



Local high school senior awarded 2022 OGE Positive Energy Scholarship



Van Buren High School senior Lilly Deffenbaugh surprised with a \$60,000 college scholarship from OGE Energy Corp. Foundation, Inc.

[DOWNLOAD PHOTOS HERE](#)

VAN BUREN (April 26, 2022) — Today OGE Energy Corp. Foundation, Inc. announced Van Buren High School senior Lilly Deffenbaugh as one of its 2022 OGE Positive Energy Scholars. As a Positive Energy Scholar, Lilly will receive a total of \$60,000 in scholarship funds over four years to cover tuition, books, fees and on-campus room and board.

“We congratulate Lilly for her selection as one of our 2022 OGE Positive Energy Scholars,” said Sean Trauschke, OGE Energy Corp. Chairman, President and CEO. “We are honored to play a role in helping students achieve their dreams for higher education. These scholarships help strengthen the future workforce of Oklahoma and Arkansas and empower the next generation of leaders in our states. We are honored to help energize Lilly’s bright future and can’t wait to see what she does next.”

School administrators, teachers, mentors, Superintendent Harold Jeffcoat, Van Buren Mayor Joe Hurst, Van Buren Police Chief Jamie Hammond and members of the community joined the celebration as OG&E officials presented Lilly with a congratulatory certificate.

“Thank you, OG&E, for supporting deserving students like Lilly through the OGE Positive Energy Scholarship,” said John Tipton, Principal of Van Buren High School. “We are thrilled to see OG&E invest in students like Lilly, whose academic talent and interest in pursuing a degree in the STEM field may someday position her to be a future leader and innovator.”

Lilly has been accepted to attend the University of Central Arkansas this fall. She hopes to major in mathematics or pursue a career in the energy field, following in her grandmother’s footsteps who worked at OG&E for 31 years.

“Lilly is a diligent student, energetic learner and dependable friend. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this scholarship,” said Cindy Nelson, Career Development Facilitator at Van Buren High School. “Her desire to learn, grow and evolve is one of her greatest strengths. I am so proud that she is being rewarded for her hard work and admirable ethic.”

In addition to her dedication to her academic studies, Lilly participated in a variety of extracurricular activities throughout her high school years. As a member of the National Honors Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Van Buren High School Pointer Prancer Dance Team, as well as volunteering countless hours through dance and church, she displayed her commitment to leadership, scholarship and community involvement.

“College is a significant financial investment and the overall cost can be overwhelming for a young student. Our hope is that a scholarship of this size will allow Lilly to focus on her academic career,” said Eddie Lee Herndon, OG&E Community Affairs Manager in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. “We look forward to following Lilly’s success and will be there to cheer her on along the way.”

Through the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, the OGE Positive Energy Scholarship was established in 2019, focusing on students with high academic achievement who plan to pursue careers in an energy-related field and in need of financial aid. Eligible students must meet specific criteria to be considered, including:

- Be a graduating high school senior from the OG&E service area,
- Attend a college in the states of Oklahoma or Arkansas,
- Have an unweighted GPA greater than or equal to 3.25, and
- Achieve an ACT score of greater than or equal to 25 and/or SAT score greater than or equal to 1200.

“We value our partnership with the OGE Energy Corp. Foundation and are proud to collaborate on this scholarship program,” said Nancy Anthony, president of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. “Support for youth and education in our communities is at the core of both our

organizations' values, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to help make higher education accessible to such well-deserving students through the OG&E scholarship program."

Since 2016, OGE Energy Corp. has provided more than \$1.9 million in scholarships for students in the OG&E service area.

###

About OG&E

Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of OGE Energy Corp. (NYSE: OGE), is Oklahoma's largest electric utility. For more than a century, we have provided customers in Oklahoma and western Arkansas the safe, reliable electricity needed to power their businesses and homes with the nation's lowest electric rates, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. Our employees are committed to generating and delivering electricity, protecting the environment, and providing excellent service to nearly 880,000 customers. OG&E has 7,081 MW of electric generation capacity fueled by natural gas, wind, low-sulfur coal, and solar. OG&E employees live, work, and volunteer in the communities we serve. For more information about OG&E, visit us at OGE.com or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

Contact:

OG&E Media Line: (405) 553-3616 or ogenews@oge.com