Along These LINES

All Star opens new Nissan and Kia stores at Juban Crossing

General Sales Manager Ryan Ipson and Service Advisor Chad Chapman welcome customers to the new dealership at Juban Crossing
Manager’s Report
By John Vranic
DEMCO CEO and General Manager

All members benefit when DEMCO acquires new business accounts

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So, why have we aimed the spotlight on these two businesses? There are several reasons.

One reason is that these new businesses represent a snapshot of the exciting economic growth that is happening in our region. And, significantly, they are also emblematic of the rebirth and renewal that continues to unfold in an area that experienced widespread destruction as a result of the flood of 2016.

Looking back, there are many images of that disaster that stand out in my mind, but one particular image is the sight of the entire Juban Crossing development under water not too many months after the complex opened for business.

Now a year and a half later, there is both commercial expansion and multi-family residential construction in progress, a new gas station and convenience store, and other projects underway at that I-12 interchange.

DEMCO is both pleased and honored to play a key role in this revitalization.

We feel it is important to spread this positive economic news to let our members know that our community is not only coming back from the flood, but we are coming back even stronger than before. (Acct. No. 50001082-003)

Another reason we often highlight local non-profit groups and other worthwhile endeavors, we make a significant investment in the sustained economic growth of our region.

While DEMCO is a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative power provider, that in no way means we are stagnant and passive in our approach to business expansion.

Investing in economic development is vital to achieving our goal of keeping your rates as low as possible for the simple reason that the more members we have on our system – particularly commercial and industrial members – the more our costs are spread out for all of our members.

So, due to the basic principle known as “economies of scale,” the more large-load commercial and industrial accounts we have on our lines, the more stable our rates will be for everyone.

Unfortunately, there is a movement among for-profit utilities that are attempting to block the right of our state’s electric cooperatives from acquiring and serving the kinds of loads that will keep rates as low as possible for hundreds of thousands of co-op members across the state just like you.

The claim has been made that not-for-profit cooperatives are not capable enough to serve large-load customers and should just stick to the small stuff.

The truth, however, is that DEMCO has a long history of providing reliable, affordable power to both residential and manufacturing facilities.

In addition to working every day with commercial and industrial developers and business managers to form productive long-lasting partnerships, this is just one of the many political battles we are fighting on your behalf behind the scenes.

Whether it is investing money in building residential infrastructure so a developer can realize his goal of creating a new subdivision or working together with industry representatives to earn the privilege of meeting their more demanding power requirements, it is all geared toward keeping the rates for everyone as low as possible.

That is the core of our mission, and we look forward to continuing to carry out that mission for all of our members.

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Ascension Parish director Clarence Brock, Livingston Parish director Leslie Falks and East Baton Rouge Parish director Jill McGraw will return to the DEMCO board of directors for new three-year terms, as each were unopposed in their re-election efforts.

Brock, who is retired as the assistant chief of police for the City of Gonzales, represents Ascension Parish on the board of directors. He was first elected to the board 15 years ago and since that time has served as a member of the board’s finance committee.

Livingston Parish resident Leslie Falks, a local businessman, is a member of the board’s purchasing committee and currently serves as the District 7 director.

Falks also serves as a member of the DEMCO Energy Services and DEMCO Foundation board, and the board of directors of the Southwest Power Resource Association.

McGraw, a lifelong resident of the Zachary area, was appointed to the board in February of 2018 to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Ann Samuel.

McGraw represents the northwestern part of East Baton Rouge Parish, including the towns of Baker and Zachary. She serves on the Purchasing Committee and the Rate Committee and has begun the pursuit of her Credentialled Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate.

Each of the directors expressed their gratitude to the cooperative’s members for re-electing them to the board of directors for a three-year term.

