



NEWS AND VIEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

APRIL 2011

It's time for the 20th Annual Golf Shootout!



This is your chance to support Lafayette in a big way, and perhaps even get CASH for a hole-in-one! Our annual Golf Fundraiser is being held on May 21st and 22nd, and we want it to again be a huge success. Event sponsorship exists on multiple levels, so you will soon be receiving a letter requesting your support. Please be as generous as you can -- remember: all proceeds from this event directly benefit our Lafayette workers! And don't forget to take your shots at getting a hole-in-one! Prizes will be awarded to the 5 top finishers -- and an instant cash prize for anyone who records a "Hole-in-One" throughout the weekend!

LAFAYETTE EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES: This year at the Sunday picnic we will have live music! You don't want to miss this fun event which starts at **12:30 pm (Sunday, May 22nd only)**. As always there will be hot dogs, chips and soda on hand and one free round of miniature golf available for all our workers — so mark it on your calendar!

And don't forget the **raffle** this year with the **Grand Prize of \$1,000!!!** Second prize is *one week's stay in a 2 bedroom condo in Naples, Florida!* Third prize are **four (4) Fox Theater Box Tickets!** Raffle tickets are \$5.00 a piece, \$25 for a book of five tickets -- *5 chances to win!* -- and are available from employees, parents, and at the front desk at the workshops.

The Golf Shoot-out will again be held at **Family Golf Center at 3717 Tree Court Lane, in Kirkwood, from 9 a.m. -- 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 21, and from 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 22.** The Sunday event for workers, family and friends will be from 12:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Go out to the Golf Center and practice with a bucket of balls -- tell 'em that Rob sent you!

Prize donations are always needed for our drawing. Donations of time are extremely important, including event assistance, helping with parking, selling of raffle tickets to family and friends, and asking your friends to come out and try to win \$1,000,000 or one of several other golf related prizes. **We need volunteers -- any and all times! -- To help that weekend! Please call Gloria Marek for picnic volunteers at 636-256-3976 or Mary Beckerle for golf volunteers at 636-227-5666, ext. 1127.**



Rob Libera
Executive Director
rlibera@lafayetteindustries.com

Mission: The mission of Lafayette Industries is to provide employment opportunities to persons who are developmentally disabled / mentally retarded and persons with other disabilities who are 18 years or older.

Goals: • To provide a meaningful and productive work experience to persons who are disabled • To maintain a safe and pleasant work environment • To teach and to train persons with disabilities to acquire better work habits • To enhance self-worth and dignity through employment • To provide high-quality business service through packaging, light assembly and commercial mailings • To operate the center in a professional, fiscally responsible manner • To provide fair wages and good benefits



FRAUD PREVENTION TASKFORCE

By Dan Rechtien, Coordinator

Our Office often receives calls from persons who have just discovered their Identity has been stolen. They are in a panic, desperate for information, and have already been directed to agency after agency without obtaining the information they need. I would like to provide you with a “cheat sheet” of the initial steps needed to begin to repair the damage caused by Identity Theft.

Step One: Report the Incident to the police.

In both Missouri and Illinois, the local police where you reside are required by state law to prepare a report of identity theft, regardless of where the incident occurred. Get the police report number immediately from the officer, even if the report may not be available till later. Give the police COPIES of all documents which support your claim, while retaining your originals. Contact the Fraud Prevention Taskforce at 314-612-1412.

Contact the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftc.gov or 1-877-382-4357 to get a copy of the FTC’s ID THEFT AFFIDAVIT. Have this document notarized. This affidavit and the police report are the first links in your paper trail to pursue your case with creditors who have been victimized in your name. Make numerous copies of both documents.

Step 2: Check your bank and credit accounts.

If someone is using your bank account or credit cards immediately close the accounts and ask your bank to notify its check verification service. This service can notify merchants not to accept checks from your account. Seriously consider starting over at a new bank to avoid being targeted twice by the same criminals who may use “social engineering” skills to obtain information on your new account from your bank.

If you believe someone has opened a new checking account in your name, you can ask for a free copy of your consumer report from Chex Systems (800-428-9623 or www.chexhelp.com) the consumer reporting service used by most banks. If your bank does not use Chex, ask for the name and number of the consumer reporting service it uses.

Step Three: Contact the Credit Reporting Agencies.

As soon as you know your identity has been stolen and you have your police report number, call one of the credit reporting agencies, which will report the incident to the other two. They are Transunion (800-680-7289), Equifax (800-525-6285) and Experian (888-397-3742). If you are the victim of fraud or ID Theft, a fraud alert can be placed on your account for seven years, alerting you whenever someone attempts to establish credit in your name.

