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Community OUTREACH

News to the Neighborhoods from Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division

July/August 2016

Win \$5,000 for your neighborhood organization

MLGW will be partnering with Ready Shelby again to host the MLGW Neighborhood Leaders Conference on Friday, August 12 at the Joyce Blackmon Training Center. The conference is an annual MLGW event designed to provide network and training opportunities for grassroots leaders. Safety will be the theme of this year's event. In addition to great information, attendees will again have the opportunity to win great door prizes.

Ready Shelby is an initiative that seeks to encourage Shelby County citizens to be more prepared in the event of a disaster. The conference will be the finale for the Ready Neighbors Competition where one neighborhood

will win the Grand Prize of \$5,000.00.

The competition will end on July 29. If your neighborhood is interested in participating in the Ready Neighbors Competition, register online at www.readyshelby.org or call Ernestine Smith at 259-3542. Assistance is also available to help you prepare for the competition.

For more information about the conference contact MLGW Communications and Public Relations at 528-4820.



Helping the community with United Way

MLGW employees consistently show their generosity by giving and volunteering for local organizations. One of the Division's closest community relationships is with United Way of the Mid-South.

In 2015, MLGW employees raised \$606,119.51 for United Way's programs. At a recent meeting of the MLGW Board of Commissioners, Dr. Kenneth Robinson, president and CEO of United Way of the Mid-South, thanked MLGW for its leadership and employees for their contributions.

"It has been a wonderful, break-out year for MLGW in support of the United Way campaign," Robinson said.

Robinson underscored the importance of community leaders like MLGW coming together to address the problems in our region. The eight-county area served by United Way of the Mid-South is facing major challenges in education, health and poverty, he said. Many of these problems can be linked to financial instability.

"A million people in the Mid-South living in poverty. Forty-seven percent of children in Shelby County living in poverty," Robinson said. "Honestly, we cannot deal in the Mid-South with the kinds of challenges we're facing..."

without the participation of everybody."

MLGW has a special relationship with United Way. Eighty percent of MLGW employees participate in the annual United Way campaign, and President and CEO Jerry Collins Jr. is the chairman-elect of the organization's board of directors. According to Robinson, more than 600,000 lives were changed by United Way last year, and MLGW's contribution was a big part of that work.

"This is not about simply coming up and saying thank you for the campaign," said Robinson. "What you're doing is funding community impact."



L to R: MLGW Board Chairman Derwin Sisnett; United Way of the Mid-South CEO Dr. Kenneth Robinson; Juanita Ford (UW 2015 co-chair/2016 chair); Derrick Dones (UW 2015 chair); MLGW President and CEO Jerry Collins Jr.; and Reginald Green, senior associate at United Way

Water Quality Report online

The 2015 Water Quality Report is now online, available in English and Spanish. Go to mlgw.com/about/waterqualityreport to read about vital facts on the source and quality of your drinking water. Copies of the report are also available at all MLGW Community Offices, at local libraries or by calling 320-3950.



Kerry Roy, from MLGW Environmental Engineering, talks to students about solar energy and the A-Blazing Race at Bartlett Schools E-Day.

MLGW Speaker's Bureau

Do you have a community event that MLGW should be a part of? Do you need an MLGW professional speaker, but you're not sure who to contact?

The MLGW Speaker's Bureau is here to help. Please visit mlgw.com/speaker and submit your request, and we'll follow up to find the best fit for your event. Please submit all requests at least three weeks before the event.

MLGW in the Community

Community outreach and volunteer programs are always part of MLGW's schedule. Some of the upcoming events that MLGW will be participating in include the following:

July 14 – Church Advent'urers, 1879 N. Germantown Parkway, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

July 20 – Kingsway Christian Church, 7887 Poplar Avenue, 6:30 p.m.

July 23 – City of Faith Church Community Awareness Fair, 1738 Winston Dr., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aug. 4 – Waverly Farms Neighborhood Association, 4470 Duncan Road, 6 p.m.

Aug. 12 – MLGW Neighborhood Leaders Conference, MLGW University (4949 Raleigh-LaGrange), 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Aug. 13 – Memphis Health Center, 360 E. H. Crump, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sept. 2-16 – Delta Fair, Agricenter, various times

Sept. 3 – 42nd Annual WLOK Stone Soul Picnic, Levitt Shell in Overton Park

Sept. 11 – Jewish Family Service Senior Resource Fair, 6560 Poplar Avenue, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 5 – Professional Network on Aging Senior Day the Zoo, Memphis Zoo, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you would like MLGW to be an exhibitor or speaker at your event, please call 528-4820 or request online at mlgw.com/speaker.



Community Outreach is produced by MLGW's Communications and Public Relations department. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions about this publication, please feel free to contact the Community Relations area of MLGW's Communications and Public Relations department at (901) 528-4820. Or call Communications and Public Relations, at (901) 528-4557.

