# Houndettes to play Aspermont in bi-district playoff!

The

# **Proudly Serving The Knox County Area Since 1971**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012 • 30TH YEAR, NO. 29 • KNOX CITY, TEXAS • PRICE 75¢

# KC students earn top honors in 'Six-Man Heaven' contest

The Knox County News

Thanks to a group of high school students, Knox City earned a few new names recently, including one that would make the most die-hard six-man football fan happy - Six-Man Heaven.

Five Knox City High School students helped the community earn the "Heaven" crown for 2011 by winning the Six-Man Heaven art contest. The contest, which was open to all schools that participate in six-man football, was sponsored by

www.sixmanfootball.com.

Ryan Ledesma, Kelsey Vasquez, Alison Lynn, T.J. Moore and Jarek Wilde, backed by the support of sponsor Ryan Falks, produced a short 7-minute film showing the role high school football plays in the community. The students used game footage as well as interviews to produce a video.

"This year's contest was highly competitive with exceptional entries in all the categories," said Alan Barber, a professional filmmaker who served as one of the judges. "We sincerely thank the stu-

dents and their teacher sponsors for their efforts."

Knox City's film, which can be viewed on YouTube at http://youtu.be/yP\_sKvcpbZI, edged out productions from students at Penelope and Rule. By winning, the students earned KCHS a \$1,000 donation and a "Six-Man Heaven" trophy.

Penelope finished second in the film division's standings. Rule's film, which was created by Celeste Caddell, Clay Morrow, Mason Grindstaff, Jennifer Starr, Joshua Quintero and Darryl Williams, placed third.

Blanket High School's Hope Heard won the event's essay contest. For her efforts, she earned her school a \$300 donation and a trophy.

Aspermont's Emilea English and Kannan Pitcock won the photography division. Blanket's James Frink earned an honorable mention finish in the photo

Joining Barber as judges in the contest was Texas Football six-man editor Leman Saunders. Teresa Bourgise and www.sixmanfootball.com founder Granger Huntress.

#### Six-Man Heaven

The following is a look at the winners in the 2011 "Six-Man Heaven" art

**Essay Division** .....Hope Heard, Blanket

> **Photo Contest** English/Pitcock, Asperment

# Rainfall totals far ahead of **2011** mark

TOMMY WELLS The Knox County News

Area farmers and ranchers received some welcome news last week from the National Weather Service. The drought that has plagued Texas and much of the Southwestern U.S. - could be weakening ... at least, for now.

According to data provided by NWS representative Ed Andrews, the Throckmorton and Knox County area has received more than an inch over its normal precipitation levels for January. According to Andrews, the county received 1.04 inches of rainfall in the month.

That news is welcome news for an area that finished the 2011 year more than 13 inches below its normal precipitation levels.

The rainfall news came on the heels of the NWS' announcement that drought conditions had been broken in parts of Texas earlier this year. Several areas of the Dallas-Fort Worth area were declared non-drought regions following a

Locally, the drought status hasn't changed much. Despite recent precipitation, much of Knox County remains in "moderate" to "severe" on the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Andrews' rainfall totals show the area received plenty of precipitation in the first 31 days of the 2012 calendar year.

The area's rainfall totals increased by almost an inch on Jan. 25 when another .90 of an inch fell. A total of .15 fell the following day. The three days of rainfall easily surpassed the normal precipitation level for January. The "normal" level of rain for the county in the first month of the season is just 1.14 inches.

Knox County didn't come close to normal a year ago. In January 2011, the county caught about .15 of an inch.

Young and Baylor counties saw their drought status improve in the NWS release. Throckmorton County received mixed reviews. The southeastern half of the county is in Stage 1 of the drought plan, while the northwestern corner is still in Stage 2.

The recent rains have helped with stock pond levels, however.

# JUST A GROOVIN'



Munday's Jay White (right) and Knox City's Danny Wainscott helped 3Kord, a Christian rock band, rock the Anson Opera House recently. 3Kord formed about three years ago as a praise band.

# Local band rocks Anson Opera House

**BRENNA TRONCOSO** Special to The Knox County News

The Anson Opera House, which is known for playing old-style Country and Western music, changed its line-up a bit recently when it featured 3Kord, a contemporary Christian Rock band, at its monthly musical on Saturday,

The band, composed of Munday's Jay

White (vocals and lead guitar), Knox City's together live. Danny Wainscott (bass), and James Jackson (drums), and Christopher Gibson (keyboard), played for a full house.

According to White, the band got its start about three years ago as a praise band with Ruben Garcia and Jimmy Guerrero and evolved from there. Saturday was especially significant for 3Kord since it was the first time all four members, some of them new, played

Playing at such an historic venue as the Anson Opera House was also significant for

"This was very special for us. We knew the history of the opera house and were very honored and humbled to be there," said

While contemporary rock isn't the usual See ROCK on Page 5

#### **'Valentine** Cuties' photos due by Feb. 12

Local residents that would like to enter their children, or grandchildren, into the 2012 Knox County News "Valentine's Cuties" photo spread should submit their photos to the News office by Monday, Feb. 12.

The photos will be printed, in full color, in the Feb. 16 edition of the newspaper.

Photos can be dropped at the News' office at 110 N. Central Ave, or mailed to: Knox County News, PO. Box 188, Knox City, Texas, 79529. They can also be emailed to the paper at knoxconews@gmail.com

There is a \$15 charge for each photo to help offset the cost of



Big support ...

More than 200 area residents turned out to attend the Knox County Historical Society's benefit on Sunday in Benjamin. One of the big attractions at the gala was the silent auction, which featured more than 100 items.

