



NEWS AND VIEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

DECEMBER 2012

BOARD OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

On November 16th, the Board of Directors of Lafayette Industries held its 36th 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 McLuen; Ethel McLuen; Ron Nelson; and Bruce Strombach Thank you for all your dedication to Lafayette Industries!

ANNUAL APPEAL

“Lafayette is a Godsend for my daughter. She’s a better person due to Lafayette. Thank you so much!”

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 2012 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 19th - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., **North** Christmas & Holiday Party at the Knights of Columbus Knights of Columbus Hall at 1216 Teson, Hazelwood, MO 63042.

Friday, December 21st - 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., **West** Christmas & Holiday Party at the First Evangelical Free Church, 1375 Carman Road, Manchester, MO 63021.

Monday, December 24th, Tuesday, December 25th, Tuesday, January 1st - **WORKSHOPS CLOSED THESE DAYS!**



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

For Calendar:

- The December Knights of Columbus Dance at Valley Industries is scheduled for **December 7th**. Note that this is a different week from the normal schedule.
- The next meeting of Friends of ITE. Lafayette North is at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, **December 12th**, in the Lafayette North conference room.
- Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party at Knights of Columbus Hall Fatima Council (1216 Teson Road in Hazelwood) 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. on Wednesday, **December 19th**. **Note that location has changed!**

Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party: Please note that the location for the Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 19 has been changed to the Knights of Columbus Hall Fatima Council, 1216 Teson Road in Hazelwood. The time is still from 10:00 to 2:00. **We need your help to pass this changed information along to others who may not read this newsletter.**

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. Employees who arrange their own transportation must contact their providers.

We're looking forward to a fun-filled party with a professional DJ who will provide a variety of music. A hot catered lunch will be provided for employees, followed by dancing, attendance prizes, soda and cookies, and, of course, Santa has promised to be there with gifts for all employees.

PUJOLS FAMILY FOUNDATION PROM

By Ann Kelly (Proud Mother)



Colleen Kelly and Steve Smith



Josh Stuart and Lisa Cendekowitsch



Tim Sitek and Megan Ferranto



Val Shaw and Matt Statter

On Nov 2nd, several of Lafayette employees attended the 6th Annual Autumn Prom held by the Pujols Family Foundation at the Kemper Auto Arena in Chesterfield. Each attendee walked the red carpet to the cheers of the "fans" as they entered the arena. Then they had an official prom picture taken before they found their tables and all the delicious food. Local DJ Smash was there for the 6th consecutive year with his band and the place was ROCKING!!! Best of all Albert Pujols was there with his family and spent lots of time on the dance floor learning some new moves from the Lafayette dancers; even Fredbird made an appearance. The ladies were gorgeous in their gowns and the guys looked pretty sharp too, as you can see in the photos.



JANICE OLSEN BECOMES GREAT AUNT

By Linda Olsen (Proud Sister)

Far Left: Janice with her nephew, Greg Olsen, and his daughter, Addy.

Left: Addy smiles at all her new friends

Janice Olsen (Lafayette West employee) and I vacationed in Baltimore for a week in October, visiting with their brother and his family. A special part of the visit was meeting their great-niece, Adeline Lisa, the 7-month old daughter of Janice's nephew, Greg Olsen. Addy has big blue eyes and a happy personality. Janice loved holding and feeding her. Addy was born March 23, 2012.



A MOTHER'S LOVE

By Shirley Cumberland

A mother's love is like no other. She does not have to give birth to you to be your mother. She could be a woman you meet on the path of life.

A mother's love is like no other. She is someone you share things with, a woman you can count on in your hour of need.

A mother's love is like no other. She could be a mentor who guides you. Someone you can go to with any problem.

A mother's love is like no other. A mother can even be your best friend. Someone you can look up to and who understands you. She never judges you for any reason.

A mother's love is like no other. She always sticks by your side through thick and thin. She even keeps you on track when you lose your way in the darkness life can sometimes bring.

A mother's love is like no other. She is a woman who does not give up on you even when you want to give up on yourself.

A mother's love is like no other because it is unconditional. She always accepts you for who you are no matter what choices you make in your life. A mother's love is like no other.



By The Editor



Starting December 1st this Lafayette customer is beginning a campaign on social media to introduce people to their products while at the same time helping out Lafayette. Stopper Toppers is a decorative laminate, and currently St. Louis is a test market for this new product. Now here's the easy part that we're asking of our Lafayette family. When you go on Facebook, if you "Like" Stopper Toppers, they will make a \$1.00 donation (up to \$500) to Lafayette. We thank them so much for their generosity to Lafayette.

MISSOURI TREASURER SAYS GIFT CARDS NEVER REALLY EXPIRE



We all get them - gift cards to places we never go. A lot of times they sit in a drawer somewhere and expire. Not so fast, according to the Missouri treasurer, Clint Zweifel, he wants you to keep them. Currently several millions dollars worth of unused gift cards and certificates end up in unclaimed property. If you have an expired gift card he says that you should first check with the business where the item was purchased to see if it's redeemable. If it's not, then you might want to search the unclaimed property database for Missouri to see if your name is there, since it may eventually end up there. Just a thought to keep in mind as the holidays come closer.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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	Kathleen	Meyer	19
Keenan	Retzlaff	12	David	Markham	30
Doris	Waters	12	Chris	Beckmann	31

NORTH

Philip	Waters	1
Tim	Hubbard	3
Darlene	Ziegler	8
Shannon	McCreary	10
Christine	Hartnett	13
Charles	Buchanan	15
Torrey	Watson	19
Marian	Betts	21
Stephanie	Gerth	22
Kathleen	Arnold	24



Old enough to know better... Young enough to still do



THE SHAW FAMILY HELPS OUT LAFAYETTE FOR 2ND YEAR

Brenda and Valerie Shaw have been collecting money all summer at Boschertown Grand Prix Racing, the family business. They brought in all their donations on November 26th to Lafayette. Thanks, Val and Brenda. Lafayette appreciates all you have done for them. Rob Libera helps to hold up the jar that collected the money. Thank you to Shaw family for helping out Lafayette.

