

# THE Pipeline REPORTER

NEWS ABOUT MUELLER MARKETS, PLANTS, PRODUCTS, PERFORMANCE AND PEOPLE

SEPTEMBER 1983

## Finance Vice President Named



Allen M. Yurko has been named Vice President - Finance for the Mueller Co. He comes to Mueller from the Eaton Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio, where he was Group Controller of Eaton's Materials Handling Group. He replaces Fred Ausnehmer who earlier this year was appointed Vice President - Operations.

Yurko holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business and Economics from Lehigh University and an Executive MBA in General Management from Baldwin-Wallace College. He is a native of Willingboro, New Jersey.

## New President at Mueller, Ltd.



Conrad Clingenpeel has been named President of Mueller, Ltd. in Canada. Clingenpeel has been with Mueller Co. since 1981, starting with the company as a Product Specialist in field sales. He has served as Marketing Manager-Fire Protection and most recently as Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Mueller Ltd.

Prior to joining Mueller he held various positions in sales, marketing, and engineering with other companies in the same market areas as Mueller Co. He came to Mueller from six years of service to the Kan-Tex Corporation in Nashville, Tennessee. A native of Burkeville, Va., he received his civil engineering degree from Virginia Polytechnical Institute in Petersburg, Va.



Mueller President Ed Powers and Decatur Mayor Gary Anderson inspect the new Hunter molding complex, run by Thomas Girdler.

## Foundry Toured by Decatur Officials

This summer the Decatur Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and members of the press toured the Decatur brass foundry to see the improvements made in the three phase modernization program started two years ago. The first and second phases of this program are complete, providing Decatur's foundry with improved environmental conditions and a new Hunter automatic molding complex.

The new complex is made up of an automatic molding machine, automatic pouring furnace, and new sand and casting handling

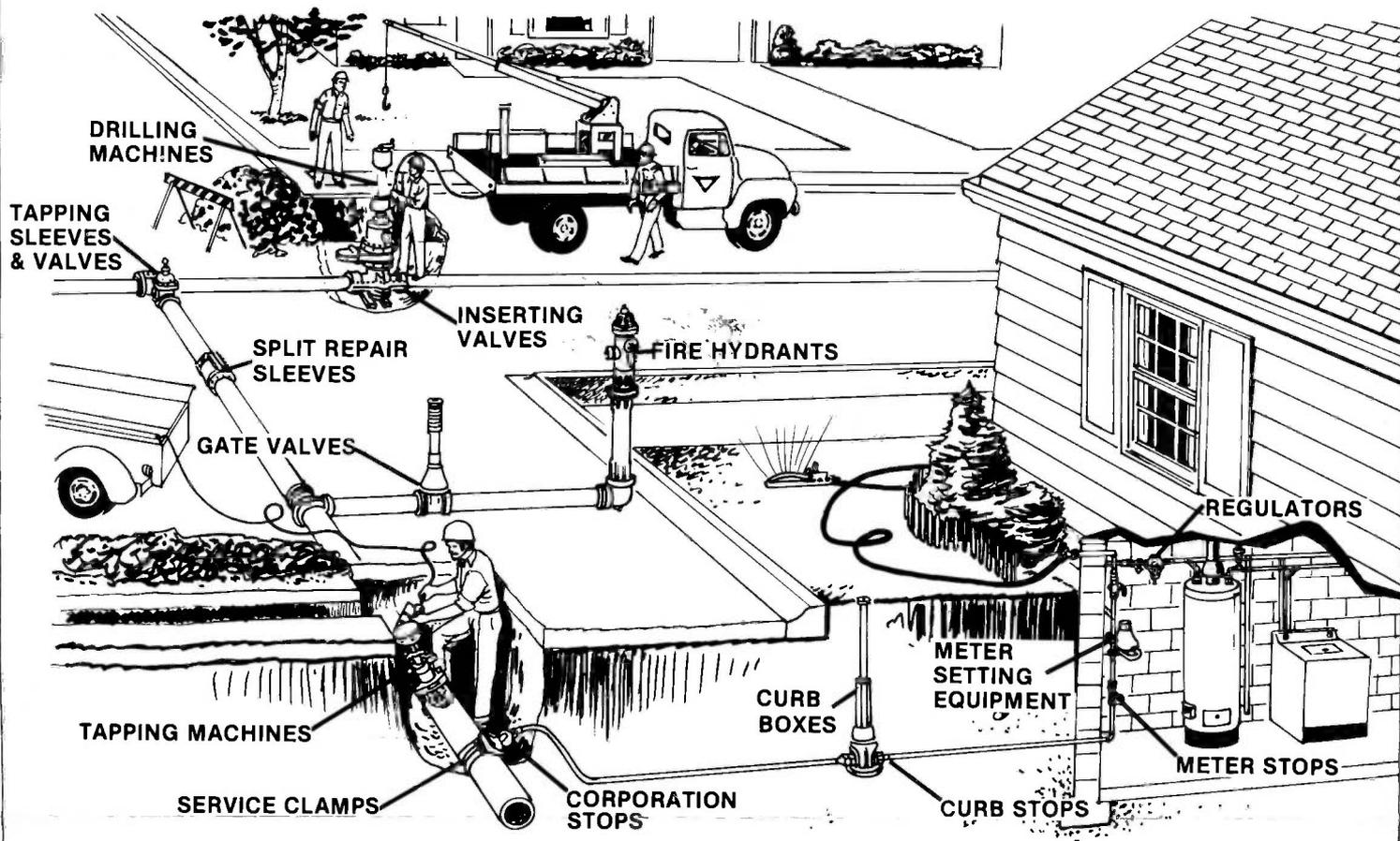
systems. The capacity for the new complex is 400 molds per hour, and about 8½ million pieces a year.