#### **Adkins to seek Precinct 1** position in Haskell County

Haskell County farmer Don commissioner," he said. Adkins announced he would be seeking the Precinct 1 commissioner's position in Haskell County during the upcoming election.

Born and raised in Rochester, Adkins said the experience he gained in a career that has taken him to several countries would enable him to serve Haskell County residents well.

"With world-wide experience combined with a knowledge of Haskell County, I believe I am the best candidate for county

A 1961 graduate of Rochester High School in 1961, he worked in a variety of positions in his life, including working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, farming in Haskell County, and also serving as the Quality Assurance/ Quality Control Construction Superintendent for Howe-Baker Engineers in oil and gas plant construction. At Howe-Baker, he was in charge of bidding and design of 18 oil and gas plants:

Duties included job site setup, See **ELECTON** on Page 3



Don Adkins ... ... seeks for Precinct 1 position

#### **Knox County News unveils new email address**

The Knox County News, which was purchased by Tommy and Patricia Wells recently, is us-

ing a new email address, effective is: knoxconews@gmail.com. immediately.

The paper's phone and Fax The News' new email address numbers will remain unchanged.

Support your Hometown - Shop Knox County First for Quality and Price

# More weeks of deliberation expected in redistricting

AUSTIN - Attorney General Greg Abbott oOn Feb. 1, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals signaled that the Texas House, Senate and U.S. congressional district maps drawn by the state Legislature last spring could take weeks worth of scrutiny in testing for compliance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The Act provides the basis to cure racial discrimination in elections and election-related processes. Section 5 of the Act requires Texas, among other states and smaller jurisdictions, to obtain preclearance of redistricting maps by the D.C. Circuit Court.

Meanwhile, in San Antonio on Feb. 2, the three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, indicated it would proceed with the task of revising the three sets of maps, as directed by the U.S. Supreme Court. In January, the high court threw out the San Antonio district court panel's attempt to revise the Texas Legislature's enacted maps and ordered the three judges to follow more closely the Legislature's intent in its next remedial effort.

Furthermore, on Feb. 2, the San Antonio district court instructed plaintiffs (Shannon Perez et al. v. defendants State of Texas et al.) in each of the three redistricting cases to present their arguments in court on Feb. 15. Parties have until Feb.

10 to file their legal briefs. Although a court order issued in mid-December set April 3 as the date for the Texas primaries, court actions put on the calendar last week could bump them later in April or even May or June.

**Capital Highlights** 



By Ed Sterling

#### TSTA calls for special session

Pressure on the governor to call a special session of the Texas Legislature to address shortages in school funding is increasing.

Public education absorbed a multi-billion dollar hit when the Legislature, in its January through May 2011 regular session, made across the board spending cuts to address the state's estimated \$20 billion budget deficit for the 2012-2013 biennium. Then, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst who presides over the Senate, and House Speaker Joe Straus steered fiscally conservative majorities in the Senate and House to approve the use of about \$3 billion of the state's \$9 billion Economic Stabilization (also known as "Rainy Day") Fund. The tapped amount was applied to the public education and heath and human services budgets.

Texas State Teachers Association last week urged Gov. Rick Perry to call lawmakers to Austin to appropriate \$2.5 billion from the state's Rainy Day Fund "to head off another round of harmful cuts in local public school budgets for the 2012-2013 school year."

TSTA President Rita Haecker, at a Feb. 1 Capitol news conference, pointed out the effects of the governor and the legislative majority's cutting of \$5.4 billion from public education for the current, two-year budget period, including \$4 billion in formula funding obligations to school districts and another \$1.4 billion in Texas Education Agency grants to districts.

An estimated 32,000 school employees including 12,000 teachers already have lost their jobs, and more than 8,200 elementary classes are larger than the cap set by state law. "Ultimately, these cuts and crowded classrooms harm our students' learning environment," Haecker said. TSTA is circulating a petition calling on the governor to call a special session, she added.

A year ago, the office of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts reported that \$7.2 billion of the Rainy Day Fund came from oil and gas production

#### Oil & gas figures take shape

These days, oil and gas industry trucks are seen moving up and down roads and highways in many parts of Texas and setting up shop here and there on sites visible from public rights of

Many Texas newspapers routinely report this information, but in light of the current call for a special session and the Rainy Day Fund's tie to oil and gas production taxes, here are figures reported by the state agency that regulates the oil and gas in-



Service awards

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) recently presented service awards to employees. Marty Smith, Childress District Engineer presented an award to: Heath Adams, Dickens/King County Maintenance for 10 years of dedicated service to TxDOT

# **Benjamin News**

Benjamin was a "happening place" on Sunday. That was the day of the annual brisket, sausage & turkey dinner to benefit the museum. Friends of the Knox County Historical Commission outdid themselves in preparing for this much-looked-forward to event. And lots of friends passed through the doors to enjoy every aspect of it. Many door prizes were won and the silent auction had such a wonderful selection of items to bid on. There was something for everyone. No word on how much was made for the on-going museum project but it must have been quiet a lot and every dime is appreciated.

And a personal note - Thanks to everyone I called who so graciously agreed to make a pie or deviled eggs. No one turned me down. Proof over again that people are willing to help out for a good cause.

And now the plans are made and work has begun on preparing for the Valentine dinner and program coming up this next Sunday evening (Feb. 12th) at the Ex-Student Building. This will be the second such event and we hope to be back in Lubbock on Wednesmake it an annual affair. The meal day for Charles to have some this year will be a potato and taco more surgery. This is not nearly bar, with a chocolate sheet cake for dessert. Tea and coffee will also should be back home on Thursday be available. This is a community effort sponsored by the three churches and we hope to have a good attendance. Following the meal, we will have entertainment - individual singers, musicians, poetry and also group singing. It should be a lot of fun and we hope

buy and sell using eBay or just

brush up on your eBay skills?