REMINDER - IMPORTANT PAPERS THAT NEED TO BE TURNED IN: Several months ago Lafayette attached a 3 page form to the paychecks, and asked that they be returned. It was an update on information needed by the office, and required for employment! It includes Emergency contact information, information on meds, etc., and permission / release information. This information is vital. If you have not filled out one of these forms or cannot find one, then please let Jerry know at North or Becky know at West and we can either email or fax the form to you. Thanks so much. As always, we appreciate your cooperation in keeping up with these changes.



HOUSEHOLD TIP

Stuffing a dryer sheet in your back pocket will repel mosquitoes.

NEW ERGONOMIC CHAIR FOR EVERY LAFAYETTE EMPLOYEE

By Mary Beckerle



Far Left Picture: Steve Hart working hard in his new chair.

Middle Picture: Doug Miller prefers his to a recliner.

Far Right Picture: Dana Thebeau and Patty Moorhouse sitting pretty.

The purchase of new task chairs for both facilities was funded by the Productive Living Board of St. Louis County. A lot of research was done to determine which chair was best suited for our sheltered work force and which offered the best value for the long term. After placing the order in late summer, the chairs finally arrived on November 14th. Hopefully everyone will be a lot more comfortable in their new chairs. An initial comment from Jackie Londoff: “My feet don’t touch the floor!” To the other “danglers” on our work force, we are checking into getting footrests for your seats.

STAFF APPRECIATION DINNER



Far Left: Keith and Kathie Boyer
Middle: Doug and Mary Beckerle
Left: Sandy Shaw and Bev McGrue

On Friday, November 16th, Lafayette’s staff met at Sunset 44 for their annual Staff Appreciation Dinner. Though attendance was slightly down this year, it was a great dinner and time of recognition for Lafayette’s staff from both its West and North locations. The Editor can say there were truly no hitches with the slideshow this year, and as Rob told me, “We finally got it right”. This year the offerings for the meal were prime rib, grilled salmon and pork tenderloin. Then the Board held a short business meeting, and after that the recognition awards were conducted. The business meeting was followed by a time when Lafayette’s staff was recognized for various reasons. It was a time of celebration for the staff who’ve worked hard through the year to make Lafayette a success. Thank you to all our hard-working staff - you are each and every one a gem!



HOUSEHOLD TIP

Bake cupcakes directly in ice-cream cones, so much more fun and easier for everyone to eat.

LAFAYETTE SUNDAY SOCIAL

Sunday, January 6th - 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

The LWC Community Network (formerly The LWC Auxiliary) is having a gathering from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Lafayette on Sunday, January 6th for the parents and their Lafayette employee .

Parents can socialize while enjoying free refreshments. It's mostly for mingling, but there will be a brief presentation about the events in store for 2013 and volunteering opportunities through the LWC Community Network.

Lafayette employees can have fun watching Madagascar 3, complete with a 60-inch raised screen and free refreshments. (There's even going to be a popcorn machine!)

Whether you're interested in volunteering in 2013 or not, **come anyway**. It's a great chance to meet other parents while your child enjoys the movie with their co-workers!

There won't be a signup. You just need to show up! Reminder flyers will be sent home via your child on Wednesday, January 2nd - but **mark your calendars now!**

We hope to see you there!

Barb Aufdenspring and Tricia Walters, Event Planners





ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2013 - ST. LOUIS EDITION By Gloria and Wayne

Marek: This is the last hurrah, folks! If you wanted to give Entertainment Books as gifts, or just to get one for yourselves, now is the time. These are great stocking stuffers or thoughtful gifts for the "bargain hunters" you know. The sale will be closed out on December 13th, and any remaining books will be returned to the publisher. Print and send the attached reservation form with your check or cash to the Lafayette Work Center office, attention: LWC Auxiliary. Thank you for your support!

Each book is \$30 (plus addition \$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 front 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.

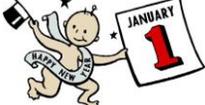
Name _____ Address _____

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.

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>First Day of Winter - Friday, Dec. 21st</p> 		<p>Chanukah - Sunday, Dec. 9th Friday,</p> 		<p>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day - Dec. 7th</p> 		
2	3	4	5	6	<p>7 North - Knights of Columbus Dance - Valley Ind. - 7:30-10:00</p> 	8
<p>9 St. John UCC's Christmas party for Lafayette West - 1:00-3:00</p>	<p>10 Pay Day</p> 	11	<p>12 9:00 am - Friends of ITE meet at Lafayette North</p>	13	14	<p>15 West - Knights of Columbus Dance - St. Clare of Assisi School - 7:00-10:00</p> 
16	17	18	<p>19 7:00 P.M. - Executive Committee 7:30 P.M. - Board of Directors</p> <p>Lafayette North Christmas Party - 10:00-2:00 at Knights of Council Fatima Council, 1216 Teson Road, Hazelwood, 63042</p>	20	<p>21 Pay Day</p>  <p>Lafayette West Christmas Party - 11:30-2:00 at First Evangelical Free Church, 1375 Carman Road, Manchester, 63021</p>	22
23	<p>24 Christmas Eve - <u>Workshops Closed!</u></p> 	<p>25 Christmas Day - <u>Workshops Closed!</u></p> 	<p>26 Kwanzaa</p> 	27	<p>28 Full Moon</p> 	29
30	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p> 	<p><u>Workshops will be closed on Tuesday, January 1st!</u></p>				