The foundry improvements will increase the company's ability to compete in the marketplace by lowering the unit price of the castings produced, thereby increasing business. Phase three of the modernization project will automate the existing molding equipment. This will provide increased safety and efficiency.



Plant Manager Gene Hullinger talks to visitors outside the foundry.

## Fourteen Mueller Products Serve This New House



## Market Improving for Mueller Products

In the national news every month Department of Commerce figures for new housing starts are announced. As it stands now, there should be about 1.6 million new houses under construction in the U.S. this year. That is about a 60% increase over the one million housing starts in this country in 1982.

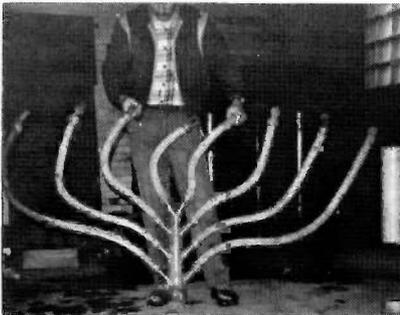
Each new house can mean the sale of many Mueller products. So with the growth in housing starts, the potential market for Mueller

products has grown approximately 60% since last year, and this is good news for all Mueller operations.

While the market has expanded, there is still stiff competition, due to what economists

call the maturity of the market. There are lots of competitors and the pricing remains very competitive. But it looks as though economic conditions are improving in a way that will be very good for sales and jobs at Mueller.

## Is It Alive?



When Pierceton, Indiana water superintendent Brad Bailey went out to fix a small leak at a discontinued service, he had no idea what he would end up uncovering.....After a couple of hours of digging he and his co-workers finally unearthed this Mueller 1" eight branch connection made for wipe joints! It was in perfect condition except for the leak at the corporation stop. Mr Bailey said it was put in about 1948.

## Profile of an Exceptional Family

As Chattanooga employees probably know, the family of Robert L.J. Spence is very, very special. Spence has been a Chipper-Grinder in the Cleaning Room for about 27 years. During this time he and his wife have seen his six children reach outstanding educational and professional achievements. Some of their achievements follow:



**Robert L.J. Spence**

Harold W. Spence is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Morehouse College, a graduate of Rutgers University Law School, and is a criminal attorney and law partner in Atlanta, Georgia. Paula Jo Spence is a Cum Laude graduate of Spelman College and a graduate of Meharry Medical College with a doctorate degree in medicine. She is now serving a residency in internal medicine at Hubbard Hospital.

