



NEWS AND VIEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

DECEMBER 2011

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED

On November 11th, the Board of Directors of Lafayette Industries held its 35th annual meeting. The Boards of Lafayette North, Inc. and Lafayette Work Center, Inc. re-elected the following officers to the Executive Committee, and they have graciously agreed to serve for a one-year term:

President – Jim Sparks	Secretary-Chuck Udell	Vice President – Tim Sitek
Vice President - Kyler Humphrey	Treasurer - Brian McCook	Past President – Fred Wark

Congratulations and thank you! We would like to thank the following Board members who have been elected to 3 year terms: Bob Fahey; Agnes Gioconda; Kyler Humphrey; Tim Sitek; Jim Sparks; Mike Statter; and Fred Wark. Thank you for all your dedication to Lafayette Industries!

ANNUAL APPEAL

“My son looks forward to going to work. Staff is considerate & caring. They have special events, one free lunch a month, & free flu shots for the employees. You can see your donor dollars at work.”

This is a verbatim quote from a survey on our workshops. Although we have won many awards, this is what counts most to us. It is through the generosity of you that we are able to create and maintain a place where “Dreams do come true.”

Our Annual Appeal, Lafayette Industries’ primary fund raising effort, is underway. Since 1976 Lafayette Industries has been Building Dreams and Creating Opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. Our 2011 Annual Appeal creates an opportunity for you to make a huge personal difference in the lives and work experience of our beloved workers. Our contributors are vital to the success of our organization and *only fund programs for the direct benefit of our workers*. In this year’s letter, you will receive a breakdown on how we used your support and a listing of all those who contributed.

Remember: We receive donations only from individuals, companies with matching funds whose employees donate to us, our fundraising events, private organizations such as the Knights of Columbus and the Lions Club, and occasionally a grant from a company foundation. We do not receive any funds from local units of national organizations such as the United Way. A donation envelope is enclosed with the Appeal letter, so please, be as generous as you can, and thank you for your continued support!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, December 14th - 10:00-2:00, **North** Christmas & Holiday Party at the St. Martin DePorres Catholic Church School Gymnasium

Friday, December 16th - 11:30 – 2:00, **West** Christmas & Holiday Party at the First Evangelical Free Church

Friday, December 23rd; Monday, December 26th; Monday, January 2nd - shops closed.



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

HR 3086 (The Fair Wages For Workers With Disabilities Act) - THREATENS WORKSHOPS!!!

The number doesn't sound very threatening at all to Lafayette. However, this bill was introduced by Congressmen Cliff Stearns (R, FL) and Timothy Bishop (D, NY) this year and it is currently in committee. They want to repeal Section 14 (c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act for individuals with the most significant disabilities, if enacted into law. What they are trying to do is mainstream these folk back into working in corporate America. The intent is a noble one, but the reality of the situation is something they are not thinking through and what will really happen to most of these folk. There are a lot people who might be willing to be a mentor to someone with a significant disability, but there are just as many who are not. More than likely our folks would end up remaining at home, and their valuable socializing time with one another would be lost, as well as the feeling of a job well done.

We are asking you to ask your Representative **NOT** to co-sponsor the legislation. Call your Representative at 202-224-3121 or directly through their office. Tell the staff person that you provide employment services for individuals with disabilities. Provide a story of an individual that has been helped by your services, particularly individuals whose productivity is limited by a disability and as a result is receiving commensurate wages. Explain how many people would lose employment opportunities if this bill passes, including working in a center-based or community-based employment program at a wage that reflects their productivity.

A lot of parents who started these workshops can tell you their experiences of what life was like before Lafayette, and what they had to go through to get the workshop going. We hope that our folks will not have to ever find this out. To keep that from happening, please make every effort to let your Congressperson know how you feel.

ST. LOUIS ENTERTAINMENT 2012 BOOKS!!

By Gloria and Wayne Marek

This is the "last push", "pedal to the metal", "give it all ya got" reminder that you can help support the LWC Auxiliary by purchasing the coupon book. We have to wrap up the campaign and return any unsold books before December 15. If you are looking for a gift to give for one or more holidays that are coming up, now is the time to make that purchase. By purchasing the St. Louis Entertainment 2012 Book you will be helping the Auxiliary which nets \$15 of the book's \$30 cost. Please send in the purchase request form below with check or cash before the books are gone!

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO BUY THE ST. LOUIS ENTERTAINMENT 2012 BOOK

Each book is \$30 (plus additional \$5 each if you would like them sent by mail). Please make your check payable to LWC Auxiliary and return it and this form to the office.

