Membōr in Empower Healthcare Solutions Kaleb Ball jen Springdale ej bed ilo ial eo ejimwe, ilo mol.

Ball, 25, ej jerbal einwot juon ri tel ilo wa eo ñan Arkansas Missouri Railroad Excursions (A&M) ilo Springdale.

“Men in ej juon ettōnak eo ej mol,” Ball eaar ba. “Ij iakwe e.”

 Iien otemjej ikar iakwe train ko,” ekar ba, im kobaiktok, “ke ikar dik, ikar jino uwe ippāñ jibū aolep raan in Jabōt ilo trolley eo ilo Fort Smith.”

Ball, eo ej bed ilo Autism Spectrum, ear jab kōtlok bwe nañinmij eo an en jolok an yokwe train ko. Ear bōk jerbal in jipan eo an moktata ke ear 14 an yio ippān Fort Smith Trolly. Jet wōt yio tokelik, ekar jino jerbal ilo A&M. Ejelok an karōk in etal jen ial ko ilo ien eo emōkaj.

 "Eñin ej jerbal eo emman tata. Ijjab lemnok bwe in kōnan kōmmane bar juon men," Ball ear kwalok. “Ij kamolol aolep raan.”

Ball ej juon eo ej iakwe ial in tūrein, im ewōr an jelā kin aolep men ko tūrein im A&M. Emaroñ kile juon train in A&M jen an roñ wōt ainikien train eo.

Ej jān aolep iien e im̧we n̄an kwaļo̧k bwebwenato im bwebwenato ko kōn Wia 105 im 106 jān iien ko etto wia ko im rej jutak ioon benj ko raiboojoj im wia ko reutiejļo̧k 107, 108 im 109 wia ko im rej kanniim kōn m̧ōn kannin̄ ko. Ilo iien ko ļo̧k, Ball eaar jipan̄ kōkāāl jet iaan wia ko.

 Riutiej ro ioon jikin etetal ko renaaj lukkuun loe im jipan̄ er ioon wia eo jān Ball, im ej nuknuk kōn nuknuk eo em̧m̧aan eo jilu m̧ōttan ko nuknuk eo ejet jet im hat eo eutiej melmel. Ilo jikin etetal ko jān Springdale n̄an Winslow im Van Buren, Ball ej jerbal āinwōt rikōm̧anm̧an, im ej kwaļo̧k bwebwenato, jet iaan men ko rej mool kōn wia ko, im elōn̄ bwebwenato ko kōn jikin eo. Jet iaan jikin etetal ko ej lukkuun itok limoier ie rej kitbuuj “Kwon̄a Santa ioon Holiday Express” im “February Love Train.”

Jikin etetal eo elukkuun em̧m̧an, ej ba, ej walok ilo iien jino koļap eo an Arkansas.   Jenliklik n̄an jikin wia eo, Ball ej tōl jikin etetal ko an Arkansas Missouri Railroad Museum, im ej kwaļo̧k bwebwenato an railroad jān jinoin n̄an rainin. Ej bareinwōt jipan̄ kōn kain aolep menin lale im jikin aikuj ko ilo Museum eo.

 “Kaleb ej juon em̧m̧aan eo ejej uwaan,” Brenda Rouse ej kwaļo̧k, Ri-Tōl eo an Jikin Jerbal ko an Wia eo, eo eaar bōktok Kaleb ioon staff eo ilo 10 iiō ko ļo̧k, im ewōr jilu staff ro jet an kōn Autism. “Kaleb ej aolep iien m̧ōņōņō in jipan̄. Ej juon super trouper.”

  Ilo iien kwojkwoj in Christmas, Ball emaron̄ loe ilo jikuuļ ko ilo jikin eo im riit bok eo “Polar Express” n̄an ri-jikuuļ ro.   “Iaar kūr n̄an riit n̄an ri-jikuuļ ro ilo jikuuļ eo aō etto,” ej ba. “Eaar juon jeraam̧m̧an.”