Continue to monitor your credit reports regularly for three years for any additional thefts or unauthorized charges.

Step Four: Monitor your creditors.

If you observe unauthorized charges on any billing report, contact the fraud department of that creditor immediately. You have 30 days from the date you receive a banking statement and 60 days from the date you receive a credit card statement to report errors or unauthorized charges on your account.

Step Five: Notify the FTC database of your case.

Call the FTC’s toll free hotline to get your case in their database by calling 877-438-4338.

Tips for reporting ID Theft:

- Act immediately to report the incident to authorities. Never allow anyone to tell you that since the bank or credit card company reimbursed your losses, “you are not a victim” and do not need to file a report. Your credit is at risk, and you need to report the incident.
- Keep a log of all conversations, noting date, time, agency, phone number and name of person spoken to,
- Keep copies of all emails sent or received. Never mail original documents.
- Use the FTC’s ID THEFT AFFIDAVIT and get it notarized.
- Always use certified mail with return receipt requested.
- Be persistent. This will take time and effort, but only you can correct the problem.

KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE: Hi, my name is Bonnie Udell, mother of sheltered workshop Brenda Udell, and I am a breast cancer survivor. I am inviting you to join me and my family in representing Lafayette Industries in this year's Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in St. Louis on June 11. We need at least 20 participants to register an official Team. Please call me at 636/458-7801 or send me an e-mail at bonnieudell@aol.com. Additional registration information will follow in next month's newsletter. We are all touched by this disease in some way. Let's join together in celebrating the progress this event has made!

25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DELAYED BY WINTER

Back in December both Lafayette West and North celebrated the anniversaries of several workers who had been at Lafayette Industries for 25 years. Due to the bad weather that day, Fred Muehlenbeck was unable to join his fellow celebrators. His celebration was postponed for a while. Finally the weather broke and it was decided that it was time for Fred to get his watch and recognition for his accomplishment. His family was called, and a time was set up for them to come and celebrate his special day with him. The date selected was the day of the free lunch at West on February 25th. Fred's family then joined in with others at the free hot lunch that is held monthly at West and North. Congratulations, Fred, to a one-of-a-kind guy. You have made Lafayette a truly interesting place to be and we wish you all the best in the future.



Fred has a large, supportive family!



A free hot meal caps off the day's festivities for the family



Fred's favorite thing - a hat!



LETTER TO DICK KALLEMEIER, OUR TAX MAN By Dennis and Tracey Dillon

Dear Mr. Kallemeier, Thank you for preparing our son Ryan's tax return this year. It is very nice of you to volunteer your time to Lafayette staff and workers for tax preparation. We appreciated the email detailing what was needed to prepare his return. Your explanation of his completed return at our appointment was also helpful. What a valuable service you are performing for Lafayette. We look forward to seeing you next year. Thank you again.

Sincerely, Dennis and Tracey Dillon



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL FOLK!!



WEST

Margo	Bates	1
Andrew	Martinez	1
Sherri	Cooley	2
Kathleen	Murphy	2
Sandy	Scott	2
Elizabeth	Cendenkowitsch	3
DeWendel	Williams, II	3
Sherry	Sawyer	8
Carli	Binek	10
Pam	Randall	11
Pam	Gardner	12
Andrew	Villaire	12
Eric	Dietrich	13

WEST (CONT.)

Christine	Rosenbaum	13
Craig	Marek	14
Jonathan	Walle	15
Shawn	Gavin	16
Mary	Good	18
David	Seedorf	18
Mary	Beckerle	20
Pamela	Walsh	23
Carol	Austermann	24
Trevor	Proctor	24
Steven	Sosnoff	24
Cynthia	Jacobson	26
B. J.	Burns	30

NORTH

Matthew	Honich	4
Vaughn	Caldwell	9
Sean	Watson	12
Ellen	Weber	12
Barbara	Chapman	14
Ashley	Flakes	23
Sally	Grant	25
Karl	Gill	27
Ronesha	Pflederer	27
Laura	Fortus	29



The best birthdays of all are those that haven't arrived yet.

**You can always go online at www.lafayetteindustries.com to see the newsletter. The website is being reconstructed, so I'll keep everyone who wants paperless on a list for one more month before changing over. Thanks for your patience as we update.



