

January-February
2012

Volume 9
Issue 1



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

Hello to all from the **Brown House**. It has been a busy couple of months for the guys with trips and outings. Riley the cat has also been very busy with vet visits and taking medications, which is always fun as he is very elusive and almost impossible to catch.

Bob L. has been staying busy with visits to his sister's house and graduating from therapy, which made him very proud. Bob also is a master at Uno the card game and music trivia. He is always trying to stump the staff and coordinator with music questions. Of course we can always rely on him to say "thank you, thank you very much" as quoted from Elvis Presley. Bob also stays busy with exercising by riding his bike and doing those therapy exercises each day, which he seems to enjoy very much.

Sean A. continues to exercise each day after his nap and makes sure that we know what is going on in his life. He enjoys attending his regular Tuesday evening get together event. Sean has been very social with his housemates, playing cards and watching movies with them, which seems to be enjoyable for him. Sean makes a point of asking me on a weekly basis, if I know his schedule, making sure that I stay informed if in doubt.

Jon R. has kept himself busy with helping to catch Riley the house cat. He is the only one that the cat will come to, as somehow that cat just knows what awaits with the inevitable medication fun. Jon also went to a monster truck event, which he really seemed to enjoy, as he talks about it often. He can often be found playing pool with staff and usually winning, which puts a very big smile on his face. When all the other guys are in their rooms, Jon will come down every night to chat with staff about his day, which is always looked forward to by the staff.

Jim R. has went on a trip to Disney with another client from PKT. They really enjoyed their time together seeing the sites. On a daily basis Jim will talk about the trip with a big smile on his face. Jim continues to be a big help with the grocery shopping. He really enjoys helping pick out the food and bagging when checking out. The first time I observed this it was unbelievable, as he bagged the groceries like a pro and stated that he had worked in a grocery store before. The times spent with Jim are always enjoyable as we get to catch up on what has been going on in his life for the week.

In ending, it has been very enjoyable for me during the last couple of months, getting to know the guys and their daily routines and likes and dislikes. I have also enjoyed very much meeting all the new guardians, case managers, job coaches and family.

Duane Sundblad, Brown House Coordinator ✍

Happy
New Year
2012

MATT'S MEMO

It's HERE! Winter has arrived. Along with winter came the crazy busy holiday season. This past month the PKT office was buzzing with people hanging decorations, wrapping presents, signing cards and preparing for the annual Christmas party. The clients were also busy at the houses, dusting off the boxes of Christmas decorations and putting up the Christmas trees.

Somewhere amidst all of the hustle and bustle that this time of year brings, we are reminded of the important things in our lives and the things we are all grateful for. For many of our clients, it's the important family and friend relationships they have built over the years. We have several clients who went to their respective families for the holidays to celebrate and we have many within the company that stick close to home and get together at one of our PKT homes. There has been a longstanding tradition at PKT for those clients that choose to stay home, of having the opportunity to get together with other PKT clients at any one of the houses for a traditional holiday meal.

This time of year, although a hectic one, should remind us all of the blessings in our lives. I hope you all had a happy and wonderful holiday!

Matt Wahl, SLS Director ✍



SPOTLIGHT ON

Jaci B. has been with PKT for almost 2 years now and we continue to see her personality blossom. She is full of laughter and hugs and she loves to joke around with the staff and her housemates at the **Brick House**. She has a great sense of humor and is very thoughtful.

Jaci spends her weekdays working at TSE and they have seen her come out of her shell more lately. They say she enjoys socializing with others there and even invited a coworker to join her for lunch the other day. She loves to chat and to do her 'paperwork.' Jaci loves outings to McDonald's and DQ, coffee with creamer, and chips, but along with her housemates has been doing a great job eating healthy. She has lost weight and is becoming more active. At home Jaci likes rearranging her room with the help of a housemate, and assisting staff with baking tasks, and often can be heard belting out the songs she is listening to on the radio.

Jaci loved the Christmas season and enjoyed decorating the house, as well as having her own personal Christmas tree in her room. She sings the tunes and spreads the cheer!

Danielle Straka, Brick House Coordinator ✍



STEVE'S SCOOP



HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope and trust everyone had a fun and safe holiday season!!!

