



## WHAT A PLEASURE IT IS TO WORK HERE!

**Farthest left:** Debbie and Rob model their Halloween gear.

**Second from left:** Dan makes announcement about the time change this weekend.

**Third from right:** Val celebrates the first of the October 2019 anniversaries, 11 years

**Immediate left:** Jerry celebrates the longest of the October 2019 anniversaries, 32 years

Thanksgiving is always a time for reflection, to give thanks and to really appreciate all that we are grateful for. Since Lafayette's founding, we have experienced 43 years of Building Dreams, Creating Opportunities, and enhancing the Quality and Dignity of adults with developmental disabilities by providing meaningful and sustainable employment in a positive, rewarding, team environment. And how do we do that? Through the hard work and dedication from a lot of *giving* people: our Board of Directors, our Staff, our parents, friends, donors, benefactors and our wonderful volunteers. Always in the forefront of my mind are our customers for their business and for the opportunity given to prove ourselves; and the taxpayers of the State of Missouri and St. Louis County for their support. There are over 616,500 words in the English language, but there are only two that we need to express our deepest and most heartfelt feelings: **Thank you.**

But most of all, I would like to thank our workers. Every day, rain or shine, snow or cold, some with wonderful support and some without any, they come to the shops of Lafayette, ready, willing and eager--to the best of their abilities --- to work hard until the job gets done --- and have a great time doing it! They are the heart and soul of Lafayette, and a constant reminder that life is not so much about what you have accomplished, it is more about what you have overcome. *I just love to come to work every day.* Dedication, loyalty, and pride in your work—doesn't every employer wish they could have a workforce like that? Do you have that at your workplace? Thank you Lafayette workers, and as they say today: **U R THE BEST!**

Our **ANNUAL APPEAL** letter will soon be on its way to you, along with a recap of where those funds were utilized to enhance the work experience of our dedicated employees. This is our primary fund raising effort, and your tax deductible contribution is vital to our mission. Through your generosity and support, we not only employ the most adults with developmental disabilities *full-time* in the State, we enhance their work experience through unique training, hot lunches, and our wellness initiative, just to mention a few of our programs. *We couldn't do what we do without you.* Contact Alesia at ext. 1118, she can also walk you through some tax-saving and employer-matching contributions ideas that will enhance your gift!

Lafayette Industries will continue to Build Dreams and Create Work Opportunities today, tomorrow, and into the future. Lafayette Industries — WE ARE HERE — *for life!*




Rob Libera  
CEO & Executive Director  
rlibera@lafayetteindustries.com

**Mission:** The mission of Lafayette Industries is to provide employment opportunities to persons with developmental disabilities and to 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

## NORTH WINNERS OF THE TALENT SHOW ON 2019 HOT DOG DAY



**Above left:** The first place winner pictured above on the left is Darrius Roberts. Presenting his prize is Jim Bianchi and Martha Webb.

**Above right:** The second place winner is Marchelle James. Presenting her prize is Jim Bianchi, Martha Webb and Sheila Zigrye.

## EILEEN EDER AND CHRISTY MERTZ HAVE BOTH RETIRED FROM NORTH



Top row – far left: Eileen Eder, posing with her fashionable orange table cloth, retired after 14 years with Lafayette North. Bottom row – far left: Christy Mertz, posing with her fashionable black table cloth as well as her family, retired after 21 years with Lafayette North. On the top and bottom rows, right-hand side of them are pictures of both Eileen's and Christy's co-workers celebrating with them. Their last day of work was on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

## CONCERT SURPRISE!

By Kim Jenkins (Proud Big Sister of Felita Jenkins)

Every day my baby sister will say how much she misses dad...she's still trying to process his passing. Soooo, for the gazillionth 😊 time, my sister Fran Jenkins and I decided to surprise her with Boyz II Men concert tickets. Those dudes need to be cutting us a loyalty, not royalty 😂 check! The expression on her face remains priceless. Knowing that this brings her joy, warms my soul. We love you, Felita 💕😊 !!!

