

September -
October 2012

Volume 9
Issue 4



PKT ENTERPRISES

THE PKT PRESS

Investing in the Lives of People

PKT's Mission:

Working together with integrity to provide quality care, support, and life enriching opportunities to persons with disabilities, in an environment fostering growth and independence, while upholding and maintaining a viable, ethical, and moral business, treating everyone with respect, compassion, and dignity.

FEATURED HOME

It's been a sultry summer thus far and everyone at the **Dark House** has been doing their best to keep as cool as possible!

Bounleu R. always has a smile on her face! Bounleu loves to sew and to share her colorful masterpieces with everyone! She enjoys spending time in the garden, watering the flowers and watching everything grow and is now looking forward to enjoying all of the wonderful vegetables!

Mata S. keeps busy by helping out in the garden, going for bike rides and hanging out with friends. She is participating in a softball league and enjoys playing catcher. Mata also wants to participate in a fall bowling league. She is looking forward to purchasing a new flat screen TV for her bedroom.

Walter S. has been keeping busy on Saturday mornings by participating in a bowling league. He plays softball on Tuesday and Wednesday nights and can sure hit a mean fly ball! Walter went to Valleyfair for Deaf Day and enjoyed going on the rides. He is now looking forward to his vacation to New York in October.

Daniel J. (DJ) can usually be found playing on his iPhone, chatting with friends or jamming out to music. He plays softball on Tuesday and Wednesday nights and wants to participate in a fall bowling league. DJ also went to Valleyfair for Deaf Day and had fun hanging out with friends. He is anxiously waiting for football season to begin to cheer on the Vikings and is also looking forward to attending a Vikings game. ✍

Jeanette DeChatelets, Dark House Coordinator



MATT'S MEMO



As I sit down to write my article I have music streaming online, a small box on my monitor just notified that I have a new e-mail, my phone is making a noise indicating that I have a new text and my office phone is ringing. All of this technology and instant access can be overwhelming at times, but for the most part the technology we have is so important in our every day lives. It got me thinking about how our clients utilize technology and how it improves their lives as well.

When I think about technology the first thing that often times come to mind is the iPhone and cell phones in general. A good chunk of our clients have cell phones and rely on them on a daily basis. They are oftentimes chatting away on the phone with family and friends, and sometimes making their own medical appointments. Several of our clients have the nicer smartphones and they are able to text, play games, check in on Facebook and read the latest headlines.

Though after a long day it can be frustrating for everyone to have instant access to others, for the most part its keeps us all connected. Many of our clients utilize cell phones to reach out to their staff or coordinators to touch base on what's going on for the day or what they need. Our staff and supervisors here at PKT rely on technology on a daily basis to ensure that important information is being passed along. Without that instant contact and flow of information, it's easy to miss things and lose valuable and important information.

There is nothing better than coming into work or being out in the field and receiving that new e-mail message showing that one of our clients has sent me an e-mail. I think its so important to keep up with the changing technology and to move forward, as so many times these new gadgets that come out provide us with tools to simplify and improve our lives.

On another note, I want to wrap up Matt's Memo with an update on the second annual PKT Guys Camping Trip. Once again this year, **Tim** the **Pink House** Coordinator and **Duane** the **Brown House** Coordinator, got together and assembled a group of four guys to head up to the North Shore for several nights for hiking, sightseeing and male bonding. Last year some of the highlights included throwing together what the guys referred to as "Hobo Stew" and a close encounter with a skunk in their camping area.

For this trip the guys invited a new participant **Mike M.** from the **Pink House**, who headed up with the Guys Weekend veterans **Clint V.**, **Jim R.** and **Bob E.** This year they stayed at different cabins a little further up the shore. Mike and Bob enjoyed the gondola ride up Lutsen Mountain, while Clint and Bob chose to hike the mountain safely on the ground. Another successful "Guys Weekend Up North." ✍

Matt Wahl, SLS Director

WELCOME ... PKT would like to extend a warm welcome to ...

Myiessha V. moved into the **Brick House** on June 1st. She is full of energy and ideas! Myiessha enjoys having her nails done (on an almost daily basis, thanks to the great and creative staff), arts and crafts, games, and being outdoors. She also loves to listen to music and dance! Oh, and don't forget shopping! Myiessha always has a list for going to the store to update her jewelry collection or for a cup of coffee!

