RECYCLING RECOGNITION

Electronics salvage operation named Business of the Month



The Telegraph/MARGIE M. BARNES

CJD E-Cycling

Tony Phelps, of Brighton, refurbishes computers and electronic items sold at the new E-Store at CJD E-Cycling on Humbert Road in Godfrey. The store offers electronics to consumers with a limited budget and to businesses seeking a great deal on products.

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By JESS CHARLTON For The Telegraph

ALTON - Reduce, reuse, recycle, the motto at CJD E-Cycling, 4758 Humbert Road, is the basis for a booming business that has landed them the RiverBend Growth Association Business of the Month award for March.

"We were really excited for this award," co-owner Kate Wolff said. "We saw the need in the area for a recycling business."

The unexpected news came as a shock to Kate and her brothers, Jonathan and Daniel Wolff, also owners of CJD E-Cycling.

"I got an email one day saying we were nominated," she said.

Just a little over a year in business, Kate said the business began when state law prohibited residents and businesses from discarding certain electronic items. Since its beginning, Kate and her brothers' business already has established a name as a dependable, earth-friendly option for communities to discard unused or unwanted items.

"We take anything with a cord or if it's metal," she said.

Wolff said per Illinois law, they are 17 items banned from landfills, such as telephones, fax machines, printers and TVs - just a few of the items accepted by CJD E-Cycling. But there are items they will not take, which include radioactive, flammable and hazardous materials.

Kate said she and her brothers always have been in the recycling business as their late brother, Mike Wolff, owned Maw Salvage. Since their brother's passing, Mike's sons, Nathan and Paul, are the owners of Maw Salvage.

In addition to Kate and her two brothers, CJD E-Cycling employs seven full-time employees.

Unlike some places, Wolff said CJD E-Cycling will not charge customers \$20 to dispose of items.

Customers can drop off items at five locations - CJD E-Cycling, 4758 Humbert Road, Godfrey; Empowering Technologies, 200 Second Ave., Edwardsville; Maw Salvage, 1020 Fosterburg Road, Brighton; Maw Salvage North, 11589 State Highway 16, Fieldon; and their newest location, Macoupin Center for the Mentally Disabled, 700 E. Elm St., Carlinville.

Wolff said customers only can drop off items during business hours for each location.

In addition to the growing business of CJD E-Cycling, Wolff said they have opened an addition to their business, E-Store, a certified Microsoft refurbisher at 4758 Humbert Road, Suite B. E-Store is open to the public to purchase refurbished electronics.

Items for resale include flat-screen TVs, laptop computers and desktop computers - including monitors, towers and printers.

"Customers will benefit from the quality refurbished PCs preinstalled with genuine licenses for Microsoft software," she said. "They will have access to the benefits of downloads, updates and enhanced features such as anti-virus software."

Refurbished items will be available at a reasonable cost for nonprofit or low-income families, Wolff added.

"We want to serve nonprofit, small businesses, low-income and regular consumers," she said.

Wolff said non-profits are welcome to contact CJD to visit the store to see what is available and be a reference to clients.

For more information, call CJD E-Cycling at (618) 433-9200 or visit their website at www.cjdecycling.com or their Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/pages/CJD-E-cycling.