

Susquehanna plant helps raise nearly \$50,000 for United Way

\$49,316.

That's how much PPL's Susquehanna nuclear plant employees, business associates and friends raised in September in the first golf tournament to benefit the Berwick Area United Way.

"It blew me away. I don't know how to say thank you for that kind of generosity," said Joy McGinnis, Berwick Area United Way chief executive officer.

"PPL and its employees are so important to our United Way," she said. "It goes beyond the dollars. The way the Susquehanna people contribute their time and talents to community agencies is very impressive."

"The big winners of this tournament are all the people who will be able to receive support from United Way as a result of the money we raised," said Tim Rausch, PPL's chief nuclear officer.

McGinnis presented a national

Tocqueville Society award to Rausch.

The award honors individuals whose leadership and commitment in their personal support of United Way has been "uncommon in its generosity."

PPL also received the local United Way's "Stuff the Bus" award for the 204 backpacks employees provided for children in need. The Susquehanna plant chapter of Women in Nuclear sponsored the backpack drive that was held in August.

"We are elated at the outstanding response from our PPL employees, friends and business partners who made this event such a success," said Duane Karchner, Susquehanna plant refueling floor manager, who is chairing this year's employee United Way campaign at the plant. "Their participation in this community outreach is greatly valued.

We're encouraged by their generosity and expect to make the golf tournament an annual tradition."

Members of the team taking first place in the tournament with a score of 13 under par were Chris Lopes, Paul Gardner Jr., Chris Banyas and Jack Miller.



PPL chairman updates community leaders about Susquehanna plant

PPL Corporation Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Jim Miller discussed the PPL Susquehanna nuclear plant's performance and the benefits of nuclear power with more than 100 community leaders in October at the Berwick Golf Club. The event is held every fall.

Throughout his presentation, Miller stressed the company's commitment to operating the plant safely, being a good corporate citizen and always working to improve performance and nuclear safety.

"We're pleased that our federal regulators have recognized the work we've done to improve the work environment at the plant and that we're committed to taking effective and timely actions to ensure safety remains a top focus for as long as the plant operates," Miller said.

Miller also updated community leaders on the Bell Bend project, and





PPL's Susquehanna Unit 1 now the nation's largest Boiling Water Reactor

With equipment and system upgrades completed during a refueling and maintenance outage last spring, Unit 1 at PPL's Susquehanna nuclear power plant is now the largest Boiling Water Reactor in terms of thermal power and generating capacity in the United States, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

"PPL continues to invest in the future of the Susquehanna nuclear power plant with upgrades that increase the amount of electricity the plant can safely generate," said Jeff Helsel, Susquehanna plant manager.

When operating at 100 percent power, Susquehanna's Unit 1 has a capacity of 3,952 megawatts thermal (a measure of the heat produced in the reactor) and about 1,300 megawatts electrical (a measure of the electricity produced by the generator). The 1,300 megawatts of electrical output is enough to power about 1 million typical homes.

PPL owns 90 percent of the Susquehanna plant. Allegheny Electric Cooperative owns 10 percent.

Workers completed a number of equipment upgrades during the outage that enable Unit 1 to produce more steam and generate more electricity, including the installation of a new integrated digital control system for plant equipment and replacing turbines that power pumps that provide water to the reactor vessel.

The completion of upgrades during this year's Unit 1 outage continues a four-year project begun in 2008 to increase the amount of electricity the Susquehanna nuclear plant can safely and reliably generate. That project is expected to conclude in 2011 after further upgrades to Unit 2 are completed, at which point Unit 2 will have a similar capacity for thermal and electrical energy.

"The Susquehanna plant has a proven record of safe and reliable operation. Increasing its generating capacity is a cost-effective way to meet future energy demand from an existing source that emits no greenhouse gases," Helsel said.

Sirens tested successfully; satellite activation system installed

In August, the annual activation test of the Susquehanna nuclear plant's emergency notification system was conducted successfully.

"This year's test took a slightly different twist," said Joe Scopelliti, PPL's Susquehanna Community Relations manager. "As in other years, the 76 emergency sirens were activated for three minutes using the primary county activation system, which uses radio frequency signals. During that test, only one of the sirens failed to sound."

Immediately following that test, the sirens were activated a second time using a newly installed satellite activation system. PPL installed the backup system to ensure that the sirens can be activated reliably in the unlikely event of a Susquehanna plant emergency or any other community emergency, Scopelliti said. In the test using the satellite activation system, all 76 sirens sounded.

"The annual siren tests help us ensure the emergency warning system is working properly. Of course, our goal is always 100 percent performance from the system."