As they say, "How about that weather, huh?" I don't know if I ever recall a "winter" such as this! I seriously contemplated doing some Spring clean-up in my mulched areas around the house, but then decided that come real Spring, I would have nothing to do ☺ !

Well, in looking at the Client Christmas Party pictures, I am sure you can see that a fun time was had by all! Also, if you look real close you will notice that I, after MANY years, passed the Santa torch (or sack as it may be) to someone else. Thank you **Matt Wahl**, for agreeing to be Santa!! Most of the clients know, well maybe all of them ☺, that I was Santa, so it was quite funny when Matt walked out all dressed in his costume and I was standing there next to him, with my lovely Christmas sweater on!! A big thank you also must go to **Steve U.** for again being Santa's elf...gotta love that costume. Thank you to Buca di Beppo in Eden Prairie, for catering the event, AND thanks to **Bonnie S.** for hosting the bash again this year, in her apartment building's party room!

Each year, for quite some time now, we have had an office staff Christmas party where those in the office exchange gifts and such...and as most of you know, each year, since 1995, I have had various shirts, jackets, hats, etc. logoed and dated for the year they were given out to clients, employees and business vendors...so, this year's gift from the office folks to me was a real tear gusher. They took the last left over stadium blanket we did in 2008 and made it into a quilt with pieces of logoed wear from back to 1997! AMAZING! Thank you **Tennille, Ron, Christi, Jenn, Matt, Sharilyn, and Pat.** I am quite blessed for knowing you and having the privilege of working with you!! Special thanks to Pat for donating to the quilt the shirts I gave to her son Lonnie, as that was the only way to get ones from the early days without asking me for my shirts from home ☺ ! Here is a picture of the awesome gift:

THANKS!!! Have a good rest of "winter"!



SHARILYN'S ...

Author A.A. Milne once said, "Organizing is what you do before you do something, so that when you do it, it is not all mixed up." I have to agree with Milne. As one year ends and a new one begins I must be organizing. With the many different areas my office handles for PKT and our clients, I must be organized to ensure I can handle all requests that are thrown my way on a daily basis. I find that when my office becomes disorganized, my job becomes more stressful. This I hate; so systems of filing become key.

Each January is filled with making new files, tabs and envelopes in order to properly store the new year's information and backfile the old. Over the years I have found that certain information which is frequently asked for is best organized in certain ways. For instance, some things are alphabetical, some are by house, and yet others are by month or category. Personally, my favorite type of organization is by color. When I get to pull out the old trusty Crayola Markers, my life seems slightly happier.

Yes, you may find this a bit overkill, but the fact of the matter is that without being organized I would not be able to meet the needs of our clients and their teams as efficiently as I do. Therefore, the time spent organizing and improving on systems in the long run has cut down on the "mix ups." Though I must admit, my office is not as organized as I would like it to be, but it is something I continue to strive for—the utopic financial office. A place where nothing gets lost or forgotten about and everything can be found within 5 seconds of needing it. Ah...One beautiful day.

Sharilyn Korte, Director of Financial Services ✍

IN-HOME CONNECTION

This month the In-Home featured client is our good friend **Xao V.** Xao is a very active young man who is out and about almost every day with his staff, and it's tough to say where he may be on any given day, for Xao has many interests and a lot of places he likes going to.

During the summer Xao enjoys going to various parks such as Phalen Lake Park and Mary Schroeder Park. At the park he likes to go fishing sometimes and also enjoys relaxing and listening to music on his radio. Other outdoor activities Xao enjoys are camping and boating.

Along with hanging out at the park in the summer, Xao also enjoys going to other places such as the Minnesota Zoo and Como Zoo. At Como Park there is a Hmong Soccer Tournament each year, and Xao likes to go in support of his favorite players. Towards the close of summer Xao makes the MN State Fair one of his stops in his busy schedule, where he enjoys all the sights, smells and tastes of the "Great Minnesota Get-Together"!

On some of the more rainy days, and especially on days during the winter when it's very snowy or cold, Xao enjoys staying at home. He still hangs out with his staff, but they do a ton of different activities from decorating baked goodies to playing games to watching a good movie with members of his family.

Family is a very important part of Xao's life. He likes it a lot when there are family gatherings, be it at his uncle's house or at the park. Xao seems to especially enjoy having his nieces and nephews there and watching them play. Some of the main times during the year when there are extra-special family gatherings are at holidays, weddings and a Shaman party.