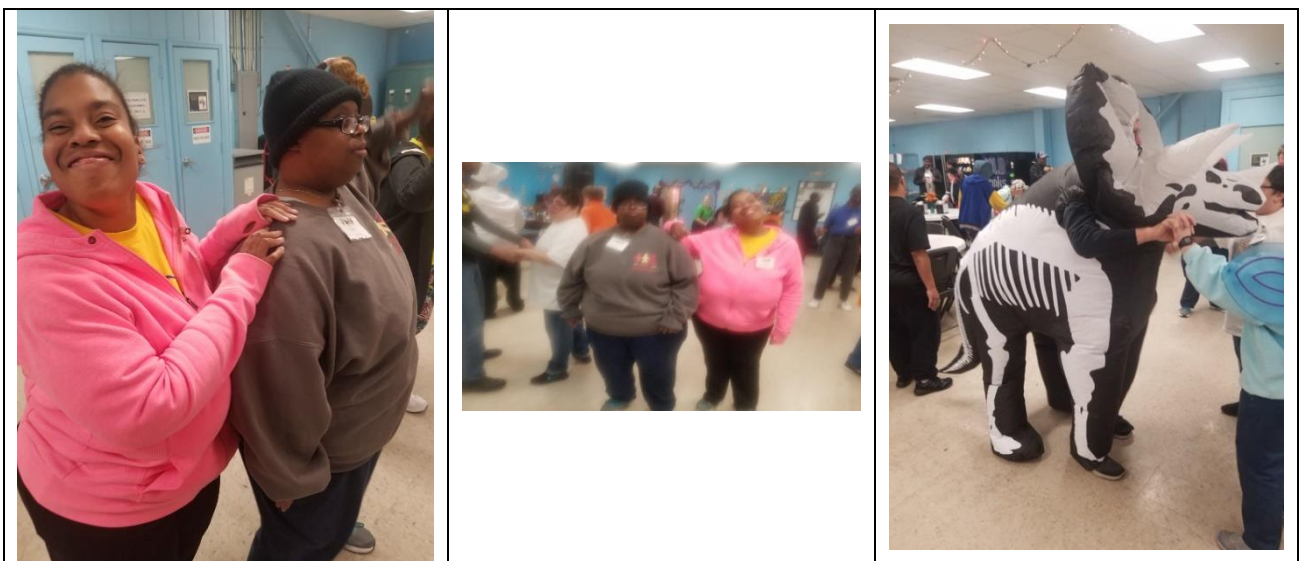


## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DANCE AT VALLEY INDUSTRIES - HALLOWEEN PARTY - OCTOBER 18, 2019

By Fran Jenkins (Proud Big Sister of Felita Jenkins and Proud Friend to Barbara McNairy)

Pictures taken by Caring Solutions Staff (permission given to use pictures)

Valley Industries worker, Barbara McNairy, and her housemate, Lafayette Industries worker, Felita Jenkins, attended the October 18<sup>th</sup> Halloween Party held at Valley Industries. A fun time was had by all!!



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR NOVEMBERITES

## NORTH

Cynthia	Behan	2	Allesha	Carter	15
Frank	Jones	3	Gary	Arnold	17
Kierra	Johnson	5	Marchelle	James	19
De'Marco	Bean	6	Chris	Wiseman	19
Kadie	Gallo	9	Gary	Killiebrew	23
Jerry	Ring	12	Anton	Jones	24
Michael	Warbington	12	Michelle	Lee	25
Pamera	Burton	14	Alice	Gibson	26
Justin	Simmons	14	Carolyn	Eller	27
Samuel	Sullivan	14			



## WEST

One for the money,  
Two for the show,  
Three to get ready  
and THAR SHE  
BLOWS!! Just look  
at all those candles!!  
I'm surprised the Fire  
Department hasn't  
arrived yet.

William "Sam"	Williams	1	Dan	Libera	16
Carmen	Dockett	2	Michelle	Watson	16
Kate	Gregor	2	Jon	Munoz	17
Todd	Thornberry	2	Jason	Rice	17
Suzanne	Myers	6	Joe	Wombacher	18
Mary Ellen	Witte	8	Michael	Woolverton	18
Jeffrey	Hall	9	William	Taylor	20
Cynthia	Jackson	10	Hazel	Owen	21
Timothy	O'Leary	10	Tod	Lomax	22
Andrew	Furrer	11	Michelle	Albers	26
Logan	Weber	11	Kristin	Kallansrud	29
Timothy	Gregerson	12	Twana	Blue	30
Yvonne "Cherie"	Maloney	12	Loretta	Jackson	30
George	Schicker	13	Norma	Schmidtlein	30
Claire	Gardiner	16			



## BE KIND

By Dahnyel Walters and Darryl Mullen  
(Proud Lafayette Employees)

