

Atmos Energy urges safety during hurricane season

News Release

FLOWOOD, MS – June 4, 2021 – According to the latest forecast from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Atlantic and Gulf coasts are likely to experience an above-average hurricane season from June 1 through Nov. 30 this year. Atmos Energy will continue to monitor and prepare for severe weather, encouraging residents to take proactive steps that help ensure personal safety.

“Hurricanes pose a threat to life and property, and Atmos Energy reminds everyone that the best time to plan is now – well before a storm arrives,” said Bobby Morgan, Atmos Energy vice president of public affairs.


“If a hurricane makes landfall, please do not use natural gas equipment that is flooded or damaged without first contacting a qualified service professional to have it inspected.”

If you suspect a natural gas leak or think you smell natural gas inside the home or neighborhood, act fast! Leave the area immediately and from a safe distance call 911 and the Atmos Energy Emergency Number at 1-866-322-8667.

Atmos Energy service technicians are emergency responders who ensure the safe operation of its system, performing essential services in compliance with social distancing guidelines to limit the spread of COVID-19. If any customers experience an interruption in service, Atmos Energy essential workers will restore service once local conditions are deemed safe. Whether it is a storm, flooding, or other severe weather events, please observe these tips to stay safe:

- During a natural disaster or severe weather event DO NOT turn off natural gas at the meter, even if evacuations are issued.
- If you smell gas, immediately leave the affected area and from a safe distance call 911 or Atmos Energy’s 24-hour emergency response line at 1-866-322-8667.
- NEVER try to find the source of a gas leak.
- DO NOT use a mobile phone or anything that might cause a spark, such as a generator.
- If flooding occurs at a residence or business and the gas appliances are under water, do not try to operate the appliances. Instead, contact Atmos Energy or a qualified service professional to conduct a safety inspection.
- If a natural gas meter is damaged or a gas line is exposed, immediately leave the area and call the Atmos Energy 24-hour emergency response line at 1-866-322-8667.
- Know where your natural gas meter is located. Make sure it’s visible and free of trash and debris. Mechanical equipment used to clean up after a storm may damage the meter if it is hidden.
- Natural gas distribution pipelines are mostly underground but can be damaged by uprooted trees and shifted foundations. After a storm, call 811 to have the location of underground utility lines marked, as gas service lines could become tangled.
- Atmos Energy customers experiencing a natural gas outage or service interruption should contact the company's customer service number at 1-888-286-6700. Customers will be restored as quickly as possible once the area is deemed safe.

For natural gas safety tips during severe weather, please visit www.atmosenergy.com/weathersafety.



Living With Children

By John Rosemond

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One of the more unfortunate consequences of relying on advice from mental health “experts” concerning parenting matters has been a one-dimensional understanding of child discipline. Because of the infiltration of psychological theory into childrearing, most parents conceive of discipline as being all about correcting behavior. Indeed, a child’s behavior requires correction, but raising a child out of the inferiority of childhood into a state of authentic adulthood requires discipline of a child’s thinking and emotions as well. Take it from a recovering graduate student, one is not taught that in psychology school.

Just as children must learn to behave correctly, they must also learn to think and emote correctly. Contrary to contemporary psychological propaganda, not all feelings are valid or deserving of exploration. “I have a right to feel like I do” is correct, but the pressing question is, does one have a “right” to indiscriminately inflict his feelings on other people? No, he does not, and children should be taught that most feelings are private matters and should remain as such.

Feelings make us human, and it is fine for person to express certain feelings in certain contexts with certain other people. But feelings are not, in and of themselves, good things. Undisciplined emotion is potentially destructive to self and others.

Fifty or so years ago, the profession of psychology decided – without evidence, as usual – that understanding children required deciphering their feelings. In

short order, good parenting became defined as the ability to understand and properly respond to a child’s emotional output. Parents began talking to their children about their feelings and treating any feeling a child had as worthy of attention and validation. And so, children began expressing more feelings, which goes a long way toward explaining why child mental health today is ten times worse than it was when there was little parent-child discussion of feelings and parents had no problem telling a child that certain feelings he was having were immature and unwarranted and that he needed to get a grip.

If left to his congenital emotional inclinations – impulsivity and exaggeration, predominately – a child begins to view the world as a drama and becomes a drama factory. He believes that a life without soap opera is a life without meaning. That belief system puts said child at great risk. It should not be encouraged. Unfortunately, some adults, as well-meaning as they may be, encour-

age it by engaging children in conversation about it.

