

The KNOX COUNTY NEWS

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Sheriff: Always follow car seat, seat belt rules

TOMMY WELLS
The Knox County News

Have a question about the Texas car seat or seat belt requirements? If the answer is yes, then Knox County Sheriff Dean W. Homstad has a simply answer.

Make sure your car seat is the right type and installed correctly, and then buckle up.

Homstad, in an release to local media outlets, urges county residents to utilize the seat belts in the vehicles, and to en-

sure the safety restraints are being used properly by others.

A few questions have been continually coming up about safety belts, and kids riding in a motor vehicle," Homstad, noting the Texas Transportation Code governs the state's seat belt policy.

"Section 545.412 starts off saying that a child who is younger than eight years of age, must be in a child passenger safety seat system (car seat), unless the child is taller than 4-feet, 9-inches tall. (It is) as simple as that," he said.

Homstad said the child passenger safety seat system means an infant or child passenger restraint seat that meets federal standards, as set by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and which is used according to instructions.

"There are a wide variety and styles of seats, but the key us if it is an infant seat or a child seat. The instructions should also be included on a sticker on the car seat," Homstad said. "Whether a full-size car seat or a booster seat, if it isn't approved by these folks, it isn't approved."

Homstad said all car seats should have stickers on them.

Homstad said a person ticketed for the first time for a car seat violation could be looking as a fine not to exceed \$25 plus additional court costs.

"You can save time and money by just buying a proper car seat rather than getting busted, and then having to buy it anyway," he said.

Homstad said seat belt usage was mandatory for most residents.

According to law, a person of at

least 15 years of age riding in a vehicle equipped with safety belts, must use them or face the possibility of a citation. Additional, the driver of the vehicle could receive a citation for failing to ensure his passengers are not buckled in. Homstad said the law applied to personal vehicles, as well as a passenger vans designed to carry 15 or more persons. A failure to use seat belt violation can result in a fine of up to \$200, including court costs.

Homstad said, as a general rule, all

See LAWS on Page 5

Coplen named KC AgriLife ag agent

Jerry Coplen has been hired as the new Texas AgriLife Extension Service agriculture and natural resources agent for Knox County.

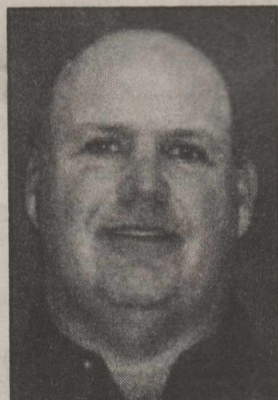
Coplen, a native of nearby Aspermont, said the move into the county agent position, which began Feb. 14, was just "following a natural love of agriculture."

"It is a pleasure to have Jerry join AgriLife Extension as the agriculture and natural resources county agent in Knox County," said Donald Kelm, AgriLife Extension district administrator in Stephenville. "He is a product of the Texas 4-H program and a former Gold Star recipient. I feel

he will be a benefit to the Knox County program with his strong background in agriculture and 4-H."

Coplen earned a bachelor's degree in animal production in 1993 from Texas Tech University and has primarily been working in the agriculture construction business since that time.

"I'm an agriculture guy," Coplen said. "This is what my family did and that's what appeals to me.



Jerry Coplen ... new KC Extension agent

I like the Extension Service and the educational part of it. Continued education is something we need to pursue and push, not just for kids, but for everybody.

"Besides water, there's nothing more important than the food we eat and sometimes we lose sight of that," he said. "We need to push that and I think I can help spread that message."

While the agriculture base in Knox County is primarily cotton, wheat and cattle, Coplen said he knows that at one time vegetable production was stronger and this could be a possible expansion area once again.

GROOVY FANS



The Knox City High School fans showed off their basketball spirit - and their brightly-colored headbands - during the Greyhounds' playoff game against the Woodson Cowboys on Tuesday. The students were among a large contingent of KCHS fans making the trip to Seymour to cheer on the Greyhounds. For results of the Greyhounds' playoff game see Page 5.

KCHS Debate team advances to state meet

The Knox City High School Cross Examination team is head to the "Big Show."

The KCHS debate squad nailed down a berth in the 2012 University Interscholastic League's State Debate Meet recently when it captured the district championship. KCHS hosted the district meet on Jan. 26 at the First Baptist Church.

Overall, six teams competed in the meet, including three from Harrold High School, one from Chillicothe High School and two from Knox City.

Competing for Knox City this

year were Jessica Wilburn and Brandon York, and Tyler Clark and Scotty Reid.

Wilburn and York placed second at the meet and will be advancing to the State Cross Examination Debate Tournament, which will be held in Austin on March 12-13.

Clark and Reid placed fourth. "Both teams did a terrific job and represented our school very well," said Kay Adkisson. "We would like to thank the First Baptist Church for once again allowing us to use their facilities for our meet."



Knox City High School was represented at the recent district debate meet by Tyler Clark, Jessica Wilburn, Scotty Reid and Brandon York. Wilburn and York finished second in the overall standings and will advance to the state tournament on March 12-13

KC Visioning Group slates workshops

The Knox County Visioning Group will be holding a series of business development workshops over the next few months in an effort to bring like-minded individuals together. The workshops will be held every other month with guest speakers attending to discuss topics dealing with business development in Knox County.

The first workshop, "Buying and Selling on eBay," will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on March 1 at the Perry Patton in Munday.

Russ Altman, Assistant Director

See KCVG on Page 3



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Redistricting solutions: One down, two still to go

AUSTIN — Redistricting work continued last week and one part of the puzzle was solved.

State Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, on Feb. 15 announced an agreement with Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott that will keep her Senate District 10 boundaries as they were in 2001, instead of the version state lawmakers enacted last spring. Davis is plaintiff and Abbott defendant in one of three ongoing redistricting lawsuits. The GOP-dominated Legislature reconfigured SD-10 in a way that divided traditional communities of interest and would have made it nearly impossible for Davis, a freshman elected in 2008, to be reelected.