The Knox County Visioning

Group (KCVG) is bringing Russ

Altman, Assistant Director of the

Texas Tech Small Business De-

velopment Center of Abilene to

Munday to conduct a free eBay

workshop focusing on buying and

for both individuals as well as

This workshop is designed

selling on eBay.

at 6 p.m. and there is no charge. Remember Sunday, Feb. 12.

In other news, my sincere sympathy to the family of Toby Yates of Weinert. Toby passed away Monday a.m. after being in failing health for quite some time. His funeral was Wednesday at Weinert First Baptist Church.

Here 'N There

Linda and Charles Griffith were in Lubbock during the weekend for a visit with their grandson, Drew Tyson and his girlfriend, Kristie Winberg, both of Portland, Oregon. They had been to Clovis, NM to visit his parents and sisters, Amy and Vince, Kate and Abby, then on to Lubbock to visit his Aunt Lori and family and his brother, Matt, and came to Benjamin on Sunday to visit his aunt, Becky Jones and family. So they had a chance to visit everyone in their short time. Linda said Kristie was quite "taken with" the countryside here as she's a city girl and her surroundings are quite different from what we have around Benjamin! Charles and Linda will or Friday.

And Steve Sheedy will be having some surgery on Thursday, also in Lubbock. This is an outpatient procedure and, barring any complications, he should be back home in a day or two. Meanwhile, to see you there - the fun begins his wife, Casandra, is having prob-

can help your existing business. It

will take place Thursday, Febru-

ary 23, from 6 p.m.to 7:30 p.m. at

the Perry Patton Center, Munday,

of five Business Development

Workshops hosted by the KCVG.

For more information, visit www.

thescoopofknoxprairie.blogspot.

com, or call (940) 459-4121. Re-

freshments will be served.

Talk to your

neighbors, then talk

to me.

This is the first in a series

Sharpen your eBay skills on

Feb. 23 with free workshop

Do you want to learn how to small businesses on how eBay

lems. She has a pinched nerve in her left arm and shoulder that has really been hurting. She went for an MRI on Saturday and when she gets the results, she will know how they will treat it.

Several former residents were here Sunday for the dinner. I know I missed some but I did see Kenneth and Ila Mae Benson and Wanda Joyce Benson Jennings of Wichita Falls; Fred Lewis Crenshaw of Abilene, Jerry Benson of Munday, and Betty Clower Parker of Aspermont, who was visiting her mom, Gloria West. Gloria is sad as she had to have her little dog, Jake, put to sleep as his health was going down fast. He had been her constant companion for several years but his age finally caught up with him. Many folks can identify with her situation.

My dear friends, Guindell and Peggy Cure Ritchie of Wichita Falls, and their son, Michael of Dallas, were here Sunday for the benefit meal. It's always so good to see them and visit a while.

Guy Spikes was over from Seymour on Sunday and he and his mom, Dorothy, also enjoyed the meal and visiting friends.

Jessie and Leah Vanderpal, both students at McMurry, were here for the weekend to visit family, their parents, Brent and Dawn, and brother, Benjamin.

Rachel Duke Feris and little son Zachariah of Wichita Falls was also here. Her baby is so cute and I saw grandpa Dennis walking around with him and you could tell he was a very pleased grand-

I didn't see the basketball game on Friday night but understand Benjamin and Knox City played pretty close during the entire game. Knox City did win, but they tell me it was a good game.



Des'Rae Richter

#### Richter earns '1' at 4A choir contest

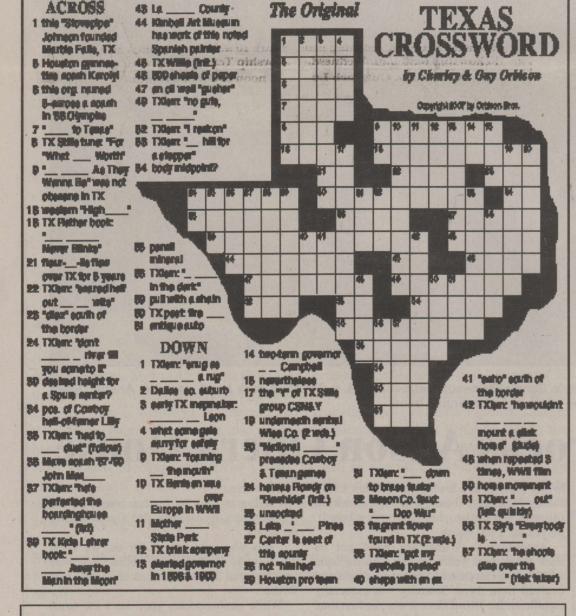
Des'Rae Richter turned in a solid performance at the recent Class 4A choir contest held last weekend at Angelo State University. The Big Spring High School freshman earned a "1" in her solo performance.

"I was pretty excited when they told me," said the 14-yearold, who also competes in cross country and track at BSHS. "I'm really happy with the score."

Choir members are scored on a scale of 1 to 5, which 1 being the best rating possible.

Richter will not be advancing to the UIL state choir contest, however. Freshmen do not qualify for the state contest.

Richter is the daughter of former Knox City resident Amanda (Christian) Richter.



This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by the

#### If you would like to sponsor the crossword puzzle please contact the News office.

Not advertising is like winking at a beautiful woman in the dark ... you are the only one that knows about it.