DEMCO board representatives re-elected to serve members

Clarence Brock
Leslie Falks
Jill McGraw

DeMCo linemen participate in Louisiana Lineman Training Program

Module 1, Levels 1-5: Pictured left to right are Ashton Stokes, Collin Howell, Tyler Zimmerer, Kelvin Haymon, Edward DeLee, Ben Kyzar, Ronnie Douglas, Braden Owens, Garrett Motichek, Johnathan Vann and Daniel Pendergist.

Module 2, Levels 1-5: Pictured left to right are Luke Butler, Raymond Stewart, Tylar Keefer, Craton Templeton, Maderis Trout, Dante Holmes, Orlando Hill and Aaron Guitreau.

Official Notice: Annual Meeting

In accordance with the provisions of Article III, Section 3.03 of the Bylaws of Dixie Electric Membership Corporation (DEMCO), notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the members of the corporation will be held at DEMCO’s Headquarters Facility, 16262 Wax Road, Greenwell Springs, Louisiana, Saturday, May 12, 2018. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m.

In accordance with Article IV, Section 4.05 of the corporation Bylaws, notice is hereby given that the following persons have been nominated by the official nominating committee to fill the four positions on the Board of Directors in which vacancies occur this year.

BY NOMINATION:
Mr. Clarence Brock, District 1
Mrs. Jill McGraw, District 2
Mr. Leslie Falks, District 7

BY PETITION:
Mr. Frank E. Johnson, District 11
Mr. Michael Martin, Sr., District 11

If you would like to register for the 2018 annual membership meeting, please sign this notice and return it to Hawthorn, Waymouth, and Carroll, Certified Public Accountant, P.O. Box 82559, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, so that it is received by 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 4, 2018.

Signature
The new All Star Nissan and Kia dealerships located at the corner of I-12 and Juban Road are a testament to the promise All Star Automotive Group envisions for the future of Livingston Parish, still struggling to recover from the 2016 flood.

Officials describe the experience of watching their Dodge dealership go under water at the nearby Range Avenue exit and trying to save their computer servers at the company’s central headquarters on Florida Boulevard near Flannery.

But that’s not going to stop them from pursuing their goals.

According to All Star Chief Operating Officer Dennis Carlin, the potential for future economic growth in Livingston Parish is so great, there was little hesitation in deciding to rebuild and even expand.

All Star become established in the parish when the Range Avenue location opened its doors in 1991. Ever since then, All Star has remained bullish on Livingston.

“There’s no doubt it’s been a struggle, but we foresee a lot of positive things happening here and we want to be an integral part of that growth,” said Carlin, who has been with the All Star Automotive Group for 28 years. “Everything is a risk. But you can’t keep looking over your shoulder all the time, or you’ll never do anything in life.”

In many ways, the glow of bright lights that motorists see emanating from the expansive 12-acre lot during the evening hours can be considered a beacon of hope that signals even better days ahead for the region and its residents.

Brent Bradley, DEMCO’s vice president of marketing and economic development, said the local cooperative is proud to serve the new dealerships and shares the company’s enthusiasm about the future of the parish.

“There is so much happening right now to bring our economy back and more robust than ever. There’s a real vitality and sense of optimism that’s very palpable in Livingston Parish,” Bradley said.

For Carlin’s part, he remembers scrambling to move cars to higher ground as the floodwaters kept rising at the Range interchange back in 2016. Nearly 1,000 vehicles were totaled across the entire All Star inventory and its 11 locations. Today, the store at Range Avenue has rebounded and even grown from three acres to 17 acres with 27 service bays and a new collision center.

But the one image that stands out most vividly for Carlin took place at the company’s operations headquarters on Florida Boulevard at Flannery Road.

Once the rain stopped falling, Carlin went to the site to assess the damage. He remembers climbing in a boat to get from the road to the building where the company’s computer servers were located.

“The water was waist deep all around and the boats were coming in every minute rescuing people from their homes in the area,” he recalled. “I saw what had to be 1,000 people just standing on the side of the road with no place to go, standing there with their pets and nothing but the clothes on their backs and whatever they could carry out of their houses.”

And even worse, he said, was how the natural disaster impacted the company’s employees.

