

the Co-op Connection

NOVEMBER 2020

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM YOUR POWER PARTNER



CO-OPS VOTE

A Commitment To Education

Cooperatives around the world, including Central Florida Electric Cooperative, operate according to the same set of core principles and values, known as The Cooperative Principles.

First adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance, the roots of these principles can be traced back to the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England, in 1844. These principles are a key reason why America's electric cooperatives operate differently from other electric utilities.

The fifth cooperative principle, out of the seven, is as follows:

Education, Training, and Information

Education and training for members, elected representatives (directors/trustees), CEOs, and employees help them effectively contribute to the development of their cooperatives. Communications about the nature and benefits of cooperatives, particularly with the general public and opinion leaders, help boost cooperative understanding.

This edition of The Co-op Connection is all about education. Read the article on page 5 to learn more about a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting where CFEC announced the new adult education grant program, and CF highlighted SkillUp, a free program that helps recipients gain skills and training to get a job or advancement. From holiday safety information to the coming office closing schedule, there is something to learn on every page.

Cooperative Education

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association offers education for directors and employees. Their programs are designed to help at every stage of service, to understand their roles and responsibilities, to stay up-to-date on the key issues and trends in the industry and to prepare them to meet the challenges facing electric cooperatives now and in the future.

Recently, James McCain, Trustee for District 1 and current Board Vice President, completed the program to be a credentialed cooperative director. Through this program, McCain completed five courses that focus on basic governance knowledge and the essential skills required of cooperative directors.

From the trustees and employees, to area seniors and now adults, Central Florida Electric Cooperative is committed to helping everyone reach their full potential through education.



James McCain, CFEC District 1 Trustee and current Board Vice President, receives a certificate in recognition of his completion of the Credentialed Cooperative Director Program from Denny George, General Manager.



**Central Florida Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

~YOUR POWER PARTNER~

Our mission is to be the finest example of an electric cooperative where excellent service, competitive rates and concern for the consumer, community and environment guide our every action.

Cover Photo by Tony Wasson, Vice President Member Services



Happy Veterans Day

CFEC extends our heartfelt thanks for your dedication and service to the United States of America. May we honor you today and every day.

Co-ops Vote!

At the county, state, and national level, there are ongoing legislative matters that affect electric cooperatives and their members. That's why CFEC and other cooperatives participate in the Cooperative Action Network and promote the "Co-ops Vote" campaign.

CFEC was recognized as a 5-Star Co-op because of the continued support of the Co-ops Vote program. The 5-Star rating was awarded based on promotion of the Co-ops Vote campaign, encouragement of civic engagement and work towards getting communities out to vote!

CFEC is proud of our 5-Star rating!

PROUD 5-STAR ELECTRIC CO-OP



10 Tips for Safe Holiday Decorating

1. Do not overload electrical outlets.

Overloaded electrical outlets and faulty wires are a common cause of holiday fires. Avoid overloading outlets and plug only one high-wattage appliance into each outlet at a time.

2. Use battery-operated candles.

Candles start almost half of all home decoration fires.

3. Keep your tree fresh by watering daily.

Dry trees are a serious fire hazard.

4. When decorating outside, keep ladders and decorations away from overhead power lines.

Ensure the ladder is securely placed on the ground before climbing. Never install lights or cords within 10 feet of power lines.

5. Check decorations for certification label.

Decorations not bearing a label from an independent testing laboratory have not been tested for safety and could be hazardous.

7. Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights.

More than three strands may not only blow a fuse but can also cause a fire.

8. Keep combustibles at least three feet from heat sources.

A heat source that was too close to the decoration was a factor in half of home fires that began with decorations.

6. Protect cords from damage.

To avoid shock or fire hazards, cords should never be pinched by furniture, forced into small spaces such as doors or windows, placed under rugs, located near heat sources, or attached by nails or staples.

9. Turn off, unplug, and extinguish all decorations when going to sleep or leaving the house.

Unattended candles are the cause of one in five home candle fires. Half of home fire deaths occur between the hours of 11 pm and 7 am.

10. Inspect all electrical decorations for damage before use.

Cracked or damaged sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections may cause a serious shock or start a fire.

Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI)

Highlighting Educational Opportunities And Resources



College of Central Florida Levy Campus Provost Holly McGlashan and Central Florida Electric Cooperative General Manager Denny George

Education was the theme of a recent luncheon meeting of the Chiefland Chamber of Commerce held at the Gathering Table.

Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc. and the College of Central Florida sponsored the lunch, and the featured guest speaker was CF Levy Campus Provost Holly McGlashan.

McGlashan spoke about a partnership with CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion to help residents access a free, dynamic online training platform, SkillUp which features more than 5,000 courses through the Metrix Learning system.

“This is a great opportunity for Levy County residents who are looking to advance in their career by achieving one or more certifications,” said McGlashan.

SkillUp is ideal for anyone looking to improve skills, earn industry certificates, work their way up the career ladder or launch into new careers. The SkillUp portal can be reached at citruslevymarion.skillupamerica.org. Residents without internet access may use a designated computer lab at the CF Jack Wilkinson Levy Campus located at 15390 U.S. Hwy 19 just north of Chiefland.

Another topic McGlashan touched on is the Welding Technology Certificate. Upgrades to the welding facility will allow for more students in the program.

Adult Education Grants From CFEC

CFEC General Manager Denny George announced a new scholarship opportunity, adult education grants, at the Chiefland Chamber of Commerce luncheon. The CFEC Education Charity, Inc., grant can be used to earn a general education diploma, return to college, obtain a license or certification or skill enhancement. Grants will be a maximum of \$2,000 and are for CFEC members 25 or older, or a resident of a member's household.