On Feb. 17, state Rep. Trey Martinez-Fischer, D-San Antonio, chair of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, released a statement alleging discrimination against Latino and other minority voters in the creation of the state House and congressional plans, and added, "As such, MALC cannot set aside its principles for the sake of expediency."

So, still up in the air are Texas' U.S. congressional and state House district maps, the subjects of two consolidated multi-plaintiff lawsuits, both known as *Perez v. Texas*. If settled,

Capital Highlights



By Ed Sterling

those sets of maps, along with the agreed-upon state Senate district map, still must be submitted for preclearance in accordance with the U.S. Voting Rights Act. When or if that occurs, state party primaries could be set on a single date, and the path paved toward the picking of nominees who will face each other in the November general election.

But likelihood of this time-consuming litigation was forewarned during the regular session of the Texas Legislature when Democrats, in the face of a Republican supermajority, protested the drawing of maps that would not reflect the growth of minority populations, and Latinos most pointedly, between Census 2000 and Census 2010.

Republican majorities in both houses of the state Legislature nevertheless pushed through House, Senate and congressional redistricting maps that sparked federal lawsuits, and those maps have been in litigation ever since.

Two weeks ago, Attorney General Abbott optimistically suggested that April primaries were still attainable. But, be-

cause of candidate filing periods and ballot printing deadlines — and because revised state House and U.S. congressional districts are not settled — and because the preclearance process through the U.S. Department of Justice and the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals will need to be satisfied — it may be late May before the primaries can be conducted.

It's generally accepted that the earlier a state's primaries are conducted, the greater the influence on the presidential race because of momentum-building and fund-raising. Some say that the power of the Texas vote is diminished or even nullified. But with its 36 congressional seats and a winner-takes-all rule on election night in November, the importance of Texas can still pack a wallop in the presidential race.

Texas grading requirement on hold

Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott last week announced his decision to allow school districts and charter schools not to implement a 15 percent grading requirement in the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness end-of-course examinations for the 2011-2012 school year.

The requirement, which would have made an end-of-course exam count as 15 percent of a student's grade, was included in the Texas Legislature's House Bill 3 enacted by the previous Legislature. The requirement was meant to enhance accountability, lawmakers said in 2009.

God's Promise

By Gary Schnable, Pastor of the Foursquare Church

"So Jacob worked for Laban seven years so he could marry Rachel. But they seemed like just a few days to him because he loved Rachel very much"

-- Genesis 29:20 (NCV)

Poor Jacob had already worked and waited seven years to get Rachel's hand in marriage. Sad part about this story line is that his father-in-law had deceived him into a marriage with Leah, the older sister. So, it was not seven years but 14! Rachel had to be someone very special to wait that many years!

Think about it...today most people will not wait 14 days let alone 14 years for the person of their dreams. We want it now! Shucks we will not even wait for the latest gadgets to come down in price or to get the bugs worked out. We will put up with the "too early" versions before they are really ready to be functionally usable.

Sadly, we have many young and older folks that enter into

relationships today and then into marriage before they have grown up, worked out the bugs (really know each other) and appreciate/value one another's giftings they bring to this lifetime commitment.

I'm not saying that anyone should wait seven or fourteen years to make sure that this person is the one they want to commit to for a lifetime. Maybe seven to fourteen months is a better timeline...except for those high school sweethearts that waited patiently for graduation.

Reminds me of how God feels about us! He waits and waits for years for us to return His love. For some of us it is early on in our young lives. For some it comes after he has watched us with sadness be drug through the cesspool of life to finally return His love. For others they never ever turn to His love and are lost forever.

As we celebrate this month dedicated to love, take a moment to think about where you would

be today if God had not waited so patiently for you to accept His love. Think about what life would be without Him. About how your life would be if He had not clothed you in blessing and you continued to flirt with the devil.

For those who have never known God's love; who have never known what true love is...God is waiting to reveal a love that is unexplainable. It is something that has to be personally experienced. It's not experienced through a religious practice to get His approval. We are already approved of through Christ's payment for our sin. In fact, one will never enjoy the true joy of life that God created us to enjoy until you have said "yes" to His invitation. He is waiting... He is always waiting with His hand extended to you personally.

God will wait a lifetime to share His love with you! You are a love worth waiting for!

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Apa has a new rule: Quiet isn't always better with Baby Mal

This may surprise some people...but I used to allow my granddaughter, Mallorie, to pretend to be a beautician on my head.

Here's the deal, when it comes to Baby Mal, I admit, I am perhaps the biggest sucker on the planet. I cave every time she asks for something. I must say it is something my children hate. The "Master of No" has become a huge softie, they claim.

I can't argue with their observations. Grandchildren are so groovy. I can get them all worked up, feed them a ton of sugar and candy, and generally spoil the dog out of them - and then send them home as part of my diabolical plan to avenge years of torture while they were growing up. I can't wait until the boys' have children. I'm pretty much gonna be like Dr. Evil.

Unfortunately, She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Made-Mad doesn't buy it. She just laughs every time Baby Mal comes over. I think she is happy there is another little kid about to mess with my peace.

"You can say whatever you want, but she has you wrapped around her finger," SWMNBMM says. "You need to be honest with yourself and admit 'Apa' is a wimp."

I am so not a wimp ... unless SWMNBMM is threatening to step on my in-grown toenail. In that case, I am a wimp.

But back to Baby Mal, I guess I am a wimp when she comes around. You want to see Apa wear nail polish, or a grown man playing tea party then you need to come by. I admit, I have spent time in the beautician chair ... all as a way to help a young girls have fun, you know.

A couple of weeks ago, I had to draw the line. Baby Mal can no longer shampoo Apa's hair.

EDUCATION BREAK: Before I go much farther, I should explain "Apa." SWMNBMM and I grew up in Alaska, and have a real love affair with the

Off The Beaten Path



By Tommy Wells

49th State. With that in mind, "Apa" (short for "Apaluk" is the Siberian Yupik word for grandfather.

Now that class is completed, we return you to your regular column.

As I said, Mallorie came over a few days ago, and being the typical grandchild, she became bored after being at our house for about 3.7 seconds.