#### **Knox County News**

USPS 903-920

POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to The Knox County News, P.O. Box 188, Knox City, TX 79529. Published weekly, 110. North Central, Knox City, Knox County, Texas. Periodicals postage paid at Post Office, Knox City, Texas 79529.

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P.O. Box 188 110 N. Central Knox City, Texas 79529 940-657-3142 FAX 940-849-0149

SUBSCRIPTION RATES Within Knox County: \$25/Year Within Texas: \$30/Year All others: \$35/Year

**Publishers** Tommy & Patricia Wells **Tommy Wells** Office Manager Patricia Wells Benjamin Correspondent Gladene Green

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NOTICE: Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or Corporation will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.



**Tom Bassett, Agent** 705 N Avenue E Haskell, TX 79521 Bus: 940-864-3250 tom.bassett.m8yb@statefarm.com Mon-Fri 8:00am to 5:30pm After Hours by Appointment Se habla español

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# **Obituaries**

#### Mary Helen Bratcher

Mary Helen Bratcher, 86, of Vera, Texas, died on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012 at the Munday Nursing Center in Munday,

Services were scheduled for Feb. 9, 2012 at 10 a.m. at the Vera Methodist Church in Vera. Rev. Steve Ulrey and Rev. Sammie Ellis officiated the ceremony. Burial followed in the Vera Cemetery.

Mary Helen was born Sept. 9, 1925 in Baylor County to William Clay and Ruth Jordan Ellis. She attended school in the Lively Community and in Seymour. She married Claudell Fred Bratcher on Feb. 18, 1945. He preceded her in death on June 5, 2009. During WWII, Mary Helen worked for the Department of the Navy in Oakland, California. She was a homemaker, worked as a telephone operator and at Perry Brothers. She was a member of the Vera Methodist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by two sons, Burtly Bratcher of Ft. Worth and Larry F. Bratcher and wife, Pattie, of Vera; five grandchildren, Bob Bratcher and wife, Sonja; Elizabeth James and husband, Stephen: Heather Bratcher Smith and husband, Jay; Tim Bratcher; and Tara Bratcher Key and husband, Scott; nine Home.



**Mary Helen Bratcher** 

great grandchildren, Lauryn Bratcher; Jordan Bratcher Lewis; Meghan Bratcher; Dale Robert James; Merideth Ellis James; Noah Scott Key; Jonah Alan Key; Micah Bratcher Key; and Jack Smith. She is also survived by one future great-great grandchild, and one sister, Flo Bratcher of Bowie

The family received friends at the funeral home from 7-8 p.m. on Wednesday.

The family suggests memorials to the Vera Cemetery Association.

Services were under the direction of Archer Funeral

#### **Lewis William Groves**

Bill had a life that ranged many kind people. from extremely challenged to unbelievably fortunate -- challenging from a series of mental and physical illness and difficult he did do well. The community, social situations -- to the great fortune of being cared for and protected by a large family of many people making up a whole county that knew him and kept him in mind and gave him what

he needed to survive. Bill was bitten by a rattlesnake when he was three and suffered brain damage from the venom to the extent that he was always intellectually just slightly below what he wanted to be and what my parents had hoped. Bill was the younger of two sons to parents who were rescued -- not Our mother never had a mother, our father never had a father and these deep wounds made them both very attached to us and to each other -- and equally so to education and their place teaching in the community here. Bill's educational struggles worried them both, but somehow Bill managed to arrive at a place that suited him, with the help of God rest him.

It was believed that he wouldn't be able to care for himself after my parents' deaths, but the church, the people he was in Recovery with -- you kept him

It was a hard life, from great highs to deep lows, but he lived it as well as anybody in his situation possibly could have. He was above all, brave and good hearted. He was always bemused at having relatives in Boston, and had a deep emotional attachment to his nephew John Daniel, although he met J.D. only once. Bill wrote us hundreds of letters over the years, which were saved because our parents were letteran exaggeration -- by education savers and great believers in the both as students and teachers. written word. Those letters of Bill are amazing. Although brief and simple, they are stunningly articulate about his real life and feelings -- and the voice in those letters reflects unselfconsciously an amazingly full and observant human being.

He was a good and decent man in a great and generous community -- he will be missed.

#### **Anna Lou Shaver**

Funeral services for Anna Lou Clara Dwiggins. Shaver were scheduled for Friday, Feb. 3, 2012 at 2 p.m. at the First Methodist Church in Knox City with Rev. Dolan Brinson and Rev. Tom Carter officiating. Burial was at the Rochester Cemetery in Rochester under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes.

Mrs. Shaver passed away in Knox City on Feb. 1, 2012. She was 92.

Born July 21, 1919 in Jones County, she was the daughter of W. C. Church and Lena Mashburn. Once graduating from Mc-Murry University, she moved to Rochester to begin teaching school. She taught in Rochester from 1938 to 1941. She married R.A. Shaver, Jr. on June 1, 1940 in Jones County and they resided in Rochester their entire life. Mrs. Shaver was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Rochester until its closing, then joined the Methodist Church in Knox City. She was very dedicated to her church and was the organist in Rochester for over 50 years. She was also a member of the Women's Literary Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband, R.A. Shaver, Jr.; her parents, W.C. and Lena Church; two brothers, Clarence Church and M.C. Church; and two sisters, Mattie Willingham and



Jinx, of Rochester; a daughter, Marsha Clinton and husband, and many nieces and nephews.

If desired, memorials can Murry University.

Anna Lou is survived by her son, R.A. Shaver, III and wife, Bill, of Houston; seven grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; a brotherin-law, Bill Shaver and wife, Sunny, ofLubbock; sister-in-law, Evelyn Trimmier of Hale Center;

be made in Anna Lou Shaver's name to the First United Methodist Church of Knox City or Mc-

Vandalism has given graffiti a bad name, even in Italy, where graffiti sometimes get written in English, which gives English a bad name.