Christopher Bastyr, In-Home Services Coordinator ✍



*Love came down at Christmas; love all lovely, love divine; love was born at Christmas,
stars and angels gave the sign. - Christina G. Rossetti*

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 "Brick House", which is located in Roseville. This site has two ladies and one gentleman 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.

People 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.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH for December 2011***Sarah Dunn***

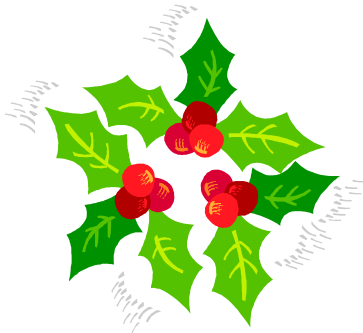
PKT would like to recognize and thank **Sarah** for:

- ❄ Ensuring she spends quality time with each client individually
- ❄ Brainstorming new ideas to bring all clients together, which builds strong relationships
- ❄ Never being late or calling in sick
- ❄ Completing additional requests from House Coordinator accurately and promptly
- ❄ Bringing in "previously experienced" clothing and art supplies for clients to enjoy
- ❄ Being proficient in following all policies and understanding the benefit this provides to clients
- ❄ Being a "team player" because she is able to lead and follow simultaneously while guiding clients to make positive choices
- ❄ Always willing to involve clients in meal prep, baking, community and home activities
- ❄ Being thoughtful enough to bring a snack for client and staff while at the hospital for seven hours without being asked! This brought smiles to both faces.

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH for January 2012*****Ryan Tamte***

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

- ❄ Taking time to deep clean the basement, carpets, kitchen, etc., instead of just surface cleaning
- ❄ Regularly working his daily schedule around the guys' wants and needs for community access
- ❄ Taking the time to get to know the guys and become a companion as much as a staff person
- ❄ Taking on the lead staff position at the Pink House and quickly learning all the pertinent programming and medical needs of the clients
- ❄ Immediately stepping into and excelling at the extra responsibilities of the position without missing a beat



THANK YOU SARAH AND RYAN!

Satisfaction Survey Results Are In

PKT Enterprises recently sent out a satisfaction survey to the parents/siblings/guardians and case managers of all of our clients. The continuing effort allows us to solicit information on what we do well and also allows us to see areas in which we need to improve. We would like to thank all of you who took the time to participate in filling this out. The following are the results, on a 5 point rating scale. Here is where we averaged in each category:

1. How would you rate the quality of services provided by PKT? **4.47**
2. PKT provides opportunities for people to participate in community activities. **4.36**
3. PKT staff keep me well informed about progress or concerns, as well as any successes, achievements or accomplishments. **4.27**
4. My son/daughter/sibling/client is receiving the types of support services I would want for them. **4.28**
5. PKT staff are courteous and respectful to me when I interact with them. **4.68**
6. I would recommend PKT to a person looking for services. **4.58**
7. I am satisfied with the appearance of the group home where my son/daughter/sibling/client lives. **4.62**
8. When an emergency arises I know my client is well taken care of. **4.46**
9. I enjoy/appreciate the articles written in the PKT Press. **4.31**

We also asked if there was anything else you would like to tell us. The following are some of the comments: "Annual picnic on the boat and river was a super good idea." "I appreciate the work that staff has done with my client." "Staff is fantastic #10! Don't know what we would do without her." "We love our staff. He is the best we have had! I know my client is in good hands when they are out in the community together." "Staff works well with my client to assure safety with independence in community." "My client seems very comfortable with his home and staff." "Keep up the good work! Thanks." "Staff are doing a great job with my client. They are flexible and understanding." "Thank you for all you do!" "Staff do a great job working with my client." "My client has improved in everything since living with PKT homes. Thank you!" "The staff have always been exceptional in working in a sometimes difficult situation. Keep up the excellent work."

As happy and excited as we are to receive such wonderful feedback, we also hear about things we need to work on and/or concerns you as family/case managers/guardians have. Some of the concerns expressed were as follows: "Keep thinking of new ideas the client would like to be involved in on outings that is fun." "More group activities would be good." "I would like to see bowling on Saturday's back again." "Would like to see some new furniture in the living room." "I would like to see more about clients and less about staff." (referring to newsletter).

