



# MILESTONE INC.

Building Lives • Building Futures

## MATTERS

Newsletter For The Friends & Supporters of MILESTONE, Inc.

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## SHAWN WAY NAMED CEO

MILESTONE'S Board of Directors is pleased to announce Shawn Way has been named MILESTONE'S new Chief Executive Officer. Jim Hamilton remains with the organization as President and will work closely with Mr. Way until his retirement on June 30, 2010.

Mr. Way is no stranger to MILESTONE having served on the Board of Directors for the past 11 years, including serving as Chairperson. He was born and raised in Rockford, earned a bachelors degree from Northern Illinois University and for the past 25 years has been in the banking industry working at both AMCORE and Rockford Bank and Trust.



Mr. Hamilton says he is confident about MILESTONE'S future with Mr. Way's leadership, adding he has known Shawn for over 20 years and knows he will be leaving the organization in good hands.



Mr. Way is looking forward to joining the Milestone family, adding he is honored and excited to join MILESTONE as CEO. After serving on the Board of Directors for over a decade, he says he knows full well the special people who serve and are served at one of northern Illinois' great organizations. Way added, "I have a great appreciation of the dedication of the staff and incredible respect for Jim Hamilton and all that he and his team have accomplished. My personal goals for MILESTONE are the same as they are for my family; leave this world and the organization better than I found it."



## STATE FUNDING UPDATE

- MILESTONE'S Dental Program funding was reduced 11 1/2 % and is funded through June 30, 2010.
- MILESTONE'S Respite Program funding was reduced 11 1/2 % and is funded through June 30, 2010



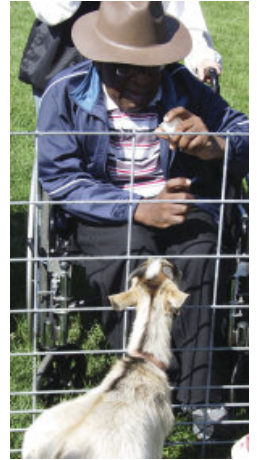


## A DESIRE TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

A family is best described as people who care about one another, and it is a term that also describes the philosophy at MILESTONE. Huriel moved to Elmwood Heights when the Dixon Developmental Center closed in 1980, a place he had called home for over 17 years. But, it did not take long for him to feel at home. Huriel loves to be around people and even though he is non verbal has no problem showing his sense of humor to others. It did not take long for Huriel to win over the hearts of the staff and the other people in his house. The husband of one staff member became Huriel's special friend, and for the past 10 years they have watched sporting events and movies together, gone places together and have become part of each other's family. They enjoy spending holidays together and Huriel likes to be part of what is happening whether it be sitting outside with the family dog next to him or watching Thanksgiving dinner be prepared.



Huriel stays busy at MILESTONE Industries during the week and weekends he cheers for either the Bears or the Packers, it just depends on where he is watching the game. But, you will always find him wearing the colors of the team he is cheering on to victory. One of his favorite times is when he can attend Camp Winnebago during the summer. He loves the large fish tank in the education building, and is happy to sit and watch the fish. So, it came as no surprise when Huriel wanted to help make Camp Winnebago an even better place to visit. Each month he receives a small amount of money to be used for personal expenses. He knew that if he loved to watch the fish, others would also. So, he made a pledge to the YMCA, he would do what he could to help the YMCA keep fish at Camp Winnebago, and he purchased some new fish for the tank. Something that he plans to do in the future. Huriel wanted to give back to the community while making sure there are fish in the tank at Camp Winnebago for everyone to enjoy.





# Dear Friend,

As Christmas approaches the MILESTONE family begins its celebration, we celebrate both the religious and joyous events which surround this special season.

At MILESTONE, we also celebrate the generosity of those who have helped make the lives of the individuals we serve meaningful. We celebrate the homes members of our family live in, the opportunity to work at MILESTONE Industries and the Training Center, and the abundance of social and recreational opportunities enjoyed by everyone at MILESTONE.