Then the worst thing happened. For some reason, SWMNBMM suggested that I entertain Baby Mal while she and our daughters, Kayme and Whitney, ran to the store. Note to newly married people ... suggestions are usually thinly-veiled threats that translate into "or else..."

Like any self-respecting man, I agreed to do it even though I have never been approved as entertainer. It became apparent pretty quickly that Mallorie doesn't care if Dirk can dribble or not.

"Apa?" she said. "You want to play tea party?"

"Maybe later," I said.

"Can I brush your hair?" she asked. I'm not sure how most grandfathers react to this. I compare it to a live scalping ... but if it kept her quiet and I could keep the tears to a minimum, I could watch the game.

"You know you can," I said. Off Mallorie raced to the restroom to get SWMNBMM's

brush, comb, a towel, a checker board and (I hoped) a first aid kit. The put all those things on the table and race out of the room again, returning shortly with a weed eater, a straight razor and a cup of water.

Now, as most of you know, I have short, short hair. The razor worried me a bit, but the weed eater didn't bother me at all.

With her tools, she climbed up behind me on the couch and began brushing away. Then, out of the blue, a dab of water ran down my head and onto my face.

"Your hair is standing up, Apa. I have to wash it."

The Mavericks were winning ... she was quiet ...

"No worries," I said as I wiped the water from my face. Moments later, there came more water ... and more water ... and more water.

I'm pretty sure Moses didn't have to deal with the amount of water Mallorie was applying.

But she was quiet ... After a while, SWMNBMM and her Mini-Me's returned and Mallorie went off to torture them.

A few moments later, SWMNBMM came into the living room with an odd look on her face.

"Why is your head wet?" she said.

"Mallorie was combing my hair," I said, just as Dirk was about to sink a big shot.

"You do know she got that water out of the toilet, right?"

GULP!

"What do you have to say for yourself?" she demanded.

As I ran toward the shower I yelled, "I'm just glad I didn't agree to have a tea party with her."

(Tommy Wells is the editor of the *Knox County News*. Everything in this column is true, except for the parts that are fabricated, exaggerated or just plain lies.)

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ACROSS

- TXism: "get your ___ built"
- this Premierer directed TX Gene Tierney in "Laura"
- TX Oatmeal Festival race: "Oat-a-___"
- TXism: "___ of the litter"
- TX fiddler Robertson
- ask nosy questions
- Old ___ TX hairstyle of early 90s (2 wds.)
- TXism: "___ a bullet" (avoided)
- state of Mavs foe in '06 NBA finals
- this Borgnine was in "Abilene" with TX Steagall
- ending ___ is like kissing your sister
- TX Bonnie & Clyde killed at least ___ people
- Cowboy & Texan gear: shoulder ___
- TXism: "touched in the head"
- tall slender grasses
- TXism: "take a stab ___"
- TXism: "naked as ___"
- in Hardin Co. on hwy. 69
- Lou of "Everything's Jake" with TX Debbie Allen

DOWN

- TX Beefmaster: "___ Close"
- moral
- Fort ___ TX
- TX "honky ___"
- "___ in the neck"
- '36 film of TX Gene Autry (3 wds.)
- popular Tex-Mex band: "Little Joe ___ Familia"
- TX Robby film: "___ to Billy Joe"
- Aggies portrayed Marine ___ team in "A Few Good Men"
- Jackson Co. seat
- TXism: "I'll knock the ___ out of you"
- this Bill was El Paso mayor ('91-'93)
- an extra period in a Mavs game (abbr.)
- rod and ___
- "Dallas" character Sue ___ Ewing
- hip hop producer: "Dr. ___"
- snow coaster
- confederate soldiers
- TXism: "older than dirt"
- "untouchable" Eliot
- Amarillo hosts "___ State Fair"
- Jason Ferguson's Cowboy pos.
- TX B.J. Thomas' ___ Hooked on a Feeling"
- Sha Na ___
- meticulousness
- Biblical minister or Roman emperor
- TXism for "intend"
- Chico
- Harris of "Nixon" with TX Boothe
- this Berry was in "Father Hood" with TX Patrick Swayze
- possessed
- Rose, TX
- Error of film "San Antonio" (init.)
- this Stark founded UT "Curtain Club" (init.)
- a flag over TX: fleur-___lis
- dog sound
- JoBeth film: "___ Crazy"
- TX Hughes invented ___ oil drilling bit

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KCVG

Continued from Page 1

rector of the Texas Tech Small Business Development Center of Abilene, will conduct a free eBay workshop focusing on buying and selling on eBay.

The workshop is designed for both individuals as well as small businesses on how eBay can help your existing business.

An "Advanced Social Media" workshop will be held on March 23 in Benjamin.

Other workshops scheduled include a "Farm and Ranch Management" in Goree on May 24, and "Customer Service" on July 19 in Knox City.

Topics for the Sept. 13 and Nov. 29 workshops are pending.

For more information about the workshops contact the Knox County Visioning Group at P.O. Box 77, Benjamin, Texas, 79505, or by calling (940) 459-4121. KCVG can also be contacted via email at kcvg@srcaccess.net.

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Obituaries

Phyllis Pauline Gaston

On Feb. 15, 2012, Phyllis Pauline Gaston left this world to walk with Jesus. She was a great daughter, wife, sister, mother, aunt, and grandmother. She touched so many peoples lives. Though she will be deeply missed she will not be forgotten. Though we are saddened and our hearts hurt we know she is up in the kingdom of heaven rejoicing.

Services were held at the Foursquare Church in Knox City on Monday, Feb. 20, 2012 at 2 p.m. with Rev. Gary Snoble officiating. Burial followed immediately at O'Brien Cemetery in O'Brien under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes of Knox City. Visitation was scheduled for Sunday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home in Knox City.