“It was really difficult seeing what our employees had to go through. About a third of our employees in Livingston Parish were affected. They couldn’t come to work, couldn’t earn wages, and a lot of them lost their homes,” he said. “We pride ourselves on creating jobs, but this event just shut our operations down.”

Company owner Matt McKay stepped in and helped the employees take care of their needs, and the National Automobile Dealers Association also provided relief that was matched by All Star.

Today, there are no signs that the new Nissan and Kia dealership sites at Juban Crossing were ever under water.

Business is bustling, according to General Sales Manager Ryan Ipson, as the company is making efforts to streamline the car-buying experience for its customers. (Acct. No. 8022004-001)

“We want to make the process as easy as possible for the customer. No one wants to go spend six hours at a dealership and have a big hassle,” he said. “We want a chance to earn your trust and earn your business and develop a long-term relationship focused on the customer’s satisfaction.”

A large part of any dealership’s business, said Carlin, is the service department. Service Advisor Chad Chapman said his department has just the right resources to perform repairs and get customers back on the road as quickly as possible. A free shuttle service is also available, he said, as well as a play area for kids.

“The service business has changed with technologically advanced computer systems, camera systems and touch screens, so we find that a lot of independent service centers simply don’t have the diagnostic tools and computer equipment to successfully perform repairs in an expeditious fashion,” he said. “Our mechanics are qualified and highly trained to do the job right the first time.”

Bradley said other development plans are being made for the Juban Crossing area.

“It’s great to see the business community taking bold steps to create jobs and keep the economy trending in a positive direction,” he said.
Place a call to 811 before you dig to reduce safety hazard

Don’t make a judgment call, make an 811 call.

Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a phone call—even small projects.

If you are only planting a small flower bed or bush, keep in mind that many utilities are buried just inches below ground.

You can easily hit a line when digging for simple gardening projects, like planting small shrubs.

Make the call to 811 anytime you’re putting a shovel in the ground to keep yourself and your community safe. Buried utility lines are everywhere. Installing mailboxes and fences are examples of projects that absolutely require a call to 811 to know what’s below.

Hitting a line can knock out service to your home and neighborhood or result in fines, damage and serious injury. Don’t make a judgment call—make the call to 811 every time you dig.

Even if you are digging in a spot that was previously marked, erosion and root system growth can alter the depth and location of buried lines, or your utility companies might have completed work on their lines since the last time you dug—so you must call 811 before you dig—each and every time.

If you hired a contractor to do the digging, be sure to check with your contractor or landscaper to make sure the call to 811 gets made before digging begins—whether it means you making the call or your contractor doing so.

If you are planning to dig only in a small portion of your yard, you can outline the area in white paint or with white flags available at home improvement stores to ensure that only the utilities in that part of your yard will be located and marked.

Be sure to let your 811 operator know about your work plans, and he or she will help ensure the proper area is marked by utility locators.

**Personal Energy Habits Make the Biggest Impact**

**EVEN WITH ENERGY-EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION, modern remodeling techniques and energy-saving appliances and systems, the most valuable tool in conserving energy is one all of us already have—our personal approach to energy use.**

Your habits and practices at home can make the biggest difference when it comes to saving energy. That means doing the little things that make a big difference, not just things that look good.

Saving energy with proper insulation or thermal windows isn’t showy, but the savings can really add up.

Just because your new 60-inch television is Energy Star-certified doesn’t mean you should leave it on 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Making use of microwaves and slow cookers and cooking multiple dishes in the oven at one time are easy ways to save.

Installing solar panels might be a good choice for your home, but you also should make sure computers, game systems and lights are turned off when not in use. And, swapping out all your lightbulbs for energy-efficient LEDs will help you save anytime the lights do need to be on.

Energy efficiency isn’t necessarily exciting, but lower electric bills are something to get excited about.