The MILESTONE celebration is not only experienced at Christmas, but it encompasses each day of the year. The greater Rockford community and its giving citizens have made Christmas a daily event for the thousands of individuals with disabilities MILESTONE serves.

This year is unique for both myself and Shawn. It marks my 37th and last Christmas as President and CEO, and marks Shawn's first of the many holiday seasons with the MILESTONE family to come.

While every Christmas is extraordinary, this one will be extremely special for two reasons. First, because I will be celebrating it with my first grandson, Wallace Hamilton Berman. Secondly, this year an additional eight people will join the MILESTONE family, Shawn, his wife Kathy and their six children who will help make the holiday even merrier.

Christmas is an incredible time for the individuals MILESTONE serves, and we will do our best to make sure this holiday season is very special. But, times are very tough. Revenue from the state of Illinois has not increased in 3 years, and payments from the state are as much as 120 days overdue.

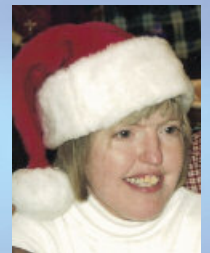
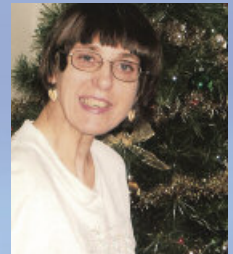
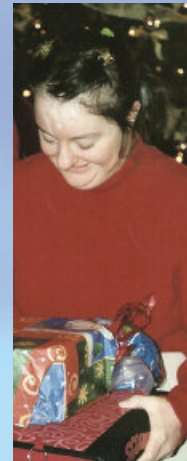
Christmas is the time when we reach out to you, members of our extended family and request your help. Please help us to continue improving the lives of the individuals we serve by making a contribution during this special season.

With your help the celebration will continue.

Sincerely,

*Jim Hamilton*  
Jim Hamilton  
President

*M. Shawn Way*  
M.Shawn Way  
CEO





## RURAL GROUP HOME RENOVATIONS

The five men living at the Rural Group Home say they feel as if they are in a new home after major renovations were completed. The kitchen at the home was completely redone. A wall was taken down which opened up the area, and the kitchen was rearranged. A bathroom was remodeled, the lighting was improved throughout the home and new carpeting was installed.



The Rural Group Home was one of the first opened after the organization expanded in the early 1990s, and this is the first major renovation at the home since it opened.

## HELPING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

For the eighth year Lenny organized a team from MILESTONE and raised money for the annual American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Walk. He says he knows this is one way he can help make a difference in the lives of others.



## LEARNING ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Thirty-three members of MILESTONE'S staff took part in a special training seminar on Alzheimer's disease. A representative from the Alzheimer's Association presented information designed for MILESTONE'S professional and direct care staff. Mario was honored during the session for his participation in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk.



## HELPING THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Individuals and staff organized a team for the Rockford Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk at Rock Valley College. Team Captains Mario and Rachel got the word out and collected donations which were handed in at the event.





### “SYLVIA’S KITCHEN”

Linda and Denise enjoyed being on “23 this Morning” with Aaron Wilson and Sylvia Waldsmith, and tasting the goodies from Sylvia’s kitchen. It was a television debut for both ladies.



### MILESTONE ARTISTS DISPLAY THEIR WORK

People had a chance to admire and purchase the work of MILESTONE’S artists during the annual “Cider and Cinnamon Festival” at the Edgebrook Center. The 2 day event was termed a success by all.



### ROCKFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PRESENTATION

The success of a MILESTONE program was shared with supporters of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois. The funding for equipment for the Behavior Modification Therapy Program at MILESTONE’S Elmwood Heights facility was provided by the United Cerebral Palsy of Blackhawk Region Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois. The presentation by MILESTONE staff focused on the success and impact of the program, and the positive impact it has had on the individuals at Elmwood Heights. The goal is to continue to expand the program at Elmwood Heights, the MILESTONE Training Center and RocVale Children’s Home.



