

Those wanting to get rid of their holiday lights in a safe, green and charitable way may want to consider donating them to the Anna Schenker Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fund, going into its fifth year has helped three UW-Rock County students pursue their education.

Anna Schenker lost her life in a tragic car accident in 2006. She was attending U-Rock at the time and loving it. She home schooled herself in order to graduate from high school early and attend college; she was impatient to get on with her life. Anna loved art class, and was working part time to help support her education.

To honor her memory, Anna's parents decided to start the scholarship fund. Her father David Schenker came up with the idea of recycling the copper in holiday lights to help support the scholarship fund.

Various businesses will be collecting strings of lights, power cords or old copper items. Working or non-working lights will be collected through January. "We sell to a recycler for the small amount of copper in the wires. We will also take any other copper items and extension cords, and appliance cords," said Carole Schenker. The Schenkers work with Stateline Recycling in Janesville. Last year they collected over 2 tons of lights to recycle instead of dump in the landfill

The following businesses will accept your strings of lights, power cords, or old copper items, BMO Harris Bank locations in Janesville and Beloit, Michael's Cycles, Beloit Health System including Beloit Memorial Hospital, Beloit Clinic and NorthPointe Health and Wellness Campus, TADS Sports Bar and Grill, Northern Illinois Hospice, UW-Rock County main office, Mocha Moment in Janesville, Simple Scissors in Janesville, Burgess Chevrolet in Orfordville and the Bank of Broadhead. The Schenkers will also pick up large amounts of strings or aluminum cans if called at [608-756-3568](tel:608-756-3568).

In an additional fund raising initiative, the family is selling a cookbook featuring the favorite recipes of family and friends. In Christmas of 2010, Carole Schenker sent a request out in all her holiday cards for recipes to include in the "Anna Schenker Memorial Cookbook".

"We collected sorted, typed and sent the recipes in. Christmas of 2011, I sent a note along with the Christmas cards that the books were ready for purchase. I have sold about 400 books so far. The cost of the publishing was covered by a donation so all sales went directly to the Scholarship fund," Carole Schenker said. Books can be purchased for a cost of \$12 each or two for \$20. To make arrangements for purchase, use the phone number above or email annaschenkscholarship@gmail.com

Carole Schenker said another fundraiser is helping with the scholarship fund as well. Each year Michael's Cycles' Velo Club holds the Frozen Fools fundraisers in which they keep track of the days and the number of miles that they ride their bikes from Jan. 1 to April 1. Anyone can pledge to donate by the mile or day, individual or group. Then they donate half the proceeds to the scholarship. The other half goes to their club for cycling advocacy. Pledge details can be found on the company website, <http://michaelscycles.net>.