**Living in Mueller Style**

**OUR MUELLER CUSTOM BUILDING IS THE PLACE WE CALL HOME**

Mueller custom buildings make beautiful living spaces. Our strong, engineered exteriors provide flexibility for you to design a completely customized interior, while supporting large spans and open floor plans. Create your own unique space to call home. Give us a call or drop by today, and find out more about custom metal buildings from Mueller.”

www.muellerinc.com
877-2-MUELLER (877-268-3553)

“My exterior structures, such as carport & porches, were added post-engineering and not designed by Mueller. Please check local building codes before ordering.

Don’t make a judgment call, make an 811 call.”
In Honor of the Men and Women Who Have Protected Our Freedom...

On behalf of the employees, management, staff and Board of Directors at DEMCO, we wish all of our members a happy and safe Memorial Day on Monday, May 28, as we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

DEMCO offers scholarships to area students

One-year scholarships to students attending a Louisiana public college or university will be awarded in a random drawing highlighting DEMCO’s annual membership meeting on May 12, 2018.

According to David Latona, Manager of Member and Public Relations, several scholarships will be awarded. “The number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the budget. This budget fluctuates from year to year as funds permit,” he said.

The scholarships awarded by DEMCO provide assistance to help students with academic tuition to a Louisiana public college or university for both the fall and spring semesters of the academic year. Students will be awarded $1,250 cash award to be used by the student as needed.

DEMCO is allowed to use unclaimed deposits, refunds and other monies owed to former members to provide funding for the scholarship program. Complete eligibility requirements are listed below.

2018 Scholarship eligibility requirements

1. Applicant must be a DEMCO member, child or the legal ward of a DEMCO member who has been a member in good standing for at least 12 consecutive months as of the application deadline, May 4, 2018. Only one scholarship will be awarded per family per academic year.

2. A student can receive the DEMCO scholarship one time. It is not renewable. The term of the scholarship will be for one continuous academic year beginning with the fall semester (or quarter). The scholarship does not include summer sessions.

3. The scholarship money can be used by an undergraduate student to attend, on a full-time basis, any Louisiana public university. The scholarship will not be awarded to a student attending a private university or vocational/trade school of any kind.

4. A first-time college student applying for the DEMCO scholarship must: a) have graduated from high school with at least a B average (3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent); or, b) have graduated from high school and received a minimum ACT score of 21. High school applicants must be seniors.

5. An undergraduate college student seeking the scholarship must have achieved a minimum of 2.5 (on a 4.0 GPA scale) on all prior college work.

6. A scholarship application must be completed and returned to DEMCO.

7. Scholarship recipients will be chosen in a random drawing at the annual meeting of the DEMCO membership.

8. The scholarship recipients will be required to provide DEMCO with an official transcript verifying his/her eligibility within 10 days after the drawing.

9. The scholarship funds will be paid to the recipients at the beginning of each semester (or quarter) upon presentation of an official receipt for the payment of full-time undergraduate tuition (see No. 10 below). To receive the second semester (or quarter) payment, the student must provide evidence that he/she successfully completed at least 12 semester hours (or 9 quarter hours) and that he/she maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).

10. The scholarship provides a limited scholarship award of $1,250 per semester.

11. Members of the DEMCO Board, employees of DEMCO (including part time employees, students, and temporary employees) and children of the Board of Directors and employees are not eligible for this scholarship.

Application for Scholarship Program

Students Name: __________________________
Parents Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________________________
E-mail Address: __________________________
Telephone No.: __________________________
DEMCO Account #: __________________________

Do you qualify for TOPS Assistance? Yes___No____
School you will attend: __________________________

(Complete this form and return it to DEMCO by May 4, 2018)
DEMCO puts safety first in May - and throughout the year

It’s May – and DEMCO is celebrating National Electrical Safety Month.

While safety for our members is top priority year-round, Electrical Safety Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of safety excellence.

This year, we’re focusing on electrical safety in the home. Electricity is the cause of over 140,000 fires each year, resulting in a total of more than 500 deaths, 4,000 injuries and 1.6 billion in property damage, according to figures provided by Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI).

