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Leon Dickson Sr.

Leon Dickson Sr., owner and principal broker of Bench-Mark at Southwind Realtors, is joining MLGW's Board of Commissioners as its newest member. Mayor Jim Strickland appointed Dickson to replace Darrell Cobbins who has been on the five-member governing board since 2008.

The Tennessee Association of Realtors recently selected Dickson as the group's first African-American president-elect for 2017.

A Realtor for 27 years, he previously held the post of state secretary / treasurer for the 24,000-member group. The native Memphian volunteers at Hope-Works and Germanshire Elementary.

**En Español:** Encuentre este informativo, *Customer Connection*, traducido al español en nuestro sitio de red visitando [mlgw.com/customerconnection](http://mlgw.com/customerconnection).

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## Community Calendar

**Dec. 1-27:** Starry Nights at Shelby Farms Park. Open Dec. 24-25. Sunday-Thursday from 6-9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday until 10 p.m. Tickets vary. Info: [shelbyfarmspark.com](http://shelbyfarmspark.com).

**Dec. 9-30:** SunTrust Zoo Lights with ice rink and ferris wheel from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Closed Dec. 24-25. Members \$7; non-members \$9. Info: [memphiszoo.org/zoolights](http://memphiszoo.org/zoolights).

**Dec. 16-23:** Memphis Botanic Gardens Snowy Nights in My Big Backyard. Members \$8; non-members \$10. Info: [memphisbotanicgarden.com/snowynights](http://memphisbotanicgarden.com/snowynights).

**Jan. 19:** ArtSavvy: Contemporary Dance 101 with Wayne Smith at 7 p.m. at Germantown Performing Arts Center. Free. Reservations required at [boxoffice@gpacweb.com](mailto:boxoffice@gpacweb.com) or 901-751-7500.

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



Customer Reference Number: 12/16



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## Customer CONNECTION



PRODUCED MONTHLY BY MEMPHIS LIGHT, GAS AND WATER DIVISION

### City Council approves budget with no 2017 rate increases

The Memphis City Council approved MLGW's 2017 operating and capital budget of \$1.91 billion. Among the highlights:

- There are no rate increases for electricity, gas or water. If TVA wholesale electric rates go up in the future, it must be passed through to customers.
- It costs \$1.13 billion to buy power and gas for MLGW customers.
- MLGW pays more than \$78 million for payments in lieu of property taxes.
- About \$227 million is for capital projects.
- Capital projects include \$18.5 million in electrical substation improvements; \$11.3 million for water pumping station upgrades and \$8.1 million for retrofitting the cast iron gas system and improving pipeline integrity.

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## Mallory Water Pumping Station set to reopen in April

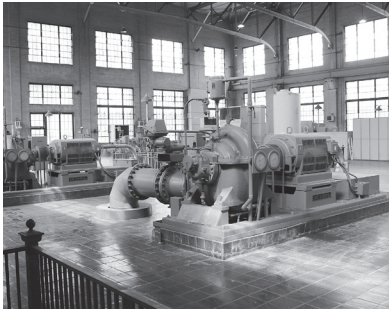
MLGW closed the Mallory Water Pumping Station in October for routine maintenance repairs. Once the work is finished, it will mean a more reliable water system.

Nearby water treatment plants will service the station's existing customers in the downtown and midtown areas.

During the shut-down, customers may see some slightly cloudy water caused by sediment in their water lines and possible low water pressure in the spring.

Before calling MLGW, customers should flush their pipes by opening the faucet farthest from their water meter until the water clears.

If you have prolonged sediment issues or low water pressure, businesses should call MLGW at 528-4270. Residents should call 820-7878.



Inside the Mallory Water Pumping Station

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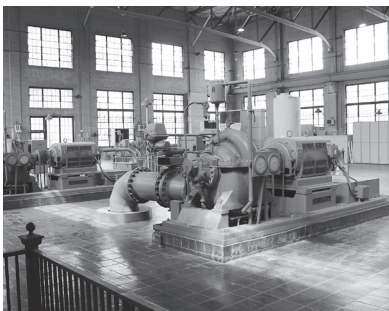
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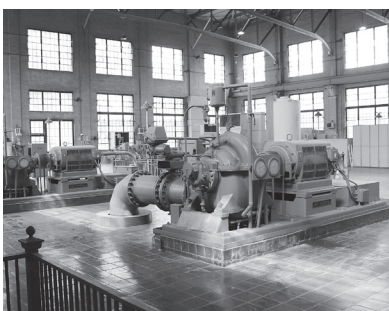
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Inside the Mallory Water Pumping Station

## Students learn how to burn rubber using solar energy

Like future NASCAR drivers, students lined up their solar-powered paneled hot wheels and eyed the competition. On a sunny fall day, they waited for the announcer's, "Ready. Set. Go!" before launching their cars on a 20-meter course.

In all, 35 high school and middle school teams competed in MLGW's A-Blazing Race as a part of E-Day at the University of Memphis. The event encourages students to consider engineering as a career. "We want the kids to not only be excited about engineering but also about renewable and solar energy," said MLGW Community Relations Coordinator Beverly Perkins.

Memphis Business Academy and Collierville Middle won for speed. Harding Academy and Houston Middle won for notebook/design.



And they're off...One team's car gets a slow start while others race to the finish line at the A-Blazing race.

## Winter homeowner safety tips for natural gas

If you have a gas stove or furnace, make sure the flame burns steady and blue. A yellow-orange tipped, dancing, hissing or shapeless flame is a sign of incomplete combustion which results in dangerous carbon monoxide build-up.

Carbon monoxide is odorless and causes nausea, headaches, dizziness and fatigue. If you suspect exposure, seek medical help immediately. Have gas appliances inspected and serviced annually, and make sure they are properly vented. Never heat your home with a gas stove; that's a fire and carbon monoxide hazard.

Natural gas smells like rotten eggs or sulfur.

### If you smell gas:

- Leave the area immediately.
- Do not smoke, or use anything that produces an open flame.
- Do not operate electrical or battery-powered equipment, light switches, flashlights or any phones. A small spark could cause an explosion.
- Call MLGW at 528-4465 or 9-1-1.

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