

October FUNdraising at LCEC



LCEC's Annual Golf Tournament to benefit United Way raised \$39,000 and included an impressive 120 golfers!



The 2019 LCEC Goblin Gallop 5k for United Way in October raised more than \$5,700 and had a record-breaking 171 registrants!



LCEC employees, family, and friends braved torrential rainfall to walk in the 2019 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. The team raised \$2,218 for the American Cancer Society!

Fifth CEO in LCEC history named as Dennie Hamilton retires

After 12 years, LCEC's CEO Dennie Hamilton has retired. "Dennie played a vital part in leading the LCEC organization through critical change and continuous improvement. We are proud of all that LCEC has accomplished under his leadership," said LCEC Board of Trustees President Russell Priddy. "In particular, it was Dennie's tenacity for ensuring the best interest of LCEC members and forward thinking that led to multiple successful franchise agreements with local government bodies, competitive rates, quality service, improved reliability, and a complete replacement of the company's technology systems." In addition to no rate increases in 12 years and rates being reduced five times under Dennie's guidance, LCEC earned multiple prestigious awards, countless accolades, and the cooperative was able to return millions in equity to members.



After a well-thought-out selection process and succession plan, the LCEC Board of Trustees appointed Denise Vidal to the role of executive vice president and chief executive officer. Having worked for LCEC in a variety of departments and leadership roles including chief financial officer (CFO), Vidal has a broad understanding and knowledge of the LCEC business model, the utility industry, and the environment in which LCEC operates. She has an impressive track record for cultivating relationships and maintaining financial strength while always supporting the LCEC mission to deliver reliable electricity, competitive rates, and quality service. The Board welcomes Denise to the role and wishes her every success when she moves from her CFO role to the top leadership position.

PAYING IT FORWARD

"On behalf of the Cape Coral Youth Council, we would like to thank LCEC for the generous donation. Your dedication to Cape Coral's youth gives us the opportunity to develop leading members of our community." *Amanda, Youth Council Chairperson*

"Thank you for your grant to support the Merit Badge University taking place at "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Support like yours is vital in continuing to provide a home for our wildlife, protect the water and land they need to survive, and educate future conservation stewards. Your gift truly makes a difference." *Lynnae Messina, Associate Executive Director*

CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Debit/Credit Card = SmartHub, Online, Phone
- Electronic Check = SmartHub, Online, Phone, AutoPay
- Paper Check = Mail
- Anytime 24/7 = SmartHub, Online, Phone

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 220,683 customers. LCEC News is published monthly for customers by the Public Relations Department, P.O. Box 3455, N. Ft. Myers, FL 33918-3455 (800) 599-2356 or 239-656-2300 www.lcec.net

CUSTOMER SURVEY WINNERS
If you receive an LCEC customer survey, return it for a chance to win \$100. Last month's winners were Robert Craig, Lehigh Acres, Reinaldo Gonzalez, Lehigh Acres, Maureen Pottle, Cape Coral, and Francisco Santay, Immokalee.

ANOTHER YEAR WITH NO RAISED RATES!

As the new year approaches, we would like to announce that LCEC will begin 2020 with no rate increase! LCEC has not increased its rates since 2008. The year 2020 will ring in the twelfth year in a row without the need to raise rates. It has been a conscientious team effort to give our customers the lowest rates possible.

"Companywide our focus is on customer service while maintaining competitive rates," said CEO Denise Vidal. "A sincere thank you to the CEC team for managing responsible cooperative initiatives to make this possible for our twelfth year in a row."

As always, LCEC will remain engaged in executing critical projects, managing our assets, and conducting cost-of-service studies to determine our strategic direction in the best interest of our members.



New transmission line project powering forward

Construction of four miles of new transmission line in Collier County is progressing. LCEC contractors were mobilized in April 2019, and phase two began in July. A project of this magnitude requires an immense amount of labor and equipment.

Once completed, the transmission system in this region will be configured to feed power to customers from multiple directions, which will greatly increase reliability.

FASCINATING FACTOIDS:

A new transmission line takes about four years to energize. The process includes:

- Preliminary design, obtain land rights – one and a half years
- Permit, finalize design – one year
- Procure material – six months
- Procure labor, construct and energize – one year



Brighten your holidays efficiently



LED lights

Invest in Energy Star LED light strands. They use 70 percent less energy, are brighter, and you can string up to 24 strands without overloading an outlet! They last up to ten times longer because there is no glass or filaments to break!



Set a timer

Schedule your lights to come on when it gets dark and off at bedtime.



It isn't all about the lights

Be creative with reflective ornaments and tinsel that can mirror your neighbors' light display. Electricity-free traditional decorations offer holiday cheer and don't break the bank.

As you put the finishing touches on your spectacular holiday lighting feature, use these energy-efficient tips to help you have more for stocking stuffers!

REPORT AN inoperative streetlight... and we are on it!

LCEC makes it simple to report a streetlight that is malfunctioning. Make an online report or call 1-800-599-2356. Just give us a description of the problem, the location or the number on the pole (example: S9999XX), and your contact information.



This notice is in compliance with Florida statute 768.1382

Three types of electric utilities... you belong to a cooperative!

In the illuminating world of electric utilities, there are three different types:

Cooperative – owned by its members and operates on a non-profit, cost-of-service basis. In Florida, there are 16 electric cooperatives. LCEC is one of the largest cooperatives in the United States with more than 220,000 customers and nearly 8,500 miles of energized lines.

Investor-owned – for-profit utility owned by stockholders who may or may not be customers. In Florida there are six investor-owned electric companies.

Municipality-owned – owned by a city, state or federal government. Revenues can be used to fund other projects. In Florida there are 32 municipality-owned electric cooperatives.

The electric cooperative business model was formed for and by customers in order to receive electricity in rural areas that investor-owned utilities did not reach. Electric cooperatives are governed by a Board of Trustees elected from the ranks of the members. While the Board has direct oversight of the policies and finances, it is the 375+ employees who operate LCEC on a day-to-day basis.

LCEC is proud and honored to be YOUR electric cooperative!



HOLIDAY HOURS

Christmas
December 24 and 25, closed

New Year's
January 1, closed

Conduct business online at
www.lcec.net
any day of the year, day or night!