

THE CURRENT

SEPTEMBER 2015



**SLOW DOWN,
BEWARE AND
DRIVE SAFELY**

TALQUIN
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

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

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

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PRINTED BY:

Graphic Press Corporation, Tallahassee, Florida

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The Talquin Electric 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 7:00 p.m. For specific dates, times and locations, please refer to our website at www.talquinelectric.com. Notice of any changes will be listed on the website.

TEC-Meter Update

Five years ago, Talquin Electric and our Members began the quantum leap from a 70 year old system of Member-reported monthly usage by mail to an automated metering infrastructure system (AMI) — what we call "TEC-Meters". The new meter reading system involves using radio frequency to report usage from Talquin meters and also allows for remote disconnects and reconnects. The disconnect and reconnect functions alone have eliminated thousands of miles of driving — saving gas, vehicle maintenance, and payroll time.

Some of the goals of the project included providing the cooperative with the foundation for quickly changing technologies in the utility industry. This initiative is providing much more information for tools used to improve outage management and reduce operations and maintenance costs.

Some of the benefits that we have already seen include:

- **Fewer truck rolls:** The most significant financial impact has been the savings that has resulted from fewer truck rolls — about 25,000 truck rolls have been avoided since the inception of the project, resulting in \$1.8 million in savings.
- **A more efficient billing process:** The TEC-meter project has reduced the time lapse from Member usage to Talquin billings by 30 days resulting in a 71% reduction in debt and uncollected write-offs. This reduction in write-offs has already saved our Members hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- **Reduced operating and maintenance costs:** The new meters have supported other efficiency improvements in operations and maintenance activities. For example, electricity theft can be identified much faster at a lower cost than before. Overall, operations and maintenance costs have decreased by approximately \$400,000 — a 25% reduction to the Membership—over the lifetime of the project.
- **Improved power quality:** The new distribution automation equipment installed along with the new TEC-Meters has helped improve power quality and reduce line losses.

Some of the challenges we continue to work on that we hope to benefit from in the near future include:

- **Handling the vast amounts of data received daily:** This project has resulted in a 73,000% increase over previous amounts of information processed. "We are diligently working to enhance the system, but we still have some work to do," says Dane Clemons, Talquin's Director of Technology and Communication Services. As we continue to develop systems to analyze this vast amount of data, we will continue to improve system efficiencies, such as right-sizing our transformers based on more accurate information.



Carrie Durden, Board President



Tracy Bensley, General Manager

- **Communications are not 100% all the time:** While we hope to one day eliminate communication gaps, we do not have 100% communication coverage of our meters. Considering gaps in communication and the vast amounts of data being reported to us, Talquin asks that Members ALWAYS report outages in some fashion to ensure that we know when your power is out. We cannot depend on these meters for accurate outage reporting. Outages may be reported via our website at www.talquinelectric.com, via phone by calling our automated number at 1-866-899-4832 or our live number at 1-888-802-1832 or by signing up for text message outage reporting on our website.
- **Pre-pay:** We plan to soon be able to use the new AMI meters to provide an optional pre-paid billing system for our Members. The pre-paid billing system will help Members to avoid paying upfront deposits that can be prohibitive in getting services connected.

Looking Forward

In looking forward to new services and benefits, we will continue to update ways to handle data and outage management, and we will continue to meet the growing needs of our Members. The electric utility industry is ever-changing and has many challenges ahead, yet is critical in so many of our daily functions. We thank you for your patience as we continue to implement programs related to the TEC-Meter system, and we are proud to continue to improve our service to you in the future.



For Talquin Member Ida Mae Alexander, Quincy isn't just the place she lives - it is home. Mrs. Alexander's family is from Gadsden County, and she hasn't left since her birth in 1937. Having worked her entire life, she retired from the Gadsden Nursing Home in 2003 after 18 years. Even though she has outlived two husbands and two children, Mrs. Alexander has an amazing faith in God and outlook on life. And if you ask her about Talquin, "I love Talquin! Those are my people!" She knows the name of most of the employees in the office where she makes her payment, and they all know her. Mrs. Alexander is proud of the fact that she has been a Talquin Member since 1973 and has never been late on her payment. When making that statement, she just starts laughing with the infectious laugh that she has and smiles. So thank you, Mrs. Ida Mae Alexander, for being a Talquin Member!