I have enclosed a check for ____ book(s). I have enclosed cash for ____ book(s). **If paying with cash, place money and order form in an envelope, seal it, and write on the front how much cash is enclosed.**

Name: _____ Address: _____

State and Zip: _____ Telephone number: _____

____ Please send the book(s) with my LWC worker. (The office/auxiliary is not responsible for lost or misplaced books.)

____ I will pick up the book(s) in the office. _____ Please mail the book(s) to me.



***HAVE THE BEST HOLIDAY
SEASON EVER!***





A DISNEY FANTASY VACATION!

Diane Hoeflerlin, along with her parents, Don and Doris, took a well-deserved vacation to Disneyland in Florida. As you can tell from the pictures, Diane made a new friend, Tigger, while there. She also got to see lots of beautiful places and go on neat rides as well. Disney is certainly a magical place for someone who has gone through chemo and come out stronger than ever. Diane loved her time at Disney, but in the end she was very anxious to get back to the place where her friends and “other family” are. Good to have you back, Hoeflerlin’s!!



MICAH SIMPSON - OUR YOUNGEST CARDINAL FAN

By Lizzie Simpson, Proud Mom

Go Cards! I’m sure everyone is going crazy there about the Cards. Thought you might enjoy Micah rooting for the Cards as well. I think it was Tim Sitek and Megan Ferranto that gave Micah this shirt. Hope everyone is doing well! Go Cards!!



MICAH DID GREAT BECAUSE SHORTLY AFTER WE PUT THIS ARTICLE INTO THE NEWSLETTER - THE CARDINALS BECAME 2011 WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS!! 11 IN ’11!! WAY TO GO, CARDS!!

Did you know that we had a couple of staff people and at least one Board member that were lucky enough to be at Game 7 when we clinched the World Series title? Pictured here you can see the back of Rob Libera’s shirt. He shared the experience with his brother. Sandy Scott got to go with Jacqueline Gregerson and was sitting about 10 rows up from the field. What a great experience it must have been, and congrats to the Cardinals!! Congrats to their fans as well.



TWO MEN AND A HAMMER!

By Chuck Udell

Well, “Two Men and a Hammer”, myself and a trusted friend, “Buzz” Norman Kyger, were at it again recently. Joy Sultzer had asked what could be done to make the lunch area and rest rooms nicer. After some discussion with me, I took to making her ideas a reality! A painter was found and after much discussion, and a little trial and error, colors were chosen and work began.

While that work was going on, Buzz and I went to work getting new cabinets and counter top to spruce up the microwave area. Last year Rob had negotiated the donation of base and wall cabinets and miscellaneous office equipment from a school that was closing. Using three of those base cabinets, we refinished them to coordinate with a custom ordered counter top to come up with the end result that you see in the picture (editorial note - check online newsletter to see the color scheme). It looks great!!



New furniture for microwaves thanks to Two Men and a Hammer

Brenda, my daughter, even told me what a great job we did! What do you think? So, if there is something that you think needs changed, speak up like Joy did!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



One more year of existence down the drain. Happy Birthday!

NORTH

Philip	Waters	1
Tim	Hubbard	3
Darlene	Ziegler	8
Shannon	McCreary	10
Christine	Hartnett	13
Charles	Buchanan	15
Torrey	Watson	19
Stephanie	Gerth	22

WEST

Daniel	Zeller	1	Anna	Walters	13
Geoffrey	Bilger	3	Lola	Boyer	14
Michael	Nelson	5	Elizabeth	Goodwin	14
John	Grunz	6	Matt	Berry	16
Atul	Kakaiya	7	Robert	Byers	19
Fred	Ahrens	10	David	Markham	30
Doris	Waters	12	Chris	Beckmann	31

You would have loved the gift I didn't bother getting you.



ST. MARK'S DONATION

By Mary Beckerle

We started November on a very good note. Two Deacons from St. Mark Presbyterian Church stopped by with a check for \$1,583. This donation was a portion of the proceeds raised from a recent garage sell held at the church. The annual event is called the ABC Sale (Attic, Basement, Closet). The Deacon's mission is to help local charities through donations and volunteering. They have been regular donors to Lafayette over the years. Pictured from the left to right is: Rob Libera, Jerry Butler, Ken McLuen, Boots Berry, Victoria Ohs Sherman and Ann Leonard.



ALBERT PUJOLS' STATUE DEDICATION

By Mary Beckerle

On Nov. 2nd 10 Lafayette employees accompanied Rob Libera to the Albert Pujols statue dedication outside of the Pujols 5 Restaurant in West Port Plaza. Albert and Dee Dee Pujols spoke before the unveiling. The Pujols Foundation's focus is to help those with Down's Syndrome, primarily locally and in Albert's homeland, the Dominican Republic. The statue was funded by an anonymous donor, and sculpted by local artist Harry Weber. Some in attendance



thought the statue could have been a better likeness of Albert. Visit the statue and see what you think!