Robert L.J. Spence, Jr. holds a biology

degree from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, a pharmacy degree from the University of Tennessee Center for Health Science, and attends Memphis State Law School. Rhonda Faye Spence holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga and is working on a graduate degree in Industrial Psychology.

Reginald L. Spence graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and is a member of a private engineering firm in Vienna, Virginia. Fannie L. Spence is a U. of T. at Chattanooga psychology graduate and plans to take training in respiratory therapy at Tennessee State in January.

Spence says of his children that he and his wife Alice have always tried to provide the motivation for them to seek high educational levels and to have them give God credit for their accomplishments. Mrs. Spence graduated from Chattanooga State Technical Institute with a degree in Computer Science and is employed in the city budget department as a systems analyst.

# Strictly Personal

NEWS ABOUT MUELLER CO. EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES

DECATUR

SEPTEMBER 1983

## A Message From The Plant Manager...

### A BETTER PLACE TO WORK?

Have any of you watched the "ON THE ROAD" series with Charles Kuralt on CBS? It is a weekly program which deals with the positive aspects of America and its special people.

Recently, the show told the story of an 83 year old man Walter Mizenheimer who lived across the street from a rest stop along an interstate highway in Richmond, Virginia.

One day as Mr. Kuralt was driving down this highway he happened to stop at this particular rest stop and immediately noticed something unusual. Someone had placed bowls of flowers on each table and as Mr. Kuralt looked around, he noticed more flowers seemingly growing wild in the nearby woods. When he went to investigate further, he was astounded to find that someone had carved out a botanical garden in this area complete with cobblestone paths. The "someone" of course was Walter Mizenheimer, a retired horticulturist who happened by when Mr. Kuralt was standing in Walter's garden.

They had a short conversation discussing why Walter, at age 83, was spending his remaining years growing flowers in an area that no one seemed to care about. It was Walter's answer to that question that really struck me and made me want to share it with you. He said, "the only truly important thing any of us can do in this world is to try and make it a better place in which to live."

Mr. Kuralt tried to expound on Walter's wisdom but Walter wasn't having any of it. He told Mr. Kuralt that he himself didn't understand, or practice, this philosophy of life until he was 80 years old. Up until then he was like most people caught up in the cycle of gathering personal possessions and accolades.

I thought to myself that here was an old

man, who certainly deserved to rest, that was working hard every day to bring a little happiness and beauty into the lives of the few people who happened to stop at this one particular "rest stop". No thought was ever given to receiving pay or notoriety for the work he had done and none would ever be accepted by Walter Mizenheimer.

My thoughts drifted back to Decatur and Mueller Co., as they always do, and I wondered why the Walters of my youth had seemed to disappear. When I was a young boy growing up in Decatur, and then later when I started with Mueller Co., there seemed to be a lot of people like Walter Mizenheimer. People doing the little things for their community and company without having to be asked and without having to be thanked.

Just think how much nicer Decatur and Mueller Co. could be if we had a dozen or more Walter Mizenheimer's. People who keep their home and neighborhood clean and litter free. Employees who keep their work areas clean and make each product as if they were going to be using it. People building instead of destroying; people looking for the good things Mueller Co. has to offer instead of dwelling on what someone else has.

Sure, some may think it's "folksy" to be concerned and dedicated in today's world. And some may look at Walter Mizenheimer as just an old fuddy-duddy who was chasing windmills. But I don't. Mueller Co. and Decatur need people with this kind of wisdom and dedication. We need people who have the courage to be leaders of men instead of Managers of things. We want people to take pride in their job and have the self-confidence and inner peace of mind that comes with knowing that

our work is special whatever our job title.

Take a good look at the employees who retire each year and how many of them are truly remembered. Those that the majority of us

(Continued on other side)

## ART EXHIBIT

**ON MY OWN TIME**

ART (ärt) n. 1.a. The activity of creating beautiful things. b. Works, such as paintings or drawings, resulting from such activity. A branch of artistic using a special type of technique apply to value o expresses works 4. The best meaning the principle. 5.

Your very own art work and crafts will be part of a special art exhibit sponsored by MUELLER CO. and the Decatur Area Arts Council.

As part of the annual "On My Own Time" arts program, this exhibit is designed especially for you to show off your creative talents and abilities.

