MLGW workers pitch in to help those in need

An estimated 47 percent of the children in Shelby County live in poverty.

“Honestly, we cannot deal with the kinds of challenges we’re facing…without the participation of everybody,” said Dr. Kenneth Robison, president and CEO of United Way of the Mid-South.

He applauded MLGW’s leadership and employees for their 2015 contributions at a recent Board of Commissioners meeting.

Through a charity golf tournament and payroll deductions, MLGW employees raised $606,119.51.

MLGW President and CEO Jerry Collins Jr. is the chairman-elect of the organization’s board of directors.

En Español: Encuentre esta información, Customer Connection, traducido al español en nuestro sitio de red visitando mlgw.com/customerconnection.

Community Calendar

July 17: Women’s Bike Chat; 2 p.m. every third Sunday of the month at Revolutions Bicycle CoOP (First Congregational, 1000 S. Cooper). Bring a bike and helmet for a short ride afterward; Info: 901-726-6409.

July 26: Make a quilt; 6:15-9 p.m. with the Uncommon Threads Quilt Guild at Germantown United Methodist Church, 2331 S. Germantown Rd. First two meetings free. Meets every fourth Tuesday of the month.

Aug. 6: Meritan Midnight Classic Bike Tour and Luna Festival; starts at 10 p.m. at Tiger Lane, 450 Early Maxwell Blvd. with a midnight 17-mile ride through Midtown; Info: meritan.org.

Aug. 9: Stroke support group for survivors and caregivers; 2 p.m. on second Tuesdays of the month, HealthSouth Rehab North, 4100 Austin Peay; Info: Cynthia Travis at 901-516-5320.

Do you have a community event in the next eight weeks? Send an email to lgarlington@mlgw.org. Make sure to include Community Calendar in the subject heading.

Customer Reference Number: 7716

(continued inside)

MLGW and TVA partner for energy efficiency improvements at local apartment complex

After her apartment complex made major energy efficiency renovations, Edith ‘Eydie’ Allday expected lower utility bills.

“I was hoping for a drop, but not that big of a drop,” Allday said. “I was shocked.” Her utility bill fell to $34 from $88 for her one-bedroom apartment.

Now, Wesley Highland residents are paying as much as 60 percent less for their utility bills.

Through a collaborative effort, the owners of Wesley Highland Meadows spent $6.5 million in renovations. Workers almost gutted the apartments. They installed new heating and air systems, Energy Star windows and doors, and upgraded the electrical and plumbing systems.

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(continued inside)
As a consultant to Wesley Housing Corp., Alco Property Management President Robert Hyde called the Greater Memphis Area Chamber to talk about the renovations.

Soon, MLGW’s Bullock and later Tennessee Valley Authority were pulled into the discussion. TVA put $100,000 toward the project to help defray the cost of energy efficiency measures. MLGW workers inspected the systems during installation.

“We’ve already had a few residents [say], ‘I’m seeing a 30 percent reduction in my utilities.’ That’s a lot for an individual on a fixed income,” said Jim Nasso, CEO of Wesley Housing Corp.

Win $5,000 for your neighborhood

MLGW is partnering with Ready Shelby to host the MLGW Neighborhood Leaders Conference on Aug. 12 at the Joyce M. Blackmon Training Center, 4949 Raleigh-LaGrange Rd.

The conference provides training opportunities for grassroots leaders to be better prepared in the event of a disaster. The conference also will announce the winners of the Ready Neighbors competition. The grand prize is $5,000, and competition ends July 29.

Call Ernestine Smith at 259-3542 about the contest. For more information about the conference, call MLGW at 528-4820.

MG LW showcases rally for vehicles using compressed natural gas

MLGW recently hosted a media stop for the “CNG from Sea to Shining Sea Road Rally,” presented by the American Public Gas Association and Natural Gas Vehicles for America trade association.

Memphis served as a midway point for the coast-to-coast tour. A fleet of vehicles running on compressed gas traveled through 13 cities from Long Beach, CA to Washington, D.C. from May 30 - June 10.

The rally highlighted the viability of natural gas as an alternative fuel source. It was held at 3071 S. Center Rd., one of two public MLGW-owned CNG filling stations.

MLGW operates a fleet of nearly 100 natural gas vehicles.

Hold that shovel right there!

August 11 (8/11) is National 811 Day, a reminder to call 811 before any digging to have your underground utilities marked to help prevent hitting a gas line.

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