Twice recently parents have told me of pre-teen children whose emotional control went down the proverbial tubes shortly after beginning to see therapists. In both cases, the therapists were talking to the kids about – yep – their feelings. In one case, a pre-teen girl began cutting. In another, a pre-teen boy began having full-blown temper tantrum when life didn’t conform to his immature standards.

The good news: In both cases, when the parents put an end to the therapy, confiscated the kids’ phones, and told them that limited reinstatement (phones that would call and text only) would depend on them showing immediate and significant evidence of accelerating maturity, the children began repressing their feelings (horrors!) and acting again like reasonably well-adjusted pre-adolescents.

Proving that in the final analysis, straightforward truth is the best therapy of all.

John Rosemond: johnrosemond.com, parentguru.com.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1) Fancy fundraisers
- 6) Synagogue reading
- 11) With it, slangily
- 14) Including everything
- 15) Essential __ acids
- 16) India Pale __
- 17) Medical extract-yielding tree
- 19) Cozy footwear, informally
- 20) Personal manner
- 21) Home of the Rays
- 23) Dragged through the mud
- 27) 12-year-old, e.g.
- 29) Restaurant in an 18-minute song
- 30) Less well off
- 31) Millrose Games runner
- 32) Gloomy atmospheres
- 33) Grid scores (Abbr.)
- 36) Salt Lake City collegians
- 37) Gondolier's workplace
- 38) "Comin' __ the Rye"
- 39) Chest muscle, briefly
- 40) More desirable, to a collector
- 41) Front-porch song
- 42) Some mass text messages
- 44) Seven-veil dancer
- 45) Hanging sculptures
- 47) Fastened, in a way
- 48) Reason to take Mylanta
- 49) Title opportunity
- 50) Hookah part
- 51) Vacationer's buy, maybe
- 58) Bobby who sang "Devil or Angel"
- 59) Cobb or Greek
- 60) Some urban pollution
- 61) Repair shop fig.
- 62) Online reads, for short
- 63) Freak out

DOWN

- 1) Platoon members, briefly
- 2) "SNL" alum Gasteyer
- 3) Robert Kardashian's field
- 4) Monte Rosa, for one
- 5) Hoosegow
- 6) No longer feral
- 7) Gathering clouds, to some
- 8) Gradually slower, in music (Abbr.)
- 9) Hobby farm critter
- 10) Restaurant chain with an owl logo
- 11) Olympics field event
- 12) Slip away secretly
- 13) Praline nut
- 18) Loads of bull
- 22) Packed away
- 23) Stop the flow of
- 24) Powerful group
- 25) Four-drawer unit, maybe
- 26) Air Force hotshots
- 27) Like some opposites
- 28) Monopoly turn
- 30) French door sections
- 32) Junkyard buys
- 34) Suffix with "hippo"
- 35) Did some cobbling
- 37) Show concern
- 38) Fish story
- 40) Fall off the wagon
- 41) Sanitation department service
- 43) English course, for short
- 44) "Nae" sayer
- 45) Light purple shade
- 46) Fairy-tale fiends
- 47) Loses, in a way
- 49) Negotiations glitch
- 52) Gangster's getaway
- 53) __ broche (skewered)
- 54) Cote call
- 55) Sportage automaker
- 56) Mentalist's skill, briefly
- 57) Kickoff gadget

IN AND AROUND

LEXINGTON

BY LEONA (LENA) FIELDS



Lee Andrew Meeks is out of the hospital. He’s doing fine. 3rd Sunday he was in the hospital; but 5th Sunday he was able to be at Trinity M.B. Church. Ms. Edna Newton is in or has been in a hospital. 5th Sunday she was in a hospital. I don’t know which hospital she is or was in. Pray that she improves healthwise. She gets around in a wheelchair.

Mr. L.C. Tate is ailing these days. Let’s pray that he will feel better. Mr. Tate is an aged man, but he is young at heart. He’s probably still working a little bit some-

where. He’s not a lazy man.

To the gentleman who retired from BankPlus and sent me word that he enjoys the column, I say Thank You for reading and enjoying the In and Around Lexington column. I am glad the column lets you know what’s going on In and Around Lexington. I’m going to do my best to keep writing. I wish I could get more news. To get your news in this column, call 662-834-1489.

Joe Morgan’s son Charlie and his family were here in Lexington for Memorial Day.

TOOLING ALONG

By Fred Piscop

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