Three winners will be chosen from our company exhibit which will be held November 7 to 11. Judges are selected by the Arts Council.

Winning art works become part of an exhibit at Kirkland Fine Arts Center at Millikin University from December 4-14. A reception for all the artists will be Sunday, December 4.

Entries may be made in the following categories: paintings, drawings, photographs, pottery, sculpture, printmaking, collage or assemblage. Original handicrafts will be judged alongside other entrants and will be included in the Kirkland exhibit for the first time.

Each of you may enter up to three art works in any category; all work must be original. There is an entry fee of \$1.00 per person, to help defray costs of a catalog for the Kirkland exhibit. Every one of our exhibitors will be listed in the catalog.

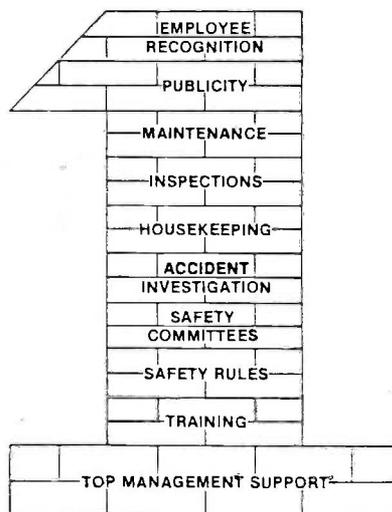
Entry forms and labels for your art work are available from Jim Cussins in Advertising Department, extension #287. Contact him for more information.

## 11-Month No Lost Time Injury Streak Ends

On August 4, 1983 an employee in Department 100 was injured while unloading a truck. Luckily the extent of his injuries was limited to a broken wrist and finger and we all wish him a full and speedy recovery.

However it did mark the end of an 11-month period where Plant 4 went without a single Lost Time Injury. That is a remarkable achievement when you consider the fact that Foundries, in general, are considered a "high hazard" industry.

Everyone at the Decatur Plant is very proud of their achievement and know they will surpass this record in the future. **CONGRATULATIONS!!! TO ALL THE EMPLOYEES AND SUPERVISORS AT PLANT 4 FOR A JOB WELL DONE.**



# SERVICE AWARDS

JUNE, JULY & AUGUST

# RETIREMENTS



Harold Dingman  
25 year



Juanita Ferguson  
25 year



Jane Miller  
25 year



Arnold Jones  
25 year



Dale Capshaw  
25 year



Lavern Getz  
33+ years  
Retirement 6/30/83



Harold Rentfro  
41+ years  
Retirement 7/25/83



Bill Hauffe  
25 year



Vern Ramsey  
25 year



Shirley Catron  
25 year



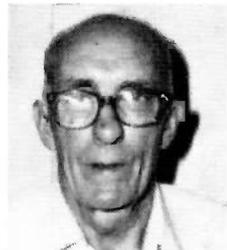
Jim Hosto  
30 year



Ben Willhouse  
30 year



Charles Ditty  
42+ years  
Retirement 8/10/83



Wayne Nottingham  
43+ years  
Retirement 8/25/83



Raymond Storck  
30 year



Harold Stengel  
30 year



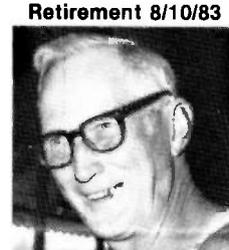
Harold Whitacre, Jr.  
30 year



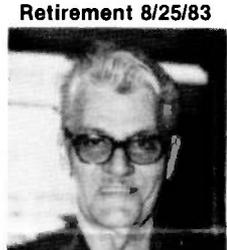
M. Dean Hadden  
30 year



Derle B. Smith  
30 year



Noble Syfert  
20+ years  
Retirement 8/31/83



Vern Ramsey  
25+ years  
Retirement 8/31/83

**10 year**  
Bruce Caylor  
William D. Sloan  
Gary R. Conley  
Craig Michael Griffin  
Mark A. Bredar  
Larry D. Maschoff  
Jim Kollock

