance Office for an application, or if that is not possible, the Woodbury Historical Society at (845) 928-6770 or 845-928-6740.

Your application should include a detailed resume, a short summary of your intended use of the scholarship, recommendation letters, your transcript, accompanied by the form on the reverse, signed by parent or guardian, releasing information to the scholarship committee. In addition the applicant should include a brief statement showing evidence of strong commitment in the following areas:

1. Achievement in the sciences, social studies, or dramatic arts;
2. Service to school and/or community demonstrating compassion and altruism, as well as integrity, excellence, and/or leadership;
3. Intellectual curiosity and creativity

Interviews will be held for all applicants before determining the award recipient(s). The number of scholarships and their amount is determined by the scholarship committee and may vary from year to year. All applicants will be notified of the results, and the scholarship(s) will be awarded at the appropriate high school academic award ceremony (if applicable). Completed applications for the Kirk Scholarship must be submitted to your high school guidance office by the date specified by your school (or, if necessary, to the Woodbury Historical Society no later than April 7, 2023).

