



**White River Valley Electric Cooperative
News Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

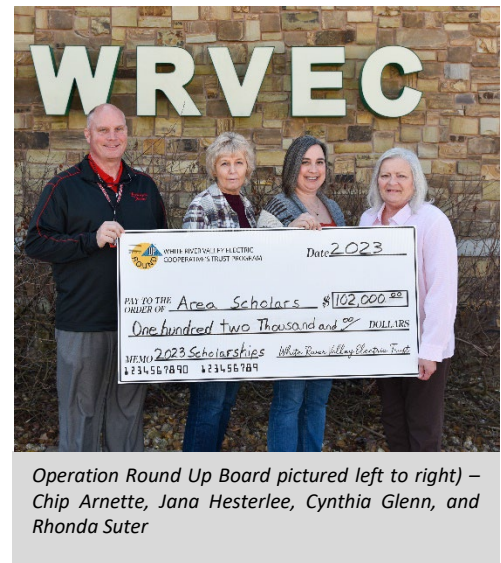
Cooperative’s trust program awards \$102,000 in scholarships to area students

Branson, Missouri – White River Valley Electric Cooperative’s (WRVEC) trust program, Operation Round Up, has awarded \$102,000 in scholarships to students for tuition assistance. 68 area students will receive \$1,500 to further their education or vocational career.

“This year’s recipients demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities and dedication to their education,” said White River Valley Electric Cooperative’s Community Programs Coordinator Nathan Stearns. “The entire White River Valley Electric Cooperative membership can be proud of their outstanding achievements in and out of the classroom.”

Scholarship applications are available to students from the cooperative’s five-county service area every spring. Applicants are awarded based on how well they demonstrate their drive to impact their local community through service of various kinds while maintaining academic excellence.

Operation Round Up is in its 31st year at WRVEC and to date has returned more than \$5 million back to the community, with over \$2.4 million going to higher education. Funds come from cooperative members who allow their bills to be rounded-up to the next dollar. In addition to scholarships, the money is allocated for area families struggling with the financial burden of long-term illness, tragic accident or devastating fire, and for community needs such as rural fire departments, senior citizen centers, food pantries, and children’s health programs.



Operation Round Up Board pictured left to right) – Chip Arnette, Jana Hesterlee, Cynthia Glenn, and Rhonda Suter

LIST OF 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

AVA: Laurynn Brooks, Erin Clouse, Macee Cutbirth, Allison Nicole Denney, Olivia Heriford, Ivy Nelsen; **BRADLEYVILLE:** Abigail Pride, Emily Wiles; **BRANSON:** Gavin Allred, Anabelle Bissonnette, Rylan Cornelison, Reagan Culver, Jack Dawson, Alyssa Gagnepain, Sophia Harmon, Benjamin Heath Stark, Ethan Jones, Alvin Patel, Dhruvi Patel, Chloe Ray, Joanne Sinniah, Quinn Swofford, Anna Thomason, Andrea Thuyan Fuentes; **CHADWICK:** Paisley Gilbert, Kayla Purdome; **FORSYTH:** Alexis Brooks, McKenzie Calhoun, Logan Clements, Emmalea Mae Cook, Hayden Day, Aaron Gross, Kellen D Hendrix, Levi Lux, Ashley Matthews, Kera Mingus, Colleen Myers, Emaliah Phelan, Gemma Reding, Liya Rivere, Macy Sanders; **GAINESVILLE:** Grayden Rowbotham; **GALENA:** Madison Sieg; **HIGHLANDVILLE:** Jacob Martin; **HOLLISTER:** Cristina Hernandez, Camden Krysl; **HOMESCHOOL:** Hope Barker, Cade Samuel Crockett, Andrew Jacob Scribner; **KIMBERLING CITY:** Miah Norman; **LUTIE:** Robin Willow Schofield; **NIXA:** Adelyn Weaver, Madison Rose Golmen; **OZARK:** Sydney Broussard, Mary Emma Burton, Jadyn Dalton, Lillian Dopp, Josie Glenn, Elijah Glenn, Madison Lake, Kayla Alyse Lindsey, Ashley McCulloch, Landon Portis; **REEDS SPRING:** William Foster; **SPARTA:** Hailey Bumgarner, Gage Wigton; **SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC:** Brinnae Cooper; **VICTORY ACADEMY:** Lane Clouse

For more information about the scholarship program visit
<https://www.whiteriver.org/community/operation-round-up/scholarships/> .

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[White River Valley Electric Cooperative](#) is a [Touchstone Energy Cooperative](#) dedicated to ensuring our members receive safe and reliable service in their homes and businesses across five southwest Missouri counties including Ozark, Taney, Stone, Christian and Douglas.