



Ripley Power and Light offices will be closed...

- Friday, July 4, Independence Day
- Monday, September 1, Labor Day



Pay your bill online and more
... at ripleypower.com

Office Hours & Locations

We are open 47 hours each week
to serve you better!

7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday-Thursday

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday

You can pay your utility bill at ...

- 150 S. Main St. in Ripley
- 409 S. Church St. in Halls

If you have not been receiving your
bills, call our office immediately so
we can verify your mailing address.



731-635-2323 ■ 731-836-7595
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Minnie Stowe appointed to Power and Light Board

Ripley Mayor Jon Pavletic and the Board of Alderman appointed Minnie Stowe as a board member of Ripley Power and Light Company for a four-year term.

Stowe has been a deputy clerk for Lauderdale County courts for the past 11 years. She said the utility has good leadership, and her appointment is a great opportunity.

"I think the Power and Light board has been a great board," Stowe said. "I'm just glad to be a part of that."

Stowe, who has been married for 30 years, has four children and one granddaughter. A 1989 gradu-

ate of
Ripley
High
School,
she has

lived in the area her whole life.

"It's a small community and everybody knows you," she said.

"It's a loving community. It's a praying community. It's a great place to live."

Stowe is the Women's Ministry director at her church, Whitefield Assembly of God. She also is a Zumba instructor at the Ripley Family Fitness Center.

"My passion is working out."



Minnie Stowe



A drive-through window

Work on a drive-through window at the Ripley Power and Light Company's main office is nearly finished. The drive-through will be able to accommodate two vehicles at a time. Construction also includes improvements to the customer service area inside.

Ripley

Summer 2014

POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

Local law enforcement train at Power and Light warehouse



Law enforcement officers from the Ripley Police Department and Lauderdale County Sheriff's Department use an old warehouse owned by Ripley Power and Light Company as an effective training facility.

The 300,000-square-foot building — on Viar Road across from Ripley Power and Light's generating plant — features a three-story office complex with multiple rooms where the officers train. Each floor has almost 5,000 square feet.

"It's been very helpful to have that area to use," said Sheriff's Department Investigator Clay Newman. "It's an ideal training facility."

Newman, who is the department's training officer, said the building's layout allows them to train for a variety of situations, such as active shooters or barricaded suspects. They practice entry procedures and room-to-room sweeps.

"We can set up different training scenarios," he said.

It's also a safe location that is structurally sound and away from residential neighborhoods, he said.

The building often is used by the SWAT Team, which includes Ripley police officers and Lauderdale County deputies. State law also

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Members of the Emergency Response Team clear Ripley Power and Light's old warehouse building on Viar Drive during a training exercise. The facility is a great venue because it features multiple rooms and floors that support a variety of training scenarios.



Training

Continued ...

requires law enforcement officials to complete 40 hours of training each year, so all the local officers and deputies get a chance to train in the building.

"We're happy to partner with local law enforcement to make this facility available for their training purposes," said Mike Allmand, President and CEO of Ripley Power and Light.

The facility was once the Tennessee Electroplating Building. SR Global gave it to Ripley Power and Light at no cost. The utility salvaged about 150,000 square feet and uses the property as a warehouse and truck shop. About 73,500 square feet also is available for lease to a new or expanding industry.

The bottom floor is protected with a concrete ceiling and walls. Ripley Power and Light's long-range plans are to use the area as a 100 percent backup in case an earthquake, tornado or another disaster heavily damages the main office building.



Mike Allmand,
President and CEO,
Ripley Power and Light



Union soldiers in blue and Southern soldiers in gray faced off once again during the living history weekend at Fort Pillow State Historic Park. Pictured are scenes from the weekend.

Park commemorates 1864 battle during living history weekend

The cannons fired. Rifles were aimed at their unsuspecting targets as Northern soldiers faced off against Southern forces. Nearby, campfires smoldered outside tents. At Fort Pillow State Historic Park, it was the Civil War all over again.

Though the park stages a living history every April, this year's event on Saturday, April 12, commemorated the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Pillow.

The two-day event offered guests a glimpse of what life was like for soldiers during the Civil War. Visitors saw various living history programs and toured both Union and Confederate encampments. Notable Tennessee historians offered a look back at the battle.

About 2,000 people attended, said Park Manager Robby Tidwell. "I'd like to thank all of the people who came out, and I hope they continue to come out for years to come."

The annual commemoration ceremony is usually held the third weekend of April. Tidwell said it's a good way to teach people about what occurred at the fort.



"It's important," he said. "A new generation won't know anything about it if we don't continue with the programs we have."

Steep bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River made the 1,642-acre park a strategic location during the Civil War. The fort was originally built by Confederate troops in 1861 and named after General Gideon J. Pillow of Maury County.

It was abandoned in 1862 due to the Union Navy's advance down the Mississippi River and then occupied by federal troops.

Confederate troops commanded by General Nathan Bedford Forrest assaulted the Fort Pillow stronghold in 1864 in an effort to disrupt Union supply lines. Southern troops, suffering few casualties, overran the fort. Hundreds of Union soldiers died; many of them were African Americans who had once been slaves.

The area became a state park in 1971.

During the living history weekend, Tennessee State Parks honored the lives of the soldiers killed with a moving commencement ceremony that included tributes to fallen soldiers by surviving family members.