April Patterson, eo ej juon Empower Care Coordinator an Ball ium̧win jet iiō ko remootļo̧k, ej kōm̧m̧ao kōn jerbal ko an. E barāinwōt kar jipan̄e bwe en deļo̧n̄e CES Waiver process.

"Kaleb ej juon em̧m̧aan eo ekanooj em̧m̧an im... im ij m̧ōņōņō bwe ej kōm̧m̧ane ta eo ej iakwe ñan kōm̧m̧ane," Patterson eaar kwaļo̧k. "Ij m̧ōņōņō kōn lolook ko am im lale bwe ewōr ta eo ej aikuj." "Ij barāinwōt katak jet men ko rekāāl kōn tren ko aolep iien jej ioon," eaar kobaik. Iaļ eo an mour an Ball eban kar aolep "bell im whistles."

Jinen eaar mej ilo 2014 ke ear juon freshman ilo high school. Ilo ejja iiō eo wōt, enaaj kar barāinwōt etal n̄an pād ippān sister eo an jinen, Jerrie im baam̧le eo an ilo Rogers, delo̧n̄e Rogers High School im kar jeļā kake ewōr Autism.

"Kar maron̄ in delo̧n̄e Kaleb ilo special education program ilo Rogers High School," Jerr eaar kwaļo̧k, im kobaik, "kar jab jeļā kake ewōr Autism ṇae 2014... im kobaik e ilo CES Waiver Waitlist."

N̄an iiō ko emootļo̧k, aolep Friday, baam̧le eo an Dwyer enaaj kar dreaib 136-mile round trip jān Springdale n̄an Fort Smith bwe Ball en maron̄ lolok great grandfather eo an. Ilo Saturday Ball enaaj kar volunteer ilo Trolley system, im ro̧o̧l n̄an Rogers ilo Sunday.

 "Kim kar kōm̧m̧ane dreaib eo aolep Friday m̧ae iien eo ear graduate bwe Kaleb en maron̄ lo great-grandfather eo an,... lo jemān im jerbal ilo Trolley ilo Saturday," Jerrie eaar kwaļo̧k. "Eaar jet iien pen n̄an Kaleb im baam̧le eo am,... bōtaab ej kanooj in kajoor im aolep iien ej pād wōt ilo em̧m̧an." "Ewōr juon bōro eo an juon rijerbal im aolep iien ej m̧ōņōņō in jipan̄ armej ro." Jerrie eaar kwaļo̧k an kam̧m̧oolol n̄an staff ro an A&M kōn aer kōtļo̧k bwe Ball en "kōm̧m̧ane ta eo ej iakwe ñan kōm̧m̧ane." Iien in em̧m̧an, eaar ba, eaar ukōte mour eo an Kaleb indeeo. "Kaleb ej juon armej eo eoktak ke ej uwe ilo tren," Jerrie eaar kwaļo̧k. "Ej jutak n̄an jerbal ko reutiejļo̧k ke ej pād ilo tren."

Ilo reluweeḷọk eo, an kōmeḷeḷeḷe emṃanḷọk. Ej bōk eddo. Ej pād ilo jikin eo an. Ball ej bareinwōt juon ri-kāān āj ri-Ireland im ej mājol jān CPR. Ej juon uwaan jān japter eo an Arkansas Boston Mountain ilo National Railway Historical Society. Eṃōj an waḷọk ilo elōn̄ jeje ko ilo Arkansas, im ear juon ri-jerbal ilikin ilo juon pija ilo 2021 etan Mindcage eo kar ṃane ilo jikin jerbal eo an.

Mōkaj, Ball ej kōjatdikdik bwe enaaj mour make ippān jipañ jān juon ri-leḷọk Waiver im, ilo mool, enaaj wōnmānḷọk wōt im "kōjparok bwe reluweeḷọk eo en wōnmānḷọk wōt."

1935 characters