THE CURRENT

January/February 2019

NEW YEAR NEW LOOK NEW HEIGHTS

ALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

WATER & WASTEWATER, INC.

MEMBERS MATTER

"The Current" January/February 2019 Vol. MMXIX No. 1 USPS #356-710

"The Current" is the official newsletter of Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc., published monthly as an informational and educational service to the members of the Cooperative Periodical postage paid at Tallahassee, Florida.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE Cooperative Member \$1.50 per year. Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

EDITORIAL OFFICE

P.O. Box 1679 1640 West Jefferson Street Quincy, Florida 32353-1679

Tracy Bensley, General Manager Blake Flowers, Director of Member Services/Editor

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POSTMASTER

In using Form 3579 please give key letter and mail to "The Current," P.O. Box 1679, Quincy, Florida 32353-1679

OFFICERS

Carrie L. Durden President Cell: 850-567-9751 P.O. Box 541 Havana, Florida 32333

Dr. Clifford S. Bristol Vice President Cell: 850-661-1733 15333 N.W. CR 12 Bristol, Florida 32321

Joseph Alexander Secretary/Treasurer Home: 850-627-2704 507 Deerwood Circle Quincy, Florida 32352

TRUSTEES

Doug Bruce Cell: 850-321-7674 P.O. Box 10855 Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Sam Fenn Home: 850-576-5072 3539 Lakeview Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32310

David Miller Home: 850-926-5869 or Cell: 850-567-5405 227 Buck Miller Road Crawfordville, Florida 32327

Carla Pararo Home: 850-688-6809 1050 Winfield Forest Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32317

Billy R. VanLandingham Cell: 850-545-5604 or Home: 850-442-6252 519 Telogia Creek Road Quincy, Florida 32351

Dr. David L. Wright Home: 850-875-2928 1194 Solomon Dairy Road Quincy, Florida 32352

Trustee bios and pictures are located on the website.

The TECI and TWWI Board regularly schedule their workshops on the 1st Monday of each month and meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Headquarters' Office in Quincy, FL at 6:30 pm.

Notice of any changes will be listed on the website.

What is the True Cost of a Storm?

Though Talquin's emergency power restoration efforts following Hurricane Michael were completed in October, the full recovery process will take many more months, if not longer, to complete. Below are a couple of updates on items that Talquin is still working through:



Carrie Durden Board President



Tracy Bensley General Manager

Clean Up – Broken Poles/Damaged Materials:

As crews restored power, they left old material (broken poles, crossarms, insulators, etc.) at the base of the poles where the damage occurred. Our crews left this material to be cleaned up later in order to speed up the restoration process. Please know this will take time due to the fact that we have approximately 20,000 pole locations that have material needing to be cleaned up over our 4,400 miles of power lines. We have contracted with MasTec to assist with this process. Crews started in Gadsden and Liberty counties (our hardest hit areas) in December, and their target completion date is by the end of January.

• Trees & Limbs Near Lines: Hanging limbs and leaning trees continue to threaten power lines and cause outages throughout Talquin's system. Talquin has contract crews that will be assessing the lines and will be removing these trees/limbs. We have contracted with Davey Tree Expert Co. to assist with this process. Crews will start in Gadsden and Liberty counties the first week in January, and their target completion date is early April.

• Outdoor Light Repairs: While Talquin has already repaired 242 outdoor lights as of mid-December, we still currently have over 700 service orders for outdoor lights that need to be repaired. Please be patient and know that Talquin will get to these lights as quickly as possible, but it will take some time. Talquin is providing monthly bill credits to affected accounts. If you have an outdoor light that needs to be repaired, please report it via www.talquinelectric.com/services/report-an-outage/ or call 850-627-7651.

Financial Impact: In addition to the physical work still being done, Talquin is also working through the financial impacts from the storm restoration efforts. The total financial impact to Talquin caused by Hurricane Michael will total \$35 to \$40 million. From \$3,000,000 in materials and \$260,000 in fuel, to over \$11,000,000 in labor (Talquin went from a company of less than 200 employees to a total work force of over 800 people during restoration!), all of these items really added up. Though the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will reimburse Talquin up to 75% of the total expense (this still leaves Talquin with \$9 to \$10 million of unreimbursed expense), the reimbursement process can take up to two years or longer. Talquin is still waiting on expense reimbursements for Hurricane Irma from back in September 2017. In order to have enough cash to pay expenses associated with Hurricane Michael, Talquin had to borrow money. Even though the co-op has access to low interest loans, Talquin will pay around \$1 million annually in interest.