TELEPHONE SURVEY



In the upcoming months, Talquin will be conducting a telephone survey on Member Satisfaction. If you receive a call from the company conducting the Talquin survey, Bellomy Research, please know that they will start the call with something like this:

"Hello, my name is _____ with Bellomy Research. I am calling on behalf of Talquin Electric, your electricity provider. We are conducting a survey of Talquin Members and would like to include the opinions of someone in this household."

In addition to the survey questions about service and the co-op, they will ask some optional questions about your age, income, length of time being a Member, etc. They will not ask you for a credit card, payment information, or personal identification information.

Thank you in advance to those who will participate in our survey this year. By providing your feedback, you are helping us be the best co-op we can be!

trading post

Miscellaneous

Baldwin piano. Good condition, needs minor work. \$400 o/b/o. 2 floor **Sony speakers** \$25.

Disney holiday collectible figurine \$80 (worth more). Can email/text pictures. 906-9383

Never used, Weider Pro 390 L heavy duty weight bench exerciser (bar included, no weights). \$125, firm. Call before 7:00 pm 656-9556

Wood Blinds: Four white wood blinds in working order & good shape for sale. Dimensions: 28" wide & 70" long. Slats are 2" wide. \$25 each. 504-8492

China by Noritake, Veranda #3015, 45 pc Starter set, 2-5pc Hostess sets. (10 piece setting). Perfect condition \$750. 574-4441

3 plots together in Serenity Garden section of Culley's Meadowood Park. Current price \$4,595 each. Asking \$3,500 each or \$10,000 all three. 894-2888

2 funeral plots - \$2400, side by side, Tallahassee Memory Gardens, "Peace" section. Lot 125, section D, spaces 3 & 4. Fair market value is \$1395 ea. I am asking \$1200 ea. To be sold as a pair. 524-4432

Ladies blouses & capris size 14 gently worn, name brands like new. 575-1234

Shotguns: Browning Auto 5, Belgium 1952, 12 ga w/ extra 30" full choke barrel \$550. Mossberg, 12 ga pump, polychoke. \$150. Marlin 336, lever action 30-30 \$300. 926-9264 call between 10a.m.-5p.m.

Christmas Holiday Village - (6) lighted buildings, numerous figurines, trees etc. \$30.

Vinyl Fencing - (4) 3X8 white fence panels, (5) white fence posts, hardware. Needs cleaning. \$60 580-2961

4 cemetery plots, Tallahassee Memory Gardens, Garden of Devotion. Potential for 8, all adjoining. \$1000-\$1150 each. Usually \$1395 each. 570-0865

Kenmore side by side refrigerator w/ ice maker & water. Great condition. Reason for selling is remodeling of kitchen. \$350.00 or reasonable OBO. 556-6352 or 536-0613.

recliner-style lift chair. All electric, mauve upholstery, like new, \$350. Hoyer lift w/ sling, \$200. 894-6553

Canon compatible printer ink cartridges, new in package, C-226, black, cyan, magenta, yellow, \$5 each. 566-5668

Antique, Kimball pump organ \$175. Beautiful refinished wood exterior, needs pedals/bellows restored. One black key missing. You move. Photos available. 656-6277. NE Leon

Baby stroller (Graco) - new condition - \$65;
Three window blinds two are 69 1/2" W x 70" H, one is 68 3/8" W x 70" H- \$70 each OBO.

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 every three months (four times a year)
- Ads must be twenty-five words or less
- Must be typed or printed legibly in ink
- No registered businesses may run an ad
- No changes after ad submission
- Deadlines are the first day of the month

preceding the month of publication (For example, December 1st is the deadline for the January edition.)