Myiessha works during the day; however, when home, she has found a way to connect with each of her housemates, and has activities she enjoys with each. Nonetheless, she also likes when she gets one-on-one attention from staff as well. Brick House is happy to have Myiessha!



STEVE'S SCOOP



Bring on FALL! The greatest season in my opinion, especially following a very sweltering summer!

As you will soon read, the Walk the Houses 2012 challenge is over. Of the participants who did a final weigh in, a total of 79 pounds were shed, and of all the recording walkers, a total of 6265.94 miles were trod. Pretty amazing! Thanks and congrats to all who participated, to the winners mentioned below, AND to **Sharilyn** and **Tennille** for creating, monitoring, and making this event fun and exciting! Thanks also to **Life Time Fitness** for their assistance and flexibility with membership signups! Should anyone be at all interested in signing up for a membership at Life Time Fitness feel free to contact me and I can get you hooked up.

Oh the picnic! It was fun and different...and HOT! My job was to dress up like Waldo, from Where's Waldo fame, and wander Heritage Square, hiding and waiting for folks to find me; those that did, received (3) two dollar bills. It was pretty funny, especially when people NOT in our group wanted a prize from me or a picture with me! Thank you **Sharilyn** for coming up with this idea, planning it, and making it happen! We all are excited to see what you have up your sleeve for next year!

And...drumroll please...we now have a web SITE and not just a web page! Finally, and it is pretty amazing too! Please check it out at <http://www.pktenterprises.com>. Thank you to **Pat** for working with the designers and adding her personal flair to make it awesome!

That's probably all for now...have a COOL Fall!!

SHARILYN'S ...

So long summer. Hello fall. Time just seems to be flying by this year. As mentioned in my last article, PKT Enterprises held their very first Wellness Program this summer. With all the steps counted up and all the pounds counted down, we found our two winners: **Renae Brown** (LSI staff) and **Tennille Carlson** (SLS Director). Though I must also mention **Jennifer Johnson** (SLS Director) as a very close runner-up. These ladies did an amazing job at staying focused and motivated for the entire 12 week program and it shows. I'd like to thank everyone again for participating and want to encourage all, whether you participated or not to stay active as winter now quickly approaches.

On a different note, PKT had their annual picnic at the MN State Fair on August 24th. If you attended I hope you had a wonderful time and if you did not, I highly recommend you come next year. Though we often change the venue, the PKT picnic is always a highlight of the year of many clients, staff, team and family members. It is a chance for everyone to get together and enjoy a day of fun and relaxation and always provides lasting memories. I hope to see you all at the picnic next year! ✍

Sharilyn Korte, Director of Financial Services



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH for August 2012***Brenda Brazier***

*PKT would like to recognize and thank **Brenda** for:*

- * Being such a team leader and a team player
- * Spending two hours braiding hair and picking out all the client's favorite colors of hair bows
- * Going far above and beyond cleaning our ladies' home and consistently taking on additional tasks without needing to be asked
- * Always ensuring that client programs are followed and if ever a question arises, doesn't hesitate to ask
- * Working well with a variety of personalities and getting along great with all the clients
- * For developing an individualized relationship with each of the clients
- * Spontaneously encouraging use of community resources that each client enjoys
- * Brainstorming new and natural sensory items to calm clients
- * Picking up shifts with short notice and volunteering to help out
- * Having a professional attitude at all times
- * Having a remarkable dedication to the client's lives
- * Her energetic personality, which makes her so great to get along with
- * Always respectful towards supervisor and clients
- * Doing an excellent job on the yard
- * Always greeting the clients with a smile and jokes
- * Consistently lending a helping hand with open program ideals
- * Going above the daily routines
- * Dedication towards her job is seen in so many ways
- * Being very approachable to discuss the clients and group home needs
- * Was offered extra hours because of how great she was with another group of clients
- * Always active with the clients; they adore her!!!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH for September 2012***Jesse Lobash***

*PKT would like to recognize and thank **Jesse** for:*

- * Getting the clients involved in planting a garden, and continuing to keep them involved in the upkeep
- * Adjusting his hours when needed based on client needs
- * Maintaining gas in the van and assuring that household items are stocked
- * Being extremely calm and consistent with the clients
- * Brainstorming ideas with House Coordinator to help things run smoothly
- * Being reliable and supportive to staff, clients and House Coordinator
- * Being a superb cook; improvises when necessary to make the meals fun!!!



