



MILESTONE INC.

Building Lives • Building Futures

M A T T E R S

Newsletter For The Friends & Supporters of MILESTONE, Inc.

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DAN'S DANDY DAY TRIPS

The Dan Wickstrand Memorial Fund is now sponsoring Dan's Dandy Day Trips. For years, MILESTONE transported the individuals we serve to out of town baseball games, camp, and other special outings in our 15 passenger vans. While these vans are wonderful, the trips are often lengthy and each van needed its own driver and support staff. Now, thanks to the Dan Wickstrand Memorial Fund, MILESTONE is able to rent a bus from the Rockford Charter Coach and leave the driving to someone else. Because these coaches have restrooms, the trip is more comfortable and travel time is also shorter because numerous pit stops are not needed.

The first of Dan's Dandy Day Trips was in August to a WHITE SOX game. More than 40 individuals and staff attended, and had a great time. Seven new and exciting trips are already booked for next year, including WHITE SOX and CUB games and numerous trips to camp. If you would like to be a part of Dan's Dandy Day Trips, please send a contribution to the MILESTONE Foundation, c/o the Dan Wickstrand Memorial Fund. Your contribution will ensure that MILESTONE will be able to "leave the driving to someone else," and most important, there is a restroom aboard the bus.





TWO BROTHERS CALL MILESTONE HOME

The Rebecca Brothers moved into a MILESTONE facility 27 years ago and their parents say it was the best thing that could have happened. Both Mike and Nick Rebecca were living at the Dixon Development Center and while it was a fine facility, Judy and Jerry Rebecca wanted something more for their sons.

That opportunity came in 1979 when they were among a group of families given the option of moving to MILESTONE. The Rebecca's weighed the pros and cons but liked what they saw at MILESTONE so they agreed to the move. They say it is one of the best decisions they could have made. Both Mike and Nick have gained a sense of independence and are doing things on a daily basis their parents never thought they would be able to do. Both work at MILESTONE Industries and Judy and Jerry Rebecca say their jobs give them purpose and keep both boys challenged. While making the decision to place a child



is never easy, both parents say it was what was best for Mike and Nick. The boys have made many friends at MILESTONE and enjoy the community outings and participating in Special Olympics. Judy and Jerry Rebecca attend the annual track and field meet to cheer their sons on, and both Mike and Nick have attended the state games several times.



The Rebecca's say the atmosphere of caring is what sets Milestone apart from the rest. They know their boys are in good hands, that the staff will welcome their involvement and input and they feel privileged that both Mike and Nick are part of the Milestone family.





Dear Friend,

The holidays hold special memories for all of us. As this time of year approaches, I fondly remember favorite songs from my childhood with words like "Silent Night, Holy Night. All is calm, all is bright." That song and many other special memories create the framework for each Christmas season. As I grow older, those memories also established the true meaning of Christmas. Whatever your faith, I am sure you agree the love of family, the gathering friends, embers flickering in the fireplace and the feeling of warmth in the home make the holiday season special.



The individuals served by MILESTONE are able to share in this true meaning of Christmas. They have a family at MILESTONE, countless friends and are able to live in a warm and wonderful home. This is all thanks to the generosity of people like you, our donors.

Because of you, our individuals receive Christmas gifts, enjoy holiday parties and community events. I am able to relive my wonderful holiday memories when I see all their smiling and happy faces. The spirit of Christmas, the love of family, and the special bond between friends is the true essence of MILESTONE. Please help me continue to provide these special memories for the individuals we serve by making a donation to MILESTONE. Your past and future support allows us to keep the spirit of Christmas alive throughout the year at MILESTONE.



Sincerely,

Jim Hamilton
President and Chief Executive Officer
MILESTONE, INC.