When I was a kid, nobody knew the word graffiti. Seniors wrote on water towers, kids in grade school used their pocketknives to carve their initials in their desks, and people wrote all sorts of stuff on restroom walls. But nobody dignified any of it with such fine-sounding term as graffiti, a word then known only to archaeologists, art historians and Italians.

Graffito, by the way, is the singular, meaning one scribbling as opposed to plural scribblings. Interestingly, my computer tells me scribbling can't take an "s," but I just gave it one. So there.

If you want to feel smug, flaunt a rule of grammar in public and get away with it. Smug and above the law. That's me. guess that's how some little hoodlums felt last week after they graffitied our otherwise undefaced neighborhood.

How little were they? I'm guessing "Our Gang" age. No sane adult would lose sleep to spray wiggly lines and some barely legible letters on vehicles. It's not something to brag about the next day at work.

Our unassuming neighbor, enemy to no adolescents he can think of, got his nondescript pickup circumscribed with orange fluorescent paint. A Suburban down the block caught some white paint. My car escaped. So did a nearby Corvette.

The next morning, cans of spray paint were here and there, as if the graffitists had been scared and had tossed all tools of the trade as they ran off. Speaking of plural, no doubt they were. Misbehaving juveniles like company. Right?

On the other hand, when I myself made my first and only foray into the world of graffiti. I acted alone. I drew on the bare wood walls of our attic staircase landing with a pencil. No words

#### DIDECTION

Continued from Page 1

opening accounts, screening, hiring, testing and assigning workforce and foremen, acquiring machinery and tools, and also preparing final red-line draw-

Received numerous certifications from OSHA pertaining to safety in the workplace: to test welders and conduct nondestructive weld testing by radiograph, di-pen, magnetic, and ultra-sonic.

Adkins also served as consultant for the U.S. Dept. of Interior in the South Pacific, where he constructed an electrical generation plant, and as a construcmanager/superintendent for Western Weltek, Inc. in Salt Lake City, Utah, where served as Project and Construction Manager over all pipelines within the

continental United States. Adkins has maintained Top Secret security clearance while working for the U.S. Dept. of State. He has worked with the Army Corps of Engineers in 19 countries and had up to 150 people employed under him.

#### Thank You

As we deal with the loss of our mother, our Nanaw, we also celebrate the joy of her life. The last two years had been difficult for her but we draw comfort from the love and support that the people of this community have shown. We appreciate the care provided for her at the Munday Nursing Center. A special thank you goes to the doctors and the staff of the Knox County Hospital. Your compassion and care during our mom's two week stay was provided with respect and love. The support from the KC Methodist Church and Pastor Tom reminds us how truly comforting it is to have a church family. Thank you again to the wonderful

folks of Knox City, Munday, and the surrounding areas. The Family of Peggy McGaughey were involved. I was 5. Maybe I

knew how to write my name, but I didn't sign my work. When Mother saw what I'd done, I lied and said I didn't do

it. It's hard for an only child to get away with anything. I got a spanking. End of graffiti career. Could it be the little scribblers who hit our neighborhood

missed some spankings in their

earlier formative years? Maybe. Now, if they're caught, they'll be in line for more serious punishment. More likely they'll get away with it and go on to greater misdeeds. Pity.

Meanwhile, our whole neighborhood is left to fume. Fuming isn't good. It makes you frown and, by definition, brings no clo-

Rather than fume, I'd like to express myself in big letters to the vandals:

YOU'RE NO GOOD.

You're work is wimpy. Those little circular strokes you used to put the line on Al's pickup wouldn't even look good on a cake. If you're part of the same bunch that drew the swastika in another part of town, you got it wrong too. You lack a lot. I feel better.

### Myers named AgriLife rep in Stonewall County

Texas AgriLife Extension Service has announced Cody Myers as its latest hire for the agriculture and natural resources agent position in Stonewall County.

Myers didn't have to move far when he took the position on Feb. 1. A native of Aspermont, he has been working on his family farm and ranch since graduating from Texas Tech University with a degree in agriculture and applied economics in 2008. The family's operations produce cotton, wheat and cattle.

Myers said he was asked by several people in town if he would apply, and since he grew up in the 4-H program and had been to a number of AgriLife

United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service James E. "Bud" Smith Plant Materials Center Knox City, TX

2011 Weekly Weather Report Date Temperature (F) Rainfall Low / High inches 01/30 34/71 01/31 41/72 02/1 35/71 02/2 30/67 02/3 47/77 02/4 37/54 02/5 27/50 Total Rainfall for month 1.04

> 1.04 2011 Rainfall (ytd)

# KC AREA CHURCH RECTORY

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City Jerry Vincent, Pastor

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m. FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City **Thomas Carter, Pastor** 406 2nd Street • 658-3517

knoxcity-fumc@hotmail.com-umckc.net Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. Evening Bible Study - 7 p.m. Monday, Breakfast Bible Study 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morning Bible Study 10 a.m. Wednesday, Youth Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Worship Team Rehearsal 7 p.m. Wednesday, Outreach Lunch 12 noon every 3rd Sunday No Sunday Evening Service

#### ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -

**Knox City** 

Tex Cox, Pastor

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 Father Charles Gorantla • 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 Sacrimental 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.

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# Sports

# Houndettes clinch playoff berth

**TOMMY WELLS** The Knox County News

Heading into the Tuesday's showdown with the Crowell Lady Wildcats, the Knox City High School Houndettes new they were in a "put up or shut up" situation as far as the 2012 state playoffs were concerned.