All of these items will take time, and Talquin appreciates everyone's patience and understanding as we all work through the recovery process together.

MEMBERS MATTER

State Legislators Representing Talquin's Service Area



Representative Ramon Alexander, District 8 Capitol Office 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300 Phone: (850) 717-5008



Representative Loranne Ausley, District 9 Capitol Office 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300 Phone: (850) 717-5009



District 7

Currently Vacant

Senator Bill Montford, District 3 Quincy Satellite Office: 20 East Washington Street, Suite D Quincy, FL 32351 Phone: (850) 627-9100

District Office: 404 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100 Phone: (850) 487-5003

Congratulations to Debra Sansom on retiring after 40 years of service at Talquin!



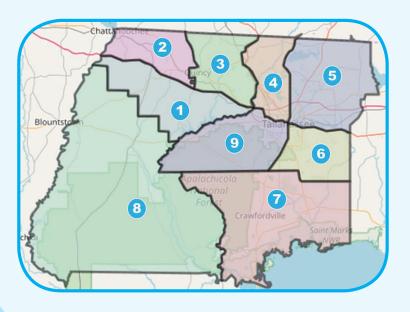


Pictured left to right: Debra Sansom, granddaughter Callie, daughter Ashley, and grandson Jedidiah

During her time at Talquin, Debra served as Executive Administrative Secretary and as a Records Specialist. Now she gets to travel and, most importantly, spend more time with her family. Thank you, Debra, for your many years of dedicated service. You will be missed!

2019 Trustee Elections

In order to be added to the ballot for trusteeship, interested parties must submit petitions with 15 signatures, no sooner than **Monday, January 28** and no later than **Wednesday, March 13**.



Districts 2, 5, and 8 are up for election.

The present incumbents are:

District 2 – David Wright District 5 – Carla Pararo District 8 – Clifford Bristol

This map is provided as a general guide only and can also be viewed online in greater detail at www. talquinelectric.com/about/board-districts-map/. Precise lines are determined by those printed in ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, OF THE By-laws.

BYLAWS PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR ANNUAL MEETING AND TRUSTEE SELECTION

ARTICLE III

Meetings of Members

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Meeting of the members shall be held once each calendar year at a time and place in the service area of the Cooperative as shall be selected by the Board of Trustees and designated in the notice of the meeting, for the purpose of electing Trustees, passing upon reports for fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting.

SECTION 5. VOTING. Each member shall be entitled to only one vote. All questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person, except as otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation or these By-laws. No voting by mail or by proxy shall be permitted.

ARTICLE IV

Trustees

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS AND TENURE.

To become or remain a Trustee, a person must meet the qualifications listed in the By-laws approved and amended effective April 29, 2017.

SECTION 3. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

(b) **Nominations**. Nominations for trustee shall be by Petition only. To be nominated and included on the ballot to represent one of the nine (9) geographic districts, a candidate for trustee must submit to the Talquin Electric Cooperative Headquarters located at 1640 West Jefferson Street, Quincy, Florida 32351 a written Petition including the names, addresses, and verifiable signatures of at least fifteen (15) current Cooperative mem-

bers. All Petitions must be submitted to the Talquin Electric Cooperative Headquarters prior to the deadline prescribed below and shall include the name of the nominee and his or her district. A member may sign the Petition of more than one candidate.

To be considered for inclusion on the ballot, Petitions must be submitted to Talquin Electric Cooperative Headquarters, located at 1640 West Jefferson Street, Quincy, Florida 32351 by 5:00 P.M. E.S.T. not less than forty-five (45) days, but not more than ninety (90) days before the date of the Annual Meeting. A Cooperative designee with the assistance of the Cooperative's attorney shall verify the signatures on the Petitions and refer the names of those candidates who have satisfied the fifteen (15) signature requirement for qualification review in accordance with Article IV, Section 2.

Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall post the names of the qualified nominees for election at the Talquin Electric Cooperative Headquarters, located at 1640 West Jefferson Street, Quincy, Florida 32351. The Secretary shall mail with the Annual Meeting Notice a complete list of the names and addresses of all qualified nominees for election.

If any of the dates for compliance specified in this Article shall fall on a Saturday or Sunday or legal holiday, then the next business day following the Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday shall be the day of compliance. All dates for compliance specified in this Article shall be posted on the Cooperative's website at least ninety (90) days before the deadline.

For a full set of By-laws or a petition form, contact (850) 627-7651 or download a copy at www.talquinelectric.com.

Democratic Member Control

There are many things that set electric cooperatives apart from other types of utilities. One of the most unique differences is that co-ops are not owned by shareholders but by the communities they serve. Each Member of Talquin has a voice and a vote in how their cooperative is operated and governed.

The Annual Meeting hosted by Talquin is just one example of how Members can participate in the operation of their cooperative. Members can vote on by-laws, elect representatives to Talquin's Board of Trustees, and voice their opinions directly to the Board of Trustees.

Those elected to serve on the Board are also Members who live and work in our community, and they have an obligation to govern the cooperative in the most effective and efficient way possible. Talquin's General Manager, Tracy Bensley, is selected by the Board and is ultimately responsible to each and every Member. Select trustees also serve on the Board of Seminole Electric Cooperative (Seminole), Talquin's wholesale power provider, to ensure that Talquin continues to receive the most safe, reliable, and affordable electricity for our Members. Tracy Bensley, Carrie Durden, and Sam Fenn currently sit on Seminole's Board to represent Talquin. Similar to the way Talquin's Board of Trustees governs issues that affect our co-op, the Seminole Board of Trustees oversees issues and topics affecting Seminole and its Members.

Talquin is committed to education and training so that each Member understands how the electric cooperative operates and how to exercise their vote as an owner. The Board and staff at Talquin are responsible to you, our Members, in each and every aspect of how safe, reliable, and affordable utilities are provided to you.

Coming Soon! Crawfordville Operations Center



We are happy to announce that we are still on target for opening Talquin's new Crawfordville Operations Center in March of 2019. The 14,800 sq foot facility is located adjacent to the Crawfordville Member Service Office and will be the new home of the operations personnel that currently report to our south Tallahassee location on Crossway Road. The new center will assist Talquin with more efficient operations and help improve reliability for the expanding utility systems in the Wakulla County service territory.



Notify County Agency of Any Special Needs *Registry is used for resource planning during emergencies*

According to Chapter 252.355 Florida Statutes, "In order to meet the special needs of persons who would need assistance during evacuations and sheltering because of physical, mental or sensory disabilities, each local emergency management agency in the state shall maintain a registry of persons with special needs located within the jurisdiction of the local agency."

The Special Needs Registry Shelter Program is designed to provide hurricane or disaster related evacuation assistance and care for those without other alternatives. Anyone that needs transportation assistance or has a health/medical condition that requires medical attention while at a shelter should register for this program. Clients of a hospice or home health care agency should ensure that they have already registered into the system. This registration helps the local emergency management agency identify those in need of assistance and plan for resource allocation to meet those needs.

Persons with special needs may authorize emergency response personnel to enter their homes during search-and-rescue operations, if necessary, to ensure their safety and welfare following disasters.

This registration must be updated annually. Talquin Electric Cooperative helps local emergency management agencies get the word out about this program.

If someone has a special condition affecting eyesight, hearing, speech, walking, breathing or an emotional condition and would need assistance during evacuations and sheltering, they should contact their local emergency management agency.

The level of care given in special needs shelters goes above the basic first-aid care available to shelters open to the general population.

All information provided is kept strictly confidential.

Gadsden County: (850) 875-8642 www.gadsdensheriff.org/emergency_mgmt.html Liberty County: (850) 643-2339 www.libertycountyflem.com

Leon County: (850) 606-3700 www.leoncountyfl.gov/ei/ Wakulla County: (850) 745-7200 www.wcso.org/emergency-management

*All 67 counties in the state now utilize a new electronic format for the Special Needs Registry Shelter Program. Contact each agency to find out how to access this electronic form. Anyone can access the registry online at **https://snr.floridadisaster.org.** A login and password is needed to access the portal. Anyone with any questions or who does not have internet access should contact their local emergency management office.

