

Spring-Summer 2026

Howdy Partner!



Newborn Calf Brings Big Smiles at Western Day Celebration

Clients at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises were treated to an unexpected delight during this year's Western Day celebration when a newborn calf, just days old, quickly became the star of the festivities.

Staff spent weeks preparing the event's lineup of games, crafts, and dancing, but the calf's appearance wasn't part of the original plan. The surprise came courtesy of Tracey Kempel, MEE's Director of Program Compliance, whose husband helps operate the farm where the calf was born.

Realizing the timing was perfect, Tracey made a last-minute decision to bring the newborn to Western Day, adding a heartwarming moment clients and staff will remember long after the celebration ended.

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September 7
Labor Day

September 14
Institute Day

September 22
CILA Institute Day *

October 12
Columbus Day

* Day Services still open

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.

Photo Feature



Our Staff



Tim Cook

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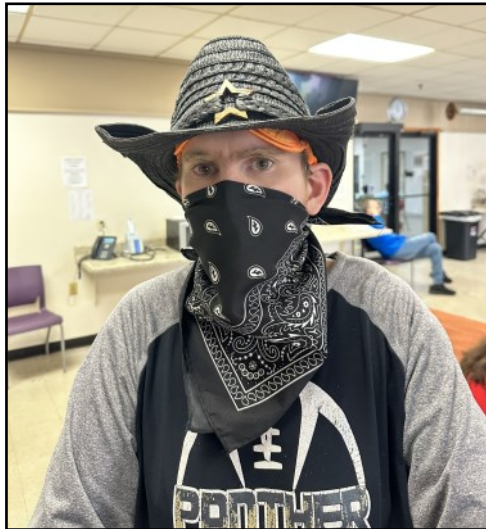


Brian Babcock

Community
Liaison

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Photo Feature



Fundraisers





Smiles Take Flight at MEE

Clients at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises have been making the most of this year's warm weather with a variety of organized outdoor activities. One of the standout favorites has been kite flying. Small groups of four or five clients gather outside MEE, where staff teach them how to launch, steer, and safely control their kites.

The activity is especially enjoyable thanks to MEE's location next to the Sportsplex athletic facility. With 15 acres of flat, open sports fields—far from traffic, hazards, and power lines, clients have plenty of room to practice their skills in a safe, relaxed environment. The wide-open space and steady breezes make it the perfect spot for kites to soar.

Chasing Pars and Possibilities



Clients at MEE have been sharpening their golf skills through a hands-on instructional program this year. The sessions introduce fundamentals like proper grip, stance, and posture to build a strong foundation. Once clients are comfortable with the basics, they move on to refining their swing and improving consistency. The program also supports clients who already have experience, giving them structured time to practice chipping and short-game techniques.



**LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
COLLABORATING TO BRING YOU A WEEKEND OF
LIVE MUSIC AND FOOD**

2026

Eats & Beats!
Freeport Area

**FRIDAY and SATURDAY
AUGUST 28&29 | FREEPORT, IL
FAM ARTS PLAZA**

**Adults \$4.00, Kids 6-17 \$2.00, Kids 5 & Under FREE!
PROCEEDS BENEFIT AREA NONPROFITS**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28	
	5:00 Gates Open 5:30-7:00 That 70's Band 7:30-9:30 Hello Weekend
	

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29	
	5:00 Gates Open 5:30-7:00 Lobbin' Robbins 7:30-9:30 Mike & Joe
	



Eats & Beats Returns August 28-29

Eats & Beats returns to downtown Freeport on August 28–29, bringing two evenings of live music and great food back to the FAM Arts Plaza. The festival will feature crowd-favorite dishes prepared by local organizations, with proceeds supporting community programs across the region. Gates open at 5 p.m. each night.

40 Years

Pat Kittoe celebrated her 40th anniversary in May. As our Accountant II, Pat oversees a number of important tasks including the processing of receivables, client payroll, and the generation of financial reports. Her expertise and consistency have been invaluable to our organization. Thank you, Pat, for your many years of experience and dedicated service.



To celebrate Pat's 40th anniversary in May, MEE held an in-office party that included a custom cake and an embroidered sherpa blanket. Thanks for all that you do, Pat!

10 Years

Mark Veach celebrated his ten-year anniversary in April. As a transportation specialist, Mark is responsible for transporting our clients to and from their homes for community day services.

Transporting clients comfortably and safely is one of the most important responsibilities in our organization. Over the past ten years, Mark has become a familiar face that clients look forward to seeing and someone families know they can rely on. Thank you for your many years of dependable service, Mark!



5 Years

Kei'Asia Dixon marked her five-year anniversary with Malcolm Eaton Enterprises in May. As a DT Instructor / QIDP, she plays a vital role in supporting individuals as they build skills, strengthen independence, and work toward meaningful personal goals.

Kei'Asia describes her favorite part of working at MEE as the relationships she has built with the individuals she supports. "My favorite part of working here is building meaningful relationships and having the opportunity to witness their growth as they continuously work toward achieving their personal goals," she shared. "It is rewarding to be part of that journey and to support them every step of the way."

She also values the dynamic nature of her work. "I enjoy the variety that each day brings—no two days are exactly the same," she said. "Every day provides an opportunity to problem-solve, advocate for the individuals we support, and celebrate the progress they make, no matter how big or small."

5 Years

Rebecca Grove celebrated her five-year anniversary in April. As a DT Trainer, Rebecca works directly with clients to help them build essential life skills. Her favorite part of the job is the time she spends with them each day. "I really enjoy working with the clients and seeing their growth," she said.

Earlier this year, several clients received instruction in basic sign language. One of the clients Rebecca works with now uses many of those signs daily when communicating with staff.

"It's really rewarding when you see the clients learn something new, and they are retaining it and using it."

Rebecca notes that clients are often eager and enthusiastic when learning new skills, and their excitement makes her work especially meaningful.

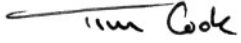
"I really love seeing their enjoyment."



News

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Tim Cook
Executive Director
Malcolm Eaton Enterprises
tcook@malcolmeaton.org