

#### A Quarterly Update of the Most Recent Malcolm Eaton Enterprises News

#### Spring & Summer 2023



The craft room is open! Individuals at MEE have a new dedicated space where they can get creative and express themselves through art.

## **MEE Opens Craft Room**

The MEE campus got a lot more colorful recently with the opening of our new craft room. The newly opened space gives individuals a dedicated place where they can create fun, unique, artwork of their own imagination.

Each day, two groups get to use the art room to work on a variety of projects. While painting and drawing are always popular, other projects have included making Easter baskets and dreamcatchers.

The Craft room is the most recent specialty space added to the MEE campus. MEE has also recently added the Spirit Lounge—a recreation room / arcade where individuals in service can play a variety of games.

#### **In This Edition**

Craft Room
Special Olympics
Eats & Beats
CILA Updates

#### **Upcoming Dates**

November 23-24
Thanksgiving Break

**December 8**Institute Day

December 22-26 Christmas Break

#### **Our Mission**

Malcolm Eaton Enterprises encourages and assists people with disabilities, and those who touch their lives, by promoting informed choice and creating opportunities which foster independent community living, work and play.

#### **Our Motto**





Members of the Freeport Freedom march in the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics at Harlem High School on May 13.

## **Special Olympics 2023**

The Northern Illinois Special Olympic Games were held this year on May 13 at Harlem High school in Rockford.

Participants from all over Northwestern Illinois participated in the event, including many familiar faces from MEE.

Congratulations to all of the athletes that competed and placed in the event!



Photos courtesy of Aaron Wilson / WIFR.

### **Eats & Beats Breaks Records**

Freeport Area Eats & Beats was held on August 25-26 at the Freeport Arts Plaza in downtown Freeport.

The two-day food and music festival raised \$16,343 for nine local participating nonprofits. This total was 48% higher than the previous record set in 2022.



#### **Our Staff**



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#### **News**



Residents from MEE's residential homes visited Freeport Area Eats & Beats on Friday, August 25th. The family-friendly event serves up two days of great local music and tasty food. Nine local nonprofit groups participated in the event, including DD Homes, Friends Forever Humane Society, Grace Episcopal Church, RAMP, Salvation Army, Voices, and MEE. Over \$16,000 was raised for local nonprofit groups.

## Eats & Beats 2023



Some individuals from MEE take a quick snack break between music sets. Eats & Beats featured a wide variety of delicious food items including pulled pork sandwiches, walking tacos, snow cones, hamburgers, hot dogs, cheese curds, giant cookies and much more!



After a year-long renovation, MEE's newest CILA opened this Summer. The new location will provide housing for four individuals.

## **MEE Opens New CILA**

MEE is pleased to announce the opening of our newest CILA residential home in Freeport.

The new home provides 24hour care to three residents in a group setting. The house also has a lower-level apartment suite for a fourth resident.

What makes our newest home unique is that it has been completely renovated to accommodate the needs of individuals with mobility challenges.

Individuals with mobility issues face unique challenges when it comes to locating housing. This home was completely redesigned with these individuals in mind.

The renovated space features

widened doorways throughout the home, a more open floorplan for enhanced maneuverability, and an outsized, open, bathroom with a very large shower area.

The goal of the home is to provide individuals who have mobility issues a place where they can not only live, but live comfortably and as independently as possible.

This renovation was much more extensive than any previous home Malcolm Eaton has opened. Several walls were moved or removed in order to change the floorplan.

The home was purchased at the end of April of 2022 and opened in June of 2023.

















**Top-left:** MEE's newest CILA features a more open floorplan so that individuals with mobility issues can easily move about the home. **Lower-left:** Each individual has their own private bedroom. **Right:** The home features a large and spacious bathroom area.



Funds donated by the Don Morse Golf Invitational were used to purchase a new paratransit vehicle for the MEE residential program.

# Morse Golf Invitational Helps MEE Purchase New Van

The Don Morse Golf Invitational, a longtime supporter of the programs and services at MEE, made a charitable donation to MEE. Funds from the donation were used to purchase a new paratransit vehicle for our residential program. The new vehicle will be used to transport individuals to and from day services, and also to outings in our community.

#### **Partners**







#### **Anniversaries**

#### 15 Years

Marcia Oppold celebrated her 15-year anniversary in April. As a Support Worker, Marcia helps individuals in our residential program work towards greater independence in their homes. Marcia also helps individuals get to medical appointments, and access recreational opportunities in our community.

#### 10 Years

**Mike Armstrong** celebrated his 10-year anniversary in April. As our Lead Transportation Specialist, Mike not only helps transport individuals to and from day services, he also helps train new drivers, and helps manage maintenance and repairs of our vehicles.



#### 10 Years

**Rick Hernandez** celebrated his 10-year anniversary in August. As a DT Trainer, Rick works in our classrooms and helps individuals develop skills that help them work towards greater independence at home and in their communities.



We want to thank you for your interest in Malcolm Eaton Enterprises.

Sincerely,

Tim Cook

**Executive Director** 

Malcolm Eaton Enterprises

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