### “CLOTHES FOR KIDS” DRIVE

Individuals and Staff from the MILESTONE Training Center helped the Salvation Army with their annual “Clothes for Kids” drive, by accepting donations at the CherryVale mall collection site.



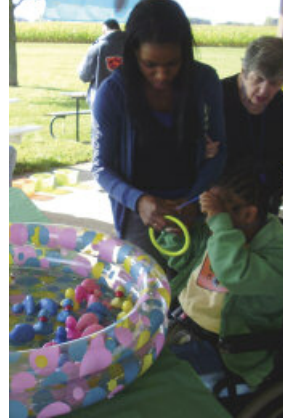
Everyone who took part said they were glad they could help make a difference.



### THE MILESTONE DENTAL CLINIC CORNER

Research conducted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has discovered that a child’s baby teeth contain stem cells that can be banked for future use. This alternative to banking the umbilical cord is easier, more affordable and the cells appear to be just as effective as the umbilical cord cells. It also gives another opportunity to parents who did not bank their child’s umbilical cord and now wish they had. Scientists are working on the stem cells found in the pulp of the naturally exfoliated (fallen out) baby teeth to grow heart, liver, cartilage, blood, bone and nerve tissues. These cells could be used to treat a variety of childhood diseases like leukemia, immune disorders and cancers. Dr. Songtao Shi made this discovery quite by accident when his 6 year old daughter lost her first baby tooth. Dr. Songtao is a pediatric dentist and a researcher for NIH. When he looked inside the exfoliated tooth and saw the pulp he began to wonder if there might be useful stem cells in the pulp. He was able to harvest stem cells from the pulp. He then anxiously awaited the loss of his daughter’s next baby tooth and also used the baby teeth of her friends to continue his research. He discovered that front teeth seem to work best for harvesting stem cells. The cost to store baby teeth is approximately \$3000 for 20 years. Two websites that will provide more information about storing baby teeth are [www.store-a-tooth.com](http://www.store-a-tooth.com) and [www.stemsave.com](http://www.stemsave.com).





## SPECIAL OLYMPICS MOTOR ACTIVITIES TRAINING PROGRAM

MILESTONE athletes enjoyed the Motor Activities Training Program at Elmwood Heights, by taking part in 10 different activities. Each person received a Gold Medal and had their picture taken. This is the 10th year for the event.

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

MILESTONE'S Softball team took third place at the state competition in Decatur. Team members said it was a close match but they came out the winners.



### THE MTC BASS FISHING CHALLENGE

Individuals at MTC enjoyed a fishing tournament where a record setting number of fish were caught. Two individuals caught 5 bass in under 5 minutes.



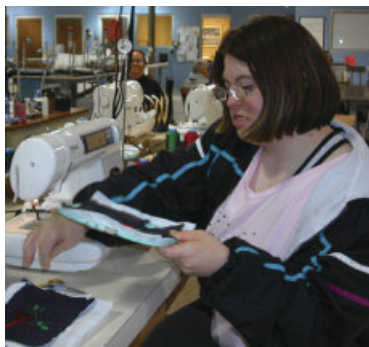
### MILESTONE TRAINING PROGRAMS RECEIVE HIGH MARKS

The Illinois Department of Human Services gave the MILESTONE Training programs high marks during a recent survey. The report praised MILESTONE for the variety of programming offered and the way it enriches the lives of the individuals MILESTONE serves. The report went on to say one of the strengths of the program is how the staff treats individuals with dignity and respect, and added it is a quality program in all aspects.



## HOLIDAY CARD PRODUCTION KEEPS MILESTONE INDUSTRIES BUSY

Everyone at MILESTONE Industries has been busy making holiday cards. By late October orders hit over the 5000 mark. Workers were kept very busy making paper, sewing the designs, tearing cards and gluing to paper stock. Thank you to everyone who ordered cards this year. While it is too late to get cards for the 2009 holiday season, they will return in 2010.