Member Survey: How would you prefer to receive your monthly Co-op Connection?



Member Name: _____ Account Number: _____

Paper Mail

Email Address: _____

Email

Even if you prefer receiving the paper version of the Co-op Connection by traditional mail, it's important we have your email address on file to notify you of other important Co-op issues and services.

**Send this survey
back to us with your
next utility payment
or drop off at any
CFEC location**



Hawaiian Roll Turkey Sliders

PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Line a 9×13 pan with foil. Heat 2 tablespoons of butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Once it foams, add mushrooms and onions to pan. Season with a pinch of salt. Cook, stirring regularly, for about 6-8 minutes, until soft and lightly caramelized. Meanwhile, mix together aioli. In a small bowl, mix together dijon mustard and mayonnaise. Spread mustard aioli over the bottom layer of buns. Bake sliders for 13-16 minutes, or until cheese is melted and buns are golden brown.

INGREDIENTS

- 12 oz smoked deli turkey meat
- 8 oz sliced mushrooms
- 1/2 white onion, thinly sliced
- 4 Tbsp butter, divided in half
- 2 Tbsp mayonnaise
- 2 Tbsp dijon mustard
- 12 oz Hawaiian sweet rolls
- 6 slices provolone cheese



Crispy Turkey Quesadilla



INGREDIENTS

- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1 (8-Inch) flour tortilla
- 1/4 c shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 4 oz cooked turkey breast, cut into thin strips or chunks
- 2-3 tbsp prepared salsa
- 1 sprig cilantro, chopped

PREPARATION

Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add oil and heat until the oil is warm. Place tortilla in the skillet. Liberally sprinkle cheese over the surface of the tortilla. Spoon cooked turkey over 1/2 of the tortilla. Cook until the tortilla is crispy and lightly browned and cheese melts. Fold tortilla over to form a half circle. Cut into 3 wedges. Serve hot with salsa and cilantro leaves.

Roast Turkey Breast Salad



INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound of chopped turkey breast
- 1 pickle, chopped
- 2 ribs celery, chopped
- 2 tbsp fresh dill, chopped
- 1/4 c almonds, chopped
- 1/4 c raisins
- 1/4 c mayo
- 3 tbsp mustard
- 2 tbsp Franks Red Hot
- 1 tbsp Worcester sauce
- Salt and pepper to taste

PREPARATION

Place all ingredients in the bowl of a stand mixer or a large bowl if using a hand mixer. Mix on low with the paddle until the turkey breaks up and the ingredients are thoroughly combined. Serve in a sandwich, wrap, with crackers or just straight out of the bowl.

CFEC Holiday Closing Schedule

Thanksgiving- November 26 & 27 ■ Christmas- December 24 & 25 ■ New Year's- Day January 1



Payment Options:

- **In Office / Drive-Through** – Payments can be made at any CFEC location during working hours. Payments can also be placed in the drop-box at each location after hours.
- **By Mail** – Mail payments to: Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 9, Chiefland, FL 32644. Please allow sufficient time for delivery or payment may be received as late.
- **Phone / Online** – Payments can be processed through our third party provider, SEDC. A \$2.50 (per \$500) service fee will be charged by SEDC and is NOT a CFEC charge. Payments made through SEDC are posted to the member's account at the time of payment. Pay By Phone at 352-493-2515 or toll free at 844-434-3962. Pay online at www.cfec.com.

Update Your Telephone Number

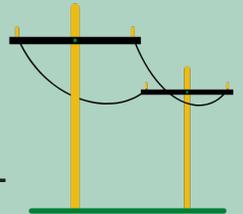


CFEC's Automated Outage Response System uses customer telephone numbers to locate accounts and corresponding locations.

Therefore, it is important to update phone numbers associated with your service location. Inaccurate phone number/ service location combination may result in delayed handling of the outage.

To Report A Power Outage:

- Call: 1-800-227-1302 or 352-493-2511, follow the prompts of the Automated Outage Response system.
- Use the CFEC Connect App: Click on "Report outage." Fill in the form and click "submit." If you are already logged in to the app, simply click the "report outage" triangle, and "yes" to report the outage.
- Online: Click on the "report outage" button located at the top of the website. Fill in the "Identify Outage Location," form and click "submit."



Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc.

~YOUR POWER PARTNER~

MEETING NOTICE:

The Board of Trustees for Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc., meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Cooperative's main office in Chiefland. Members are always welcome to attend.

**CENTRAL FLORIDA ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC**



**Central Florida Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

~YOUR POWER PARTNER ~

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ORLANDO, FL
PERMIT NO. 3937

MAIN OFFICE

11491 NW 50th Ave.
Chiefland, FL 32626-3247
352-493-2511
or 800-227-1302
www.cfec.com

Physical Address/Payment Locations

MAIL ADDRESS

P.O. Box 9
Chiefland, FL 32644-0009

CROSS CITY OFFICE

207 NE 210 Ave.
Cross City, FL 32628
352-498-7322

INGLIS OFFICE

167 Highway 40 West
Inglis, FL 34449
352-447-3553

ADDITIONAL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Drummond Community Bank
Lafayette State Bank (Bell only)
*For a complete listing of payment locations,
go to www.cfec.com.*
*This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*



**CFEC offices will be closed
on Thursday, Nov. 26
& Friday, Nov. 27, 2020**

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