SPOTLIGHT ON

I want to introduce you to a lady named **Sharon G.** I recently sat down at a coffee shop with her and asked her all sorts of questions about her and her life.

Sharon was born and raised in Minnesota with her three brothers and one sister. She loves to call and get together with all of her family whenever she can. Most of all Sharon loves to celebrate the holidays, graduation parties, and especially her own birthday with all of her family. Sharon is a true movie lover. You should see her library of movies in her room. She loves to show them to everyone and will watch them on movie night at the **Green House**.

Sharon said "My favorite thing to do is to go get coffee and buy more movies". That is not the only thing she collects though. Sharon will also buy music CD's and her favorite type of music is country. Her most favorite song of all time is John Denver's song "Rocky Mountain High." Sharon loves the Twins and the Vikings. She will look over the sports section in the paper when she can and tell anyone she sees how they are doing. Sharon will get all dressed up in her Vikings shirt and will be cheering them on when they're playing. Chocolate is always a favorite for Sharon. She will help make pudding when it is on the menu for dinner and always chooses her favorite flavor. One of the questions I asked Sharon was "Who was her hero?" She told me it was her Dad. It was very moving to hear her talk about her Dad and the ways that she loves him.

Sharon has been busy lately at Merrick working on contract work. She is involved in an advocacy group at work and has learned many things about how to advocate for herself and others.



Recently at home Sharon has been working on getting healthier. She has been increasing her walking and has been making better choices with what she is eating. Sharon has been able to drop over ten pounds so far. We are all excited and proud of her hard work. She rocks!

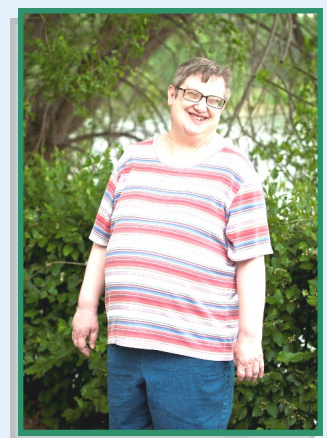
When at home Sharon has enjoyed relaxing whenever she can by talking with everyone and calling her family on the phone. She likes to do arts and crafts, but most of all she likes to play games. Bingo and Uno would be her most favorite games of all.

I asked Sharon what five words would best describe her and she told me "Honest, Nice, Fun, Smiley, and a Movie Collector". She is always honest to a fault and will tell me everything about what she has been doing. It is always nice to come into the Green House and see her. She is very welcoming and loves to joke around. Sharon will call me "Trouble Maker" with a smile on her face and I always respond with "Instigator" jokingly. This will go on all night long. It has been like this for the last six years and I look forward to it for many more. ✍

Katherine Fordyce
Green House Coordinator

*I asked Sharon the question
"Who was her hero?"
It was very moving to hear
her talk about her Dad and
the ways that she loves him.*

FUN DAY



AT COMO



IN-HOME CONNECTION

To say that this young man was full of energy would almost be an understatement. To see him and experience the full power of his bubbly, curious, exhilarating personality, ah, now that would be an adventure! Ladies and gentleman, may I present **Mark B!**

Mark is active in so many different activities. He enjoys getting together with his PKT staff. One thing Mark does to help prepare for his shifts is research with his staff activities that are going on around St. Paul and the surrounding areas. This way he is sure to be active with activities that he helped pick out!

Mark enjoys taking classes with a wide variety of things to learn and do. He has taken dance classes, where of course his dance card is always full! He also takes the opportunity to go out and show off his new moves on the dance floor. Mark has also taken some craft classes and, one of his favorites, a cooking class! Mark is always extremely helpful at the class and staying after to help the teacher with cleaning up. Through taking it, Mark has been able to take his culinary skills home to his foster family, where he loves cooking them some of the tasty dishes he's learned to make.