**MILESTONE INDUSTRIES**

Packaging • Bagging • Heat Sealing  
Scaling • Blister Packing • Assembly Sorting  
Inspection • Collating • Mailing and Labeling

*Milestone Industries is your on-time, competitively priced solution for all of your packaging, sorting and mailing needs. With over 12 years of contracting experience serving Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin, our proven track record will complement your project no matter how big or small.*

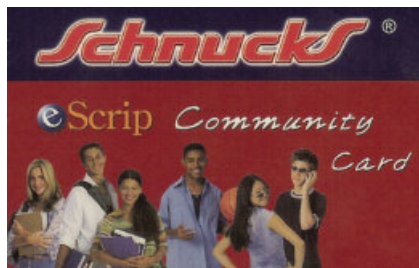
For a project quote or more information about Milestone Industries  
Contact: Bob Stephenson  
815.639.2810  
Email: bstephenson@milestone-inc.org

Milestone Industries - A Division of Milestone Inc.

## MILESTONE, INC. RECOGNIZES LONG TERM EMPLOYEES

### HELP MILESTONE EVERY TIME YOU SHOP

Help MILESTONE every time you shop at Logli's through the Schnucks eScrip Community Card program. All you have to do is pick up a free card at Logli's, register the card and designate MILESTONE as the non profit organization you want to help. Then give the card to the cashier when you check out. Each time you shop Schnucks will contribute up to 3% of your grocery bill to MILESTONE. For more information call the Resource Development department at (815) 639-2965.



#### 10 years

Sharon Whitley	October
Carolyn Whitley	October
Torrie Miles	October
Theresa Keller	November
Elizabeth Oppold	November
Conjetta Turner	November
Cathy Druissi	December
Robert Durham	December
Janet Mitchell	December
Lizzita Sanders	December

#### 15 years

Ellen Renton	November
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#### 20 years

Cindy Miller	October
Anne Meredith	October
Ken McClain	November
Linda Thornbloom	December
Theresa Risser	December

#### 25 years

Dori Keller	November
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#### 30 years

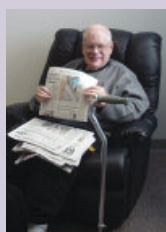
Mildred Collier	October
John Linde	December

### THANK YOU MILESTONE SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the employees of Zenith Cutter for the contribution to RocVale Children's Home.

Thank you to the Knit Wits group at the United Methodist church in Roscoe for the hats.

### MILESTONE WISHLIST



- Wii games
- Large Plastic Radio Flyer Wagons
- Newspaper subscriptions
- PEOPLE Magazines ( new or used)
- DVDs

MILESTONE, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) Illinois not-for-profit organization. MILESTONE Matters is developed to inform the public of the program services we offer to developmentally disabled citizens from Northern Illinois. To learn more about MILESTONE and the individuals we serve, please call (815) 654-6100.

President: James P. Hamilton  
 Chief Executive Officer M. Shawn Way  
 MILESTONE Matters Editor: Arles Hendershott  
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## **GRANT PROVIDES FUNDING FOR ROCVALE'S BOY SCOUT PROGRAM**



**A** grant from the William S. Howard Charitable Trust will continue to provide funding for the Boy Scout program at RocVale Children's Home. The program provides many educational and social opportunities for the boys who enjoy the many activities.

The William S. Howard Charitable Trust was established in 1982 as the charitable component of the companies of William Charles, Ltd. Those companies include Rockford Blacktop Construction Co., William Charles Investments, and the William Charles Waste Companies. Together they comprise one of the largest, locally owned companies in the region.

## **MILESTONE MISSION STATEMENT**

"Everyone has the right to be treated with respect, to participate in community life, to develop and exercise personal competence, to have family and friends, and to make decisions in their lives." MILESTONE, Inc. exists to ensure that persons with developmental disabilities can exercise these same rights.

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**Address Service Requested**

**4060 McFarland Road  
Rockford, IL 61111**

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