

PRESS RELEASE

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Firelands Electric Cooperative awards \$10,750 in scholarships

Everett Smith of Crestview High School was selected as the first-place winner of \$1,800 during Firelands Electric Cooperative's 2025 scholarship contest. The son of Ben Smith and Lauren Smith of Ashland, he plans to study business management and marketing in the fall but is currently undecided which college he will attend. Smith will also participate in a statewide contest on April 16 at Ohio's Electric Cooperatives in Columbus. During this event, representatives from Ohio's 24 electric co-ops have a chance to compete for additional scholarships worth up to \$4,600.

The second-place winner of a \$1,600 scholarship is **Scarlett Wilhelm** of Ashland High School. Wilhelm is the daughter of Kristi Boyer of Ashland. She plans to study data analytics at The Ohio State University.

Mia Humrichouser of Crestview High School is the winner of the third-place, \$1,400 scholarship. Daughter of Benjamin and Teresa Humrichouser of Ashland, she plans to pursue a degree in materials science and engineering at The Ohio State University.

Fourth-place winner of a \$1,200 scholarship is **Jeremy Leber** of Crestview High School. Leber is the son of Len and Christine Leber of Shiloh. He will be studying mechanical/aerospace engineering in the fall but is currently undecided which college he will attend.

The fifth-place winner of \$1,000 is **Ellie Hageman** of Mapleton High School. Hageman is the daughter of Scott Hageman of New London and Jen Hageman of Ashland. She plans to be part of North Central State College's physical therapy assistant program in the fall.

Zuri Immel of Norwalk High School is the winner of the sixth-place, \$750 scholarship. The daughter of Justin and Brooke Immel of Norwalk, she plans to pursue a degree in exercise science and physical therapy next fall but is currently undecided which college she will attend.

The winners of Honorable Mention scholarships, each worth \$500, are **Lily Cline** of Crestview High School and **Sydney Strouse** of Loudonville High School. Cline is the daughter of Johnny and Emily Cline of Mansfield. She will major in speech language pathology at Kent State University next fall. Strouse, the daughter of Dan and Courtney Strouse of Perrysville, plans to major in exercise science and physical therapy at Bowling Green State University.

Ashlynn Mitterling of New London High School and **Hayley Putt** of South Central High School are the winners of Judges' Choice awards of \$500 each. Mitterling is the daughter of Terin and Pamela Mitterling. She plans to study

biology and pre-dentistry at Ashland University next fall. Putt, daughter of Jason and Anna Putt of Greenwich and the late Kelly Putt, plans to major in architecture and biology. She plans to attend Bowling Green State University.

Laura Kiesel is the winner of the cooperative's new \$1,000 Career Scholarship. This award is available to pre-June 2023 graduates returning to post-secondary education to pursue a certificate or degree in a vocational or tech field. Kiesel is currently part of EHOVE's surgical technology program.

Firelands Electric's annual scholarship contest is open to those who reside in a home served by the cooperative. This year, the co-op received applications for the College Scholarship program from students attending Ashland, Crestview, Loudonville, Mapleton, New London, Norwalk, and South Central high schools.

Firelands Electric, A Touchstone Energy Cooperative, is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility serving more than 9,200 members in the rural areas of Ashland, Huron, Lorain, and Richland counties. For more information on Firelands' scholarships and other youth programs, visit their website at www.firelandsec.com/community.

2025 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER PHOTOS



1st – Everett Smith (Crestview)



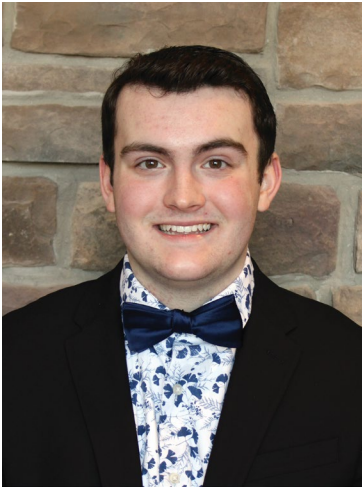
2nd – Scarlett Wilhelm (Ashland)



3rd – Mia Humrichouser (Crestview)

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4th – Jeremy Leber (Crestview)



5th – Ellie Hageman (Mapleton)



6th – Zuri Immel (Norwalk)



Honorable Mention – Lily Cline (Crestview)



Honorable Mention – Sydney Strouse (Loudonville)



Judges' Choice – Ashlynn Mitterling (New London)



Judges' Choice – Hayley Putt (South Central)

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Career Scholarship (pre-June 223 grad) – Laura Kiesel

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