- Members must provide name, phone number, and account number. No email addresses will be published.

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

No extra charge for three valances. 385-2505

H&yman/Carpentry: painting, flooring, minor plumbing, woodworking, remodel, & much more. 25+yrs exp. w/ excellent references. 878-4444/566-5318. Reasonable rates.

Niche for Ashes at Meadowood Memorial. Beautiful site in front. Make an offer. 562-1734.

Easton Fastpitch Softball bat, like new \$25;

Sharper Image Digital Camera Binoculars. New \$25; **Kodak Easy Share Digital Camera,** excellent condition. \$25; **Craft bags** over 400, size 4 3/4" x 6 3/4". New \$12 878-3426

Craftmatic adjustable bed - model II fullsize (54 x 80) w/ remote & massage. \$300.00 926-5018

Wagner Paint Crew Airless Paint Sprayer Model 770 - New, never used; 25' hose, spray gun, spray tip & owner's manual. \$115. Text or leave msg 228-6091

Antiques & seasoned lumber - Must see to appreciate. Tables, sewing machine, glass ware, Lumber, Various odds & ends. 877-9931

REGISTERED NURSE many years of experience wants to provide loving care for your loved one of any age or ailment, flexible hours, rates, references available. 933-2009

2" PVC pipe w/ coupling end in 10' lengths; 20 pieces; gray Schedule 40. New. \$75. 508-3102

Licensed hairstylist will come to homebound/disabled clients, home/hospital/nursing home for hair/nail care. Licensed Nursing Asst can make 10 or 12 hr. shifts - clients personal care service. Handyman: yard wk & repairs in hm, some auto mechanic skills. 557-4307

"Vizio 32" 720p HD TV. The set is about 3 years old & works perfectly. \$150.00. 539-0270.

Breakfast nook dining table & 4 chairs-glass top, wrought iron back-\$75; Natural wood entertainment cabinet-\$100 -OBO; Dark wood-Coffee table-curved legs, 4 glass panels. 514-1566

M70-25wssm NIB \$775.00, M77Red Pad/25-06 \$625, Tikka T-3 "S/S"(338Fed)

\$750.00, Winchester 12ga single barrel \$75.00, Knight .54cal muzzle loader \$50.00 CASH NO TRADES 904-445-8891

Licensed nursing asst & beautician; serving, homebound, for housecleaning, haircare, & home health aide. 557-4307

3 - 3 piece men suits, 32 waist - 31 length. \$60. 421-8516

Compassionate experienced caregiver available; meds, meals, light housekeeping, personal care, etc. Dependable. Reasonable rates. 575-8906

Set of 3 cherry wood bookshelves w/ cabinets. Can also be used as a media center - well made. \$275. 219-508-3535

Plumbers dream! Inherited plumbing tools & many parts. Must see & make offer - would like to sell all at once. No reasonable offer refused. 539-6800

Free standing fireplace. Montgomery Ward, Franklin fireplace, folding doors, claw feet. Triple pipe screen. \$200 OBO 926-4699

Housecleaning: Northeast only unless a referral. Will change sheets, wash, etc. Specialize in helping the elderly but no exclusively. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. 933-7083

Have sewing machine & sewing supplies to sell. To see make appointment. 562-9720

Kramer acoustic bass guitar & case. \$400. 875-4877/408-5064

New Emerson mini refrigerator 17" x 19" wht. \$50. 566-7283

Real Estate

Port St. Joe Vacation Rental: weekend/or week \$ 100/night + \$50 cleaning fee; 2/1 cozy 1930's cottage; sleeps 6; fenced yard; grill, screened front & back porches; small dogs ok; 2 blocks from the bay. 539-8055

6+ acres in South Central Colorado, beautiful views on buildable land, surrounded by Sandre De Cristo mountains. Hour north of Taos, NM. \$15,000. 850-251-9565

Lots 4 Rent, Ida rd. TLH 850-228-3453

Mountain Cabin. Near Waynesville. Sleeps 6. Fully furnished. 1 king, 1 queen & 2 twins. Basement suite also available. Enjoy the serenity of the mountains. \$1,000 Sat. to Sat. 893-1694/322-1522

Single wide mobile home for salvage, 12 x 65, \$1,000. 421-3061

Remodeled 2 BR, 1 Bath on oversized lot. Refinished hardwood floors, new flooring in totally renovated kitchen & family room. 2045 Longview Drive. \$95,000. 545-7698.

