Welcome to our January issue of News and Views!

Consumer Spotlight

Working Toward Independence

Malcolm Eaton Enterprises has always strived to help people become more independent and better integrated in their communities. One of the ways we accomplish this is through paid vocational training and employment.

Nancy has been receiving services at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises for the last seven years. Much of that time has been spent working in various vocational training programs.

Nancy's favorite job is called "tape and reel," which involves packaging small electrical parts in rolls that resemble a movie reel. She also enjoys packaging and labeling bolts and washers.

Besides work, Nancy's favorite thing about Malcolm Eaton are her friends and the MEE staff.

"You meet a lot of friendly people out here," she said.

When she is not working, Nancy enjoys shopping for
groceries and doing things around her home, including cleaning, ironing and laundry. She also enjoys taking care of her two pet cats.

Nancy, and many other individuals at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises, are funded in whole or in part by money collected by the Stephenson County 708 Board. Last year, the 708 Board helped fund 51,482 hours of service at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises for 117 different individuals that live in Stephenson County.

News

Record-Breaking Winter Chill Forces Early Dismissals & Closures

Record-breaking cold temperatures, that sometimes reached as low as -55 degrees, swept across the Midwest in the latter half of January, forcing a number of early dismissals and the cancellation of programs at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises.

While we strive to remain open and provide active programming each and every day, occasionally early dismissals and service cancellations are necessary to ensure the safety of everyone in our programs.

Service cancellations are reported to area TV and radio stations when possible. Notices are reported to WIFR 23, WREX 13, WTVO 17, WQRF 39 and Big Radio. Some of these stations only broadcast school closures on television, and post other closures exclusively on their website.

Information about possible service cancellations is also posted on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/malcolmeatonenterprises
Consumer Christmas Party 2018

It was an especially merry Christmas party this year!

Consumers had many activities to choose from, including bingo, bean bag toss, watching movies, or even making Christmas ornaments and cards. We also had a DJ that kept the party going all day long! We want to thank all of our staff for making the Christmas party such a fun event for everyone!
Malcolm Eaton Gets New Spirit Truck

In December, Malcolm Eaton purchased a box truck to help make pickups and deliveries.

Each day, more than 70 consumers at Malcolm Eaton are engaged in paid work training opportunities involving projects from area manufacturers. These training opportunities include assembly work, packaging, labeling and quality control.

The box truck is used to transport work between MEE and these manufacturers, and is also used to deliver Spirit Bathroom Tissue to area retailers.

Knights of Columbus Make Donation

On Wednesday, December 12, the Freeport Knights of Columbus hosted their annual Christmas dinner at St. Thomas church. After the dinner, the Knights made a pair of generous donations to MEE totaling almost $1,500. The funds were raised during the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive in September.

The Freeport Knights of Columbus have a long history of donating funds to agencies who serve adults with developmental disabilities. We are very thankful to have their continued support.
Staff Enjoy a Day of Training and Fun

Four times each year, Malcolm Eaton Enterprises staff get together for a day of updates and training. These staff development sessions, called institute days, help our staff stay on top of important clinical updates and training opportunities.

This December, MEE hosted a very special institute day at the Four Seasons Bowling Alley in Freeport.

The morning session included training on how to most effectively run behavior plans, and a review of MEE employee benefits.

After lunch, staff were divided into pairs for a fun afternoon of bowling. Many staff wore funny holiday-themed sweaters and shirts. It was a fitting way to celebrate another great year at MEE!

Staff Anniversaries

We want to take a moment to highlight the staff anniversaries we have celebrated in December and January.

10 Years

Jason Withrow celebrated his 10-year anniversary in January. As the Paper & Production Manager, Jason oversees a number of important functions within the agency including the production of Spirit bathroom tissue. Jason is a central part of the MEE management team.
We want to thank you for your interest in Malcolm Eaton Enterprises.

Sincerely,

Tim Cook
Executive Director
Malcolm Eaton Enterprises
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Imagine The Opportunities

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