GETTING READY FOR INCOME TAX TIME

By Dick Kallemeier

I will provide free income tax preparation service on Mondays beginning the second week of February for Lafayette employees, staff and immediate family members at the LI West office. I am an AARP / IRS certified income tax instructor / counselor, and I do federal and state income tax (including state property tax credits). All returns are done electronically and transmitted directly to the IRS.

Many Lafayette employees owe no tax but may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit and possibly the Missouri Property Tax Credit (Circuit Breaker). A review of the employee's income, disability status and housing rental expense determines eligibility.

Now is the time to begin collecting your records starting with last year's tax return. As they become available gather all income forms (W2, 1099R, Social Security, SSI Letter, Interest, Dividends, Capital Gains), adjustments to income (IRA contribution, student loan interest, etc.), Real Estate Tax receipts, rent receipts, medical insurance expenses, and if you itemize (mortgage interest, charity gifts, medical expenses including mileage). Also needed is proof of age, Social Security Number verification and direct deposit account numbers. Appointments will be made beginning January 14th. Contact Becky at 636-227-5666, x1100, at that time for more appointment information.

For Calendar:

- The December Knights of Columbus Dance at Valley Industries is scheduled for **December 9th** (second Friday in December).
- The next meeting of Friends of ITE Lafayette North is at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, **December 7th**, in the Lafayette North conference room: Note that this is a deviation from our normal schedule.
- Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party at St. Martin DePorres Catholic Church, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **December 14th**.

Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party: The Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, December 14th, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at St. Martin DePorres Catholic Church school gymnasium (615 Dunn Road in Hazelwood). Transportation will be provided as on any workday, although pick-up times will be different since all employees will be transported to and from the Christmas Party instead of the workshop. Individual pick-up times will be sent home. Employees who arrange their own transportation must contact their providers. We're looking forward to a fun-filled party with a professional DJ, Pro Sound DJ, who will provide a variety of music. A hot catered lunch will be provided for employees, followed by games, dancing, attendance prizes, soda and cookies, and, of course, Santa has promised to be there with gifts for all employees. Family members may join the party at 12:30 p.m. to share in the festivities. We're looking forward to a great party.

Upcoming Events: December 7th - Friends of ITE Meeting @9:00 a.m.- Staff Contribution Deadline; December 9th - Payday; **December 12th & 13th - Holiday Cookie Sharing - Look for your initial of your last name; that's the day we need your cookies. If possible, two dozen cookies will be appreciated. All employees have a snack each day.; December 12th - Names beginning A through M, December 13th - Names beginning with N through Z.;** December 14th - Employee Christmas Party, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; December 22nd - Payday, Early dismissal at 1:45 p.m.; December 23rd and 26th - Workshop closed for Holiday; December 30th - Early dismissal at 1:45 p.m.; January 3, 2012 - Back to work after New Year's Day.



Linda and Fred Wark - last night as President



Matt and Christy Friesen - New faces



Tawana Blue and Sam Sanderson - our hard-working gal at West poses with her boyfriend



Boots Berry - a loyal Lafayetteer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF APPRECIATION: The Board of Directors held their Annual Board meeting at the Sunset 44 Bistro on Friday, November 11th (Yes, 11/11/11!). There were 93 people in attendance from both workshops. North's entire staff was present. Dinner started around 7:15 p.m., after everyone caught up with one another's latest happenings. Thanks to Sandy Scott's gentle touch, this year the computer didn't have any problems, and Jacqueline's slideshow of Lafayette's history, as well as pictures from events of the year before, kept everyone glancing up at the screens. The choices to eat were the same as last year, but for some reason tasted better than usual. We got to choose from prime rib, grilled salmon or pork tenderloin. Then it was on to the business at hand. Fred Wark was presented with wonderful framed memories of his time as president of Lafayette. They had pictures of him in various duties as president, as well as some interesting facts and figures of how Lafayette has grown under his steady guidance, all in a beautiful picture frame. Then there was a shortened business meeting, followed by a special presentation. Boots Berry celebrated her 85th birthday this year, as well as her 35th anniversary of being a volunteer at Lafayette. Rob Libera presented her with a beautiful basket of fresh plants and seasonal flowers. Then it was on to the presentation of awards to the staff for attendance and for all the hard work that they had done the year prior. The staff would like the Board to know that we appreciate their generosity, and all the hard work that they do we're not even aware of. We extend our thanks to each and every person that made the evening a success - it really was a great evening.