There are many measures you can take to ensure the safety of your loved ones. Use these helpful tips to safeguard your home.

Be prepared

• Nearly two-thirds of fire deaths result from fires in homes without working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be located on every level of your home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.
• Test smoke alarms every month. Batteries should be replaced at least once a year – or sooner if indicated in the manufacturers’ instructions. All smoke alarms should be replaced at least every 10 years.
• Talk to your family about an emergency plan in the event of a fire in your home. If you have small children, include them in planning an emergency escape route – they are more likely to remember the plan if they’re involved in creating it.

In the kitchen

• Vacuum refrigerator coils every three months to eliminate dirt buildup that can reduce efficiency and create fire hazards.
• Ensure all countertop appliances are located away from the sink.
• All appliance cords should be placed away from hot surfaces. Pay particular attention to cords around toasters, ovens and ranges. Cords can be damaged by excess heat.
• The top and the area above the cooking range should be free of combustibles, such as potholders and plastic utensils. Storing these items on or near the range may result in fires or burns.

Light the way to safety

• The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
• Check lamp cords to make sure they are in good condition – not damaged or cracked. Do not attempt to repair damaged cords yourself. Take any item with a damaged power cord to an authorized repair center.
• Extension cords should not be used to provide power on a long-term or permanent basis. Have additional receptacles installed by a professional to provide power where needed.

Electrical safety awareness and education can save lives. (Acct. No. 80228247-001)

For more tips and information about electrical safety, visit www.esfi.org.

Payment Arrangements Anytime

Through DEMCO’s upgraded automated phone system, members can conveniently make payment arrangements 24/7*. That’s just one more way DEMCO is making its members’ lives a little easier.

225-261-1177
1-800-262-1170

*Certain restrictions apply
There are times when only a good serenade will do.

Over the years, I’ve expressed my admiration for this one particular woman in a number of ways: hand-written notes of appreciation, warm hugs and high praise every time her name came up in conversations with mutual colleagues and acquaintances.

Now it was time to break out the six-string and let it rip.

Terri Crawford, who serves as the 4-H Northeast Region Coordinator working out of the AgCenter’s Winnboro office, recently announced her impending retirement.

She and I have worked shoulder-to-shoulder for the past several years on the annual 4-H/Louisiana Council of Farmer Cooperatives Leadership Camp at the Grant Walker Educational Center in Pollock.

When I heard she was going to retire and that this year’s conference would be her last, I almost broke down in a blubbery heap of tears.

The camp is something I’ve been involved with since I joined Louisiana’s rural electric system in 1996.

The program challenges students to learn about co-ops and the basics of running a business by actually organizing and operating their own co-op over the course of the weekend.

And Miss Terri has played a key role in making this program an outstanding practical exercise for the students.

As the students vote for their co-op board members, hire a manager and work to run a successful business before dissolving the organization and closing their books on Sunday morning, Miss Terri is there to make sure the process runs smoothly.

She makes sure the agenda clicks along with leadership exercises, ice-breaker activities, pizza parties, a talent show and a dance.

On Sunday mornings, it’s been my responsibility as LCFC president to deliver an “inspirational” presentation before we present awards and draw the conference to a close.

I always struggle with drafting a message that teenagers might take to heart - my own kids don’t listen to me - but I knew I wanted to talk about service to others and I knew I had to somehow send Miss Terri out in style.

As I groped around for a coherent outline, a nugget from heaven showed up at the very last minute. I remembered that during the talent show on Saturday night, someone sang a song called Michael in the Bathroom.

Now that was something I could use.

In the song - which I don’t recommend listening to - Michael decides to lock himself in the bathroom at some lame party after his friend leaves without telling him. The bulk of the song describes Michael slogging through random thoughts about how he feels alone and abandoned, obsessing over his bitterness, wallowing in self-pity, fixating on his grief. Michael is so self-absorbed in his angst that he tells the people hanging on the door who really need “to pee” to just go away while he holds his own pity party in the john.