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From One Co-op to Another

Thank you Panacea Oyster Co-op for the very kind words concerning our Hurricane Michael restoration efforts. We are excited that you guys are back up and running - bring on the oysters!

Wanted to thank you and your wonderful team at Talquin Electric Cooperative for all the extra efforts they continue to bring to our community... and especially Mr. Billy Whitfield. Yesterday afternoon, starting at 4PM, Billy arrived to restore power to our Panacea Oyster Co-Op processing center at Spring Creek. There were several on premise hurdles to overcome (the growing swarms of sand gnats included). He innovated and executed with excellence in the race to finish while there was still daylight left. Just before the last blaze of orange sunset left the sky, the exterior lights came back on to light up the dark. It was an emotional moment of great joy, relief and exaltation for our Co-op and all its members!

For the first time since Hurricane Michael, we can reopen our doors and service our customers that are counting on receiving our award-winning oysters in time for the holidays!

Like all our neighbors, we still have a long way to go in rebuilding and "getting back to normal". But just as in times before, you and the Talquin Team were here with dogged commitment, to ensure the potential of our incredible community... one member at a time... with dedicated stewards like Mr. Billy Whitfield.

Thank you for making this Thanksgiving one we will always cherish!



- Panacea Oyster Co-op

RESOLVE TO SAVE ENERGY Make a home energy resolution and reap the benefits all year long!

Three easy ways to save energy:



Reduce energy used for water heating.

Lower your water heater's temp and consider installing low-flow showerheads.



Source: energy.gov

Trading Post

Trading Post Guidelines

In order to continue to provide The Trading Post in every issue of The Current, we ask Members to adhere to the guidelines listed below when submitting an ad. If an ad does not meet the criteria, it will not be published. There is no cost to place an ad in The Trading Post.

- Members may submit one ad per issue (six times a year)
- Ads must be twenty-five words
- Must be typed or printed legibly in ink
- · No registered businesses may run an ad
- No changes after ad submission

MISCELLANEOUS

Garage Organization/Retail Display: Large Shelving Units 6.5' x 7' x 18" deep; hand-made wood; adjustable units; tables; various-sized storage/display furniture. A-1 condition. MUST SELL! 539-6300.

Handy Man: 25+yrs exp., Carpentry, flooring, painting, much more. 566-5318

Cemetery Plots, 2, Culley's Meadowood Timberlane Tallahassee, toward front near Chapel/office. Valued at \$5,000 each. All offers considered. gkkaice@ gmail.com or 216-1999

Child's school desk circa 1900 Candler Boston model, cast iron base on chair and the legs of the desk \$50 OBO;

Old wagon wheel \$10 OBO. 264-8770

Wood cherry Media cabinet (6' wide, 5' high), TV opening approx. 36"Wx27"H \$500;

Nice student desk from Wood You \$150;

Beautiful coffee table 38"sq. x 16"H,

2 matching end tables 27"sq. x 22.5"H dark cherry with glass top \$300. 906-9383. Can send pics

Pool Accessories: shutting down pool – getting rid of everything – cleaner, slide, etc. 856-58189

Commercial Freezer: Frigidaire, heavy duty \$75. 875-3472

Professional Female Caregiver: many years of experience for men, women, or infirm of any age. References/ background check, non-smoker, pet lover. 728-2600

Fiberglass Camper Shell for GMC long wheel base truck w/ 2 windows \$500. 926-3534

MISC ITEMS: hand truck \$40, medical hardwood transfer board \$25; medical air mattress hand pump \$10; Invacare automatic 24 volt wheelchair battery charger \$50; men's Jobst knee hi medical stockings, size L new in box, 5

*Deadlines are the first day of the month preceding the month of publication (For example, February 1st is the deadline for the March/April edition.)