MILESTONE'S ROCVALE CHILDREN'S HOME CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY 100 YEARS OF CARING

In 2001 RocVale Children's Home merged with MILESTONE. The merger provided expanded opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities all across Northern Illinois. At the time RocVale provided services and programs for children ages six to twenty-one while MILESTONE provided services for adults. The merger was termed a win-win situation by both organizations. The merger also allowed the staff to focus on long term goals and plans for the individuals. Many RocVale residents move to a MILESTONE Adult Group Home once they reach the age of 21, making it an easier transition. This also allows for the continuation of programs designed to help each RocVale resident reach his or her fullest potential, with a focus on self help skills and behavior management. There were also physical changes to the RocVale campus. Following the merger, each of the five homes was remodeled to increase the amount of living



space. A second remodeling project in 2005 allowed most children to have private bedrooms. In addition the recreation path has been expanded, basketball courts replaced and an exercise room has been added. Making sure the individuals were involved in the community continues to be a priority with many special outings planned each month. The Special Olympics program was expanded and new partnerships were forged with organizations including the Rockford Park District. While the population served at RocVale changed during its 100 year history, the mission of providing quality care remained the same.



MILESTONE JOINS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER

Individuals and staff from MILESTONE raised more than \$600 for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk sponsored by the American Cancer Society. The team also completed the four-mile course in record time.



MILESTONE ARTIST DESIGNS HOLIDAY STATIONARY

Eugene at the MILESTONE Community Center won the design contest for the MILESTONE Holiday letter. His beautiful design of a forest of evergreens in the snow will adorn each letter that is sent to donors. Eugene was awarded a \$25 gift certificate from WalMart.



MILESTONE KICKBALL TEAMS HELP ACCESS SERVICES

Over 30 MILESTONE staff members were part of two teams who helped raise money for Access Services during their first annual Kickball tournament. Many individuals from the various MILESTONE facilities were on hand to cheer the teams onto victory. A good time was had by all and recruitment has already started for next year's tournament.





DR. ANDRONOVA JOINS MILESTONE DENTAL STAFF

Dr. Andronova joined the MILESTONE Dental Staff after completing her residency at Wake Forest University, Baptist Medical Center in North Carolina. She specialized in providing dental care to medically compromised and physically handicapped adults and children. Dr. Andronova earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She speaks fluent Russian, conversational Ukrainian and Polish and is currently learning Spanish.



She says there are no boring days at the MILESTONE Dental Clinic adding there is a lot to learn from our patients. In her opinion God has brought a wonderful group of people together to serve his special children. She is looking forward to the expansion of the services offered at the clinic, including the use of IV sedation. When not at work you may find her hiking, travelling, gardening or reading.

ASK A DENTIST



Dear Dr. Jay,

My neighbor recently fell and his front tooth fell out, what is the best thing to do if this ever happens again?

-Miss N. Incisor

Dear Miss N.,

Well, this can be a scary thing and its important to act fast.

According to the American Dental Association, the best thing to do is to hold the tooth by the crown and rinse off the root of the tooth in water if it's dirty. Do not scrub it or remove any attached tissue fragments. If possible, gently insert and hold the tooth in its socket. If that isn't possible, put the tooth in a cup of milk and get to the dentist as quickly as possible. Remember to take the tooth with you!

If you can't save the tooth there are a lot of options to replace teeth now.

Dr Jay

For more information about the MILESTONE Dental Clinic call 484-8678.

RONALD MCDONALD CARE MOBILE PARTNERSHIP A SUCCESS

The partnership with the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is being termed a huge success by the MILESTONE Dental Clinic staff. There have been over 500



dental visits since the partnership began last spring, 232 of the visits were in September. Children are starting to be seen every six months, and for many this is their first routine dental check up. Dental Director Dr. Jason Grinter says many families with children who have developmental disabilities are learning about MILESTONE Dental Clinic and the services offered for the first time because they visited the Care Mobile. In December the Care Mobile will be in Rockford, Dixon, Lena and Freeport.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS AWARDS TWO GRANT TO MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC

MILESTONE'S Dental Clinic will be able to help at risk children in the Head Start program thanks to two grants. One is from the Dr. Louis and Violet Rubin Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois and the second grant is from the Howard D. Colman Memorial Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois. The Dental Clinic staff will also be working with the Head Start staff on identifying children with special needs.





SPECIAL OLYMPICS AT ELMWOOD HEIGHTS

70 MILESTONE athletes took part in the Illinois Special Olympics Motor Activities Training Program, the largest group ever. The weather was perfect and the sun was as bright as everyone's smile. There was a total of 10 activity stations including ramp bowling, fishing and spin art. Each athlete was given a gold medal and had their picture taken so they could remember the day.