PET PICTURE “CONTEST”: Rob Libera came up with a great idea for a contest. A lot of people, by the time they get older, have been fortunate enough to have a pet of some kind. The pet, whether it is furry, feathered or scaly, whether it squeaks, squawks, tweets, barks, meows, grunts, etc., they usually are a part of the family. To honor the special place they hold in our hearts, we are going to have a contest. We are not 100% sure yet what the categories are going to be but we are going to start collecting the pictures of your pets. Here is the information we will need from you: 1) Put your name with the picture, both first and last names. 2) Put your pet’s name on the picture, along with their age, if you want to do so. 3) It can be whatever kind of pet you have - **it is not limited to dogs or cats**. 4) Tell us why you love your pet, what makes them special. More than likely we will be putting these pets into different categories - like insects, snakes, lizards, dogs, birds, cats, etc. Now that you have the idea, we will let you take it from here. If you live in a group home and have a pet for your house, then the house pet can serve as your “personal” pet. The best of each category will be selected, and then we will put these pictures up for a vote as to which pet is your favorite one. At the end, the pet with the most votes is the winner. Keep track in future newsletters of how it’s going.

MOUSE RACES WERE A SUCCESS!

By Mary Beckerle



Looking over the bids on the Silent Auction



Statters pose with their winning mouse



Which one will be the winning mouse?



Lots of people wait for the race to begin



Lafayette’s employees show their numbers



Okay, who took the cheese?



Trying to cheer their mouse on to victory

Our First Annual Lafayette Mouse Races were held on Saturday, February 26th. Our net profits for the Workers Challenge Fund were over \$6,000! But the best “payoff” was that everyone who attended had a wonderful time being *together!*

Although there are many functions where the workers can socialize with each other, we felt we needed another opportunity where family members and friends of workers, as well as Lafayette staff members, could enjoy each other’s company - as is the case at the Lafayette Picnics each year in May and June.

Thank you to all attendees, especially our volunteers, mouse sponsors and auction buyers. As always, your contributions are greatly appreciated by our deserving Lafayette workers

Congratulations to all of those that ended up winners at racing, roulette and the raffle. However, even those that lost to *the house* left the event with smiles on their faces. Also, congratulations to the Statter Family who sponsored the mouse that turned out to be the fastest mouse of the evening – Matt’s Mean Machine.

To quote Mary Ferranto, “We need a bigger boat for next year!” We agree. Now that attendees know how much fun the event is, we know they’ll be inviting more guests next year. That’s why we’re already working to reserve bigger and better accommodations for the Second Annual Lafayette Mouse Races.

IT'S TIME TO SELL SHOOTOUT RAFFLE TICKETS AGAIN!!



To the dedicated people that sold tickets last year, thanks again – especially to Tim Sitek, our 2010 “Raffle King” and Julie Aufdenspring, our employee 2010 Top Seller. In addition, thanks to the people that bought tickets for themselves before the event but didn’t sell tickets to others. We applaud your generosity, and we encourage you to branch out and sell to others in 2011.

This is a very important fundraising element for Lafayette, and it’s a perfect opportunity to reconnect with those neighbors that you haven’t seen all winter, or with a relative or friend that you’ve been meaning to call - and it’s for such a great cause! There will also be a \$100 cash prize to the Top Seller again this year.

If you’ve bought or sold tickets in 2010 and you haven’t received a raffle mailer, it should be arriving soon. If you’d like to become a new participant in buying or selling tickets, please call me at or email me, and I can get you set up:

636-227-5666 x1127

mbeckerle@lafayetteindustries.com

Thanks, Mary Beckerle, Development Director

EVERY TICKET MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



FRIENDS OF I.T.E.

By Judy Way

Knights of Columbus Easter Egg Hunt: The Knights of Columbus Fatima Council #4429 is holding their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 17th at 1:00 p.m. at 1216 Teson Road Hazelwood.

Friends of ITE, Lafayette North Annual Family Picnic: Friends of ITE, Lafayette North, are busy planning for the annual Employee Family Picnic. We have the date and location set (Sunday, June 12th at American Legion Post 338, 9655 Midland), but little else at this point.

This is one of our biggest and most enjoyable events for the employees and their families and this year we’re struggling to move forward with it. Many families attend each year, but we have not been able to recruit new folks to help with it. Our core group is aging and we’ve been plagued over the past year with health issues. We’re just not sure we’ll have the energy and strength to make this year’s picnic the fun event the employees deserve. We’ll certainly provide the good picnic lunch we’ve enjoyed for several years, but when it comes to games, entertainment, and perhaps even the auction, we may not be able to handle it. **We need help from some of our younger, stronger parents!!**

The success of the picnic is a serious issue for us. Proceeds from our silent auction fund the employee Holiday Party. That means, if we don’t have a successful auction, we will most likely have to forego the Holiday Party. As much as we hate to disappoint the employees, we’ll have no choice.

