



Date: May 12, 2022

Contact: Melissa Gay, 434-263-8336 (mgay@mycvec.com)

Seven Area Students Earn Electric Co-op Scholarships

The Education Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC) awarded six Central Virginia high school seniors a \$1,000 Worth M. Hudson Scholarship, named for the first chairman of the Foundation.

The 2022 recipients are:

- **Anna Birthisel** of Scottsville, who attends Liberty University Online Academy is the daughter of Joseph Birthisel.
- **Grace Buck** of Gordonsville, who attends Louisa County High School is the daughter of William Buck.
- **Gabriel Corrice** of Palmyra, who attends Fluvanna County High School is the son of Sara Corrice.
- **Ella Lewis** of Amherst, who attends Amherst County High School is the daughter of Sarah Nichols.
- **Emily Stevens** of Troy, who attends Fluvanna County High School is the daughter of Cynthia Stevens.
- **Mackenzie Swain** of Palmyra, who attends Fluvanna County High School is the daughter of Anthony Swain.

This year marks the inaugural presentation of the Roberta I. Harlowe Scholarship award in the amount of \$2,000 to a student in the Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (CVEC) territory. Mrs. Harlowe is a past chair of the scholarship fund and is a member of the CVEC board of directors. The recipient of the award is:

- **Brenley Hackett** of Appomattox, who attends Cornerstone Christian Academy is the daughter of Brent and Stacy Hackett.

These seven high school seniors were eligible for consideration because their parents are consumer-members of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. "The cost of college and post-

graduation training programs are steadily rising and CVEC recognizes that seniors in our rural communities can benefit from scholarships to help offset those costs,” says Gary Wood, President and CEO of CVEC. “We are proud to help these seven deserving high school seniors to continue their education, whether at a college or university or in learning a trade.”

Recipients were chosen based on a competitive screening process that considers financial need (40 percent), academic achievement (40 percent) and community involvement (20 percent). Applicants must be a senior graduating from either high school or home school in 2022.

They must also provide evidence of their acceptance into a post-high school educational institution or program. These grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees, and books.

“These scholarships reflect the strong commitment of electric cooperatives to advancing educational opportunities among our youth,” said Russell G. “Rusty” Brown, chair of the Education Scholarship Foundation Board and chair of the board of directors of the VMD Association. “We commend these students on their academic success, knowing they represent a future generation of leaders in their communities.”

Since 2001, the Foundation has provided approximately 840 scholarships totaling more than \$860,000 to aspiring college students as well as to the next generation of electric lineworkers.

The Foundation is supported through tax-deductible donations and bequests from individuals, proceeds from fundraising events and CoBank’s Sharing Success Program. One hundred percent of donations go to students for scholarships. For information on donating to the Foundation, visit vmdaec.com/scholarship.

Central Virginia Electric Cooperative is a member-owned, not-for-profit, electric utility serving over 38,000 homes, farms and businesses in the rural portions of 14 Virginia counties. CVEC is proud to be a Four-Star Cooperative for Service Excellence certified by the Touchstone Energy Service Excellence Program. CVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer. For more information, visit www.mycvec.com.

Headquartered in Glen Allen, Va., the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives provides safety and training, communications and legislative services to 15 electric cooperatives serving the three-state Mid-Atlantic region. For more information on VMDAEC and the scholarship program, visit www.vmdaec.com or www.co-opliving.com.