



Cows on Campus
photo by Ross Houston

Emma and Hannah, two-thirds of triplets born in early April, participate in cow bingo Tuesday on the Quad as part of Truman Homecoming activities.

Energy bills will increase in winter

Higher demand for natural gas will impact University, residents

Timothy Long
Staff Reporter

Students living off-campus might need to grab another sweater to combat the rising costs of heating their homes.

Dramatic increases in natural gas prices will affect everyone from students to local landlords in the upcoming winter season, local landlord Teresa Mills said.

Mills said she expects the natural gas price to rise by 30 percent to 50 percent in the upcoming winter months.

Steve Green, manager of public affairs for Missouri at Atmos Energy, said 84 percent of the natural gas consumed around the country is produced domestically. The price of natural gas is increasing because of high demand.

"The average Atmos Energy residential customer in Missouri can expect to pay approximately \$133 per month from October 2005 through March 2006, compared to \$81 per month last year," he said.

The jump in prices will affect students who live off campus as well as students who live in the residential halls, said Andrea O'Brien, director of Residence Life.

"It's inevitable that gas prices are going to go up," O'Brien said.

This inevitable increase means the natural gas prices will be considered when figuring costs of room and board for next year because Truman's primary source of heat is natural gas, O'Brien said.

"Any little bit combined by lots of people saves quite a bit," O'Brien said.

Gas prices not only are going to affect students, but also the University itself, O'Brien said.

The amount of money Truman spends on utilities every year is about \$2.2 million, but Truman is allotting an extra \$250,000 for the upcoming natural gas price increase said Dave Rector director of budgets. The extra money comes from of a University contingency fund, Rector said.

"With any organization, everybody's looking at trying to be more efficient," O'Brien said.

O'Brien said students living in residence halls don't pay for natural gas bills directly, but room and board fees that are paid every semester include gas costs.

Using less gas does not necessarily mean being uncomfortable Mills said.

"I tell my tenants to wear socks and sweaters to keep warm and to keep the thermostat at 70 degrees at all times," Mills said.

Some tenants have utilities paid in their rent, and that means gas prices fall on the landlord, Mills said.

"I'm getting stuck with the gas prices now," Mills said. "But I try to get students to understand that their actions can affect future generations of students."

Local nonprofits depend on funds

United Way agencies' budgets rely on the donations they receive

Kalen Ponche
Managing Editor

Rarely a day goes by when Anne Barlow isn't doing service for others. The executive director of the Adair County Red Cross routinely spends her weeks teaching CPR classes to local teachers, teaching lawn mowing safety to fifth graders and organizing donations for the hurricane relief effort.

Barlow is the only paid staff member on the Red Cross, which is a United Way agency. Although Barlow said the national American Red Cross would like the Adair County chapter to have a budget of \$100,000, in reality the budget is about \$80,000 per year. The Adair County Red Cross receives about \$30,000 of that money from the United Way.

Six of the 13 local United Way organizations last year received more than \$19,000 from United Way. For many of these organizations, the money they receive from the United Way makes up a significant percentage of their budgets. Barlow said the Red Cross has been a United Way agency since it began in 1955 and has come to depend on the percentage of money it receives.

"If I didn't get funding from the United Way, I'd have to be doing fundraising 24-7, 365 days a year to run the chapter," she said.

In 2005 the Red Cross received more than \$30,000, 16 percent of the total allocable funds. The rest of the Red Cross Budget comes from first-aid, CPR and swimming classes. Last year these classes provided only about 22 percent of the annual budget, however.

"We aren't in there to make major money," she said. Annual letter-writing cam-

paigns, donations and bequests make up the rest of the budget.

Barlow said she goes into the classrooms and provides safety training for students in third through fifth grade.

The Adair County Red Cross also provides disaster assistance locally by providing money to families whose homes catch on fire.

"If the family has lost everything, there is always a monetary amount they can buy things with," she said.

Additionally, Barlow has sprung into action following the hurricane disasters in the Gulf Coast region. Barlow, who is certified in basic disaster training, said the American Red Cross could have sent her down to help in Louisiana, but instead she headed up the collection efforts in Adair County.