Please consider helping us out with the picnic. We’re not asking anyone to spend the entire picnic working. With enough volunteers, the work each individual has to do will be minimal:

- We need some people to arrive early to set up the picnic area (set up and move tables, sweep floors).
- We need some people to set set up and monitor games for the employees.
- We needs some people to stay a little late to break down tables and clean up the area (sweep, empty trash, generally put things back the way they were when we arrived).
- We need several kinds of help on the auction:
 - We need people to solicit area businesses for desirable items to tempt our bidders.
 - We need people to set up and monitor the auction tables.
 - We need everyone to bid generously on the auction and pay fair value for the items, remembering that all proceeds fund the Holiday Party and directly benefit the employees.

If you can help in any way, please come to our next meeting, Wednesday, April 13th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Lafayette North conference room. If you want to help but can’t make it to the meeting, please contact Mary Cagle at 314-831-5085.



LATE SNOWSTORM

Monday, March 14, 2011, dawned with a surprise for everyone in St. Louis. There were predictions that snow might fall a **little**. Enough to dust the grass and maybe put some flakes on (not in) the cars. It soon became evident to everyone, including the weather folks that they had under-estimated the amount of snow. Soon a weather advisory was issued for 2-4" of snow in St. Louis County, and more to the west. As no one was prepared for the snow, no snow plows were out putting down salt or pushing the snow out of the way. On Manchester Road, one of our main thoroughfares, it soon became a game of "Guess My Lane". Folks were having trouble getting around, much less up hills. You slithered along best as you could and hoped that the light would be green when you came to it. By the afternoon the snow was becoming a fading memory. But the snow didn't leave before our friends, the geese, got to trundle around in it. Rob loves pictures of unexpected things, and this is one of those unexpected pictures. If you look carefully enough at the first picture, you can see that it looks like our goose friend had the right idea that day. She had her head down in the ground like the ostrich, trying to avoid looking at the same tired stuff we'd looked at all winter. On Thursday, March 17th, it was 70+ degrees outside. Spring in St. Louis is a guessing game, no matter who you are. But it is safe to say that the end for winter is behind us **officially** as of Sunday.



A NOTE FROM OUR LAFAYETTE NORTH STAFF

By Sheryl Hardy



Snow, snow and more snow!!! Mother Nature has given us a real ride this winter and cabin fever has reached an all time high at North. The warmer weather that we have had here and there has had us jumping at the chance to get outside if only for a few minutes to soak in some much needed fresh air and sunshine.

Our Valentine celebration with cupcakes provided by our parents was a welcome break from the after holiday doldrums. My apologies for the lack of pictures as the camera experienced a temporary mechanical failure. (Editorial note: We included some cupcake pictures from a few years back.)

Our last free lunch was chili and sandwiches from Colliers, and the response was, "Yummy!!!" March 25th we are having Nachos from Chris's Cakes. We are counting down the days for the return of "The Boys of Summer" - Yes Cardinal Baseball is right around the corner, Go Cards!!!

In closing we would like to WELCOME two new staff members to our team, Ellen Weber, our new EDP Trainer, and Zenora Glover, our new Personal Care Attendant.

MORE MOUSE RACE PICTURES



Everyone seemed to have a great time!



Tracey Dillon did a great job with the raffle!



Most of our staff members attended!



Mouse exercising draws attention to the roulette wheel



Brownies disguised as mice - Silent Auction item



Everyone trying to get in a bite before the next race starts









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179 GAYWOOD DRIVE
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

APRIL 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Full Moon - Sunday, April 17 th			Passover Begins - Monday, April 18 th Passover End - Monday, April 25 th		1 April Fool's Day 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 North - Knights of Columbus Dance at Valley Ind. - 7:30-10:00 	9 West - Knights Of Columbus Dance - St. Clare of Assisi School - 7:00-10:00 
10	11 PAY DAY 	12	13 9:00 a.m. - Friends of ITE meet - North	14	15	16
17 Palm Sunday 	18 Income Taxes Due 	19	20 7:00 p.m. - Executive Committee 7:30 p.m. - Board of Directors	21	22 Good Friday Earth Day  	23
24 Easter 	25 PAY DAY 	26	27 Administrative Professionals Day 	28	29	30