Phyllis Pauline Gaston was born on Aug. 10, 1949 to the late T.P. Watson and Nettie Mae Watson. She is survived by her loving husband Johnny Gaston of Abilene, Texas; three sons, Ricky Watson and wife, Sandy, of Ira, Texas, Ray Gaston and wife, Mitzi, of Keller, Texas, Doug Gaston and wife, Jeanna, of Abilene, Texas; her mother, Nellie Mae Watson; 11 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; four brothers, Tim Watson and



Phyllis Pauline Gaston

wife, April, of Vera, Texas, Arley Watson and wife, Cynthia, of Springtown, Texas, Tom Watson and wife, Jenine, of Midland, Texas, and Terry Watson and wife, Becky, of Haskell; two sisters, Cathy Watson of O'Brien, Texas, and Martha Casillas and husband, Charles, of Knox City; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a son, Paul Gaston; her father, T.P. Watson; brother, Randy Watson; and a sister, Teresa Rios.

Serving as her pallbearers were her sons and grandsons.



If the days of our lives had titles like books, today would be "Goodbye to a Car."

Maybe you've read John Graves' book about the Brazos, "Goodbye to a River." I haven't, but I've heard about it. It came to mind today as my husband and I loaded my 1985 Nissan Pulsar onto a trailer to haul it to a recycler for its scrap value.

It would have been easier if the car hadn't been missing three wheels. I won't go into detail, but don't let anyone tell you that you can't prop up a car with fence posts and back a trailer under it. The posts should be sound. I recommend bois d'arc. Good luck.

As for comparing a car to a river, especially an important river like the Brazos, it's a bit of a stretch. I guess it would be just as improbable to compare a car to an unimportant river. But there are no unimportant rivers. That's why they call them rivers.

And there are no unimportant cars. That's why we have our pictures made with them when they're new and why we remember them after they're gone. They're like horses.

But forget horses. At issue is my little car. Seeing it framed in the truck's rear-view mirror makes me realize the finality of hauling it off. For whatever reason, the headlights are gone, like eyes missing from sockets in a skull. They're staring at me.

OK. If they're gone, they can't be staring. Call it an empty stare.

When I was a very small child, a truck cab with no motor sat by the side of the highway. In bad weather, the brother and sister who lived nearby could sit in the truck while waiting for the school bus. That's why their dad, the village blacksmith, put it there.

"Look at the motor that's gone out of that truck," I said to my parents.

Of course, there was no motor.

My little remark became a family saying and got repeated for as long as the no-motor truck remained there, which was quite a long time. In fact, it became the thing to say in our

KCRSP group to meet Feb. 28

The Knox County Retired School Personnel members will meet at 2:30 p.m. at the O'Brien Baptist Church on Feb. 28.

During the meeting a guest speaker will present a program about the Stillwell Retirement Home for teachers.

Frances King and Billie Walker will provide the refreshments.

'Messiah in the Passover' demonstration and banquet scheduled for Feb. 29 at KC FUMC

Messiah in the Passover, a vivid and exciting demonstration show how Jesus fulfilled the ancient feast of Passover, will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 29 at First United Methodist Church in Knox City, beginning at 6:30 p.m. A banquet will follow the presentation.

Messiah in the Passover will be conducted by Dr. Al Reichman of Chosen People Ministries. Chosen People Ministries is an over 100-year-old mission that was founded in 1894 by Leopold Cohn, a Hungarian rabbi who came to believe that Jesus is the Messiah promised by the Hebrew Scriptures. From humble beginnings in Brooklyn, New York, Chosen People Ministries has grown into a worldwide ministry to "the Jew first and to the Gentile."

Messiah in the Passover begins with the traditional Passover Seder table - complete with all the article of this important Jew-

ish celebration. The speaker will explain the symbolic meanings of the various items of the Passover feast and highlight their relationship to the Last Supper that Messiah celebrated with the disciples, giving special emphasis on the redemptive significance of the crucifixion.

Messiah in the Passover gives the Christian community insight into Jewish traditions so that the Jewish roots of Christianity can be better understood. This program also helps the Jewish and Christian communities understand their common heritage.

The presentation is open to the public; and First United Methodist Church in Knox City would like to invite the Christian as well as the Jewish community to attend. The church is located at 406 SE 2nd Street in Knox City.

A reservation is required for participation in the banquet following the presentation. Deadline for banquet reservations is

noon on Sunday, Feb. 26.

For more information or to make a banquet reservation

please call (940) 658-3517.

A love offering will be received.

Knox Co. Museum News

By Mary Jane Young

Approximately 300 people attended the Wichita Brazos Museum, barbecue and fundraiser, Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012, at the Benjamin Ex-students Building. The proceeds of this event are a huge help in paying for museum operations and supporting additional exhibits. It is the largest fundraiser for the Museum each year.

The beautiful quilt, "Jacob's Fans and Flowers", was displayed but not given away on Sunday as usual. There was not enough time to sell tickets this year after it was completed to warrant it justice, so it will be given away in November at the Annual Veterans Day meal. The quilt was pieced by Mary Cartwright of Munday, and quilted by Marjorie Lake of Anson, a wonderful work of craftsmanship by both ladies.

Throughout the meal winners names for the 105 door prizes were announced. At 1:30 p.m., those bidding on one or more

of the 130 silent auction items donated by businesses and individuals, closed. There was quite a scramble to write a name and bid at the last minute. The door prizes and silent auction items are always the highlight of the evening.

After 1 p.m., remaining food sales began with a rush to the kitchen to take home some of the delicious barbecue, sausage, turkey, potato salad, cole-slaw, beans and those wonderful homemade pies. As usual, there were no deviled eggs left.

Thanks go out to everyone who helped make the 2012 event a success. Everyone enjoys visiting and working together. Thanks for a job well done, to each of you.

The visitation at the museum was also successful, with many people commenting on the exhibits there, bringing back memories, finding family names and information, plus purchasing items from the sales counter.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks to everyone for their support

Dear Editor,

Our family has experienced, an unexpected tragedy, with Emily's passing. We were all thrown into shock. Our lives all changed on Saturday, Feb. 11.

Our family has been shown so much love and compassion, from this community and beyond. The old adage says, "it takes a village to raise a child." To all of Emily's teachers, friends, church members, coaches, and family, who watched Emily grow up. We hope you have great memories, of our Emily! We thank you, for your involvement.

Dale and I express our gratitude, to everyone for their thoughts, prayers, concern, flowers, food and your love. We want to thank, brother Pete Parker, for guiding our family through this difficult time. Brother Parker did an amazing job, under very difficult circumstances.