Mail ads to: "The Current", Talquin Electric Cooperative P.O. Box 1679, Quincy, FL 32353-1679 or email to: tradingpost@talquinelectric.com

> pr \$6 pr; vintage handmade 70"x86" quilt \$30. 576-1315

REAL ESTATE

Lake Talquin vacation home! Bring your boat or just enjoy our phenomenal view! Clean and updated! Info and rates at www.VRB0.com/765447

FARM/GARDEN

Chestnut and Jujubee trees: Chestnut trees, 4-6 ft, self-fertile, 2 varieties grafted on one tree, \$20-\$40; Jujubees, 3-6 ft, \$15-20. 544-3180

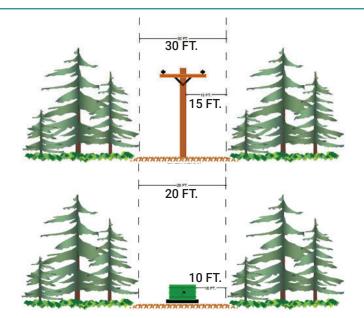
WANTED

Yard work - you pick the day(s), near Apalachee Pkwy & Louvinia. Hard work, good pay, & food. 402-0049

Friday, January 18th is Florida Arbor Day

If planting a native tree this Arbor Day, please be aware of where all of your utility lines are located. And before you dig, call 8-1-1 so you will always **Know What Is Below**.







Leon County Senior Outreach:

Explore "Lunch and Learn" to stay connected. No reservations needed to join the fun. Each event is from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Featuring a delicious catered lunch for \$6 per plate. Call 850-891-4065 for more information.

No Lunch & Learns in January

February 7	Miccosukee Community Center
February 13	Bradfordville (Wildwood Presbyterian Fellowship Hall)
February 14	Woodville Community Center
February 19	Fort Braden Community Center
February 21	Lake Jackson Community Center
February 26	Chaires Community Center
March 7	Miccosukee Community Center
March 13	Bradfordville (Wildwood Presbyterian Fellowship Hall)
March 14	Woodville Community Center

Arbor Day in the Park at Wakulla Springs State Park:

Saturday, January 19 (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Make Florida Arbor Day matter! Join the park to restore a long-leaf pine habitat. Leave a legacy for generations to come. Afterwards, be part of the ranger-led campfire cooking demo. Sample some campfire treats and bring your own to share. Bring a chair and stay awhile. Call 850-561-7286 to register.

7th Annual Tally Shorts Film Festival: January 25-26

Bringing the best of short-form filmmaking from around the world to the Big Bend, the Tally Shorts Film Festival is a unique cinematic experience. Enjoy a weekend of fascinating films, stimulating conversations with filmmakers and fun social events. Admission \$18-\$20. For more information, go to https://tallyshorts.com or call 850-270-3552.



Rotary Valentine's Day Parade: Saturday, February 9 (10:00 AM)

Come out and contribute in a very special way to the community's effort to raise money for Wakulla County scholarships.

3rd Annual Field Day Music Festival at Maclay Gardens:

Saturday, January 26 (3:00 PM - 8:00 PM)

Live music, food trucks, family friendly games, and more! Bring your blanket and chair to have a field day with us to benefit the Judy Field Memorial Foundation. General admission \$30 (After Dark \$12 – entry at 6:00 PM), kids 12 and under are free. Call 850-487-4556 for more details.

28th Annual North Florida Home Show: February 8-10, Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

The show will feature vendors for new home and construction, remodeling, lawn care and landscaping, security, home furnishings, lighting, plumbing, kitchens, and more! Admission \$7. For more information, go to www.tuckerciviccenter.com/events/ detail/north-florida-home-show-2019. Now is the time to purchase fresh broccoli and cauliflower grown right here in Florida. We hope you enjoy these delicious recipes.

Florida Broccoli & Avocado Soup

*freshfromflorida.com

Ingredients:

1 cup Florida broccoli, chopped
1 cup fresh Florida spinach
1/2 Florida avocado
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves fresh garlic, minced
1/3 cup low-fat milk
1 1/4 cup low-sodium vegetable broth
1 cup homemade croutons
4 teaspoons parmesan cheese, grated
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste



- 1. Place a medium-sized stockpot over medium-high heat.
- 2. Add 1 tablespoon of olive oil to the preheated pan. Add onion and garlic to the pan and sauté until translucent.
- 3. Add broccoli, vegetable broth and milk to the pan. Reduce heat and bring to a simmer. Cook ingredients until the broccoli is just crisp-tender.
- 4. Add broccoli mixture to a blender with a tight-fitting lid. Make sure not to fill the blender more than half full at a time. Add the avocado and spinach to the blender as well. Carefully pulse the ingredients until smooth and creamy.
- 5. Taste soup and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Return soup to pot and heat back up to serving temperature. Garnish soup with croutons and parmesan cheese.

