



CHELCO linemen rescue training

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ONLINE NOW

All members can view
CHELCO outages
and storm tips on our
website.

CHELCO selects three \$1,000 scholarship winners

CHELCO has chosen three \$1,000 scholarship recipients. The winners are Olivia Hurley, Baker High School; Hannah Johnson, Crestview High School; and Kolby Roy, Baker High School.

Olivia Hurley graduated valedictorian from Baker High School. She plans to attend the University of Florida to study nursing/pre-med. Hurley has been the recipient of many awards and honors, including the Anne T. Mitchell Award, the Taylor Haugen School Representative, and All Sports Association School Representative. In her spare time, Hurley enjoys spending time with her family, volunteering at church, playing volleyball and going to the beach.

Hannah Johnson graduated summa cum laude from Crestview High School. She plans to attend the University of West Florida in the fall to study criminal justice and forensic science. Johnson has been the recipient of the Anne T. Mitchell Award, Academic Honor

Roll for four years, and has earned certifications in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. In her spare time, Johnson likes to play sports and volunteer in her community.

Kolby Roy graduated summa cum laude from Baker High School. He plans to attend the University of West Florida to major in cyber security. Roy has been awarded the Anne T. Mitchell Academic Honors Award, National Society of High School Scholars invitee and the National Society of Leadership and Success at Northwest Florida State College invitee. In his spare time, Roy likes to wake board, play sports and help with, or participate in, youth activities at his church.

CHELCO introduced the scholarship program in 2015 to help members or their dependents attend college. Applicants must be a CHELCO member, spouse of a member or the dependent of a member and live on CHELCO lines.



Olivia Hurley



Hannah Johnson



Kolby Roy



A Touchstone Energy
Cooperative



Install a switch and receive \$75

Help CHELCO control wholesale power costs and collect rewards!

CHELCO offers members a one-time \$75 bill credit, plus additional ongoing bill credits worth \$18 per year, for participating in our Switch to Save program.

Here is how the program works:

CHELCO will install a switch on a member's electric water heater for free. When demand for power is high on the very coldest and very hottest days of the year, CHELCO will turn off the tank's heating elements for a few hours.

Because the tank is full of hot water, members have hot water to go about their daily lives. Our tests and decades of experience show that members seldom notice the elements are off.

By reducing demand for power at peak times, CHELCO saves money on its wholesale power bill. We pass along the power cost savings to all members through the wholesale power cost adjustment. Also, members who have a switch installed receive a one-time bill credit of \$75, and they get \$3 bill credits during the six months when the switches are most likely to be activated (June, July, August, December, January and February).

You can call (850) 307-1122 if you have questions or fill out the online sign-up form at CHELCO.com.



CHELCO Technology Center ribbon cutting



Trustees and executives from CHELCO and Southland Utility Services attended a ribbon cutting for the new Technology Center on Highway 331 North in DeFuniak Springs. The new facility houses engineering, power quality, meter services, call center and the energy control center, which is a hardened bunker designed to withstand 200 mph hurricane force winds. CHELCO employees officially began to occupy the building in early May.

This newsletter is published monthly to provide information on news, events, services, energy advice and safety tips to the member/owners of CHELCO. Comments and questions should be directed to yourcooperative@chelco.com or (850) 892-2111.



Let's grow Operation Round Up!

One of the seven cooperative principals is Concern for Community. This no doubt was a byproduct of the sense of community that cooperative organizers experienced when they formed co-ops. Whether it is farm producers, consumers seeking a credit union or electricity users, co-ops are formed when a group of like-minded individuals come together to achieve a common goal. You can't get a much better image of community than that.

This year, CHELCO's concern for community took a new and exciting turn. We adopted a new method of funding and distributing our charitable donations to the community. Operation Round Up gives our members the opportunity to give back through their monthly bill.

Operation Round Up officially started Jan. 1 this year, and we are off to a great start after just six months. As of June 1, we have almost 4,000 members participating and we are

gaining about 750 members each month. But we can do even better. Here's how it works:

Current members may opt-in to round up their bills to the next dollar, and the difference in cents is donated to the CHELCO Foundation. This averages about \$6 per participating member per year.

Those seeking a charitable donation can apply for a grant by filling out an application on CHELCO.com. We no longer approve donation request through phone calls or letters. The application should be completed at least two months before the need for funds.

Some of the grants awarded so far have supported scholarships in Walton County, exhibit development at the Emerald Coast Science Center, the American Cancer Society, a Rotary camp for children with special needs, flights for veterans at the Marvel of Flight, free dental care for

qualifying children in Okaloosa and Walton Counties and services for children who have been removed from their parents' care.

Make sure you sign up for Operation Round Up. Those extra pennies you donate will be adding up and can be donated to local worthy causes.

Joining Operation Round Up is as simple as filling out a form on CHELCO.com, calling our office at (850) 892-2111 or emailing memberbilling@chelco.com with your name and account number.