Other areas of Red Cross service to the community include service to the military, national trackings of people trying to locate displaced family and the organization of more than 35 blood drives for the area. Barlow said that without the United Way campaign funds, they would not be able to provide these services to the community.

"I cannot stress highly enough the need for people to donate," she said.

Each of the 13 member agencies of the United Way of Adair County directly serve Kirksville and the surrounding communities.

Every spring, member agencies make a presentation to United Way describing what they have used the money for in the past and what they plan to use it on in the future, said Lesa Ketterlinus, Truman staff chairwoman for the United Way campaign.

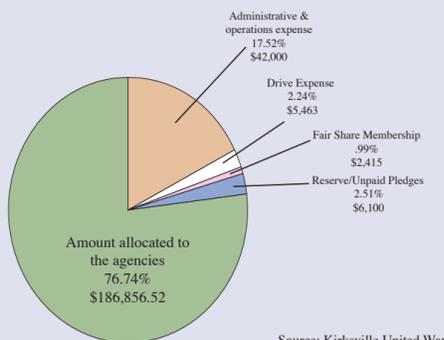
"Based on the amount of the money [United Way] brings in during the campaign, they see how much they can give each agency," she said.

The NEMO Senior Citizens Services, Inc./Nutrition Program, which is a United Way agency, provides more than 58,000 meals a year to about

United Way of Adair County 2005 Agency Allocations

Top 6 Agencies

American Red Cross	16.08%
Adair County Family YMCA	13.40%
Salvation Army	15.31%
NEMO Senior Citizens Services, Inc./Nutrition Program	11.18%
Victim Support Services	10.92%
RSVP	10.69%



Source: Kirksville United Way
Design by Victoria Weaver/Index

900 senior citizens, said Teresa Pagliai, executive director of the program.

"We serve about one in every four senior citizens in Adair County in a year's time," Pagliai said.

In 2005 the program received \$20,890.56, or 10 percent of its annual budget from United Way funds.

"[Without the money from the United Way] we'd be producing 10 percent less meals," she said.

Each United Way agency is required to do a fundraiser for the campaign. During the Red Barn Arts and Crafts Fair, the NEMO Senior Citizens Services hosted a bake sale in conjunction with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Pagliai said. These two programs, like many United Way agencies, work closely together to serve the community, said Pat Selby, executive director of RSVP.

"We provide volunteers for

area nonprofit agencies and hospitals, schools, organizations and nursing homes," she said.

RSVP works with the nutrition program to deliver meals to seniors in the area, Selby said. The money that RSVP receives from United Way, which makes up about 25 percent of its budget, is used to provide transportation reimbursement to the volunteers.

The money also helps pay for a van that picks up volunteers who don't drive and for liability and accident insurance for the volunteers, Selby said. Losing monetary support from the United Way would delimit the program, she said.

Truman's goal of raising \$52,000 will make up a significant amount of the money raised for the campaign. Last year Truman faculty, staff, students, emeritus faculty and retired staff raised more than \$51,000 for United Way, accord-

ing to a letter President Dixon wrote to the University.

The University has raised 77.6 percent of Truman's total so far, said senior Rachel See, student chairwoman for the United Way campaign.

"All the employees of the University are invited to participate in the United Way campaign," Ketterlinus said. "Most of them do payroll deduction, but we also get cash gifts and some people ask to be billed quarterly from the United Way office."

University counselor Erika Sterup said she has donated to United Way ever since she worked at Victim Support Services, Inc., a United Way agency, during graduate school.

"I think that even though Kirksville is a small town, it's one of the biggest towns around," Sterup said. "I think for us to continue to have the resources for Kirksville and other towns, we really ought to be supporting these agencies."

The campaign extends through the first part of November. Students have an opportunity to donate money through the student food fast, which will allow them to donate meal blocks through Sodexo. A portion of the money will be donated to the campaign.

"If I didn't get funding from the United Way, I'd have to be doing fundraising 24/7, 365 days a year to run the chapter."

Anne Barlow
Executive Director of the
Adair County Red Cross

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