Kelsey wants to thank; her friends, teachers and coaches.

Kristin wants to thank her friends, teachers and C.J. Frazier and McKenzie Barrington. She also wants to thank, the Baptist youth.

Dale, Scott, Kelsey, Kristin and I want to ask for continued prayers, for the difficult days ahead. We request continued

prayers, for Emily's babies, Zaron and Brileigh.

Thank you,
The Everetts

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Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Warriors 6:00 p.m.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City

Gary A. Schnable, Pastor

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.
Mens Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am. Wednesday Morning

SANTA ROSA CATHOLIC CHURCH BILINGUAL - Knox City

Jeremias Tigga • Deacon Ben Vasquez

Sunday Mass at 11 a.m.

LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knox City

Gene Ward Jr., Pastor

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.
Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rhineland

Jeremias Tigga Sacramental Minister • Deacon Jim Novak

Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass

Saturday Mass at 6 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin

Thomas Carter, Pastor

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie

Matt Harrington, Pastor

Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin

Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL - Highway 222

Shannon Waters, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Mid-Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m., Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.
Sunday Mornings on KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.

WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Rob Harrison, Pastor

Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

MUNDAY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Adrian Fletcher, Pastor

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Natural Resources Conservation Service
James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center
Knox City, TX

Date	2011 Weekly Weather Report	
	Temperature (F) Low / High	Rainfall inches
02/13	31/64	0.04
02/14	30/70	
02/15	41/69	0.03
02/16	33/50	
02/17	40/55	0.02
02/18	49/43	0.48
02/19	48/36	
Total Rainfall for month		1.06
2012 Rainfall (ytd)		2.1

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Sports

Goldthwaite ends Mogulettes' season

The Goldthwaite Lady Eagles reeled off a 25-15 run in the first half on Friday and then eased their way to a 41-32 victory over the Munday Mogulettes in the area round of the girls' Class A state playoffs.

Goldthwaite, 19-11, will now advance to face Windthorst in the regional quarterfinals.

Munday finished the season at 19-10.

Goldthwaite got off to a quick start against Munday. They reeled off 12 points in the first eight minutes, and then tacked on

a 13-point run in the second en route to building a 10-point advantage at halftime.

Munday manages eight points in the second, and seven in the second.

The Mogulettes were led by Tatum Buskim, who pumped in nine points. Makbra Collier added eight, while Raci Dillard and Alyssa Moore contributed five and four, respectively. Kaylan and Kylie Urbaczyk both chipped in three.

Karen Clifton led all Goldthwaite scorers with 13.

Moguls upend Electra

Dee Paul pushed in 23 points and carried the Munday High School Moguls to a win over the Electra Tigers in the bi-district round of the Class A playoffs.

Paul finished the contest with four three-pointers.

With the win, Munday ran its season record to 17-2 and earned a berth in the area round, which will be played this weekend.

L.J. Collier was Munday's second-leading scorer with 11 points.

UIL OKs one alignment appeal

Only one of 12 appeals regarding reclassification and realignment were granted Monday by the District Assignment Appeals Committee of the University Interscholastic League. The committee composed of UIL Legislative Council members heard eight appeals regarding district assignments, three appeals dealing with conference assignments and one appeal regarding division assignment.

The basketball district as-

ignment appeal granted by the committee was to Brackett High School, which will move from 27-1A Division 1 to 28-1A Division 1 in the basketball alignment. They will join Charlotte, La Pryor, Sabinal, San Antonio Gervin and San Antonio Stacey to form a six-team district in basketball.

The committee denied appeals by several schools, including Paint Rock.



Photo courtesy Kathy Rainwater

Knox City's Jarek Wilde drives past Woodson's Levi Smith during the third quarter of the Greyhounds' bi-district playoff game on Tuesday in Seymour. Woodson netted a 52-31 decision and will advance to face Lipan.

Quick start lifts Woodson past KC in bi-district playoff

TOMMY WELLS
The Knox County News

SEYMOUR - The Knox City High School Greyhounds' 2011-2012 season came to an end on Tuesday evening in front of a large crowd in the Seymour High School gymnasium with a 52-31 setback to the Woodson Cowboys in the Class A bi-district playoffs.

The Greyhounds' offense struggled throughout the contest. Knox City failed to score into double figures in three quarters.

Woodson, the third-place representative from District 14-A, didn't have any trouble finding the basket. The Cowboys used a 7-0 run late in the first to claim an 11-7 lead in the first quarter.

Zach Carter and Blake Jones helped KCHS stay close early. Both pushed in shots early in the opening frame and helped the Greyhounds fight to a 4-4 deadlock.

The Cowboys blew the game open from there. Woodson went on a 7-0 run and built an 11-4 lead before Ryan Ledesma ended the run with a three-point shot.

Woodson continued to roll in the second. The Cowboys reeled off a 13-2 run in the first five minutes of the second and built a 24-9

cushion.

Knox City picked up baskets from Brandon York and Jones in the closing minutes and went into the half trailing by 17, at 30-13.

The KCHS defense stiffened in the third. Keyed by the inside play of Jones, Jarek Wilde and T.J. Moore, the Greyhounds held Woodson to just 10 points in the frame.

Jones led Knox City's offensive efforts in the third by scoring five points.

Carter added the Greyhounds' other third-quarter basket.

York gave the KC offense a boost early in the fourth. The senior guard pushed in a three-pointer at the 5 minute mark of the frame and cut Woodson's lead to 21, at 44-23.

The Greyhounds enjoyed their best offensive production of the game in the final eight minutes, scoring 11 points.

Jones finished the game as Knox City's top scorer, finishing with 16 points. York and Carter finished with seven and four points, respectively. Ryan Ledesma and Jarek Wilde added three and one.

Tanner Thomas led all Woodson scorers with 18 points.

With the win, Woodson advances to play Lipan in the area round of the playoffs.

'Hounds learn final two opponents of '12 season

Slowly but surely, things are falling into place for the Knox City Greyhounds' football program.