Mark isn't shy at all about jumping right in with some of the activities he goes to. Once he even sang at an acoustic guitar jam session! He also volunteers at Rainbow Club, which is a children's outreach program that uses puppets, skits, stories and songs to teach Christian values to children. He loves being there and helping out in any way he can.

Mark is also quite an athlete! During the summer he plays on the White Bear Lake softball team. He's a great player both out in the field and up at bat; this year he even found out he's a switch-hitter! In the off-season, Mark likes going to the batting cages to help keep his ball-playing skills fresh.

Bowling is another sport that Mark enjoys and is good at. He always gets a strike, and is still working on getting a "5-bagger", which is 5 strikes in a row. Billiards is another of Mark's favorites. Whoever plays him in a friendly game of pool had better rack 'em up and then watch out, because Mark puts them in the pocket every time!

Mark makes certain that going to museums and flower shows is on his activity schedule. One of the places he really likes is Como Zoo and Conservatory. Mark enjoys seeing the plants and flowers as well as all the animal exhibits. There is a mini-golf course across the road from Como that he goes and plays at, too, where making a hole-in-one is not all that uncommon?

Pizza at Davanni's is a real treat for Mark. Another restaurant he likes to go to is Perkins. Sometimes, after a good meal, Mark likes to see a movie. Any animated movie is good for him.

Speaking of restaurants, when Mark goes out to eat with his staff, not only does he bring his appetite, but also his bag of games. He is a master at Yahtzee and Scrabble Junior, too! Mark likes visiting with other people and loves it when they join him for a game. So at the next PKT event, when you see Mark, ask him what games he brought with. That would make his day!! ✍

Christopher Bastyr, In-Home Services Coordinator

OPENINGS UPDATE

If you know of anyone looking for placement, please let them know about PKT's openings. We now have one spot opening at our "Columbia House", which is located in Columbia Heights. This site has three ladies living there. Please feel free to call with questions or to set up a tour!

Don't forget about our In-Home department either. PKT always has openings for new clients for the In-Home department. Anyone interested in any of the openings, both Group Home and In-Home, should contact Tennille Carlson at 612-788-3998 x 114 or Steve Tschacher at 612-788-3998 x 105.

We are now accepting both DD and CADI Waiver clients.

CALENDAR/UPCOMING EVENTS

September Staff Meetings

IHS:	September 5 th	9:30a-11:30a
Brick:	September 21 st	12:30p-2:30p
Pink:	September 12 th	12:00p-2:00p
Brown:	September 28 th	12:00p-2:00p
Columbia:	September 25 th	12:30p-2:30p
Green:	September 10 th	4:30p-6:30p
Brighton:	September 18 th	3:00p-5:00p
Dark:	September 17 th	5:00p-7:00p
Yellow:	September 11 th	12:30p-2:30p
White:	September 28 th	8:30a-10:30a

SEPTEMBER 2012						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

October Staff Meetings

IHS:	October 3 rd	9:30a-11:30a
Brick:	October 19 th	12:30p-2:30p
Pink:	October 10 th	12:00p-2:00p
Brown:	October 26 th	12:00p-2:00p
Columbia:	October 23 rd	12:30p-2:30p
Green:	October 8 th	4:30p-6:30p
Brighton:	October 16 th	3:00p-5:00p
Dark:	October 15 th	5:00p-7:00p
Yellow:	October 9 th	12:30p-2:30p
White:	October 26 th	8:30a-10:30a

OCTOBER 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Fun Upcoming Activities

Walker Art Center's "Open Field" - Various activities through September. Free gallery admission and films, select dates.

Music and Movies at Raspberry Island - Live music begins at 7:00pm, followed by the movie at dusk
September 14th - Music by Kern's & the Hemispheres, "Back to the Future Part III" Movie

Roseville Wild Rice Festival - September 15th Harriet Alexander Nature Center in Roseville. 9a-4p Free entertainment.

Festa Italiana! - September 21st 3-10pm and September 22nd 10a-10p. Harriet Island, St. Paul. Free Admission!