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) No cursing                | 2) No hitting                      |
| 3) No negative words         | 4) No fighting                     |
| 5) Smile at people           | 6) Give compliments                |
| 7) Help someone when you can | 8) Check on someone that looks sad |
| 9) Just say "Hi"             |                                    |

## **WEST'S NOVEMBER ART CLASS – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – 3:00 - 4:00p**

There are two remaining West art classes before the Art Show & Glee Club concert in December. The deadline for getting in your registration form will be Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't signed up, there is still time to do so. This is the last art class before the Art Concert in December. Return the registration form below to the front office. Thanks in advance for your cooperation. Questions: Call or email Alesia Roccia at [aroccia@lafayetteindustries.com](mailto:aroccia@lafayetteindustries.com) or (636) 227-5666, x1118.

Name of participant \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name / phone number of person picking up Art Student at 4:00p: \_\_\_\_\_

## **WEST CAUGHT BEING RESPECTFUL – SEPTEMBER 2019**



**Immediate left:** Fred Ahrens, Kim Lange and Norma Schmittlein



## **ANNUAL MEDICARE ELECTION**

### **PERIOD STARTED OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

Carl Berger, United HealthCare Medicare Advisor, supports Lafayette Industries as a Links for Lafayette Sponsor and contributor to Lafayette's Caught Being Safe program. Carl is available to assess your Medicare needs and help you and loved ones reduce your cost and gain more benefits. There is no cost and no obligation to meet with Carl. To learn more, visit [stlmedicare.net](http://stlmedicare.net) or call (314) 568-2700.

## COURTNEY GUENTHER'S TRIP TO GREECE

By Debbie Guenther (Proud Mother)

Courtney enjoyed nearly two weeks traveling to Greece with her dad and I. First was to Athens where we saw all the ancient ruins. These ruins included the Acropolis, with the Parthenon and the Porch of the Maidens. Then we flew to the island of Santorini where she swam and snorkeled in the Aegean Sea. Our hotel hugged the edge of the water-filled caldera. Finally, a high-speed ferry took us to another island, Mykonos, which was famous for its windmills and quaint shopping and dining villages along the waterfront. Courtney loved eating gyros, mussels, shrimps and pasta. Watching the beautiful sunset every evening was spectacular. Courtney is ready to go back!



**Far left:**

Courtney in Santorini overlooking the Caldera

**Immediate left:**

Courtney in Lafayette shirt with the Parthenon in the background)



**Far left:**

Courtney at Porch of Maidens on the Acropolis

**Immediate left:**

Santorini boat cruise



**Far left:** Little Venice ( a village in Mykonos)

**Immediate left:** Courtney with her shrimp dinner

**Editorial Note:** Rob has had the unofficial bragging rights with his picture of his wearing his Lafayette shirt and the Golden Gate Bridge in the background. However, Courtney with her Lafayette shirt and the Parthenon on the Acropolis in Greece in the background It's a deal-buster!! Sorry, Rob, but the new bragging rights go to Courtney's picture this time.

## DESTIN RAFFLE



**Far left:** Sandra Holtmeyer, Mike Nelson and Stacey Elster watch the drawing for the Destin raffle



**Immediate left:** Mike Nelson draws the winning entry



**Immediate left:** Everyone double-checking the entry information

## 2019 FLU CLINIC

By The Editor



**Above:** Ashley gives Rob flu shot



**Above:** St. John's Walgreens Flu Team – Ashley, Kelsey and Jerome

The person who had administered our flu shots from a Walgreens in South County for the past several years had moved to another job and was unavailable to do flu clinics this year. We got online and contacted Walgreens about another person who could do flu clinics. After having a bumpy start, we were directed to Ashley at the Walgreens in St. John's. She learned that we had two locations, and worked with me as we gathered her information. By the way, everybody, great job on having done the best job of filling out forms and attaching necessary information that we've seen. North had approximately 40 flu shots, and West had approximately 90+ flu shots. Total number increased from last year. There was a time when I believed you could get flu from the shots, but now I think the opposite. It's important we protect not only ourselves, but protect others around us should we get sick. Thank you to all who participated, and a big thank you to Ashley, Kelsey and Jerome for their professionalism. They said they would be back next year. If you haven't gotten the flu vaccination, then it's important to get one. They give them at free flu clinics, your pharmacy or your doctor's office. You will have the time to get it if you make the time to get it.