Crowell probably wish they hadn't been.

Knox City, 8-14 overall, clinched the District 13-A thirdplace playoff berth in grand style with a stunning 50-48 win over the district-leading Lady Wildcats. Crowell entered the game unbeaten in district play, sporting an 8-0 mark.

It didn't take long for the Houndettes to send Crowell a message. After a pair of threepointers early in the game had given Crowell a lead, Leighton Pepper and Reagan Clark brought KC back. Pepper staked the Houndettes to a slim 8-7 lead

with a pair of free throws midway through the first. Moments later, Clark pushed in offensive rebound that spurred KCHS to a 16-13 first-quarter lead.

Knox City, which finished the contest with three players in double figures, didn't back off in the second. The Houndettes posted a 14-11 run in the frame and cruised into the half with a 30-24 lead.

Crowell, which netted the District 13-A championship de-

spite the loss, battled back in the third. The Lady Wildcats outscored KCHS by a 16-12 clip and trailed by just two, at 42-40, heading into the final frame.

Playing under interim coach Charles Steele, the Houdettes matched Crowell shot-for-shot in the fourth to net the win.

Pepper finished the contest as Knox City's top scorer with 12 points. Cassidy Carter and Clark added 10, while Cassandra Ledesma added eight.

#### **Houndettes to face Aspermont** in b-district game on Tuesday

well in Knox City, thank you.

The Knox City High School Houndettes clinched a berth in the Class A, Division II state playoffs on Tuesday with a win over Crowell. The win gave Knox City the thirdplace playoff position in the District 13-A race.

By finishing third, Knox City advances to face Asper-

Playoff fever is alive and mont, the District 14-A runnerup. The two teams are scheduled to begin their respective playoff runs on Tuesday in Guthrie.

Knox City enters the game with an 8-14 record. The team went 4-5 in district play. Aspermont, 26-8 overall, went 8-2 in District 14-A play. Both of their district setbacks came at the hands of Throckmorton.

# Quick start carries 'Cats past 'Hounds

The Crowell Wildcats reeled off a 17-point barrage in the first eight minutes of play and then held off a furious rally to claim a slim 42-38 win over the Knox City Greyhounds.

With the win, Crowell nailed down the District 13-A championship by improving to 10-0 in league play. Knox City finished second in the district with an 8-2 mark.

The Wildcats did most of their damage in the early minutes of the contest. Crowell sank a couple of clutch shots in the first and sprinted to a 17-10 advantage.

The Greyhounds, now 16-8 overall, cut into Crowell's lead in the second. Knox City out- T.J. Moore contributed two.

pointed Crowell by an 8-6 margin in the frame and pulled to within 23-18 at the end of the second quarter.

The Greyhounds continued to trim the Wildcats' lead in the second half. Knox City outscored Crowell by a 20-19 clip in the final two stanzas.

Zach Carter highlighted the Greyhounds' offensive efforts against Crowell. He finished the game with nine points. Blake Jones and Brandon York also helped power the KC offense by throwing in eight apiece.

Jarek Wilde and Ryan Ledesma added five and four, respectively, while Jose Espinal and

When the Knox City Greyhounds run onto the field next fall, they will find themselves competing in a district that features teams from Throckmorton, Crowell, Paint Creek and Bryson.

#### Moguls improve to 15-1 with big win

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The Munday High School Moguls moved a step closer to the district crown on Tuesday by pounding out an easy 49-24 victory over the Hamlin Pied

With the win, the Moguls overall, and 8-2 in district.

improved to 15-1 for the year and, more important; y, climbed to 8-1 in district play.

The Munday girls suffered a

58-34 loss to Hamlin. The MHS girls are 17-9

# moves Knox City into the west

TOMMY WELLS The Knox County News

The University Interscholastic League didn't do the Knox County Greyhounds any favors when it released its district realignment last week. Then again, you probably won't find replacing four seniors, includanyone in Throckmorton, Crow- ing senior quarterback Tucker ell, Paint Creek or Bryson a bit too happy

Knox City was placed in the five-team District 8 group during the UIL's new alignment, which will be for the 2013-14 years. The new alignment was released on Thursday, Feb. 2.

"It will be good competition," said Knox City head coach Charles Steele. "Throck lost some key players but should still be the front runner.'

The new district isn't all that new for several of the teams. Knox City, Throckmorton and Paint Creek were all paired in District 9 a year ago with Gor-

Throckmorton head coach

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Mike Reed said he didn't have a problem with the new district.

"I like it (the new district)," said Throckmorton head coach Mike Reed. "It should be competitive nightly.'

Fresh off a 14-0 state title

campaign, Throckmorton will be Brown, spreadback C.J. Hantz, senior kicker Jordan White and center Blayton Oliver. Despite the losses, Throck-

morton will likely enter the 2013 season as the odds-on favorite. Reed brings back several key performers, including running backs Levi Taylor and Rawlin Morrell, linebacker Trinity Haggard and defensive back Nathan

Steele said Knox City and Crowell both suffered heavy losses this year, but should still be able to compete for the play-

"They lost 11 seniors, and we lost nine," he said.

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Despite the loss, Knox City

#### 2012-14 UIL District Alignments **Division I - Six-man Football**

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will be the largest school in the new alignment. Knox City reported an enrollment of 65.

Bryson will be making the leap from the small-school division to the large-school division. The Cowboys competed in Division II for the past several years. This season, they finished 6-4 and finished third in the District 10 race.

Bryson is the second-largest largest school in the alignment. BISD officials reported an enrollment of 61. Throckmorton and Crowell both reported enrollments of 58.