Last week, KCHS head coach

Charles Steele learned who his team will open the season against in August at the Jayton Gridiron Classic. Then, earlier this week, he learned who the Greyhounds

will finish the year with.

Steele said KCHS will close out its regular season with two games that could shape its playoff hopes. The Greyhounds will face Crowell and Throckmorton in Week 9 and Week 10, respectively.

Track teams to open season at Bulldog Relays

The Knox City High School athletes will usher in the spring athletic season in a few weeks when they kick off the 2012 track and field season.

The KCHS boys' and girls will be competing in four meets during the regular season, including the Knox City Greyhound Relays on March 9.

In addition to hosting their own meet, the Greyhounds and Houndettes will be competing in Spur (March 2), Jayton (March 23) and Aspermont (23) before concluding the regular season with the district meet on April 6.

The Knox City Junior High teams will be running in meets in Spur, Knox City, Jayton and the Zone Meet in Crowell.

2012 Track Schedule Varsity

March 2 Spur Relays
March 9 KC Relays
March 23 Jayton Relays
March 30 Aspermont Relays
April 6 District Meet

Junior High

March 2 Spur Relays
March 5 KC Relays
March 22 Jayton Relays
March 31 Zone Meet

BASKETBALL POLLS

TGCA Poll

The following is a look at the TGCA basketball polls, effective Feb. 20.

Class 1A, Division I

- Smyer
- Martin's Mill
- Gruver
- Muenster
- Sam Rayburn
- Hamlin
- Falls City
- Plains
- Lovelady
- Mason

Class 1A, Division II

- Saitillo
- Rochelle
- Turkey Valley
- Neches
- Lipan
- Lorenzo
- Garden City
- Whitharral
- Strawn
- Kennard

Class 2A

- Merkel
- Alvord
- Krum
- Brock
- Thorndale
- Centerville
- Tuscola Jim Ned
- Poth
- Edgewood
- Winnsboro

Class 3A

- Kennedale
- Abilene Wylie
- Celina
- Texarkana Liberty-Eylau
- Lubbock Cooper
- Sealy
- Liberty Hill
- Giddings
- Goliad
- Burnet

Class 4A

- Beaumont Ozen
- Dallas Lincoln
- San Antonio Brennan
- El Paso Chapin
- Mansfield Summit
- Canyon
- Manvel
- Barbers Hill
- Cedar Park Vista Ridge
- Victoria East

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The Knox County News Classifieds

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NOTICE

The Knox City Economic Development and Community Development Corporation boards are accepting bids for the construction of a community center and pavilion located at the City Park. Information about the bid process, specification sheets and blue prints are available by contacting Chad Roberts, City Administrator at KC City Hall 902 E Main St. Bids are accepted until Thursday March 15, 2012 at 5:00pm

(3/9 c)

NOTICE TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS

Invitations to Bid: Sealed proposals for A New Building for Knox County Hospital Clinic, 712 S. 5th Street, Knox City, Texas 79529, in accordance with the Contract Documents

•LEGAL NOTICE

prepared by Michael E. Koen... Architect, Inc will be received at the Knox County Hospital Board Room, located at 701 S. 5th Street, Knox City, Texas 79529, until 2:00 o'clock p.m., CST, Wednesday, February 29, 2012.

The Bid opening is public and the General Contractors may attend or they will be notified who is selected.

Drawings and Specifications may be examined without charge at the office of Michael E. Koen...Architect, Inc. Two complete sets of Drawings, Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained by the General Contractor from the office of Michael E. Koen...Architect, Inc., 2211 Midwestern Parkway, Suite 4, Wichita Falls, Texas, upon payment of a deposit of Two Hundred dollars (\$200.00) as a guaranty of the safe return

•LEGAL NOTICE

of the Drawings, Specifications and Contract Documents. Additional sets may be obtained by payment of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each set of Specification and the actual cost of reproduction of the Drawings which is (\$5.00) per sheet, and twenty-five cents per sheet for specifications. All drawings and Specifications are the property of the Architect and must be returned to him within 7 days of the Bid opening.

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days subsequent to receipt of bids without the consent of the owner.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities.

(2-23c)

•FOR RENT

Knox City Housing Authority (KCHA) has 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments available for immediate occupancy to eligible applicants in both HUD and USDA-Rural Development programs. Rental assistance is available for most units. Applications for housing may be picked up at 203 SW 4th Street in Knox City, Texas or call 940-657-3612 for more information. It is the intent of KCHA to offer vacant units to income ineligible (high income) applicants when there are not income eligible (very low or low income) applicants on the waiting list. KCHA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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•LEGAL NOTICE

Published in the Knox County News on Feb, 23, March 1 and March 8)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGES IN ELECTION PRECINCTS

Pursuant to § 42.035, Texas Election Code, the Commissioners court of Knox County, Texas, herein provides notice of changes in County political boundaries as adopted by the Commissioners Court, and as precleared by the United States Department of Justice on 6th day of February, 2012.

Interested individuals may review the adopted changes in the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.

The changes in county election precincts were necessitated by redistricting of County Commissioners Court precincts in compliance with the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C § 1973, also known as the Voting Rights Act, following the release of 2010 census data. Changes in county election precincts were designed to achieve numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts, and to insure voting rights of all citizens of Knox County, Texas.

Arnette Offutt
County Clerk

AVISA PUBLICO DE CAMBIOS EN ELECCION RECINTOS

De conformidad con § 42.035, Código Electoral de Texas, la Corte de Comisionados del condado de Knox, Texas, este documento proporciona la notificación de cambios en los límites del Condado de política adoptadas por la Corte de Comisionados, y como precleared por el Departamento de Justicia en día 6 de febrero, 2012.

Las personas interesadas pueden revisar los cambios adoptados en la oficina del secretario del condado durante las horas regulares de trabajo.

Los cambios en los precintos electorales del condado fueron necesarios por la redistribución de los distritos del Condado de la Corte de Comisionados de conformidad con la Constitución de los Estados Unidos y 42 USC § 1973, también conocida como la Ley de Derechos Electorales, tras la publicación de los datos del censo entre los cuatro distritos electorales comisionados judiciales, y para asegurar los derechos de voto de todos los ciudadanos del condado de Knox, Texas.

