May 9-10: 3rd Annual Art on the Sidewalk Festival, benefiting LeBonheur Children’s Hospital, The Shops of Saddle Creek. The event will feature painting activities for adults and kids, food and music. Fri. 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Info: www.shopsofsaddlecreek.com.

May 19-July 3: Operation Feed. Food and Funds Drive: The community-wide effort to fight hunger. Info: David Stephens, 497-1153 or dstephens@midouthfoodbank.org.

May 22: Annual Zoom Through the Zoo 4-mile race and 1-mile fun run, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Pre-registration, $25/4-mile; $20/1-mile; Race Day, $30/4-mile; $25/1-mile. Info: 333-6500.


May 23: Herbal Celebration Cocktail Party. 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Music by Paul Little, beverages, and herbal treats. $35 ($25 MBG and MHS members). Tickets online at www.memphisbotanicgarden.com or by calling 636-4128.

May 26: Memphis Zoo’s Enrichment Day. A way of encouraging natural behaviors by providing incentives for animals to make choices, be active, and explore. All activities included in Zoo admission. Visit our website for the full schedule. Info: 333-6500.


June 5 and 14: “Credit Card Street Smarts” at Whitehaven Branch Library, 4120 Millbranch. Participants will learn the specifics of credit, credit cards, credit and identity theft. June 5 at 5 p.m.; June 14 at 10:30 a.m. Info: 825-8956.

June 7: National Kidney Foundation’s 12th Annual Kidney Walk of West Tennessee, Rhodes College. Registration at 8 a.m.; Walk at 9 a.m. Register online or form a team at www.kidnaywalk.org or call 683-6185.

June 7: Tennis Talent Search, Epiphany Tennis Court, 1097 S. Third Street, Try-outs for boys and girls 7 to 16 years old. Info: 946-6464.

June 9 – July 25: Summer Day Camp at all 24 City of Memphis Community Centers by the City of Memphis Division of Parks and Neighborhoods. For campers ages 5-12 and teen camp for ages 13-15 (at selected locations). Recreational, athletic, cultural and educational activities and field trips. Daily from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Info: 636-4203.

May 23: Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division helped 6,704 customers to manage their bills and avoid disconnection through its relaxed deferred payment plan (DEFB).

In all, from the time that relaxed requirements were activated on January 27 for its conclusion on March 28, the total amount of DEFBs approved exceeded $5.5 million.

The relaxed rules lowered the requirement for a deferred payment plan for bills that are $250 or more, which is down from $500 or more. Customers were allowed to pay 25 percent of the money owed or $250, whichever was less, and repay the remaining balance in equal payments over the next five months.

“Whenever we have the opportunity to help our customers, it’s always the right thing to do,” said Jerry Collins Jr., MLGW President and CEO.
A new national survey of the top 50 utilities in the country published by Northeast Group, LLC has ranked MLGW as one of the top three utilities in the nation for its social media efforts. These utilities on average had 11,000 twitter followers and responded to customer comments within 28 minutes.

The survey also ranked the top utilities in the country for mobile apps in which MLGW ranks in the top three. MLGW’s free mobile app, both for iPhone and Android, allows MLGW customers to access a variety of utility related information, including outage status, conservation tips and a mobile-friendly outage map.

MLGW has nearly 12,000 Twitter followers, 8,000 Facebook likes, an award-winning blog and website, pages on Pinterest, YouTube and Flicker.

Randolph Donates to Restore Power for Memphis-Area Families

Recently, Memphis Grizzlies forward Zach Randolph made his first official contribution from the Zach Randolph Community Assistance Fund – a $20,000 donation to the MIFA Emergency Services Plus-1 program to cover the cost of utility payments for 100 Memphis-area households. Randolph visited two families to restore power and held a ceremony with representatives from MIFA and MLGW to launch the Zach Randolph Community Assistance Fund. This is the fourth consecutive year Randolph has donated to restore power for Memphis-area families. He has provided assistance for more than 400 families.

MLGW’s Plus-1 Jam Celebrates Memphis Music

Enjoy some great Memphis Music on Beale Street in May as MLGW presents its third annual Plus-1 Jam to raise funds for MIFA’s Plus-1 utility assistance program. A diverse lineup of local bands will perform on a stage next to the Elvis statue on the north side of MLGW’s Administration building at Main and Beale on most Friday nights and Saturday afternoons and evenings during May. The music lineup can be found on MLGW’s website (www.mlgw.com) under “Latest News.”

2013 Water Quality Report Available Online

Do you ever stop and think how fortunate you are to have such awesome drinking water? Many cities are not as lucky as Memphis and Shelby County.

Specialists in MLGW’s Water laboratory perform numerous tests throughout the year to monitor components of Memphis’ water. The 2013 test results reveal our water to be well within the designated limits, and meeting or exceeding all water-quality standards set by the EPA. All community water systems are required to prepare and distribute an annual water quality report. MLGW is proud to provide excellent drinking water for the citizens of Memphis and Shelby County.

Customers can readily view MLGW’s 2013 Water Quality Report online in English or Spanish at www.mlgw.com/waterquality, as well as request a paper copy of the report by calling 901-320-3950 or e-mailing corpcomm@mlgw.org.