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MLGW re-launches Max Impact



MLGW has announced the re-launching of Max Impact, a low-interest loan program that provides funding for home weatherization improvements up to \$2,500. The interest rate is fixed at 3%, and the loan is repayable on the customer's monthly MLGW bill for a term of up to seven years. There are some requirements of eligibility and documentation.

Eligible home weatherization improvements include AC

condenser replacement; attic access hatches; attic insulation; duct replacement; furnace replacement; leaks (gas or water); water heater replacement (gas or electric); and window or door replacement.

Max Impact is a LOAN which must be repaid. Penalties for default include the balance of the loan becoming due in full and immediately payable, disconnection of utilities, and/or reporting to credit agencies.

If you are interested in participating in the Max Impact Home Weatherization Loan Program, please call 528-4188 to have an application mailed to you.

TVA awards MLGW as a Top Performer

TVA has named MLGW as one of its 2016 EnergyRight Solutions Top Performers. Cindy Herron, VP of EnergyRight Solutions, presented the award to the company at a recent MLGW Board of Commissioners meeting.

MLGW not only earned the designation of Top Performer, but the Division also won the title in four categories.

With 36 million kilowatt-hours of savings, MLGW was a Top Performer in energy efficiency impact. The energy conserved in Memphis and Shelby County accounted for 12 percent of all

savings in TVA's service area.

In TVA's self-audit program, MLGW ranked first overall, with 1,600 customers participating in self-audits.

MLGW was also first overall in the EnergyRight Solutions for Business category, with 29 million kWh saved.

Finally, MLGW ranked among the top performers in the Green Power Switch program. Over 50,000 blocks have been sold to date, representing 7.5 million kWh of renewable energy added to the TVA grid.

Herron praised MLGW's leadership

for making a priority of focusing on energy conservation, efficiency and green power.

"We value and appreciate our partnership with MLGW and the leadership and vision that this board has to offer these energy efficiency programs to the city of Memphis and their customers," said Herron. "Through their leadership and vision, these energy efficiency efforts help keep rates low, help businesses grow and help advance the overall quality of life for the people of Memphis."

MLGW hosts CNG Road Rally

MLGW recently hosted the "CNG from Sea to Shining Sea Road Rally," presented by the American Public Gas Association and NGV America, at its public compressed natural gas (CNG) filling station at 3071 S. Center Road. The coast-to-coast tour saw a fleet of CNG vehicles travel through 13 cities, from Long Beach, California, to Washington, D.C., from May 30 to June 10.

The purpose of the rally is to demonstrate the viability of natural gas as an alternative fuel source and to educate the public about the benefits of natural gas vehicles (NGVs).



MLGW's sponsorship of the tour is another example of the company's ongoing dedication to clean, affordable energy sources like natural gas. MLGW opened its South CNG Filling Station, the second operated by the company, in 2015.



Hold that shovel, stop that backhoe!

Gardening, excavating, constructing or digging? August 11 (8/11) is National 811 Day, a reminder that you should always call 811 before any digging to have your underground utilities marked and prevent hitting a gas line.

Don't go BOOM!



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

LipSync Plus, a success

The competition was fierce inside the Hard Rock Cafe on Beale Street when performers, celebrities, fans and donors gathered to witness a fun talent competition that benefited MIFA's Plus-1 utility assistance program. LipSync Plus featured contestants lip-syncing to their favorite music as judges and the audience whittled down the competition to select a winner. All the proceeds went to MIFA's Plus-1 program. Here are some pictures that tell the story.



Some MLGW customers get free AC units

Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division and the Neighborhood Christian Center teamed once again to "Play It Cool," the annual initiative to provide window air-conditioning units to qualified low-income seniors and disabled residents of Shelby County. MLGW donated more than 200 units.

The Neighborhood Christian Center hosted a screening and application process for the free units. To qualify, applicants have to be residents of Shelby County, low-income seniors 60 years of age or older, and without operable air conditioning.

Once an individual is screened and pre-qualifies, a voucher

is issued to verify that the applicant has met the guidelines. Field inspections are conducted by MLGW to verify that the residence meets installation requirements. MLGW employees perform the installation of units. Air conditioners are not installed at addresses with operating units, or on residences with bars or storm windows.



As in previous years, many customers hurried to the Neighborhood Christian Center to be screened, hoping to get one of the hundreds of air conditioning units donated by MLGW.

MLGW recognizes high achieving Carver High students



Clemente Washington (left), MLGW Assessment and Development, stands with some of Carver High's Distinguished Honor students.

G. W. Carver High School, MLGW's adopted school, held its third term Honors Program on April 15. MLGW University's Clemente Washington, Assessment and Development, was the guest speaker. He encouraged the students to have a written plan for their life, with dates set to reach important goals and to check it often so they stay on target.

Three ACT+2 Club achievers, 11 Distinguished Honor Roll students, 24 Honor Roll students and four students with perfect attendance received gift cards for their accomplishments. All honorees also received a gold-seal Certificate of Achievement signed by MLGW President and CEO Jerry R. Collins Jr. and Human Resources Vice President Von Goodloe.