HOW MANY OF THESE DO YOU KNOW?: 1) For a cool brownie treat, make brownies as directed. Melt Andes mints in double broiler and pour over warm brownies. Let set for a wonderful minty frosting. 2) Add garlic immediately to a recipe if you want a light taste of garlic and at the end of the recipe if your want a stronger taste of garlic.



ST. CLEMENT THANKS YOU: Many thanks to the Lafayette employees and parents who generously volunteered for several hours collecting for the St. Clement Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive. Thanks to the following: Rob and Dan Libera, Becky Stillwell, Carol Broadwater, Jeff Hall, Sue Berg, Daniel Zeller, Marilyn Watson, Helen and Mike Roder. St. Clement generously supports Lafayette through their Tootsie Roll Drive. Hope to see you again next year.
- Helen Roder



The conga line forms....



..... and keeps going!



Let's try just dancing



A little food to re-fuel



.... and let's conga again!



Then let's try dancing again!

2011 HALLOWEEN PARTY: Thanks to many helping hands, the room at Trinity Lutheran Church was ready before the many party-goers started to arrive. The costumes were varied but one theme stood out ... something worn to represent the St. Louis Cardinals. They were ready to celebrate the Cardinal's World Series championship as well as have fun at the Halloween party. John Lipka, the D.J., asked everyone to walk in a line around the room so everyone could see their costumes. A few participants left early to either go to the parade held in the Cardinal's honor or to watch the parade on television. The rest stayed until the last song was played and then left, no doubt looking forward to the next party!
- By Gloria and Wayne Marek



Picture at left: Left to Right - Rob Libera, Valerie Shaw, Brenda Shaw, Mary Beckerle pose with the jar they filled with donation from this summer.

Picture at right: Valerie Shaw poses with Her mother, Brenda, and the jar in which they collected donations for Lafayette.



THANK YOU TO BOSCHERTOWN GRAND PRIX GO KARTS!

By Mary Beckerle

Brenda Shaw (mom) and Valerie Shaw (Lafayette employee) made a donation of \$311.69 to Lafayette on November 9th. A collection jar at Boschertown Grand Prix Go Karts in St. Charles (the family business) gave patrons the opportunity to donate. Please put Boschertown on your list of fun places to visit. Thanks to the Shaw's for thinking of Lafayette!

SAM'S CLUB DIVERSITY DAY

By Christy Friesen

On October 19th Sam's Club invited six Lafayette employees to attend Diversity Awareness Day at the Manchester store. We got to participate in the morning employee meeting and do the Sam's club cheer with them (we supplied a lot of extra energy)! We were also taken on an interactive tour of the store. To finish off the day we were able to decorate our own cupcakes and they treated us to some delicious pizza. We talked to many employees and got to spread the word about Lafayette and what we do. It was a great experience and we all had a lot of fun! This year's attendees were Lisa Cendekowitsch, Angela Gentile, Zach Leeker, Joe Oxler, Patty Redd and Cathy Schmid! Thank you guys for being such good Lafayette representatives!



Angela shows off cupcakes



Cool sunglasses for cool people!



Zach concentrates on his cupcakes



Waving goodbye to the folks at Sam's Club

HALLOWEEN AT LAFAYETTE NORTH



Halloween is a time for celebrating our friends



Pumpkins look good on me



All covered by spider webs



Waiting for lunch to begin



Now which one do I want?














Tiaras are in fashion this year

MAILED NOVEMBER 22, 2011
 DATED MATERIAL
 DELIVER BY DECEMBER 1, 2011

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DECEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Chanukah - Wed., Dec. 21 st	 The First Day of Winter	1 st Day of Winter - Thurs., Dec. 22 nd	Pearl Harbor - Wed., Dec. 7 th 	1	2	3 West - Knights of Columbus Dance - St. Clare of Assisi School - 7:00-10:00 
4	5 Ashura 	6	7 9:00 a.m. - Friends of ITE - meet at Lafayette North	8	9 PAY DAY  North - Knights of Columbus Dance - Valley Ind. - 7:30-10:00	10
11	12	13	14 North Christmas Party - 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. - St. Martin DePorres Catholic Church	15	16 West Christmas Party - 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - First Evangelical Free Church	17
18	19	20	21 7:00 p.m. - Executive Comm. meets 7:30 p.m. - Board of Directors meets	22 PAY DAY 	23 Workshops Closed for  Holiday	24 Christmas Eve 
25 Christmas 	26 Kwanzaa  Workshops Closed for Holiday	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 