

# News & Views

October 2012

Volume 9, Issue 1

## Goodwill hires 7 from MEE

### All in Community Employment Program now working competitive jobs

#### Coming Up

- November 22-23 — MEE closed for Thanksgiving holidays.
- December 14 — MEE closed for staff training.
- December 24, 2012-January 1, 2013 — MEE closed for holiday season.

#### Inside this issue:

- Executive Director's Column **2**
- Car Raffle Joins Pork Chop Dinner **3**

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MALCOLM EATON Enterprises' Community Employment Program (CEP) is experiencing unprecedented success and marking two milestones.

First, the program achieved its largest single placement in recent history which led to the second milestone: Every individual enrolled in the program has earned a competitive job in the community. As one might expect, that is the program's goal, and it is the first time the target has been reached recently.

"To achieve this objective in the Community Employment Program has required a team



Mike sorts clothes on the sales floor at Goodwill Industries International in Freeport.

effort," said Tim Cook, MEE Programs/ Production Manager. "The men and women with disabilities who participate in the CEP program have worked hard to learn the skills needed to get hired while our staff have focused tirelessly on teaching those skills, ensuring smooth transitions to the workplace and

developing job prospects. Our employers play the critical role of hiring the men and women, not only gaining trained staff but tax benefits in many cases."

The large single placement came at Goodwill Industries International Inc., in Freeport. Seven individuals have been working there seven to nine hours a week since late September.

Although the CEP department is pleased with the accomplishments, they are not resting on their laurels, Cook said.

"Goodwill represents a tremendous training opportunity for the

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# Finances result in mixed bag

## Slow state pay means no holiday events

As my first quarter of executive director/chief financial officer ends, we are seeing many positive signs throughout our organization. Hard work, economizing and some downsizing have resulted in our monthly budgets being right on track.

We are even ahead of the game in some areas. We have asked much of our staff, and they have responded. Our financial plan is working, and for that we are grateful. This is our good news.

The bad news is that the receivables — the money owed to us — by the state of Illinois are increasing at a rate greater than we expected. As of mid-October, the state owed us about \$1.1 million and this number may go even higher before it declines. Simply put, we have one issue and it is cash flow.

This situation is forcing us to make some difficult choices. We do not feel it is appropriate or a financially responsible decision to conduct non-essential events such as the Thanksgiving dinner and the staff holiday



**It All Adds Up**  
Craig Joesten

party in this funding environment. These events have been canceled. The consumer holiday party in December will continue since it can be carried out more efficiently than the other events.

Please know that MALCOLM EATON *Enterprises* remains in sound financial position. Our lender State Bank assists us in meeting our obligations through a line of credit, and our bills are current. We intend to keep the organization this way, and the cancelation of these events is one way we can achieve this goal.

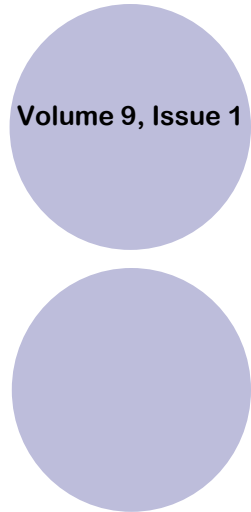
Autumn's bounty has been obvious recently as MALCOLM EATON *Enterprises* was recently awarded two grants. The first was from the Illinois Department of Transportation for a

medium duty paratransit vehicle capable of carrying 14 passengers. We are uncertain when this vehicle may arrive but it will be welcome at any time. MALCOLM EATON's transportation fleet continues to age and updates are sorely needed.

The second grant was bestowed by the Walmart Foundation and Facility No. 1740 in Freeport for \$1,000 used to acquire Developmental Training Program curriculum enhancements. We appreciate their generosity and the items we bought with the funds are being put to good use.

This will be our last newsletter before the holiday season. As such, the consumers, staff, and Board of Directors at MALCOLM EATON *Enterprises* want to be the first to wish all of you happy holidays. We appreciate all the support you have given our organization, especially this year. As we have said previously, we are building an even stronger MALCOLM EATON. Please join us.