Thank you once again for taking the time to let us know how we are doing both positive and negative. Remember, we can't improve unless we know about your concerns.

CALENDAR/UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY STAFF MEETINGS

IHS:	January 4 th	9:30a - 11:30a
Brick:	January 25 th	10:00a -12:00p
Pink:	January 11 th	12:00p - 2:00p
Brown:	January 27 th	12:00p - 2:00p
Columbia:	January 24 th	12:30p - 2:30p
Green:	January 9 th	4:30p - 6:30p
Brighton:	January 17 th	3:00p - 5:00p
Dark:	January 16 th	5:00p - 7:00p
Yellow:	January 18 th	12:00p - 2:00p
White:	January 23 rd	12:00p - 2:00p

FEBRUARY STAFF MEETINGS

IHS:	February 1 st	9:30a - 11:30a
Brick:	February 22 nd	10:00a -12:00p
Pink:	February 8 th	9:00a - 11:00a
Brown:	February 24 th	12:00p - 2:00p
Columbia:	February 28 th	12:30p - 2:30p
Green:	February 13 th	4:30p - 6:30p
Brighton:	February 21 st	3:00p - 5:00p
Dark:	February 20 th	5:00p - 7:00p
Yellow:	February 8 th	12:00p - 2:00p
White:	February 27 th	12:00p - 2:00p

CPR

Wednesday January 11 th	9:00a-12:00p
Wednesday January 25 th	1:00p-4:00p
Wednesday February 8 th	9:00a-12:00p
Wednesday February 22 nd	1:00p-4:00p



First Aid

Wednesday January 11 th	1:00p-4:00p
Wednesday January 25 th	5:00p-8:00p
Wednesday February 8 th	1:00p-4:00p
Wednesday February 22 nd	5:00p-8:00p

JANUARY 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

January Upcoming Events

1	Happy New Year 2012!
16	Martin Luther King Day
19-22	Boat Show. Minneapolis Convention Center
26-2/3	St. Paul Winter Carnival

February Upcoming Events

3-4	World's Toughest Rodeo. St. Paul Xcel Center
14	Happy Valentine's Day
17-19	Eelpout Festival. Leech Lake, Walker, Minnesota
18	Real Pirates: The Untold Story. Science Museum of Minnesota
25	Perch Extravaganza on Mille Lacs Lake



UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION ...

Steven 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
Christi Desautels	612-788-3998 ext 118	christid@pktenterprises.com	Director
Jennifer Johnson	612-788-3998 ext 115	jmj@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
Danielle Straka	612-788-3998 ext 151	brickhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Brick House 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 Wisnewski	612-788-3998 ext 157	jeanettew@pktenterprises.com	Dark House Coordinator
Anna Seiger	612-788-3998 ext 158	yellowhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Yellow 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

Lane M.	1/1
Lori L.	1/6
Jackie W.	1/18
Kristi B.	1/21
Walter S.	1/26
Dori S.	2/7
Scott M.	2/16
Mike L.	2/16

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!**

Lynn Brown	1 year
Jeanette Wisnewski	2 years
Rayneshia Nunn	3 years
Bangela Smith	4 years
Jean Parker	5 years
Pam Kurtz	11 years
Channon Doerr	16 years
Deb Paine	16 years



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Employee Birthdays

Rand Stevens	1/3
Tami Block	1/4
Jacob Garding	1/6
Hamilton Kulee	1/11
Pa Yang	1/18
Jeanette Wisnewski	1/27
Jennifer Johnson	1/28
Andrea Johnson	1/30
Larry Monn	1/31
Amanda Ludden	2/1
Pam Kurtz	2/2
Jodi Feldbruegge	2/4
Lakeisha Ware	2/14
Ashley Dessen	2/16
Matt Wahl	2/17
Lynn Brown	2/20
Greg Klinger	2/26
Danielle Straka	2/27

WELCOME

New Employees

Patricia Amunga	Pink House LSI
Andrea Alvarez	Yellow House Live In
Jesse Lobash	Dark House Lead
Vanessa Manrique	Brick House LSI



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

Words to Live By ...

Give thanks in all circumstances...

I Thessalonians 5:18a

*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...