

The Bridge

“Bridging the Gap Between
Work and Home”

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Community Enterprises of St. Clair County
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Scott Shine,
Executive Director

Caitlin Reynolds,
Associate Director

YOUR STARTING LINEUP

Shelly Bailes- Community Center
Supervisor
810-488-8272

Patty Shine - Ext 8813
Skills Center Supervisor

Laurie Karig-
River District Supervisor
810-765-3300

Lisa Renno - Ext 8811
Administrative Manager

Kristina Walker- Ext 8850
Administrative Assistant

Annette Agosta- Ext 8825
Payroll

Kriss Ayotte- Ext 8819
Accounts Payable/Receivable

Dustin Rutherford- Ext 8829
Workfloor Manager

Scott Bradley- Ext 8836
Shredding Sales Manager

Jill Gorde & Nick Manciero-
Ext 8831
Job Recruiters

A Letter from the Executive Director, Scott Shine

By the time you read this, I will be close to celebrating my 6-month anniversary here at Community Enterprises. Compared to most of our staff and consumers this is a mere drop in the bucket. However, because of every one of them, I feel like I have been here for 6 years rather than 6 months. And I could not be more thankful for each one of you; staff, consumers, parents, guardians, case managers, partners and every other person that has reached out and made me feel welcomed. I am humbled by your kindness, inspired by your purpose, and driven by your dedication.

The first day I started here I said we need to start counting our wins and they would quickly outweigh the losses if we all worked together. And I have seen every single person here notch a win since that day. Staff and consumers alike. In less than 6 months we have doubled the people we serve each day. We pivoted on a dime and launched a new location. We have realigned staff and programs to meet the needs of those we serve and to expand and improve on what we do best. We have begun renovating and investing in our people and spaces with our eyes clearly fixed on the future and the future is bright here at Community Enterprises.

A few weeks ago, we were reviewing some old program manuals and plans, and a line written by our former executive director, Jim Fortushniak, really stuck out to me. I cannot remember the context, the plan or anything else, but I do know he wrote, “*We do not rest on our laurels here*”. I can say with certainty that was the case then, it is now, and it will be as long as I have a say in the matter.

It's Spring-Cleaning Time for BWSS

It's been another busy month for Blue Water Secure Shredding! Scheduled purge pickups continue to increase. Our drivers went out on runs in April with both trucks on a scheduled purge and brought back 10,196 pounds. Our hats off to our fantastic drivers, Mike and Greg.

BWSS would like to welcome Hope Surgical Clinic and Xtreme Powerline Construction to our list of monthly shredding customers. We thank you for your business and look forward to serving you!

If you or anyone you know has paper they need destroyed, you can drop it off to be securely shredded. Our shredding hours are Monday- Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost for paper shredding is .35 per pound for walk-ins. If you have a large amount, please call to schedule an appointment.

Questions? Please call Scott Bradley, Sales Manager for Blue Water Secure Shredding at 810-990-8836.



River District Tries Out Woodworking



Thanks to Mr. Tucker, a long-time supporter of our River District program, some of our crew tried their hand at wood working and helped prepare pallets for some projects. Pictured is Bob Mullenex (left) and Jason Bellhorn (right) using an air powered staple gun to fasten the pallet slats together. Pictured in the center is Bob, Jason, Ken Jock and Mr. Tucker discussing the next steps. Below, Bob holds the finished project which will be used to make some holiday décor. Great job crew! We can't wait to use them!



Please remember as the weather gets warmer, it is important for everyone to wear sunscreen when out and about. Please make sure that your individual(s) has a Standing Medication Order on file at Community Enterprises. Thank you for your cooperation!



CESSC will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2022, for Memorial Day.

Winning with Weinert

By Nick Manciero



Break out the confetti, because it's time to celebrate one of the hardest working people in the Blue Water Area! Mr. Mike Weinert has been working at the McDonalds in the shadow of the Blue Water Bridge for just over a year now, and we are proud to say that he is still going strong. Always smiling, Mike helps keep the pace during the busy lunch rush, but there's more to Mike than amazing burgers and perfect fries.

When I first met Mike, he was eager to show me his skills with calendars and dates. Seconds after asking my birthday, he was able to tell me what day of the week I was born on...without using a smartphone or computer. This was quickly followed by a list of the days my birthday will fall on all the way until 2031! He showed me that Thanksgiving will always fall between the 22nd and 28th of November, and thanks to Mike, I now know when all the leap years will occur until 2048.

Mike also loves to create confetti for different occasions, which is a calming and unique hobby. His latest confetti creation showcased strips of bright green paper serving as Easter grass, mixed with white strips featuring his name and Easter greetings in different ink colors, making a fantastic bed for a carefully chosen selection of delicious candy.

No stranger to the outdoors, Mike was outside on his bike as soon as the weather got warm. His latest adventure had him cruising along the banks of the Black River, taking a few pictures of scenery that show the dull greys and browns of Winter giving way to the greens and yellows of Spring. Mike had also taken a well-deserved vacation a few months ago and was excited to show off pictures of him enjoying the sunny waters of Florida in a kayak.

When asked what his favorite part about working at McDonald's was, he explained how much he loved working the fryers, and keeping everything flowing. It is this attitude that has made Mike an important part of the McDonald's team. His coworkers know they can rely on him to do a great job, helping out wherever he is needed, which strengthens the crew. This location seems to have better food than the others, and I'm betting Mike is the reason for that.

Personally, I am looking forward to spending many more years with Mike and watching as he continues to grow as a happy and thoughtful individual. It's the honest truth that whenever I get to visit Mike, he puts a smile on my face, and I'm sure I'm not the only person who says that. His positive, fun-loving personality is infectious, and it seems to me that there's a lot we can all learn from him.

Keep on winning, Weinert!

CE Skills Center Begins New Classes

On April 4th & 5th, CESSC started our new Skill Building Courses held at the 26th Street location. We are so excited for our consumers that are dedicated to 3 months of learning something new!

We have 7 consumers that have chosen to be a part of our CE-Café/Kitchen. They are so eager to learn new skills that they can use in their home or apartment, or to obtain a job in the community!



The group has been busy washing & scrubbing the appliances, refrigerator, freezer, all items that will be used in the kitchen. They have been shopping for things that were needed for the kitchen, watching videos and reading about kitchen safety-appliances.

The group is looking forward to reading recipes, baking, and cooking. They have been discussing things they would like to prepare and sample. They are so excited to be a part of the first CE-Café /Kitchen class!



We have 5 consumers that are a part of our new Wood Working Carpentry Class. The group has been busy learning about proper PPE, safety of power tools, recognizing different tools and their usage, units of measurements, practicing on scrap wood.

The class will make a small project that they will cut, sand, and paint. They will be taking their project home so they can enjoy the fruits of their labor!

The group will then move on to making modern outdoor chairs that they will work on from start to finish. These chairs can be special ordered-either stained or painted.

We are so proud of how eager and patient they have been through the course the last few weeks. Please stay tuned for more information about what the group will be making and selling!

If you are interested in taking a skill building class at CE, please let your CMH Supports Coordinator know. New classes will be starting in July!