**20 year**  
Teddy Bean  
Fred Monska  
James VanMatre  
Larry Warfield  
Stephen Albro  
Dean Thompson  
Stan Lee

Bob Martin  
Joe Daghe

**30 year**  
James E. Myers  
Herb Huffine  
Bob Luffe

Dale Riedelberger  
42+ years  
Retirement 6/14/83

## BETTER PLACE TO WORK

(Continued from front)

remember are the ones that left Mueller Co. "a better place in which to work". They're the ones who made us smile when we thought we couldn't; they're the ones who made us think when we didn't want to; and they're the ones who established a foundation of pride built on their dedication when we were still in diapers. But most of all they are the ones who tried to teach us, every day that they were here, that the **BOTTOM LINE IN LIFE IS.....PEOPLE!**

What have you done for Decatur; your neighborhood; or Mueller Co. today? How will you be remembered after you retire? Will you wait until you are 80 before seeing the light? I am challenging each of you to make today the day you start making Mueller Co. a better place in which to work. If each of you takes up this challenge to find what is good about Mueller Co. and does his best to expand upon it, you will have the kind of company you always wanted to work for because you'll have made it that way.

Gene Hullinger

## Poet's Corner NATURE'S WINDOW

*In this whole wide world of wonders where Mother Nature has lent a hand  
And has never yet been equaled by the handiworks of man.  
There are flowers with exotic fragrance gentle breezes dare caress  
And the beauty of the nearby woods when attired in autumn dress  
Yes many are Nature's Wonders, each separate one self-styled.  
And still, I see a bit of heaven in the smile of a little child!*

*There are huge magnificent mountains towering upward into space  
And those mighty winding rivers seemingly always in a race.  
I've seen flocks of wild geese honking as they wend their way in flight  
Then beautiful colored sunsets and the stars come out at night  
And a big old vicious lion that is King of all the wild  
Still, I see a bit of Heaven in the smile of a little child.*

*There is the vastness of the deserts with sand as far as eyes can see.  
And the crimson clover blossoms with the phenomenon of the bee.  
Then the enormous deep great canyons that seem the whole world to divide.  
And has always made people wonder what was on the other side  
Or the thrill of the great big oceans stirred by a balmy breeze so mild  
Still, I see a bit of Heaven in the smile of a little child.*

*The sight of a peaceful valley gives a sensation you should know  
And a glimpse of a tiny spotted fawn or the eyes of the mother doe.  
The beauty of the rainbow showing forth in yonder sky  
Or the music of a song bird that is perched so high and dry.  
All these have been recorded and in nature's archives have been filed.  
And still, I see a bit of Heaven in the smile of a little child!*

—Noble K. Syfert "Slim", Employee at Mueller Co., Retired 8-31-83

# A Look Inside: Office of Corporate Controller

The Corporate Controller's office at the Mueller Co. is located on the first floor of the headquarters building in Decatur, at the east end of the corridor behind the company's reception area.



Dan Carlson, a Mueller employee for eleven years, is the Corporate Controller and Assistant Secretary for the company. The Corporate Controller's function is one of four areas that make up the company's Corporate Finance Department, which is

headed by Allen Yurko, Vice President - Finance. The other three financial areas are Auditing, MIS (Management Information Systems; computers) and Treasurer.

The Corporate Controller's function unites the work of the nine plant controllers in all of the Mueller plant locations around the country. According to Dan, his department consolidates all of the plants' financial statements and regulatory tax information. It is also the responsibility of his office to give direction to the plant controllers regarding policies and procedures. Plant controllers are: Mike Heneghan, Decatur; Larry Maston, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Richard Polk, Albertville, Ala.; David Bagby, Clinton,



Dan Carlson, Linda Robinson, Bruce Rounds, Shirley Catron, Pat Cronin, Gary McGuire.

S.C.; Stan Kent, Judd Valve, Tulsa, Okla.; Woody Tyler, F.B. Leopold Co., Zellenople, Pa.; George Hrubceky, Superior Stainless, Delavan, Wisc.; John Hamilton, Mueller, Ltd., Sarnia, Ontario, Canada; Albert Boudrias, M., Ltd., St. Jerome, Quebec, Canada.

Dan outlines the controller responsibilities as the following:

**Cost control** — prepare budgets, analyze information, develop costs useful in selling Mueller products.

**Asset control** — assure protection of

company assets through proper internal controls and records.