It's one of the easiest ways of giving back to your community. As I heard on a TV show once, "Give until it feels good." With Operation Round Up, there's no pain...just gain for our community.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When it's warm out, avoid using the oven. Try cooking on the stove, using the microwave or grilling outside instead.



IS \$25 YOURS?

If the account number below matches yours, sign this page and mail it with your bill to CHELCO or drop it off at any office. You'll win a \$25 credit on your next bill.

Darby – 960134799

CONNECTIONS CORNER

The Co-op Connections discount program is another benefit of being a CHELCO member. Dozens of local businesses, plus thousands nationally, offer discounts to co-op members. There are also discounts available on prescriptions at participating pharmacies. Don't forget to download the Co-op Connections app.

This month, we highlight and thank the following businesses.

Absolute Dance Center

(850) 951-2020
DeFuniak Springs
\$5 off base monthly tuition price

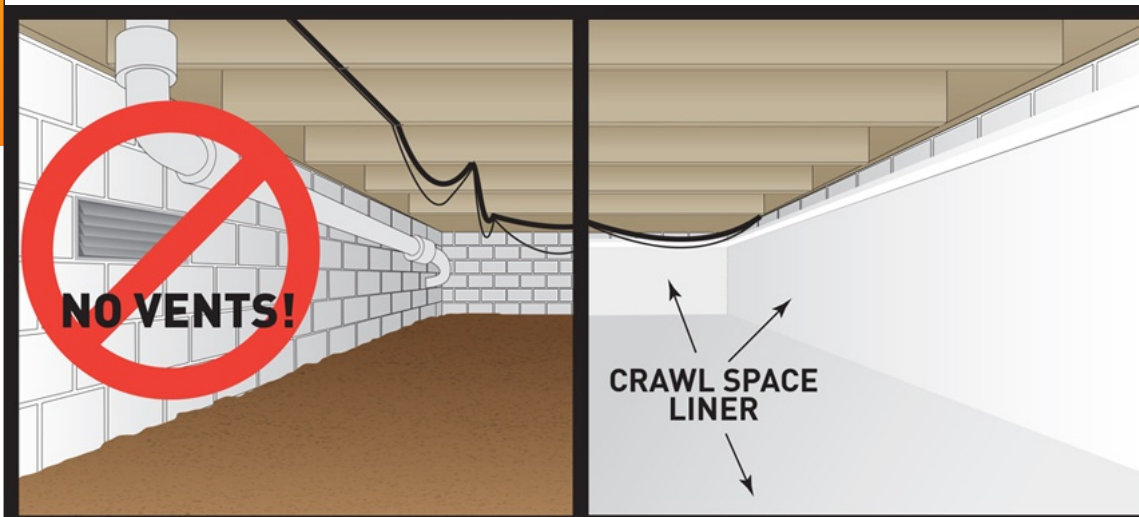
Body-B-Healthy

(850) 682-8893
Crestview
15% off all vitamins and supplements

Computer Works

(850) 687-3161
Santa Rosa Beach
Free anti-virus

For more information, or, if you own a business and want to sign-up to offer discounts to CHELCO's 52,000 member accounts, email marketingservices@chelco.com, or call CHELCO's marketing department at (850) 307-1122. You can find all the local and national deals by searching co-op connections at CHELCO.com or download the Co-op Connections app.



Benefits of taking the vents out of vented crawl spaces

Crawl space foundations are a popular feature in local building construction. They offer convenient locations for plumbing, electrical lines, and air conditioning and heating ductwork. Older building codes and conventional wisdom called for crawl spaces to be ventilated with outside air to control moisture and prevent damage within the space.

Newer research, which has resulted in updated building codes, has proven that wall vented crawl spaces can actually cause moisture buildup and other complications, especially in our local hot and humid climate. Common symptoms experienced by wall vented crawl spaces include:

- Mold, rot and moisture damage to both the crawl space and living area
- Condensation damage to insulation, pipes, trusses, and air conditioning ductwork
- Musty odors
- Buckled flooring
- Insect infestations
- High humidity within the living area

Before newer research was conducted proving wall ventilation caused these issues, the most common treatment for such issues was to add even more ventilation by adding additional vents and installing fans to deliberately pull in more outside air. Insulating the crawl space and removing wall ventilation can actually significantly improve moisture control and provide major energy savings with proper installation.

The most significant of the improvements created by closing the crawl space is to quality of life of the household. Without the buildup of moisture and mold, air quality improves, which can reduce adverse health effects caused by air pollution. Also, heating and cooling costs can be reduced by as much as 18 percent and floors should be warmer during the winter.

There are many components to consider when upgrading your crawlspace. For more information about how to properly seal and insulate your crawl space, contact your local building official or your energy experts in CHELCO's marketing department by emailing marketingservices@chelco.com or dialing 850-307-1122.

CHELCO is asking members to send in their photos so we can showcase our beautiful community in our publications. Photos can be historical, landscapes, nature or easily identifiable places within our area. We will not be able to use photos of people unless they are part of a public event. Please email your photo entries to newsletter@chelco.com.