Midwest FallCon Comic Book Party - October 6th Minnesota State Fairgrounds, Education Building-10a-5p

St. Croix Apple Festival - October 6-7, 13-14, 20-21. Afton Apple Orchard \$3

Twin Cities Vintage Clothing & Jewelry Show -October 12-13th Minnesota State Fairgrounds, Fine Arts Building

Walk Now for Autism Speaks - October 13th Mall of America, 7:00-9:30a

Harvest Moon Festival - October 19-20th Dakota County Fairgrounds 10a-6:30p, Hayride 6:30-8p



UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION ...

Steve Tschacher	612-788-3998 ext 105	stevent@pktenterprises.com	President
Pat Matt	612-788-3998 ext 1007	patm@pktenterprises.com	Human Resources Director
Sharilyn Korte	612-788-3998 ext 106	sharilynk@pktenterprises.com	Director of Financial Services
Jennifer Johnson	612-788-3998 ext 115	jmi@pktenterprises.com	SLS Director
Matt Wahl	612-788-3998 ext 109	mattw@pktenterprises.com	SLS Director
Tennille Carlson	612-788-3998 ext 114	tennillec@pktenterprises.com	Director of IHS, Licensing Compliance and Client Relations
Chris Bastyr	612-788-3998 ext 16473	chrisb@pktenterprises.com	IHS Coordinator
Tim Sullivan	612-788-3998 ext 152	tims@pktenterprises.com	Pink House Coordinator
Duane Sundblad	612-788-3998 ext 153	brownhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Brown House Coordinator
Rayneshia Nunn	612-788-3998 ext 154	rayneshian@pktenterprises.com	Columbia House Coordinator
Katie Fordyce	612-788-3998 ext 155	katief@pktenterprises.com	Green House Coordinator
Melissa Holum	612-788-3998 ext 156	brightonhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Brighton House Coordinator
Jeanette DeChatelets	612-788-3998 ext 157	jeanettew@pktenterprises.com	Dark House Coordinator
Anna Seiger	612-788-3998 ext 158	yellowhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Yellow House Coordinator
Jenny Clement	612-788-3998 ext 159	whitehousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	White House Coordinator

Brick House	651-646-5221
Pink House	651-696-1909
Brown House	651-730-4773
Columbia House	763-789-7188
Green House	651-748-0580
Brighton House	651-636-8558
Dark House	651-766-6992
Yellow House	651-487-8770
White House	651-784-7874



Client Birthdays

Angie L.	9/5
Myiessha V.	9/6
Bob L.	9/15
Dan G.	9/17
Barb B.	9/26
Jesse F.	9/26
Monette D.	10/4
Spidy V.	10/28

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!**



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Carlin Anderson	1 year
Renae Brown	1 year
Amanda Ludden	1 year
Michelle Schauer	1 year
Anna Seiger	2 years
Jodi Feldbruegge	2 years
Linda Fox	3 years
Gillian Pearson	3 years
Karl Johnson	5 years
Sharilyn Korte	6 years
Chris Bastyr	11 years
Ong Moua	13 years

Employee Birthdays

Elizabeth Tucker	9/11
Deb Paine	9/20
Arthean Williams	9/22
Janine Beier	9/28
Katie Fordyce	9/30
Cassie Sjogren	10/2
Pat Matt	10/7
Gepsy Guillaume	10/8
Sarah Dunn	10/9
Christina Crothers	10/12
Josephine Ballah	10/17
Chi Thao	10/17
Olya Almeroth	10/20
Melissa Holum	10/22
Carlin Anderson	10/28

WELCOME

New Employees

Shalha Andrews	Pink House LSI
Josephine Ballah	Brick House LSI
KenDrena Harris	Brick House LSI
Erica Morrow	In-Home LSI
Nicola Opine	Brown House/In-Home LSI
Cheyenne Oyen	Brick House LSI
Jacqueline Skubal	Brick House HC
Tahisha Williams	White House LSI



PKT Enterprises
708 North 1st Street
Suite 331
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Words to Live By ...

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31, 32

For mailing changes, please contact Pat Matt at 612-788-3998 x 1007; email: patm@pktenterprises.com

THE PKT PRESS

is intended to provide information to the individuals we serve, the families and individuals who are so vitally important to those we serve, as well as the many members of the PKT community about what is going on at PKT Enterprises and just exactly "who" PKT Enterprises is...