SUBMIT YOUR RECIPES

If you have some tasty recipes that you would like to share, submit them to us at TradingPost@talquinelectric.com, drop them off at any of our Member Service offices, or mail to us at PO Box 1679, Quincy FL 32353.

Chicken Broccoli Casserole

*foodnetwork.com

Ingredients:

Nonstick cooking spray or butter, for the baking dish 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper 1 medium head broccoli, cut into small florets 2 cups cooked white rice 1 10-ounce can condensed cream of chicken soup 1 cup sour cream 1/2 cup mayonnaise 1 tablespoon lemon juice 10 ounces cheddar, grated (about 2 1/2 cups)



- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9x13x2-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray or butter.
- 2. Place the chicken in a large pot with water to cover. Add some salt, bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to a low simmer and cook the chicken until tender, about 45 minutes. Drain the chicken, cover, and refrigerate until cool, or up to 24 hours. Shred.
- 3. Meanwhile, bring a medium pot of generously salted water to a boil. Add the broccoli florets, and boil until crisp-tender, 2 to 3 minutes.
- 4. Spread the rice in an even layer in the baking dish. Make a second layer with the broccoli. In a large bowl, mix the chicken soup, the sour cream, mayonnaise, lemon juice, shredded chicken, half the cheddar and some salt and pepper. Pour the mixture over the broccoli and top with the remaining cheddar. Bake for 40 minutes; let stand for 5 minutes before serving.

Parmesan-Roasted Cauliflower

*foodnetwork.com

Ingredients:

1 large head cauliflower 3 tablespoons good olive oil



Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper 1 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese (2 ounces) 1 cup freshly grated gruyere cheese (2 ounces)

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. Remove the outer green leaves from the cauliflower and cut the head into florets, discarding the stems. Place the florets on a sheet pan. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle generously with salt and pepper. Toss well. Bake for 30 minutes, tossing once, until the cauliflower is tender and starts to brown. Sprinkle with the parmesan and gruyere and bake for 1 to 2 more minutes, just until the cheese melts. Season to taste and serve hot or warm.

Cauliflower Fritters

Ingredients:

*allrecipes.com

6 cups cauliflower ½ cup all-purpose flour



3 extra-large eggs

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 (.7 ounce) package dry Italian-style salad dressing mix

1/2 cup olive oil for frying, or as needed

- 1. Process cauliflower in a food processor finely minced; transfer to a large bowl.
- 2. Stir flour, eggs, baking powder, and Italian dressing mix into cauliflower.
- 3. Heat enough olive oil to cover the bottom of a frying pan over medium heat.
- 4. Drop heaping tablespoons of cauliflower mixture into the hot oil; fry until golden brown, about 3 minutes per side.

"THE CURRENT" TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. P.O. BOX 1679 QUINCY, FL 32353-1679

TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. Office Locations

Headquarters 1640 W. Jefferson Street Quincy, Florida 32351 (850) 627-7651

Quincy Member Service Office 1607 W. Jefferson Street Quincy, Florida 32351 (850) 627-9666

Wakulla Member Service Office 681 Wakulla Arran Road Crawfordville, Florida 32327 (850) 926-7422

Hosford Member Service Office 20557 NE Cooperative Way Hosford, Florida 32334 (850) 379-8679

Lake Jackson Member Service Office 4808 Portal Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32303 (850) 562-0125

Bradfordville Member Service Office 6724 Thomasville Road Tallahassee, Florida 32312 (850) 893-6853

Service Interruptions (Outages) Should Be Reported To

> 1-888-802-1832 (live operator)

1-866-899-4832 (automated systems)

Visit us and report and view outages on the Web at www.talquinelectric.com

Sign up for text outage notification at www.talquinelectric.com to report your outage quickly and to receive outage information.



Come See Us

Talquin Annual Meeting Saturday, April 27th

Gadsden County High School 27001 Blue Star Hwy, Havana, FL 32333

Registration begins at 8:30 AM

GREAT PRIZES!



#TECares #MyTalquin #CoopNation #MyCoop