

Tri-State EMC Honors Local Scholars



Front row (l-r): Sapporiah Ross, Isabella Brown, Emily Parker, Sam Jabaley, Gracie Stewart and Olivia Alewel. Back row (l-r): Tri-State EMC General Manager Stacy Chastain, Board Directors Jerry Pack, Scott Barker, Bill Joe Postell, Tom Stiles, Jesse Miller, Hugh Rogers and Jim Quintrell.

Each year, Tri-State EMC recognizes the valedictorians and salutatorians from Copper Basin High School, Fannin County High School and Hiwassee Dam High School. Each of these six scholars receives a \$1,000 scholarship from Tri-State EMC to further his or her education.

On May 2, Tri-State held their annual Honors Night dinner. Students who were honored included Copper Basin High School Valedictorian Sapporiah Ross and Salutatorian Isabella Brown; Fannin County High School Valedictorian Sam Jabaley and Salutatorian Gracie Stewart; and Hiwassee Dam High School Valedictorian Emily Parker and

Salutatorian Olivia Alewel.

Sandy Ott, Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Campus of the University of North Georgia, gave an uplifting speech comparing the students' lives to being at a theme park. She said students are on a roller coaster and people all around them have been on the ride with them. She told them, "You got this, and I can't wait to see your next adventure!"



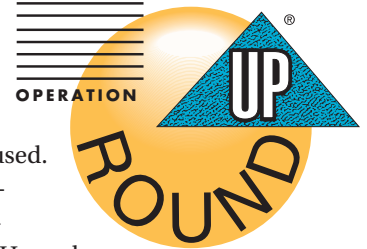
Tri-State EMC Operation Round Up Awards Scholarships to Deserving Students

All of the money collected through Operation Round Up goes to nonprofits, charities and school systems locally in the Tri-State EMC service area. The money comes from Tri-State EMC members who round up their bills to the next whole dollar. Once a month, the Tri-State EMC Foundation board considers grant requests and distributes the money.

In 2013, the Operation Round Up board made the decision to grant a vocational student from Fannin County High School, Copper Basin High School, Hiwassee Dam High School and Mountain Education Charter School each a \$500 scholarship. The Operation Round Up board elected to allow each school's scholarship committee to decide

on who should receive the scholarship. This scholarship is a fine example of where and how the money from Operation Round Up is used.

Thank you to all of the Tri-State EMC members who participated in Operation Round Up and made this scholarship possible!



2023 Scholarship Recipients

- *Copper Basin High School*
Adrian Fitchett
- *Fannin County High School*
Bryce Ware
- *Hiwassee Dam High School*
Allison Stiles
- *Mountain Education Charter School*
Aislinn Peel



5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below.

Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

Source: call811.com

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.



Are you participating in Operation Round Up?

Each month, participating members allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar, and the extra change is donated to the Operation Round Up fund. So, if the bill is \$87.23, the member is billed an even \$88, and the extra 77 cents goes directly into the Operation Round Up fund.

Are you currently part of the Operation Round Up program? Sign up at www.tsemc.net or call the office today at (706) 492-3251. Recent grants were awarded to:

April 2023

- Copper Basin High School
- Fannin County High School
- Hiwassee Dam High School
- Mountain Education Charter High School
- NGAF Inc.
- Snack in a Backpack Inc.

March 2023

- Snack in a Backpack Inc.
- First United Methodist Church Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- Mineral Springs Advocates
- Faith Presbyterian Church
- Families 4 Families

February 2023

- Harbor Ministries
- Mine City Baptist Church
- Morganton Baptist Church Food and Clothing Ministry
- Fannin County School System Children's Fund
- Copper Basin Elementary School SnackPack
- Copper Basin Crisis Center
- Fannin County Family Connection
- Copper Basin Senior Center



Tri-State EMC Participates in Hiwassee Dam Careers on Wheels Event



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

Summer is a prime opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. To reduce home energy use, avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for air conditioning or cooling.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen (or the backyard) and find new ways to save energy!

Source: energy.gov