



# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2023 Rock Energy Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to our 2023 scholarship winners! Rock Energy Cooperative has awarded 15 scholarships to local high school students. Each student will receive \$1,000 totaling \$15,000. Students whose parents or guardians are members of Rock Energy Cooperative were eligible to apply.

Funds for the scholarships come from unclaimed capital credits. Since 1989, the co-op has awarded more than \$167,000 in financial aid to deserving students. These young scholars possess the qualities that will help them succeed in their college studies, as well as their future professions.

They have participated in dozens of school clubs, competed in sports, performed in band and theater, worked on 4-H and scouting projects, and joined church groups. Even with all those extra-curricular activities, they still found time to volunteer with community organizations and work to gain experience in their chosen field of study and help fund their college education.

On pages 15-17 are introductions to the winners with excerpts from their applications.

### CASEY KNAACK

**High School:** Dakota  
**College:** UW-Whitewater or UW-Stevens Point

**Career Goal:** I plan to earn my bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. I then will apply to graduate school to earn my master's degree to become a certified Speech-Language Pathologist. I plan to work in either an elementary school or in a pediatric clinic.



### KATELYN DUBER

**High School:** Harvard  
**College:** Carroll College

**Career Goal:** My plan after high school is to attend Carroll College and get my bachelor's degree with a Science of Nursing Degree. Since I am going into college with sixty college credits, it should only be three years instead of four. Once I get my degree, I plan to get a job at a hospital and work as a labor and delivery nurse.



### HAILEY BEEMAN

**High School:** Parkview  
**College:** Blackhawk Technical College

**Career Goal:** After high school I plan on going to Blackhawk Technical College to obtain my nursing degree. Then after that I will take my RNC-OB test so I can become a labor and delivery nurse.



## KATIE JONES

**High School:** Hononegah  
**College:** Missouri, Iowa, or Michigan University

**Career Goal:** In high school, I challenged myself in the classroom while excelling in sports and leadership roles.

This has prepared me for college, where I will focus on building additional career skills and relationships through social and professional activities. As the world becomes increasingly networked and interdependent, we need open-minded and inclusive leaders who can leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals. A well-rounded educational experience will prepare me to meet this challenge through a rewarding career in business or law.



## MATTHEW WICKLUND

**High School:** Hononegah  
**College:** UW-Milwaukee

**Career Goal:** I have always been fascinated by storms. As I got older, I liked my science classes and spoke with my physics teacher about Meteorology. He explained that the degree was called Atmospheric Science and directed me on what classes to take for that major. I visited a local TV station and did a job shadow with their meteorologists, learning how they forecast and watching a live broadcast. The NWS team offered to mentor me and help me with course selection in college. I then toured colleges and learned that I will most likely need to continue on to get my masters.



## SAMANTHA HOPKINS

**High School:** Hononegah  
**College:** Viterbo

**Career Goal:** I plan to complete a 4 year college degree with a premedical focus, afterwards completing

medical school and then residency in either general surgery or anesthesiology.

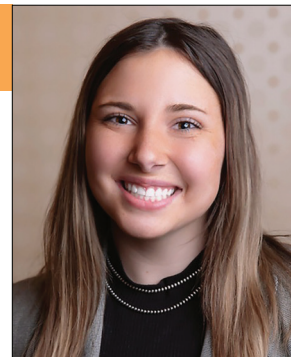
*NOTE: Samantha is a Youth Leadership Conference Board Member, which is an educational component of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association.*



## CLAIRE ESSELMAN

**High School:** Clinton  
**College:** Iowa State Univ.

**Career Goal:** I plan to major in Agricultural Policy and minor in International Business. From there, I would like to attend graduate school for either a master's degree in Agricultural Economics or attend law school for a Juris Doctorate. With the adjustable pathway, I have the option to become an Agricultural Lobbyist or an Agriculture Lawyer. Both are respectable jobs that I am passionate about because they give me the opportunity to advocate for agriculture.



## TRINITY CZERWINSKI

**High School:** Milton  
**College:** UW-La Crosse

**Career Goal:** I want to pursue my interest in working and spending time with kids by becoming an early elementary educator.

Throughout my time at UW-La Crosse, my plan is to be involved in groups and organizations to give me experiences that will help support my future career in the education field.



## MAYSA JOHNS

**High School:** Milton  
**College:** UW-Madison, Michigan, or Vanderbilt

**Career Goal:** I'm interested in pediatrics and would like to explore majors such as Human Development and Family Studies, Psychology, Pre-Physician Assistant, or Nursing. I hope to improve the health and well-being of the community as a lifelong career goal. I hope to work at a children's hospital in a large city.