I was going along with poor, pitiful Michael until he threw down the victim card, asserting that he was sure his predicament had nothing to do with anything he might have done.

The fact that Michael’s response to getting left behind was to lock himself in a public bathroom made me think there’s probably a good reason why the friend left in the first place.

So, I decided to use Michael as an example of everything a true servant is not. I suggested Michael might need to meet Terri Crawford.

As Miss Terri stood blushing in the back of the conference room, I heaped all manner of praise upon her and all she has done in service to others throughout her career in education.

And I noted how embarrassed she was getting as I gabbled, pointing out that this is the way true and humble servants typically respond when they find themselves in the spotlight. They never whine for attention… and they certainly don’t lock themselves in the bathroom to try to get it.

Finally, just when the students and agents were about ready for me to nominate Miss Terri for sainthood, I broke out the guitar and asked this wonderful woman to come have a seat beside me up front while I dedicated a rendition of the classic Love Me Tender to express my sentiments as an admiring colleague.

I was nervous because, well you don’t serenade someone every day in front of a bunch of people, and then it’s not every day you try to tackle an Elvis classic, either. But I had to take my own advice.

The day before, one of the students asked me to listen to him sing a song by John Legend he was preparing for the talent show. He said he might have to work on it for a while to make it perfect.

After hearing him struggle a bit and thinking it might take more than “a while,” I told him when it comes to music, staying in key and hitting the notes are important, but the most important thing is the sentiment behind the melody.

What comes from the heart is heard by the heart, I counseled. And remember, if you can move or touch even one person in any audience, it’s worth taking the risk of expressing yourself in public.

So, I did my best and hoped it went okay. I’m not sure if it did or not from a musical perspective, but I’m pretty sure Miss Terri took the serenade in the manner in which it was intended.

I think she understood I was trying to do something that happens much less than it should: expressing deep gratitude to a competent, inspired, life-long educator who will never get the amount of praise, appreciation – or salary – she deserves.

And that’s all that mattered.
In 1997, DEMCO established the DEMCO Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to assisting DEMCO members in need. Since its inception the Foundation has provided assistance in many ways and has impacted the lives of families and individuals throughout DEMCO’s seven-parish service area.

As part of its continuing mission, the Foundation initiated a scholarship program. The purpose of the DEMCO Foundation Scholarship Program is to provide assistance to DEMCO members who are seeking to better themselves through trade school, vo-tech, community college, a university and/or other forms of educational programs in the state of Louisiana.

The DEMCO Foundation will accept applications for the 2018 fall scholarship awards until June 21, 2018. Scholarships in amounts up to $1,250.00 may be awarded each semester. The number of scholarships awarded will be determined after all scholarship applications are received. Funds are to be used for payment of educational expenses such as tuition, books, and fees. Payments of scholarships will be made directly to the applicant’s school of attendance.

The following eligibility guidelines have been established for the DEMCO Foundation scholarship:

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The candidates must:

- Be a DEMCO member, as defined by the DEMCO Foundation Bylaws.
- Possess a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Be a legal citizen of the United States of America.
- Plan to attend a trade school, community college, university or other such Louisiana institution.
- Complete online DEMCO Foundation Scholarship Application, all supporting documentation, a copy of most recent transcripts including cumulative GPA (minimum of 2.5 on 4.0 scale or equivalent required), a summary of work and/or extra-curricular activities, a minimum of three (3) letters of recommendation, and a cover letter by the applicant detailing reasons for consideration. New letters of recommendation and cover letters should be submitted each semester for which a student applies.
- An acceptance letter from the school of choice for first time or transferring students.
- All must be submitted to the DEMCO Foundation office by 4 p.m. central daylight time on June 21. Online applications only.

SCHOLARSHIP LIMITATION

Scholarship recipients are eligible to apply for a maximum lifetime scholarship award of four (4) semesters/quarters per individual.

