

Ellis Memorial Scholarship

Hollice/“ Holly” Lenore Neal Ellis was born November 30, 1923 in Pleasantville. Holly graduated as the Valedictorian of the Pleasantville High Class of 1941. She then attended Capital City Commercial College. Following graduation, Holly took a job with L.H. Kurtz and Company. On May 16, 1953 Holly was united in marriage to Charles Franklin Ellis at the Pleasantville Christian Church. She and Chuck always made their home in Pleasantville. She worked for Kurtz for 50 years, eventually serving as Secretary to the President. Following her retirement from Kurtz, she worked as the Office Manager for Pleasant Care Living Center. Both Holly and Chuck were active members of the Pleasantville Christian Church. Holly was also involved with the Order of Easter Star Chapter #378, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Red Hat Ladies and the Kitchen Band. In her spare time, she enjoyed flower gardening. Holly and Chuck also loved to entertain, and they were well known for having wonderful parties for family and friends. They were equally well known as gracious hosts and proud supporters of the Pleasantville Community. Chuck passed away in 2007 and Holly passed away on Friday, December 4, 2015 at the Pleasant Care Living Center at the age of 92 years. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Clark Neal; sister, Ruth Neal and her beloved husband, Chuck. Holly and Chuck were loyal supporters of the Pleasantville High School Dance Team, Band and Choral programs. They always attended the concerts and performances by each of these groups, and they contributed financially for the various fundraising events that each group held.

The estate of Holly and Chuck Ellis provided a generous bequest to the Dance, Band and Choral programs at Pleasantville High School. In appreciation of the generosity of Holly Ellis, we are establishing a Memorial Scholarship in Holly’s name for three students, each representing the Dance Team, Band, and Choir.

Three scholarships in the amount of \$250 each will be awarded to a graduating senior representing each of these ensembles: the PHS Dance Team, the PHS Band, and the PHS Choir.

Applicants for this award will submit an essay and selection will be made by committee.

The essay should include the following:

1. High School grade point and Class rank
2. Your plan for a college education following high school graduation, including your college major/field of study
3. Years of participation and honors received as a Band, Dance Team or Choral member.
4. How did your participation in Band, Dance or Choir influence you during high school, and how will these experiences enhance your future?

Applicant essays should be submitted by April 17, 2026 to the director/ coach of your areas. Any questions should be directed to Mrs. Miika Busick, Mr. Comer or Mrs McGee.

Winners of this scholarship need to provide Mr. Robert Friday with a copy of their college schedule as proof of enrollment so that he can send the scholarship funds.