**Focusing on the future**

Those receiving funding through Operation Round Up’s most recent disbursement have one thing in common: a focus on our youth.

More than $9,800 was awarded to five organizations benefiting local children through education, sports and outreach.

This is made possible because of the generosity of the nearly 75 percent of LaGrange County REMC members who participate in the program, allowing their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar each month. This monthly donation averages about $6 a year.

Those pennies per month are then given back to the LaGrange County community, bettering the communities the members and cooperative belong to.

Organizations awarded funding from the April distribution of LaGrange County REMC’s Operation Round Up include:

* **Youth for Christ of Northern Indiana** was awarded $2,000 for their weekly Campus Life clubs, one-on-one conversations with teens and smaller group sessions.
* **Prairie Heights High School Dance Team and Theater** received $1,842 to purchase dance mirrors that are easily stored when not in use and will benefit about 100 students.
* **Wolcottville Youth Sports** was granted $2,000 to purchase game equipment, tumbling mats and miscellaneous items to prepare the fields for various sports. The organization provides football, baseball, softball and cheerleading opportunities for nearly 160 children.
* **LaGrange Baseball League, Inc.** received $2,000 to purchase new helmets, batting tees, portable bases, baseballs, batting nets, catcher’s gear and a batting cage net. They serve 200 youth in the community.
* **Junior Achievement of LaGrange County** was awarded $2,000 to assist with the spring elementary school programs that are taught in grades 1-3. Nearly 800 students will gain practical information about responsibilities and opportunities within the economic community.

To be considered for the next cycle of disbursements, local nonprofit organizations are encouraged to fill out and return an application to the LaGrange County REMC office by Monday, July 1.

Applications can be picked up at the cooperative office at 1995 E. U.S. 20, LaGrange, or downloaded from the REMC website, lagrangeremc.com.

-x-

**Cutline:** Prairie Heights High School Theater recently put on a production of “Curtains.” The group, alongside the school’s dance team, was recently awarded funding from LaGrange County REMC’s Operation Round Up to purchase dance mirrors for rehearsals.