For more information regarding the DEMCO Foundation Scholarship Program, please call (225) 262-2141 or visit us on the web at www.demco.org (or the direct link: www.demco.org/community/foundation-scholarship-program).

Excerpt from ARTICLE II, DEMCO Foundation Bylaws

Definition of DEMCO Member:

“For the purposes of these Articles of Incorporation, the DEMCO members are defined as those individuals who are current members of

DEMCORE COUNCIL

P.O. Box 15659
Baton Rouge, LA 70895
PHONE: (225) 262-2141

Dixie Electric Membership Corporation and the members of their immediate family. Members of the immediate family shall mean those natural persons regularly residing in the member’s home which is served by DEMCO.”

Altec Scholarship Program

Altec Industries will award a $500 Scholarship at the ALEC annual meeting for the fall semester of 2018.

The award is open to all children of active ALEC member cooperatives.

The following rules will apply:

1. Recipient must be a high school graduate in the class of 2016.
2. Recipient must provide verification of a minimum 2.5 GPA before scholarship monies are awarded.
3. This is a one-time award.
4. The award can be used for any college or university.
5. Deadline for applications is June 25, 2018.
6. Mail applications to: Ed Amedee, 1443 City Place, Gonzales, LA 70737.
7. Must be postmarked by June 25, 2018. Altec will not be responsible for mail delivery.
8. Applicant must be the child of an ALEC member cooperative.

Application for Scholarship Program

Applicant’s Name:_____________________________________________________
Parents or Guardian:__________________________________________________
Member Co-op:_______________________________________________________
Home Address:________________________________________________________
City:__________________________ZIP:________________________
Telephone No.:_______________________________________________________
High School Attended:________________________________________________

Please supply a copy of your high school transcript to verify the 2.5 GPA
As warmer weather sets in, our thoughts on keeping the house comfortable switch from heating to cooling.

But as temperatures rise, looking for ways to improve energy efficiency at home can help you and DEMCO reduce demand, saving energy and money.

Making small adjustments in when, where and how you use electricity won’t only help control your energy costs, but it can also help keep temperatures in your home more pleasant on sultry days.

**Housework hiatus** - Avoiding peak energy costs is a good reason to put some chores on hold, at least until power demand dips. Consider some of the jobs one kilowatt hour of electricity can do before you use it:

- Wash three loads of laundry
- Complete one dryer cycle
- Vacuum rugs in two average homes
- Iron five shirts
- Run three cycles in a loaded dishwasher

All of these activities can be done outside of peak demand periods, also known as peak hours.

**Love 78** - Your heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system or heat pump can play a huge part in controlling your energy use year-round.

- Fans offer an economical alternative to air conditioning on mild days and can pitch in for comfort as temperatures climb. The key is evaporative cooling. At lower settings, a little air blowing across a room helps to bring down humidity levels.
- When used in conjunction with your cooling system, set ceiling fans to blow air downward instead of pulling warmer air upward to get the most value in your cooling zone. Table and ceiling fans will offer more comfort if used to circulate air through areas where you are most active. You’ll get a wind chill effect that will make you feel just a little cooler.
- Central air conditioning can use as much as one kw of electricity for each 12 minute cycle of cooling. A ceiling fan can operate for about 13 hours on the same amount of electricity, while a floor or table fan, depending on size, might run for 10 hours per kw of power. Turn off fans when you leave a room, because they cool people, not space.

**Kitchen comfort** - When it comes to heat and humidity, changing your kitchen activities presents a wellspring of opportunities to reduce your household energy demand throughout the day.

- Your stove represents the modern hearth, and all the things that make the kitchen a favorite gathering place in early fall.
- According to researchers at North Carolina State University, in Raleigh, cooking dinner for a family of four on an electric range releases about 20 ounces of water vapor into the air, and that amount can triple with a gas range.
- Appliances on your countertops or pressed into service for spirited intramural competition between family members in one room uses about a third of the power of three players engaged in online games around the house.

When it comes to heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system or heat pump can play a huge part in controlling your energy use year-round.