Paint Creek has the smallest enrollment total of all the new District 8 teams with 54.

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You can get your copy of The Knox County News at one of the following locations:

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Friday Night @ the Movies! February 17, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. On the BIG SCREEN - Sanctuary @ First United Methodist Church 406 SE 2nd Street - Knox City, TX. A children's movie will be offered In the Fellowship Hall also! This is a FREE movie opportunity! For more information cal 658-3517.



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#### • PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for Local Option Election Petition to Legalize the legal sale of beer and wine for offpremise consumption only, in the City of Knox City, Texas.

It is the hope, purpose and intent of the applicants whose signatures appear hereon to see legalized the sale of alcoholic beverages referred to in the issue set out above. Pat Gonzales, Kimberly Gonzales, Donna Wojcik, Stan Wojcik, Stacy Hedgecohe, Tommy Mangis, Danny Lewis, Betty Johnston, Chad Roberts, Roland Marion. Date Published, January 19, 2012. This application will be filed with Chad Roberts, City Clerk, City of Knox City, Texas.

Application is being made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer Retail Dealer's Off Premise license and Package Store Permit by Shari L. Shelton dba Chaparral to be located at 3102 FM 222, Knox City, King County, Texas.

(2-16c)

Application is being made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer Retail Dealer's Off Premise license and Wine only Package Store Permit by Shari L. Shelton dba Chaparral to be located at 3102 FM 222, Suite B, Knox City, King County, Texas.

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Wanted full time LVN's. Contact April, Roby, RN, Director of Nurses, at Gibson Care Center, Aspermont, Tx 940-989-3526.

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#### LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Knox County Rural Water Supply Corporation intends to file an application with the USDA Rural Development for Pre-Development Grant Funds and USDA Rural Development RUS Loan/Grant Funds to construct a new water supply system in portions of Knox County. The Corporation will hold a scheduled meeting of its appointed Board of Directors at 6:00 pm, Monday, February 13, 2012 at 1006 East Main, Knox City, Texas. The Rural Development application will be on the agenda for this meeting to give area residents the opportunity to become acquainted with the funding, new proposed system, request services, and comment on such items as economic impacts, service area, or alternatives to the project. A copy of the agenda for this meeting will be posted at 1006 East Main, Knox City, Texas beginning February 10, 2012.

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# ROCK

Continued from Page 1

fare at the Anson Opera House, 3Kord appreciated the opportunity to play to a wider audience. For them, it is "All about giving God the glory for everything he does."

Those who prefer the classic sound weren't disappointed. Before and after 3Kord's performance, the Opera House was warm and familiar with the sounds of traditional Country and Western standards, with an especially good rendition of "On the Bayou," by Bobby Jones. Others performing included Marty Clifford, Jim Rebolt, Betty and Mitch Hubbard, Tommy and Gloria Self, and the group 4 and More with Jay Hayhurst, Si Tucker, Clint Kniffin, and Al Anderson.

The Anson Opera House offers a free country musical every third Saturday of the month. Those who like to listen to old country are invited to attend, and those who like to sing or who are interested in performing can call Marlon Smith at (325) 823-3523 for more information. The music begins at 6 p.m. and there is no cost of admission. Those who would like to support the Opera House while enjoying a good meal are invited to join the brisket dinner, cost \$6, beginning at 5 p.m.

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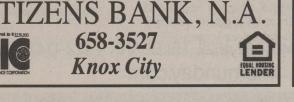
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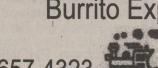
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# It's official: I don't have a Christmas hat

When She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Made-Mad and I were younger, I used to love to tell our children stories. Understand, I am probably the worst story-teller ever because I can't remember any nursery rhymes we all learn as kids.

I know Humpty Dumpty had a great fall, but I can remember if the Wicked Witch scrambled him or if Cinderella cured him with an apple or Super Glue.

I guess I never listened in class... or maybe because I was running my mouth when they were telling the stories. In all honestly, it is probably a bit of both.

Anyway, as Whitney, Bubba, Kayme and Bobby were growing up, I always tried to spend a few minutes at night asking them to tell me one thing they had learned that day, and then telling them one of my slightly fractured fairy tales. I have to say, it was some of the best times we shared as a family. I rank it right up there on the "fun meter" as when I got to take them to get their shots.

From these stories, I created my own versions of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." My version usually featured our youngest daughter as Kaymelocks. The other three, as you may have guessed, were the bears - Bubba Bear, Bobby Bear and Whitter Bear. I'm pretty sure I destroyed the original version majorly, but the kids enjoyed the whole thing. I think Kaymelocks liked it best because she got to wear a crown and talk funny.

From there, we created Hopa-

#### Off The **Beaten Path**



By Tommy Wells

long, Leaps Alot, Sammy Salamander. Then, to keep them quiet at night, I even told them about the legendary Pullya-unders and Hidebehinds.

As you can see, I was pretty creative back in the day. SWMN-BMM, in case you were wondering, didn't call it "creative." She said I was good at doing what male bovines do in the yard.

Now that the kids are grown (and less apt to believe stories from me), I have turned to helping our granddaughter.

A few weeks ago, I decided to call her on the phone and see if she could recognize me. The whole conversation went something like this:

"Hewwo," said Mallorie, who has trouble with her Ls.

"Hello, little girl," I said in my deepest voice. 'This my momma's phone.

I'm not spose to tawk on it. My momma's asweep. Her tode me to

way down by her and I am. But I haf to go potty, and then the phone ringed. You have to wait cause I have to fwush. My mommy get mad if daddy not fwush. Okay?"

I'll be real honest with you at this point. I wasn't really sure how to answer from there.