# MEE raffling off rare classic car



A new event based on an old classic is coming to MALCOLM EATON's 19th Annual Pork Chop Dinner & Car Show on May 19, 2013. The organization is raffling off a 1972 Buick Skylark SunCoupe, one of fewer than 3,950 such cars produced in this model year. The SunCoupe roof — like



This 1972 Buick Skylark SunCoupe will be given away at the 2013 MEE Car Show.

Tickets are \$20 each and only 2,500 are available.

To get a ticket, complete the enclosed order form and return it to MALCOLM EATON

an extended moonroof — is the unique feature about this car, and its interior is in excellent condition.

*Enterprises.* Tickets are also available at various vendors. A complete list is found in the margin at lower right.

## Classic Car Raffle Ticket Sale Locations

- MALCOLM EATON Enterprises, 570 West Lamm Road, Freeport IL
- Total Touch Up Auto Reconditioning, 1501 South West Avenue, Freeport IL
- Bocker Chevrolet Buick Cadillac GMC, 801 East South Street, Freeport IL
- Cars R Us Auto Sales, 320 East Main Street, Dakota IL
- Dan's Rt. 66 Service I, 1348 South Galena Avenue, Freeport IL
- Dan's Rt. 66 Service II, 304 South Galena Avenue, Freeport IL
- State Bank, 1718 South Dirck Drive, Freeport IL
- Imperial Palace Restaurant, 1735 South Ihm Boulevard, Freeport IL

# CEP hits milestones

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

men and women we serve. These individuals are further developing their work skills in a real-life situation. They — as well as some others who are working through CEP — still have plenty of time in their schedule for an additional job. We encourage employers who are interested in our program to contact us. We will certainly be striving to assist the men and women we serve in finding additional paid competitive work.”

At the Goodwill site, the seven individuals are working as part of a program developed by Goodwill titled, “Let’s

Get to Work, Freeport.”

At least three months of work between Goodwill and MALCOLM EATON staff preceded the start date. All details on integrating these men and women into the Goodwill workforce were considered.

The individuals from MALCOLM EATON are responsible for sorting and tagging clothing that is donated to Goodwill. If a garment does not meet Goodwill’s high standards, the employees reject the item and it is set aside for recycling.

The job also entails sorting clothing on the sales floor and removing items that have been available for more than

30 days. Those items also are recycled.

The “Let’s Get to Work, Freeport” program started in Rockford and has also been used in Huntley. One of its unique features is that it only employs individuals who are served by another not-for-profit organization.

The Freeport Goodwill store is at 2030 West Galena Avenue.

Other CEP employers are Ace’s Lube & Road Equipment, Blain’s Farm & Fleet, Cub Foods, Loescher Heating & Air Conditioning, McDonald’s (both locations), NICA Golden Meals, Stephenson Nursing Center and Walmart.



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WWW.SPIRITPAPER.COM

**Eleven honored at annual Awards Picnic**

Eleven groups, businesses and individuals were honored at the annual MALCOLM EATON Enterprises Awards Picnic on August 12.

Cowboy hats and bandanas abounded as the hoedown-themed event was held at the West Campus. The day included bingo, Uno, movies and dancing in the morning with a pulled pork luncheon followed by the awards. A band comprised of a consumer, his family

members and friends entertained in the afternoon.

Honorees included:

- Outstanding Volunteer — Group: Freeport Jaycees
- Outstanding Volunteer — Individual: Matthew Arn
- Top Business — Industrial: Honeywell Sensing & Control
- Top Business — Employer: Stephenson Nursing Center
- Staff Achievement — Service: Nancy Klapp
- Staff Achievement — Program: Sara Daiker and Tracey Kempel
- Progress Toward Goals Award — Community Integrated Living Arrangements Program: Lucille
- Progress Toward Goals Award — Community Employment Program: Joseph
- Progress Toward Goals Award — Development Training II: Jon
- Progress Toward Goals Award — Developmental Training I: Nina

**MALCOLM EATON**  
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