



AUGUST 2023

Small Change Can Make Big Changes with Operation Round Up®

Through the contributions of Runestone Electric Association's participating members, the Operation Round Up® Trust Board recently approved **\$14,400** to assist local community programs during its quarterly meeting.

REA's Operation Round Up Trust Board, a voluntary board of seven REA members, reviewed and considered 33 grant applications and distributed funds to 23 projects and programs this past quarter. Community-based projects and programs have received over \$1.2 million since the program's inception in 2003. On average, participating REA members contribute \$5.89 for the year. Proof that small change adds up. Best of all, 95% of all funds collected are distributed as grants.

The deadline to apply for the next round of funding is November 10, 2023.

Complete the application form at www.RunestoneElectric.com.

Grant Recipients:

FIRE DEPARTMENTS & FIRST RESPONDERS

» Osakis Fire Department - tools for rescue truck (\$1,100)

YOUTH

- » Community Preschool - playground standing rocker (\$300)
- » West Central Area Schools - Free and Safe Halloween Carnival (\$500)
- » Northern Lights Council (Boy Scouts of America) - registration and campership assistance (\$500)

SENIORS

» Pope County Council on Aging - senior citizens celebrations (\$500)

COMMUNITY

- » Bethel Memorial Cemetery - maintenance (\$300)
- » St. Lukes Cemetery Association - preservation and maintenance (\$300)
- » St. John's Nepomuk Quilters - supplies (\$300)
- » Friends of Christmas - light display (\$500)
- » Donnelly Community Club, Inc. - Threshing Bee supper (\$500)

- » Pope County Humane Society - adoption project (\$500)
- » West Central Communities Action - building community resiliency (\$1,000)
- » Garfield Action Committee - community playground (\$1,000)
- » Nora Lutheran Cemetery - straighten tombstones (\$300)
- » Alexandria Area Branch of AAUW - Project Book Shelf (\$200)
- » Lakes Area Humane Society - adoptive animal spay/neuter project (\$500)
- » Lowry Lions - community park (\$500)
- » The Village Family Service Center - therapeutic games & cards (\$500)
- » United Communities Advocating Non-Violence - UCAN domestic violence awareness (\$1,000)
- » Explore Alexandria Tourism - Saturday Christmas market (\$500)



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Operation Round Up® Group Photo



Representing some of the organizations receiving Operation Round Up® grants in September, from left to right holding the banner: Sharie Kalina, St. John's Nepomuk Quilters; Lyla Radil, Lakes Area 1st Responders; and Virgil Coziahr, Starbuck Fire Department. Back row from left to right: Jim Dyrdaahl, St. Luke's Cemetery; Susan McDowall, Pope County Council on Aging; Kristin Klimek, Lakes Area Humane Society; Shaune Moen and Lauren Molloy, Pope County Humane Society; Davis Larson, Nora Lutheran Cemetery; Brenda Hvezda, St. John's Nepomuk Quilters; Ken Weisel, Lowry Lions; Barry Wahlberg and Rich Duncan, Operation Round Up Board members; and Micheal Kalpin, Leaf Valley Fire Department.

Calling all non-profit organizations!

Area organizations are encouraged to apply for Operation Round Up grants. The deadline for the next round of funding is November 10, 2023. Application forms can be completed online at www.RunestoneElectric.com.