



# NEWS AND VIEWS

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## MANCHESTER HOMECOMING PARADE By Mary Beckerle

On Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, it definitely didn't rain on our parade. It was a beautiful morning with the first hint of fall in the air. Lafayette workers rode on Lafayette's float or walked alongside it through a Manchester neighborhood, giving out candy to the children along the parade route. Everyone had an awesome time and we can't wait to do it again next year. *Everyone is invited to join us!!*

A special thanks to Dr. Kakaiya (Radha and Atul's dad) for driving the truck pulling our float! Another thanks to Mike Owens for thinking fast by taking the balloons off of the float and giving them to the kids at the end of the route when we ran out of candy! (Why didn't I think of that?)



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

**ARC - 1177 N. Warson Rd. - Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

Did you ever wonder how many of our sheltered workers reside with their parents, live in group homes or live independently? Here are the most recent statistics:

|       | Live w/Family | Foster Home | Group Home | Supported Living | Independent |
|-------|---------------|-------------|------------|------------------|-------------|
| NORTH | 75            | 3           | 24         | 24               | 9           |
| WEST  | 137           | 0           | 30         | 41               | 15          |

82% still live with their parents. Of the 82%, 69% are over 30 years old.

Although we don't have actual statistics to compare these numbers to 10 or 20 years ago, the trend is definitely moving toward finding alternative living arrangements for special needs adults at an earlier age.

Twenty, and even ten years ago, organizations such as Lifeskills, Sunnyhill and ARC didn't have such well-developed assisted living programs. Today they offer a variety of options.

In addition, more and more new organizations are forming that offer these types of services. Many specialize in a particular client, such as those with behavioral issues vs. those with more involved physical disabilities requiring advanced care.

It's a very personal decision for every family. Making the best decision for your child requires a lot of research. Acquiring funding for these residential alternatives can take years. Parents need to start doing their homework early. My special needs son, Jeff, is 19 and still has 2 more years of high school. I'm at the beginning of this journey. That's why I'm attending a free *starter* seminar at ARC at 1177 N. Warson Rd on Thursday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. called ***Community Residential Options***.

Attendees should register by contacting Pam Moss at pmoss@slarc.org or 314-817-2216. Please note that Lafayette endorses other residential programs too. If I learn of any other seminars on this subject offered by Sunnyhill, Lifeskills, etc., I will try to pass the information along.



**COMMERCE BANCSHARES DONATION**

By Mary Beckerle

On September 18th Commerce Bancshares (at 14317 Manchester Rd.) donated \$500 to Lafayette through their foundation. They have been an annual donor for many years! Connie Shivers (left) and Tammy Braden (right) took time from their busy day in banking to personally present the check to me, Mary Beckerle (center). Thank you from all of us at Lafayette for your continued support!

**AREA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GEAR UP FOR TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVES**



Both Lafayette West and Lafayette North (see North on last page for more details) have faithful Knights of Columbus Councils who will be having their annual Tootsie Roll drives that help benefit the two workshops. Please be on the lookout for them about mid-October at stores in the area of the workshops. If they need help for their two hour shifts, volunteers would be appreciated. For Lafayette West there are two Councils that have been faithful over the years - Marian Council 9522 and St. Clement 13604. St. Clement is still looking for volunteers, and their Tootsie Roll drive is scheduled for the Des Peres area over the weekend of October 12-14. Helen Roder is heading up the efforts to get volunteers from Lafayette West. If you want to volunteer for either of the two councils in the West area, please call Becky at 636-227-5666, x1100. They will sign you up and put you in contact with the leaders of these drives. Good luck to everyone, and remember - if you see a Tootsie Roll drive that weekend in the area of one of the workshops, please be sure to give a little something. We appreciate our Knights and our volunteers alike. Thanks in advance to everyone participating. You are the tops!!

Greetings from Lafayette North. September has brought cooler weather and more rain our way. This drop in temperature and more rain was well needed by all of us, as well as Mother Earth!!

We saw two long-time employees retire also, Tami Inman and Bruce Tidrow. Staff of Lafayette held an intimate retirement party for both workers, attended by their staff members and a few close friends to share in cake and celebration. Bruce's long-time staff member, Dave Canoy, was present, and Tami's staff member, Bridgette Jones, was also in attendance as well as long-time friend and co-worker, Margot Elgert. We wish them both the best that retired life has to offer.



**Safety Week "Lafayette North Style"** was a change from our normal routine of the past. Our delicious lunch was provided by Valenti's Catering with chicken kabobs, Little Smokies, salad and pasta salad to start off the festivities. Afterwards everyone cleared the way for Lafayette North's First Annual Talent Show. Many contestants anxiously waited their turn to perform for our "peeps" as well as our honored judges: Rob "Simon" Libera, Kathie "Paula" Boyer and last, but not least, Jerry "Randy" Phillips.