Riverfront w/ dock. \$108,000. Recreational wonderland on beautiful Ochlockonee River. Clean & tight 2BR/2Bath, protected dock, high & dry North Easy Street, Smith Creek, Sopchoppy. 566-1719

28 x 64 Clayton MH, all Electric, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, stove, dishwasher, air conditioner included. 933-2640

7 acre home site joining Apopka Lake in Citrus County – Iverness, FL. \$70,000 negotiable. 643-1150 for details & discussions. Anytime 7 am til 10 pm

Hunt or Fish Camp at FL River Larkins Landing 80 x 100 lot w older MH 2 bed 1.5 bath. High & dry \$30,000. 579-4317/866-1965

96 Pace Arrow, class A MH, 33 ft, 50k, no popouts, very clean, loaded w/ extras. \$12,000. 875-2229

Automotive

2007 Aerolite RV, Great Condition- 30'-Kitchen, dining area, Rear bedroom, full bath \$6,500. 510-1852

2012 Keystone Outback 260FL 32ft. Travel Trailer Excellent shape, Shed kept, towing & setup equipment included, large tool box on back \$23,000 663-8289

1991 Toyota Camry 4 doors, A/C, Radio,

CD player, P/S. 205,000 miles. Runs good. \$500. 668-9896

1966 Chevy Fleetside Pickup. Short bed, big window. New starter, alternator, battery. 350 cu. in., headers, Edelbrock intake & carb, 350 turbo transmission. \$5,000.00. 802-558-3501

Open trailer, loading area 13 feet x 5 feet 8 inches steel construction, single axel 5000 lb rating w/ brakes \$1000. 284-9388

Utility trailer, large gate, excellent tires. Estate sale, no title. \$345. cash. Near Louvinia & Old St Augustine Rd. 878-8124

2000 Dodge Grand Caravan SE, new tires, air, runs great; 221,000 miles. \$1,5000 firm. 320-3077/421-2837

2006 Harley Ultra Classic - \$10,000. 2001 Harley Road King \$7,5000. Low miles, dealer serviced, one owner, clear titles, adult owned. 320-0360

Last chance for a REALLY NICE car. **2002 Lincoln Town Car** – 85,000 miles, one owner, no accidents. \$5,000. 556-3942

2001 Coachman Travel Tractor, 25' \$2,500. 638-4201

2012 Kabco MH 16 x 80, 3 bedroom, 2 full baths. For information call 508-5935

Farm/Garden

Brinly 40" Spike Aerator, pull behind lawn tractor to loosen soil. \$30. 580-2961

Craftsman 10hp Chipper/shredder, #987.799930, Craftsman 4 cylce engine. Orig \$699, sale \$400. 562-1557

Troy Bilt Lawn Tractor – needs drive belt \$600; **Swisher String trimmer/mower (new)** \$300; **Black & Decker electric edger/trencher** \$60. 856-9603

16" Scotts Reel push mower - \$50 668-7252 11 am to 6 pm

Zboo yearly heifer, gelded donkey 2 yrs old, black upright piano. 962-3799

FREE

Nobel Prize author Samuelson's **text book** "Economics", **22 Audio Cassettes** (Neil Diamond, Peter, Paul & Mary, Phantom of the Opera, etc, w/ Wood Grained, 3 drawer case & zippered carrying case each holding 22 plus cassettes. 562-2088

10' Fiberglass stepladder – old but works. 668-7252 11 am to 6 pm

Piano – needs little work, you pick up, great for beginners, beautiful wood. 539-9973