Special Olympic Dates to remember

December 2	State Bowling in Peoria
December 9	Basketball skills competition
December 12	Maria's Christmas Party
January 9	Snowshoe qualifying competition
January 28	Basketball Districts at Byron High School
February 6-8	State Winter Games Galena
March 3	Polar Plunge at Rock Cut State Park
March 17-18	State Basketball Tournament in Bloomington
April 28	Bocce Qualifier in LaSalle/Peru
May 5	Spring Games at Harlem High School
June 16-17	State Summer Games at Illinois State University

KURT SMITH MEMORIAL

No one who knew Kurt Smith will ever forget his smile or the way he enjoyed life. Because of this the staff at Northern Illinois Hospice and Grief Center, wanted a special memorial for Kurt. A tree was planted in his memory at Elmwood Heights outside of his home and near the swing set so it could provide shade to the residents as they enjoy the days of summer. A special dedication service was held in October.



MTC HALLOWEEN PARTY

Individuals at MILESTONE Training Center got into the Halloween spirit during a Halloween party. 12 students from Rockford Christian School helped make it a special day for all.





MILESTONE SINGERS MAKE A CD

The MILESTONE Singers recorded a CD at the Prince of Peace Church in Rockton. This CD will be used as promotional material to arrange performances in the community. The group performed at the Boone County Fair in 2005 and 2006. They have also performed at the MILESTONE staff Christmas party and at nursing and retirement homes. They practice weekly under the direction of Hallie Johnston Locke. If interested in a copy of the CD or would like more information about the singing group, call Jeanette Moore at 639-2821



MILESTONE HELPED FLOOD VICTIMS

Individuals from MILESTONE Industries and the Adult Group Homes raised money to help the Rockford flood victims by holding a bake sale. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful selection of goodies. And individuals from MILESTONE were quick to respond when the call came in for clean up help after the Labor day floods in Rockford. Individuals from the Donna Drive Adult Group Home and staff helped a family clean out a garage and salvage what they could, the weekend following the flood. The family says they are thankful for the help and know they would not have gotten it cleaned up so quickly if they did not have the help.



RECORD SETTING HOLIDAY CARD SALES

Everyone at MILESTONE Industries has been busy making holiday cards. By early October orders surpassed the 4690 mark, a new record. Workers were kept very busy making paper, sewing the designs, and filling the boxes. While it is too late to get cards for the 2006 holiday season, they will return in 2007.



THANK YOU MILESTONE SUPPORTERS

Thank you to The Stonewall Stitchers of Pecatonica donated 15 fur lined homemade lap blankets to Dierks Group Home.

Thank you to LaMonica Beverages for the invitation to see the Clydesdales and the donkey from the commercials.

Thank you to the Super Solos of Riverside Community Church for the wonderful handmade items for Elmwood Heights and the Audlt Group Homes.



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For a project quote or more information about Milestone Industries
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MILESTONE, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) Illinois not-for-profit organization. MILESTONE Matters is developed to inform the public of the program services we offer to developmentally disabled citizens from Northern Illinois. To learn more about MILESTONE and the individuals we serve, please call (815) 654-6100.

Chief Executive Officer: James P. Hamilton
MILESTONE Matters Editor: Arles Hendershott
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MILESTONE, INC. RECOGNIZES LONG TERM EMPLOYEES

10 years

Bonita Dismuke - December

15 years

Emma Jenkins - October

Rose Eddy - October

20 years

Beth Eichstedt - October

Myron Shaw - December



ROCVALE CHILDREN'S HOME AWARDED 2 GRANTS FROM THE WILLIAM HOWARD CHARITABLE TRUST

The William Howard Charitable Trust awarded 2 grants to MILESTONE'S RocVale Children's Home. One will fund RocVale's Boy Scout program, and the second provided the funding needed for the construction of a new basketball court and paths at the RocVale campus. Work on both projects was completed this fall.

The William Howard Charitable Trust was established in 1982 as the charitable component of the companies of William Charles, Ltd. Those companies include Rockford

Blacktop Construction Co., William Charles Investments, and the William Charles Waste Companies. Together they comprise one of the largest locally owned companies in the region. The William Howard Charitable Trust has been supporting the RocVale Children's Home for over 20 years.



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