Official de Condado

THIS COPY OF POSTING WAS POSTED ON THE 15 DAY OF February, 2012
BY *Jeanette Clark* DEPUTY



TexSCAN Week of February 19, 2012

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<p>Bill Stewart Insurance Services Office (940) 658-3211 • Fax (940) 658-5509 Mobile (940) 256-2394 Crop Hail • Fire • Auto • Homeowners • Life • Hospital Liability • Workers' Compensation • Bonds • Farm Equipment P.O. Box 99 • 700 E. Main • Knox City, TX 79529-0099</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOSPITAL DISTRICT Your hometown healthcare team.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Knox County Hospital Knox City Clinic • Munday Clinic. Knox County Home Health Knox County EMS</p>		
<p>CITIZENS BANK, N.A. 658-3527 Knox City</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Burrito Express</p> <p style="text-align: center;">657-4323 658-5568</p>		

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LAW

Continued from Page 1

passengers should utilize seat belt restraints in any vehicle that was equipped with them when new.

"If it came with a seat belt when new, the seat belt has to be used," he said.

Any seat belts that have been removed from vehicles designed with them when new, must be replaced.

Homstad said there were various exceptions to the seat belt law, but noted that they should be used by all motorists at all times. One exception he noted was the use of seat belts by the operator of a farm vehicle.

The law, he said, refers only to the driver of the farm vehicle. All other passengers should be buckled.

"Don't get carried away with the what-ifs. Just wear it if you are required to. A lot of it is just common sense. Buckle up and live," he said.

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Benjamin News

By Gladene Green

In last week's Benjamin News there were several mistakes that need to be corrected - The item about Beckie Moorhouse's illness had her name as Beckie Moorhead. My apologies to Beckie. Also Charles Griffith (Not Jones) had surgery recently and James Propps (Not Popper) is the grandson of Dick Harper who passed away last week. I'm sorry about these errors and certainly hope I can prevent them happening again.

We have had high winds and dust today and at times it seemed like the house might blow away, but thank goodness by night it was calm and pleasant. Sounds like we may have some more of

the same tomorrow (Tues.)

Regarding Our Ill
Deann Lamb is back home - she came in today after several weeks in the Munday Nursing Center recuperating from a fall she took at her home. She's feeling fine and mighty glad to be home.

Tib Burnett spent a couple of days in a Wichita Falls hospital last week with a heart problem. He came home Friday and he too is feeling much better.

Reports on Beckie Moorhouse are that she is at her sister's (Cindy Layton) home for a few days until she gets a little

stronger after her recent stay in the hospital. She still doesn't feel the best in the world but maybe she will feel better soon. Please remember her in prayer.

I talked to Alton Sanders in Weinert on Sunday. He told me his wife, Millie, is not doing to well. She has had surgery and is still in HMC in Abilene. He asked us to keep them in our prayers.

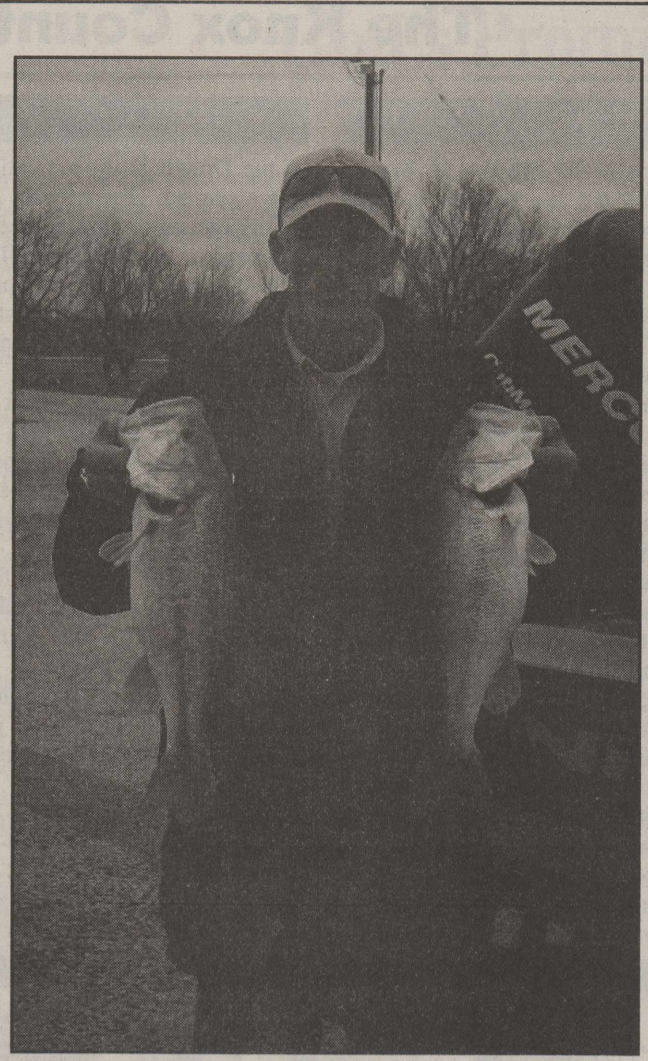
Here 'N There
Cody Taylor and family of Amarillo visited his mom, Debbie Moorhouse and Mike during the weekend.

Pam Conner of Midland and Charlotte Coker of Rule visited Hazel Stockton on Saturday. Shelby Russell, student at MU, was also home for the weekend.

Josh Brumley had his tonsils removed last Monday in Abilene. He was back home that afternoon and is doing okay. Being an active little boy, it was kind of a challenge to get him to do what he was supposed to for a couple of days. But he survived and his mom, Jamie and grandparents Roger and Betty did too! So all's well at their house.

The local little dribblers were in a tournament at Lueders Saturday and after an all day "deal" our kids came in second - not a bad day's work.

News is scarce this week - Remember to call me if you have anything to report at 459-3551.



Fishing conditions will continue to improve as the weather gets warmer. These fish were caught recently at Miller Creek.