Marine

31' SPORTS CRAFT FISHING BOAT Fly bridge cabin cruiser. \$2,000.00 or trade .Call Jack @ 269-216-1397

Yamaha 3 person Wave Venture wave runner w/trailer & cover. Stored inside, 200 hours, very good condition. One owner. \$1050. 591-7619

15' Scandy-white boat w/ 40 HP motor, trolling motor, loaded 877-5995

1996 Bombardier Jet Ski & Trailer, \$500 negotiable. 559-9389

Wanted

Reasonable priced **Two seated GAS, Golf Cart.** Would consider a Battery type. (GOOD CONDITION) 770-894-1374

Part-time gardener needed year round to assist w/ hand weeding & trimming - \$10 per hour. 385-2505

15 Passenger or Cargo Extended 350-360 1 ton van. Also—Older Metal **Hoover upright** & older Cannister Vacuum. In Good Condition. 879-5509



Always Notify Us When Your Power Is Out:

In order to ensure that we know when your power is out, **ALWAYS** contact us in one of the following ways if you experience an outage:

Report your electric or water outage on our website at www.talquinelectric.com

Report via Phone:

Automated System: 1-866-899-4832

Live Operator: 1-888-802-1832

Or the fastest way to let us know if your power is out is via text.

Register to report your outage via text on our website.

Text #OUTAGE to 85700 to report electric outages once you are registered and receive text updates when power is restored.



Department Highlights



If you would like to get a lift in your day, just stop in Timmy Bentley's shop or stop by to see Ron Kelly. Both of these men make up the Talquin Facilities and Fleet Department. Timmy serves as Facilities and Fleet Support Technician and Ron is the Manager of Facilities and Fleet. They always seem to have a smile on their face, a kind word to say and are helpful to meet the needs of our staff and Members. They are responsible for all building and fleet maintenance and construction, maintenance of grounds; and purchase and maintenance of tools. If you work at Talquin Electric Cooperative or are a Member, they are here to serve you! Together they exemplify the co-op way! Thank you, Ron and Timmy, for your service!

Talquin Assistance Program (TAP) – NOW AVAILABLE ON WATER ACCOUNTS!!

The funds contributed to TAP are used to assist Talquin Members who cannot pay their utility bill due to job loss, illness, or other crisis circumstances.

Members have been able to donate to this program by choosing to have their electric account(s) rounded up to the nearest dollar on their monthly utility bill or by designating a specific amount to be included monthly for TAP. Members now have the option of signing up their water accounts as well. Please note that this will not round up the combined bill amount, but each account individually.

If you are interested in signing up for the TAP program or learning more, please contact any Member Service Office for assistance.



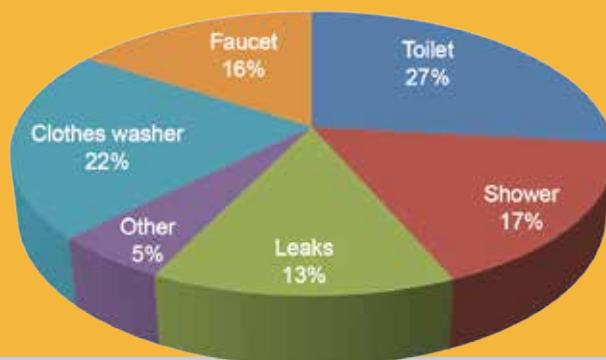
Energy Tip

**HELP
CONSERVE
ENERGY...
TURN OFF
LIGHTS
WHEN
LEAVING**



Water Tip

**Where can you save water?
Average Indoor Water Use**



*www.epa.gov

Talquin Members Receive Scam Calls

Some Members have experienced scam calls where the caller pretends to be from Talquin Electric, threatens to cut off their utilities and demands payment or cash over the phone. They have also at times demanded green dot payments, or stated that Talquin and another utility are demanding immediate payment. Also, be aware that the callers can “spoof” Talquin’s phone number so that the Member’s caller ID shows Talquin’s phone number. Unfortunately, we cannot prevent this from happening, but we want you to be informed. Please tell others not to respond to this type of call. Several Members have received these types of scamming phone calls. They were told that they had a balance on their account and needed to pay it immediately or their service would be disconnected.



