

Now that winter is upon us, I haven't been gettin' much sleep lately. Th' snow snakes and ice worms keep me awake a-singin' all night!

Th' Summer Shade Loafers League held their annual watermelon roast last night. Other than Uncle Sot fallin' into th' fire and scorchin' th' seat of his pants, a good time was had by all.

At th' meetin' somebody asked Burley Burlap why they built th' Glasgow Airport where they did. Tom reckoned they built it there so it would be near th' airplanes.

Rancid Rashbottom said he lost a whole lot of money last week on hogs. Tom asked him if

SMILES

By
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his hogs died. Rancid said, "No, th' price of hogs went up a dollar a pound, and I didn't have a single hog to sell."

Phil McNasty tells me of a feller who had a big red rooster that wuz really tough, Th' feller says that one day a big chicken hawk swooped down and flew off with th' prize rooster in his claws. Well sir, that ole hawk flew to a big tree about a mile away figgerin' on havin' hisself a good meal. Th' red rooster had other ideas

and made that hawk bring him back to th' chicken house.

Speakin' of chickens, I wuz a-sittin' out on th' front porch a-while back and my little ole banty rooster wuz a-chasin' two little banty hens around and around th' house.

I hear one of th' hens asked th' other, "I wonder which one of us he's chasin'?" Th' other little hen answered, "I don't know, but if we don't slow down, he'll never catch either one of us."

National Weather Service predicts colder than normal winter in Kentucky & Tennessee

Bundle up, Tri-County Electric members. Forecasters are predicting a colder than normal winter for our service area after a colder than normal November.

According to www.chooseenergy.com, Tennessee is the 5th cheapest state to live in based on electricity rates at 10.59 cents/kWh and Kentucky is the 7th cheapest state at 10.70 cents/kWh, as of September 2018. Tri-County Electric members pay less than the average of both states at 9.792 cents/kWh. The national average is 12 cents/kWh.

"We realize the electric bill is one of the largest monthly expenses for many of our members, especially in the winter," said Paul Thompson, Executive V.P. & General Manager. "We will always look for ways to keep costs as low as possible and are proud to be able to offer rates, not only below the national average but also below the average for both states we serve. Tri-County Electric offers Levelized Billing, Due Date Selection and a Pre-Payment Program as ways to assist our members in managing their accounts."

Tri-County Electric is encouraging our member-owners to be aware of their energy use and take steps to help manage electric bills, which may also be higher than normal as a result of increased usage.

In the National Weather Service's official Three-Month Outlook, Kentucky, Tennessee, and surrounding states are shown to have a higher likelihood of below normal temperatures. The

temperature probability is a forecast for January, February and March.

According to Sean Poulos, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Paducah, the chances of a colder than normal winter increases from west to east across Kentucky.

This comes after a November cold snap in Kentucky, including ten November days with temperatures at least ten degrees below normal. National Weather Service records also show that the Kentucky cold snap extended into the first ten days of December.

As Tri-County Electric member-owners heated their homes and spent more time indoors over the cold Thanksgiving holiday, energy usage increased resulting in higher than typical bills.

Weather, especially cold weather, affects residential energy bills more than any other factor. Heating claims about a 42 percent share of overall energy use in U.S. homes.

The temperature difference between the inside of your home and the air temperature outside is greater during the winter than in the summer.

Put simply, the greater the temperature difference, the harder your heating system has to work to maintain a comfortable indoor temperature.

For example, if you want your house to be 70 degrees inside and its 20 degrees outside, your HVAC system has to make up 50 degrees difference in temperature. Even on a 100-degree summer day, the HVAC

system only has to make up about 30 degrees difference versus that 50-degree variance in winter.

8 Quick Tips to Avoid High Winter Bills

Winter heating bills impact wallets across the state. Here are some suggested ways to cut back on energy usage and keep your bills as low as possible:

1. Find and seal all air leaks. Check for cracks near doors and windows, gaps around pipes and chimneys, and any unfinished areas. Plug leaks with weather-stripping, caulk, or expandable foam.
2. Set your thermostat to 68 degrees, or install a programmable thermostat.
3. Close blinds and curtains at night; if sunny, open them during the day.
4. Cover drafty windows yourself with easy, effective, and inexpensive shrink-to-fit plastic.
5. Turn off lights when not in use. Replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75 percent less energy.
6. Lower your water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
7. Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.
8. Keep your garage door closed for a warmer garage in winter, and cooler garage in summer.

To find more ways to save, go to www.togetherwesave.com or www.energyright.com

The confidence of Paul



Jason Abston
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The Confidence of Paul goes beyond our understanding. The Apostle Paul is the greatest Christian missionary in the history of the world. God used him to spread the Gospel throughout the Roman world and to write many books of the New Testament.