## ISOBEL HAMILTON

**High School:** Rockford Christian  
**College:** Rock Valley College or Southern Illinois

**Career Goal:** I will be attending college to receive my bachelor's degree in Dental Hygiene. My goal is to complete the prerequisites at Rock Valley College and then transfer to Southern Illinois University. I may, however, attend SIU for the entire four years. While I am initially planning on working in a dental office, I am also considering employment in an orthodontic office.



## JENNA KELLOGG

**High School:** Evansville  
**College:** Blackhawk Technical College

**Career Goal:** Once I graduate high school I am going to be attending Blackhawk Technical College to pursue my associates degree in nursing. Once my associates degree has been completed I look to pursue further education in the health field by obtaining my bachelor's degree and eventually my masters degree in nursing. While it is very difficult to tell right now the specialty I want to further my education with, some of my main choices include, pediatrics, anesthesia, and geriatrics.



## JADYN STIEN

**High School:** Rockford Lutheran  
**College:** Concordia University - Chicago

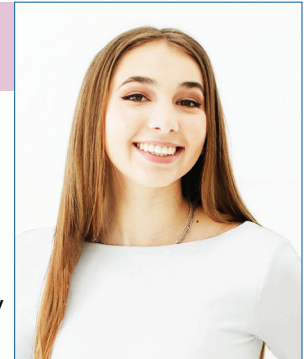
**Career Goal:** I hope I can one day guide a student who not only needs Algebra help, but also the support I needed when I was at my lowest. I aspire to become the person I needed most. If I could become even a sliver of the support system that my teachers have created for me and hundreds of other students, I know I would have succeeded.



## ELLA EASH

**High School:** Boylan Catholic  
**College:** UW-Milwaukee or University of Iowa

**Career Goal:** I am finishing my high school career in May of 2023. My plan always has been to go to college and graduate. I hope that once I graduate from college, my next step is law school at Marquette.



## ALEXANDER EVANS

**High School:** Milton  
**College:** UW-Madison or UW-Platteville

**Career Goal:** After graduation, my plan is to complete a bachelor's degree in engineering with a potential minor in computer science. I hope to find work after graduating from college in my field, and if my career path takes me to further study, I would consider working toward a masters degree in the future.



## KERA RILEY

**High School:** Craig  
**College:** St. Norbert

**Career Goal:** I plan to attend St Norbert College and major in business administration. While I am mostly interested in marketing and real estate, I plan to explore other fields of business during my education. Upon graduation, I'll have a better view of what field of business I enjoy the most. While I don't know exactly what I want my career to be, my biggest goal is to use the knowledge and skills I've learned to be a successful leader and role model.



# Co-op Employees Sometimes Need to Work on Your Property

As your electric provider, it is Rock Energy Cooperative's responsibility to maintain the miles and miles of power lines that bring you electricity. To do that, we must periodically access rights-of-way to ensure the reliability of your power. Our efforts to ensure reliable energy for members and our members' neighbors means we sometimes must work on your property.

A right-of-way is a legal right of passage over another person's property. When it comes to your power, a right-of-way, sometimes called an easement, is held by Rock Energy to access the property directly underneath and on either side of the power lines that are on your property.

Rock Energy understands that some of our members prefer to lock entrances to their properties. Those members can grant the co-op access with a gate code or by having Rock Energy add a co-op lock to their chain.

Why would Rock Energy need to work on your property? Here are some reasons why:

- Routine repairs
- Remove or trim trees
- Update electric or natural gas distribution systems
- Locate buried utilities
- Upgrade poles, wires, transformers, other equipment
- Maintain vegetation in right-of-way



Field work, unless an emergency, is conducted during regular business hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you have questions about Rock Energy working on your property, please feel free to contact us at 866-752-4550.

## REC OFFICES CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY

Rock Energy (REC) offices will be closed and REC personnel will be out on Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day. Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekend and at the payment kiosk outside our South Beloit office, 15229 Willowbrook Road. Even though our offices are closed, standby crews are available. If you need to report a power outage or a natural gas incident, please call 866-752-4550.

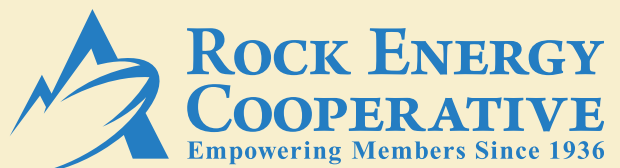
## Spring & Summer Energy Savings!

Check out Rock Energy's newest video for some useful tips to help you increase energy efficiency and save on your energy bill as the heat begins to rise. To watch the video, just click on the QR Code here.

**Shane Larson, CEO**

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866-752-4550

**Jonas Berberich, Editor**





**We salute the brave  
men and women  
who gave their lives  
for our freedom  
and honor the  
sacrifice made by each  
of them and their  
families this  
Memorial Day.**

From your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