- Intramural Competition: Online gaming with each active player using their own computer, display, gaming console and internet connection gets pricey. Play each other at home on one screen and save.
- Countertop Convenience: Range or oven cooking can really warm up a kitchen. Microwaves, convection ovens, induction cooktops, Crock-Pot® and toaster ovens put more cooking heat where you need it.

**Share the space** - In simpler times, families spent more time together in the same room even as they pursued different interests. Some members might read books or magazines under the light of a shared lamp, while others watched television or played board games.

Today it’s common for everyone to retreat to separate spaces, turn on their electronics, adjust their ceiling fans or window unit air conditioners and close their doors to cocoon in their own environments.

Getting control of your energy use to reduce your home’s overall demand can be really challenging when you have to consider the entire home, so bring back family time to beat the peak.

LCD televisions generally use 60 percent as much electricity as comparably sized plasma models. One laptop computer uses about 20 percent as much power as a desktop computer and monitor.

And today’s home assistant devices can play music using about 17 percent of the energy on a component stereo system, or about as much power as the boom box you use on the beach.

A video game console consumes about 200 watts of power. One system pressed into service for spirited intramural competition between family members in one room uses about a third of the power of three players engaged in online games around the house.

**Laundry for Less:** Full loads mean fewer cycles, and washers and dryers run in the late evenings add less heat and humidity to the home. Energy can cost less outside of peak hours.

**Cool Off/Calm Down:** Turn off unnecessary lighting and electronics that generate heat, resist the urge to turn down the thermostat and remember, lower fan settings use less energy.

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May Showers

Why does it rain?
There is water all around us—on the land and in the sea. This water evaporates and rises into the sky as vapor. The vapor in the sky turns to water droplets and makes clouds. The water drops fall from the sky as rain. The rain goes into the ground and into the sea. Then, some of the water from the rain evaporates back to the sky and makes clouds again.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Water changes through the process of evaporation and condensation.

What happens:
Warm water created warm air inside the jar. Some of the water evaporated into the air. When this warm vapor rose, it reached the cold air below the ice-covered lid. This vapor then condensed onto the particles of hairspray forming the cloud.

AN ADULT SHOULD DO THIS PART:
1. Fill your jar half full of boiling water and swirl the water around the jar.
2. Spray hairspray into the jar and quickly seal with the lid.

KIDS CAN SAFELY DO THIS PART:
3. Place as many ice cubes as you can on top of the lid.
4. Observe the cloud forming inside the jar.
5. When you can see the cloud, take off the lid and watch the cloud escape.

May Showers

Why is the ocean salty?

Standards Link: Earth Science: Water changes through the process of evaporation and condensation.

May Showers

Why is the ocean salty?

Standards Link: Earth Science: Water changes through the process of evaporation and condensation.

Water Facts

Do the math to discover these amazing facts about water.

1. In July 1861, more than ______ feet of rain fell in one month on the town of Cherrapunji, India.
2. ______ percent of the Earth is covered with water.
3. A watermelon is ______ percent water.
4. There is as much water in ______ inches of snow as there is in one inch of rain.
5. About ______ percent of the Earth’s freshwater supply is contained in five of the Great Lakes.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Water changes through the process of evaporation and condensation.

Weather Watch

Look through the newspaper for news about the weather. How does the weather affect different activities mentioned in the news?

Standards Link: Reading Analysis: Understanding cause and effect.

Umbrella Math

Use the color code to color each umbrella section.

Standards Link: Mathematics: Adding and subtracting number facts up to 20.

Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week’s Kid Scoop stories and activities.

Standards Link: Word-solving: Recognizing visual/spatial words, blend and scan reading, Radical spelling patterns.
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KEEPING CURRENT: TIP #102

Wait to wash your student’s laundry until you have a full load, instead of washing smaller loads more frequently. If a small load is necessary, adjust water levels accordingly.

Facebook: /DEMCOLouisiana
Website: demco.org