Talquin Electric will not call our Members and demand immediate payment on a utility bill. If you receive a call like this, please report it to Talquin and the proper authorities. **Never give your credit card or bank information to a party that has called you.**



Get ready for football season with this appetizer that is sure to be a kick at your football party!

Buffalo Chicken Dip

Makes: 4 cups dip Prep Time: 5 minutes Cook Time: 20 min

1 (8 ounce package) PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened

½ cup FRANK’S RedHot Sauce

½ cup bleu cheese or ranch dressing

2 cups shredded cooked chicken

½ cup crumbled bleu cheese or your favorite shredded cheese

PREHEAT oven to 350°. COMBINE all ingredients in a 1-quart baking dish. BAKE 20 min. or until mixture is heated through; stir. Garnish as desired. Serve with crackers and/or vegetables (really good with celery!).

RaSarah Browder, Talquin Finance Department

**can be found in the 2015 Talquin Cookbook*





"THE CURRENT"

TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

P.O. BOX 1679

QUINCY, FL 32353-1679

PERIODICAL



TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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Quincy, Florida 32351
(850) 627-7651 or

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Quincy, Florida 32351
(850) 627-9666

Wakulla Member Services Office

681 Wakulla Arran Rd.
Crawfordville, Florida 32327
(850) 926-7422

Hosford Member Services Office

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

Lake Jackson Member Services Office

4808 Portal Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 562-0125

Bradfordville

Member Services 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.



Watts Happening

September 23rd – first day of Fall

Veterans Memorial Railroad!

Bring your family and friends for free train rides over a mile around the park and across a trestle bridge on **Sept. 12. 11:00-3:00 ET**. Donations appreciated. Also, for your enjoyment- playground, walking trail, RR Caboose, picnic pavilions and an air conditioned depot.

10561 NW Theo Jacobs Way
Road 12(behind the Civic Center)
Bristol, FL 32321
850-643-6646/850-643-5491

Gadsden Arts Center

Exhibit: Suzanna Winton: Life in the South & Kay Cromartie: Life Masks

This exhibition compares and contrasts the work of accomplished mother-daughter artists. Suzanna Winton's signature realism captures the soulful life of the people, places, and objects of the American South. Kay Cromartie's "inside out" sculptural masks, made of clay, paper and mixed media, expresses the essence of a person.

13 N Madison St, Quincy, FL

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM

Admission: Suggested admission donation of \$1/Children and Members free!

Leon County Senior Outreach: Explore Lunch and Learn to stay connected

No reservations needed to join the fun. 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Featuring a delicious catered lunch for \$6 per plate. Call 891-4065 for more information

Sept 15 Fort Braden - Fort Braden Community Center

Sept 17 Lake Jackson - Lake Jackson Community Center

Sept 22 Chaires/Capitola - Dorothy C. Spence Community Center

Oct 1 Miccosukee - Miccosukee Community Center

Oct 14 Bradfordville - Wildwood Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

Oct 8 Woodville - Woodville Community Center

Oct 15 Lake Jackson - Lake Jackson Community Center

University of Florida/IFAS presents Art & Garden Fall Family Festival

Discover creative ways to explore visual art and the art of gardening through demonstrations and fun activities for the whole family. Take a trolley tour of the beautiful NFREC gardens. Speak with experts about all your gardening questions or concerns or purchase unusual, hard-to-find, top-performing plants developed for our area. Children's arts and crafts activities will take place in a "Kid Zone" located in a shaded, garden area. Locally grown produce and garden plants as well as arts and crafts will also be for sale. Food and beverages will be available.

Saturday, October 3rd, 9AM – 2 PM

Free to the Public

North Florida Research and Education Center (NFREC)

155 Research Rd, Quincy FL