Warmer weather will improve fishing conditions

Fishing was slow due to cold weather and cold water conditions. I fished a Jackpot Tournament put on by the Seymour Bass Club. There were a few nice fish caught at the tournament, one was over 8 lbs. These two pictured were 5.63 lbs and 5.05 lbs and were good for second place. I caught these on an olive and red bucktail jig on timber along the creek channel. Fishing will be getting better as the weather warms up.

State to celebrate signing on March 3

Historical re-enactors portraying Texas heroes Col. William B. Travis, Gen. Sam Houston and Davy Crockett will help lend an authentic air to the Texas Independence Day celebration March 3-4 at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site.

The two-day festival commemorates the 176th anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836, by 59 men who gathered on the banks of the Brazos River for the Independence Convention. Children are invited to have their photo taken with the Texas heroes.

A special Texas Independence Day program will be held starting at 1:30 p.m. in the park amphitheater with a performance by the Aggie Wranglers, a high-energy country-western dance group. Highlighting the program will be a 3 p.m. roll call of the direct descendants of the signers of the document who declared Texas' freedom from Mexican rule. Visitors may want to arrive at the amphitheater at 12:45 p.m. to enjoy the Tanner Family Minstrel Show.

Appearing on the afternoon program will be Bob Heinonen, who will portray Alamo commander William B. Travis for the final time after 20 years of interpreting his character at the annual celebration. The day's program concludes at 3:15 with a black-powder rifle salute and the traditional cutting and serving of pieces of a Texas-sized birthday cake.

There is no cost to attend the two-day festival that takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday at the 293-acre "Birthplace of the Republic of Texas."

Throughout the weekend, park visitors will be transported back to a time when Texas was a sovereign nation.

Commit to the Future of Texas. Teach. Lead.

Training offered online! Earn a Texas teaching certificate with the leader in teacher preparation, the **Region 4 Teacher Certification** program. If you hold a bachelor's degree and would like to learn more, visit www.region4acp.net.

Internships or student teaching must be conducted in Texas.

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CUSTOMER NOTICE INCORPORATED AREAS OF THE MID-TEX DIVISION

On January 31, 2012, Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos" or "the Company"), filed a Statement of Intent with each City served by the Mid-Tex Division (hereafter "Affected Cities") with the exception of the City of Dallas. The Company's Statement of Intent proposes to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders applicable to all customers within the Affected Cities. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is March 6, 2012. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 1,194,420 residential, 100,461 commercial, and 705 industrial & transportation customers.

If approved, the proposed rates will increase the Company's annual revenues by \$49,080,069 or 4.36%, including gas costs, or 11.94% excluding gas cost. The proposed change in rates constitutes a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. In addition to the rate changes, other proposed tariff changes include revision of the Company's residential and commercial rate schedules (Rates R and C), as well as its Rider WNA and Rider GCR to change the current billing rate basis from Mcf to Ccf. The Company further proposes to revise the Rider GCR to: (1) remove the 2009 interest rate reference, (2) clarify that the calculation of (b) Pipeline Cost is inclusive of interest, and (3) update the Upstream Pipeline Charge Allocation (Factor D). Atmos also proposes to modify its Rider WNA to update the heat load and base load factors. The Company further seeks to implement a new Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") tariff, as well as a new conservation and energy efficiency tariff ("Rider CEE"). In addition, the Company seeks to recover all of its rate case expenses and all city rate case expenses as allowed by law. The exact amount will not be known until the case is completed.

Based on the proposed rate design, the average monthly bill for each customer class within the Affected Cities will change by the amount and percent shown in the table below:

Customer Class	Current Bill **	Proposed Bill**	Difference	Percentage Change with Gas Cost	Percentage Change without Gas Cost
Residential *	\$48.51	\$51.21	\$2.70	5.57%	13.60%
Commercial *	\$241.15	\$246.50	\$5.35	2.22%	9.69%
Industrial *	\$3,703.47	\$3,499.26	\$(204.21)	-5.51%	-14.22%
Transportation	\$1,754.60	\$1,550.39	\$(204.21)	-11.64%	-14.22%

*Includes Rider GCR Part A cost of \$4.5750 per Mcf.
**The calculation of bill impacts assumes average monthly consumption of 4.4 Mcf for residential, 34.2 Mcf for commercial, and 3,897 MMBtu for industrial and transportation customers.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-888-286-6700. Complete copies of the filed Statement of Intent, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at Atmos' offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75240 or on our website www.atmosenergy.com/mtx-soi. In addition, customers can contact their City for additional information regarding this rate request.

Éste es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex División de Atmos Energy Corporation, (la "Compañía"), que la Compañía está solicitando un aumento en la tarifa del gas. Este aumento afecta a todos los clientes de la Compañía excepto en la ciudad de Dallas y las áreas no incorporadas. Aquellas personas que deseen comunicarse con la autoridad reguladora que tiene jurisdicción sobre esta solicitud deben ponerse en contacto con su ciudad. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-888-286-6700.

Knox County Aging Services

The following lunch menus have been listed for the week of Feb. 20 through Feb. 24 for the Knox County Aging Services. All meals are served with Wheat Bread, Margarine and 1 percent milk.

Monday, Feb. 27 - Vegetable beef stew, tossed salad, cornbread, orange/pineapple cup, diet pumpkin custard.

Tuesday, Feb. 28 - Swedish meatballs, parsley noodles, mixed vegetables, whole wheat rolls, Angel food cake/strawberries.

Wednesday, Feb. 29 - Talipia, lemon slice, whole kernel corn, cole slaw, hush puppies, cherry crisp.

Thursday, March 1 - Meatloaf/tomato sauce, mashed potatoes, winter blend vegetables, while wheat roll, apple fluff.

Friday, March 2 - Turkey sandwich, tomato/lettuce/pickle, broccoli/raisin salad, pineapple delight.

NOTE: New serving time is noon (in Knox City only). Alternate desserts available for diabetics.

Please call in orders by 10 a.m. to 657-3618. Orders cannot be taken after 10 a.m. All orders need to be picked up after 11 a.m.

Last Puzzle Solution

9-760

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