Paul suffered betrayal and many different adversities during his journeys. He continued his work because he knew the Lord would sustain him.

2nd Timothy 4:18, "And the Lord shall deliver

me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen"

Our lives in this world are temporary and everything we have here can be taken from us. We suffer hardships and loss in our lives. We suffer betrayal and tragedies but the same help the Apostle Paul had is available to us also. The confidence of Paul is Jesus Christ.

2nd Timothy 1:12, "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

Think about the things your life is filled with. Is there anything you have or anyone you know who cannot be taken from you? Eventually, those who love each other the strongest will be separated by death. Life is very difficult at times and all of us need help getting through it.

The Lord is our only hope in this life and in the next. His Word is our roadmap for navigating through the struggles of this life. The Lord helped everyone who asked Him and will help you also.

You may be struggling with something in your life as you're reading this. Look away from the hardship and look to Jesus Christ. He is the only one who can truly help.

THIS IS REALLY BIG

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 He drew "Li'l Abner"

7 Stands up to lip-curler

13 Disdainful

20 Roving vacuum cleaner

21 Delphi diviner

22 Lilting song syllables

23 Big mollusk of Antarctic seas

25 Birds such as emus

26 Box gently

27 Golf stroke

28 Ending for enzymes

30 Cue or clue

31 From quite a distance

32 Big tree of California

37 Per routine

41 Super-slow

42 Red-haired biblical twin

43 Big dissimilarity

46 Rarely

51 "Bam!" chef Lagasse

52 Cholera

53 Nashville's Grand Ole —

55 Gutter place

56 Work over

57 Big fuss

58 Trump's wife after Ivana

60 One laying down asphalt

61 Big project

66 "I've got it!"

69 Motor oil brand

70 Actress Meyers

71 W-2 org.

72 Boise-to-Las Vegas dir.

73 Big military counterstrike

80 Author Loos

81 Revolt

82 Cloud setting

83 Jazzy singer — James

87 Coke, e.g.

88 Deviate

89 Boxing legend

90 Knocks off

92 — Nevadas

94 Big job

98 "Nay" caller

100 Slaughter of baseball

101 Categorizes

102 Big pickup in an exhibition

107 Pot builder

108 See 86-Down

109 Yank's home

110 Nativity scene trio

111 Gulf country

115 Facial looks

118 Big home loan

123 Hillary's peak

124 Kindle

125 More greasy

126 Snuggles

127 Robbing jobs

128 Requisite

DOWN

1 Pop-up paths

2 Lariat end

3 Coke, e.g.

4 Love, in Peru

5 "NewsHour" network

6 Two-choice grading system

7 Melancholy

8 Once, in the past

9 E-help sheet

10 Hosp. section

11 Drug mogul Lilly

12 Biggish car

13 PTSD part in them

14 Big D.C. lobby

15 Dig into

16 Former state secretary

17 Secant, e.g.

18 1985 Kate Nelligan drama

19 Worshiper of Jah, in brief

24 "Two and — Men"

29 Church part

31 Q7 carmaker

32 "Friday the 13th" staple

33 Eisenhower, informally

34 Objectivist Rand

35 Unhurried

36 "— Sera, Sera"

37 State firmly

38 Unaltered

39 Well-trodden

40 Thurmond of politics

41 Ross of politics

44 Classic canine name

45 Power strip attachment

47 Plumbing problem

48 Bette of film

49 Cakes bake in them

50 Form a union

54 Infrequently seen thing

57 Coulomb per second

58 Big wall painting

59 Deep blue dye

60 El —, Texas

62 Big continent

63 "Scream" network

64 Totally dislike

65 Prefix with oxide

66 Heap up

67 Capital northeast of Vientiane

68 Parenthetical remark

74 Symbol on many flags

75 Gives off again

76 River in Spain

77 Rizzoli's TV partner

78 Similar (to)

79 "Nifty!"

84 Russian ruler of yore

85 PSAT part

86 With 108-Across, demands much (of)

88 Fan blade

89 Hectically

90 Skillet alloy

91 Apart from that

93 Squealer

95 Opposite of old, in Ulm

96 Pop's bro

97 Dance that "takes two"

99 Believes (in)

102 Master

103 Antipasto bit

104 Snouts, e.g.

105 Opening

106 Kingly Indian

107 Willie of "Charles in Charge"

110 Over half

111 Stare at rudely

112 — of honor

113 "A Death in the Family" writer

114 Uncool type

116 Salon stuff

117 Suffix of dialects

119 Ending with script

120 Me, to Fifi

121 Greyhound fleet unit

122 Game draw

CROSSWORD ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 8

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