FWUUUSSHHHH! FWUUUSSHHHH! FWUUUSSHHHH! "Okay. I back now," she said.

"Okay," I said.

"You sure flushed a lot, Mallorie..." I said. "And, where is Root Beer (her puppy) now?"

"Who are you? I can't talk to people I not know. What's your name?" she said.

That is when it hit me. I should have a little fun with her.

"This is Apa Claus," I said. For all you non-Alaskans out there "Apa" is the Yup'ik word for grandfather. Because we lived in Alaska for many years, Mawree... er, Mallorie... calls me Apa.

To her credit, Mallorie is pretty quick. She didn't fall for the story at all.

"You don't even have a Chrissmas hat," she said.

The next sound I hear was "click." and a deafening buzzzzzz.

I must be getting old. The kids were much easier to talk to about 20 years ago.

(Tommy Wells is the editor of the Throckmorton Tribune. Everything in this column is true, except for the parts that have been fabricated, exaggerated or just plain

# SAMMIE'S KNOX CITY CORNER AND FINAL THOUGHTS

Monday started in heartbreaking news as I was told Bill Grove had passed away after a stroke he had experienced earlier. He will be missed by all the coffee drinkers and me. He had gone home and I bet his parents were waiting; thank God he didn't suffer long.

Diana Casillas also sent her mother to heaven. She is doing good and taking it one day at a time, but it is all good. We are spending a lot of time together and enjoying what life was with our parents.

Laura Stovall has been good also after the loss of their brother, David Johnson. Sometimes it is easier to let them go home and are probably looking great. God makes sure of that, and we have to believe and be happy

Monday, as I was arriving at the drug store, I realized Jimmy Tankersley was be taken in the emergency room but I have not had a chance to go visit with her. She just never stops doing what makes her happy. She is just a great person. I admire her for her determination to do what she puts her mind to. The kids just can't slow her down. I'll try to have more, hopefully,

You know as I look back on my life, its enjoyable to know we had a lot of good time and hard work, but at the end of the day, we were tired but still had time to enjoy the progress we had made. We also learned the value of a dollar the hard and honest way, and now I'm glad we did because it really makes you appreciate it. My heart is always in the right place and

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sometimes I just have to have a wakeup call.

This last month has been a hard time for a lot in our community family. We can we help them by being there for anything we can do. Every time that happens, our walk gets a little harder and I wonder if we can do this but with God everything is possible. I love been a part of everyone's family because in some way, you're a part of mine.

Today, I was visiting with April Estrada and received some news that hit me very hard. Donisca has fought so hard and has come to a cross on her road. She has been put with hospice and is now the goal is to just to keep her pain-free and comfortable. She has made her peace with her Father in Heaven. She says God is doing what he has for her and I'm sure her family is trying very hard to enjoy what time is there. I'm sure God will help along the way to help with the pain. She is loved so much by so many. She says she will return home shortly and I can't wait to see her again. Please keep them in your prayers because we know it's not easy. She's always said she's loved her life. She knows she is loved from the bottom of

everyone's hearts. Well, looks like progress downtown is coming along slow, but it is a great job. It is inconvenient for some people, but it will make things easier easy for us. Hey, the back door sounds pretty good to me. I may found something I wouldn't otherwise seen. It works for me.

As you look in some of

pork, sweet potatoes, succotash,

gna, Brussel sprouts, garlic toast,

Thursday, Feb. 16 - Lasa-

Friday, Feb. 17 - Cheeseburg-

NOTE: New serving time is

ers, potato wedges, tomato/wedge

noon (in Knox City only). Alter-

nate desserts available for diabet-

to 657-3618. Orders cannot be

taken after 10 a.m. All orders need

whole wheat roll.

salad, melon medley.

**Knox County Aging Services** 

the stores and cafés you'll see money collecting jar. They are to help Jessie and Diana Dena as the travel back and forth to Abilene for Jessie's dialysis and their lodging in case of overnight stay. Diana is the bread winner in her home and when she has to be out of the clinic, she loses some of her income to help provide for her and her husband. Your heart tells you what to do and every nickel, penny, or dime is a blessing, not just for them but for you because it comes with a lot of love. We thank you for what

little you have to donate. Well, Super Bowl day has come and gone. Time is just too fast for me. I feel like we just started another year and if you blink too fast it will pass you by. We have so many dreams and thoughts of the things we would like to do to change our children's futures, but I've notice God knows what he has for us to accomplish. Always remember what He has done for

Aurora Garcia, a mom from O'Brie,n has been under the weather, and so is my mom. This weather has made their bodies ache and feel so badly. We notice what it does to us, so I can only imagine how they feel. May God bless them with a better day tomorrow.

The Butler family and Shavers are now home recovery from the loss of their grandmother. The healing process starts. It isn't an overnight process, so we keep them in our prayers and in God's blessings. They are very thankful in everything that everyone did.

On Saturday, the little dribblers game went great and its so much fun that it bring back a lot of good memories from when my son was at that point in his life. Now its grandkids. I can't get enough from every of memory that you can store in your life. I love it and that will probably never change.

Give a heads up to all the coaches and parents that step up to the plate to make sure this kids enjoy and learn to the best of their abilities.

I'm sorry there wasn't a col-Please call in orders by 10 a.m. umn last week but I'll try to figure out what happened.

SILENT TYPE?

Until next time, Sammie

# **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

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.



They were rugged individuals who aldn't say much, but when they did people listened, because they could back up what they said. They never went looking for trouble, but they didn't run from it either. That's our philosophy, too. The economy has been tough. We're prepared for it. We're a strong bank. We maintain a strong capital to assets ratio which serves as a rock solid base.

# First National Bank

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