Singing, dancing and spontaneous audience participation filled the lunch room. Our winners were: Krystle Conroy's Solo, Darrius Roberts and Mindy Proctor's duet and Artie Walls. The winners will be enjoying a private pizza lunch. Thank you to all our contestants for their Awesome Performances!! I look forward to doing it all again next year, so everyone start practicing now!!!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, OCTOBERITES!!**



**WEST**

|         |            |    |          |            |    |
|---------|------------|----|----------|------------|----|
| Michael | Siddle     | 2  | Kathleen | Moore      | 19 |
| Keith   | Halsey     | 5  | Maureen  | Teschner   | 19 |
| Doug    | Miller     | 5  | Dana     | Thebeau    | 19 |
| Alicia  | Rutherford | 6  | Colleen  | Kelly      | 21 |
| James   | Riester    | 7  | Karen    | Van Berkel | 21 |
| Jesse   | Brooks     | 8  | Daniel   | Rechtien   | 22 |
| Mark    | Kinney     | 8  | Rebecca  | Stillwell  | 22 |
| Harry   | Kuhlenbeck | 8  | Tracy    | Meyer      | 23 |
| Julie   | Tennenbaum | 8  | Rob      | Libera     | 25 |
| Jamie   | Bovyn      | 9  | Martha   | Gibbs      | 26 |
| Rebecca | Crump      | 13 | Cary     | Bankendorf | 27 |
| Andrew  | Zivnuska   | 13 | Stephen  | Keller     | 29 |
| Shelly  | Walker     | 17 |          |            |    |

**NORTH**

|          |       |    |
|----------|-------|----|
| Veronica | Quinn | 5  |
| Emanuel  | Baker | 10 |
| Paul     | Baker | 31 |



Birthdays are nature's way of telling us to eat more cake.

You're not 40, you're eighteen with 22 years experience. (change as appropriate) - Author Unknown



**ST. LOUIS ENTERTAINMENT 2013 BOOK**

The Entertainment books are still on sale through December 10<sup>th</sup>. Are you stuck for a Christmas gift this year? These would make a great gift to give somebody. You can return the money and form to the front office and we will get your book to you.

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.

**OCTOBER 2012**

| SUN | MON  | TUES   | WED   | THU  | FRI  | SAT  |
|-----|--|--|---|--|--|--|
|     | 1 SUKKOT BEGINS<br>                     | 2  | 3   | 4  | 5 Flu Vaccines -<br>9:00-11:30 a.m.<br><i>Both Workshops!</i>  | 6  |
| 7   | 8 COLUMBUS DAY BOTH WORKSHOPS OPEN!<br> | 9 SUKKOT ENDS<br> | 10 9:00 A.M. - FRIENDS OF ITE MEET - LAFAYETTE NORTH CONF. ROOM<br><br>PAY DAY<br> | 11   | 12 NORTH - KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DANCE - VALLEY IND. - 7:30-10:00<br> | 13 WEST - KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DANCE - ST. CLARE OF ASSISI SCHOOL - 7:00-10:00<br> |
| 14  | 15   | 16 BOSSES DAY<br> | 17 7:00 P.M. - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE<br>7:30 P.M. - BOARD OF DIRECTORS  | 18   | 19   | 20   |
| 21  | 22   | 23   | 24  | 25 PAY DAY<br> | 26   | 27   |
| 28  | 29 FULL MOON<br>                        | 30   | 31 HALLOWEEN<br>   |  |  |  |



## SPECIAL NEEDS MASS

By Janet Gardner (Proud Mom)

In conjunction with Disabilities Awareness Month, Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Valley Park will host its Third Annual Special Needs Mass on Sunday, October 7, 2012 at the 12:00 noon Mass. For the first time Pam Gardner will be doing the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and would like to extend an invitation for all of Lafayette to come. For more information contact: Ann Blaes at 636-717-0105 or email - [annblaes@hotmail.com](mailto:annblaes@hotmail.com) or Kim Walsh at 636-225-3874 or email [kpassa1@hotmail.com](mailto:kpassa1@hotmail.com).

## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION LETTER / FORMS CREATES SOME CONFUSION

Some Lafayette parents have been left scratching their heads in confusion. The Social Security Administration has been sending letters about reporting the wages of their loved one each month using their new self-help phone line. However, to keep it simple, **there is no need to comply with their request since Lafayette already reports** its employees' income to Social Security. Our payroll clerk, Adnan, has been fielding calls on this question since the issue first surfaced a few days back. Thanks to the Siteks for bringing this to our attention, and again, remember, Lafayette takes care of this service for the employee.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR LAFAYETTE NORTH

By Judy Way

**TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVES:** The Tootsie Roll Drives of the St. Ann and Fatima Councils of the Knights of Columbus will be October 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are still needed to benefit Lafayette North. If you can help, please call Pat Gill at 314-434-8323.

**WHAT'S NEW:** We're in the early stages of planning for the Lafayette North Employee Christmas Party, which will be held this year on Wednesday, December 19. At this month's Friends of I.T.E. meeting, we will be discussing and making decisions on several aspects of the party.... lunch menu and provider, employees' Christmas gifts, attendance prizes, activities and entertainment. If you would like to participate in planning our biggest event of the year, please join us at our meeting on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Lafayette North conference room. We can use all the help we can get and would appreciate your input.

## CELEBRATING THE END OF SAFETY WEEK AT LAFAYETTE NORTH