The sirens can be used to notify the community of emergencies, not only at the plant, but for any purpose, Scopelliti said. Some of the sirens are shared with local fire companies, which use them for fire calls.



More than 500 attend annual Fall Festival

Beautiful weather in October drew more than 500 residents to the fourth annual Susquehanna Fall Festival at the Riverlands Environmental Preserve.

“It was a picture-perfect day, with plenty of sunshine and warm temperatures,” said Joe Scopelliti, Susquehanna community relations manager. “Many families took advantage of our invitation to residents of the 10-mile emergency planning zone around the Susquehanna plant to come to our annual festival in appreciation of their support of the plant.”

“We started holding a Fall Festival in 2007, and this year’s was one of the best,” he said.

It was evident from all the happy young faces sporting pumpkins, ghosts, bats — and even apples — that the face-painting by members of Berwick Area High School’s INTERACT Club was very popular.

Also popular were the tractor-drawn hayride through the Riverlands trails and the chance for the kids to decorate a free pumpkin to take home.

At the Susquehanna Energy Information Center, Sam Burleigh was on hand with his reptile and amphibian exhibit, which included an alligator and an iguana along with the more usual turtles and snakes. During the afternoon, “Porcupine Pete” showed pastimes and toys from pioneer days, including whimmy-diddles and gee-haws.

“We also had the Spinners and Needles Fiber Art Guild demonstrating how raw fleece is spun into wool, which was very popular with both the kids and the adults,” Scopelliti said. “Another popular activity was the quilt show by Quilters in Bloom.”

In addition to those activities, visitors could take a guided perimeter tour of the plant in the Information Center bus and buy fresh produce from a local farmer.

Festival-goers enjoy a hayride through the Riverlands.



Mitchell William Martin wears his school colors on his face thanks to Joe Scopelliti, PPL Susquehanna community relations manager.

Quilters in Bloom members Mary Walburn, left, Pat Golla, center, and Beth Dower show off their quilts.

Community leaders *(continued from page 1)*

how the economy, future energy prices and whether PPL gets a federal loan guarantee will affect PPL’s decision about whether to proceed with construction.

PPL continues to pursue a federal loan guarantee, and Miller made it clear that the final decision about whether to build the nuclear power plant is still several years away.

Tim Rausch, senior vice president and chief nuclear officer, expressed his commitment to continue to support the local community.

During the meeting, U.S. Rep. Paul Kanjorski shared his views on nuclear power. After complimenting

Susquehanna’s leadership about the plant’s safe operation, Kanjorski expressed his continued support of nuclear power because of its economic and environmental benefits.

“I have been a long-time supporter of the Susquehanna plant because of its safety record and PPL’s commitment to keeping me informed of events at the plant,” Kanjorski said. “I recognize the economic benefits of having such a safely operated plant in our local community and encourage all of you to support the future of nuclear power.”



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Susquehanna Riverlands Environmental Preserve

Whose Track Is That?

Saturday, Feb. 12, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 Susquehanna Energy Information Center
 Presented by: John Jose, Otter Creek
 Environmental Education Services

Animals tell the story of their lives by the tracks they leave behind. This program will start indoors where we will learn a systematic way of looking at tracks and identifying the animals that made them. Then, weather permitting (think snow), we will head outdoors to look for tracks and signs, and the stories they can tell us. Dress for the weather and wear waterproof footwear.

Nature in Winter

Sunday, Feb. 20, 1:30 to 3 p.m.
 Susquehanna Energy Information Center
 Presented by: Dr. James Montgomery,

Environmental Studies Director,
 Ecology III

The world in winter may seem silent and empty, but there is plenty of activity there to reward the patient observer. Come along with Jim Montgomery as he helps you to appreciate winter's subtle patterns and rhythms. The program starts with a brief talk at the Susquehanna Energy Information Center, then we hit the trail.

American Indian Artifact Exhibit

Saturday, Feb. 26, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 Susquehanna Energy Information Center
 Presented by: Pennsylvania Indian
 Artifact Collectors Association

The Riverlands once again welcomes the Pennsylvania Indian Artifact Collectors Association and its annual

artifact exhibit. There will be flint-knapping demonstrations throughout the day and an atlatl (spear-thrower) exhibition, weather permitting. For more information, contact association member Bill Vezendy at 570-759-1792.

Susquehanna Riverlands welcomed Alana Roberts, community affairs specialist, in July. Alana is responsible for Riverlands programs. E-mail program suggestions to her at pplpreserves@pplweb.com.



These free programs will be held at the Susquehanna Riverlands Environmental Preserve, 634 Salem Blvd., Berwick, PA 18603
 For more information, visit www.pplpreserves.com and click on Susquehanna Riverlands.



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