**Accounting** — establish appropriate accounting procedures to insure that financial statements reflect accurate information.

**Systems & procedures** — develop and implement efficient systems using data processing equipment where feasible.

**Taxes** — preparation of regulatory tax requirements for the company.

Working with Dan to do these jobs are five specialists. Pat Cronin, the Corporate Cost and Budget Manager, has been at Mueller Co. since August. He works to create product cost builds and does statistical financial analyses.

The Corporate Tax Manager is Bruce Rounds, and Gary McGuire is the assistant in this area. New this month is Linda Robinson, Consolidation Accountant, who prepares consolidated financial statements and budgets for the corporate office and Board of Directors. Shirley Catron, who recently received her 25 year service award, is Secretary for the Corporate Controller's office.

## Spotlight on Zellenople, Pennsylvania

Zellenople, Pennsylvania is the home of Leopold Company, Mueller's subsidiary that manufactures products for the municipal and industrial waste and wastewater treatment markets. A work force of 150 produce a variety of products there, including the Leopold underdrains used in over 1,000 water treatment plants throughout the United States.

The Leopold Company began over 75 years ago as a mechanical contracting concern in Zellenople, a town located in the heart of historic western Pennsylvania. The Leopold Company's address is 227 S. Division Street - and the "division" is between Zellenople and Harmony, the town across the street. The two historic towns of Zellenople and Harmony have each retained their own autonomy since their initial founder, the Baron Dettmar Basse, sold 4,060 acres to Father Rapp's Harmonie Society in 1804. Basse laid out the town of Zellenople in 1805 and named it for his oldest daughter, Zelie.

Zellenople and Harmony are located 28 miles north of Pittsburgh on Routes 19 and 68. The two towns are within a mile of two I-79 exits and 10 miles north of the Pa. Turnpike Exit No. 3. Pittsburgh's Airport is 50 minutes away. Travelers and newcomers find the Zellenople-Harmony area a delightful place to shop, browse, and visit its interesting museums.

Harmony, Pa. is a well-known National Historical Landmark District, established in 1804 as an experiment in communal living. Harmony - with God and man - was the ideal of



Quilting at the Harmony Museum in Zellenople.

the Germans who built the town around their new idea of community.

Under the leadership of George Rapp and his adopted son, Frederick Reichert Rapp, the Harmonie Society created a model town in the wilderness. The major beliefs of this society included communal living. From poverty and hardship, the society progressed in ten years to an economic and cultural level unique to the country. In 1815 they sold Harmony to Abraham Ziegler for \$100,000. They moved to New Harmony, Indiana and later returned to nearby Economy, Pa.

Next door to the Main Street Post Office in Zellenople is another famous old structure, the Passavant House. Visitors there can see what life was like for the early pioneers. This 1808 Federal-Georgian "County Seat" was owned by Zellenople's namesake, Zelie Basse Passavant. The home is the birthplace of William Ofred Passavant, a noted Lutheran church leader of the 19th century.

## Personnel Changes



Randy Fox



Dave Drescher

Randolph E. Fox has been named Manager of Customer and Marketing Services. He will have responsibility for the company's plant customer service and five district sales offices. He will also retain his previous responsibilities as manager of market planning and research activities.

David Drescher, previously Manager of Customer and Marketing Services, has been named District Sales Manager in the Mueller Co. Water Division's Southwestern District. Drescher and his family will be located in the Dallas area.



Carol Wade, Advertising Dept.,

### Ever wonder why your company runs a United Way campaign?

Companies have helped the United Way raise funds for as long as there has been a United Way. And for a lot of good reasons.

They've learned that most of the money raised stays right in their own hometown, helping to meet local human needs.

And they've learned that, thanks to company campaigns and employee volunteers, the United Way doesn't need an

enormous staff of its own. That means most of the money will go to help those who need it. That's why United Way is the most effective way to help.

But most of all, your company asks you to support the United Way for the same reason you'd want to yourself. They want to help all they can.



**United Way**

Thanks to you, it works. For ALL OF US.

**MUELLER CO.**

DECATUR, ILL. 62525

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 500  
Springfield, IL