## DISNEY WORLD

By Ryan Preston (Proud Lafayette Employee)

Hi, Everyone!

My family went to Orlando last week to celebrate 2 of my nieces' birthdays. We went to 3 different theme parks at Disney World, went on rides, saw shows and had some great meals. I had a great time and can't wait to go back, but it's nice to be back home with my friends at Lafayette Industries.

Ryan Preston



**Far left:** Ryan Preston's family at Magic Kingdom at Disney World

**Middle left:** Ryan Preston's family at Magic Kingdom at Disney World

**Immediate left:** Ryan Preston's family at Animal Kingdom at Disney World



## 6<sup>TH</sup> FISHING OUTING AT SUSON PARK CANCELED

During the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the Fishing Outing at Suson Park we discovered that there was a cranky, hungry snapping turtle at the bottom of the pond where we were fishing. That turtle will be even crankier and hungrier when it discovers that it will be another year before we get back to Suson. This year we were totally rained out, and in some instances, the rain was accompanied by thunder and lightning. However, we will be back next year, ready to fish. We are sorry we had to cancel, but we canceled for safety's sake. Next year will be picture perfect.



## JESSE BROOKS'S FALL ADVENTURE

By Jennifer Brooks  
(Proud Mother)

It is fall and getting cold up here in Northern Michigan. So, we are coming back to St

Louis!! Jesse will back at work Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. He is so excited to see everyone.



## ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY -

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> – 1:00-3:00P

**DIRECTIONS:** (15 min. from 270 / 44 interchange) Take 270 South and exit on 44 East. Then exit on Lindbergh (67) South. Take Lindbergh for approximately 5 miles and turn left on St. John's Church Road. Make 2 more rights to stay on St. John's Church Road. *Church is on the right.*

### IMPORTANT PARTY INSTRUCTIONS – PLEASE READ!

**NO DROP OFFS!** Drivers should escort their party into the facility and accompany them in to check in and receive nametags.

**No one will be admitted into the event if they haven't pre-registered.**

**Please fill out registration form completely!**

**Missing information will be requested at check-in.**

**This is not the Lafayette Christmas Party!** *It is organized and paid for by St. John's Church.*

**RETURN FORM TO BECKY AT THE**  
**WEST FRONT DESK BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>**

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**ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY RESERVATION FORM**  
**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> – 1:00-3:00P --- Admission is FREE!!**

**Please print name(s) of person(s) attending together:**

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**Name of Driver picking up at 3:00 p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
**Driver is:**    *relative* ☐    *staff* ☐    *friend* ☐    *Call-A-Ride* ☐

**RESERVATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO 60 PEOPLE ONLY!**



## **TAX TIME IS COMING...**

By Dick Kallemeier

Starting February 10<sup>th</sup> and each Monday thereafter until finished, we will offer free tax preparation service for Lafayette employees, staff and immediate family members at the West office. Watch this newsletter for appointment scheduling information which will begin in mid-January. The service is sponsored by the AARP Tax Aide Foundation and the volunteer counselors are IRS certified. Federal and Missouri state tax returns are completed as a package and filed electronically.

As your tax information begins to come in, keep it in a safe place and find last year's return to begin the file. Remember you will need a picture ID, income documents and your bank account number for direct refund deposit.

If you contribute to a "Missouri Achieving a Better Life Experience Program" (ABLE) account for a special-needs person make the contribution before December 31, 2019 and receive a 2019 Missouri income tax deduction. If you would like to learn more about the program go to [www.moable.com](http://www.moable.com).

## **"UNCLE" ADAM OLIVASTRO**

By Pam Olivastro (Proud Mother)



**Immediate left:** Adam, with his "birthday" nephew who was born on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:08a. He weighed 7 lbs., 8 ozs. and was 21" long. Milo was Adam's 12<sup>th</sup> niece / nephew. He was also the 5<sup>th</sup> child born in Adam's brother Jarrett's and Jaime's family. The other nephews / nieces from that family are below – Aria – 4½, Vita – 2, Nico – 7 and Luca – 9.



## **SAFETY TIP FOR NOVEMBER 2019**

By Tom Heitert (Safety Guru)

Winter weather is upon us. Preparation is a must. Our vehicles need servicing, our homes require preparation and our clothes need to be rotated. Let's not forget skin care.

The cold, dry air is truly hard on our skin. This problem is magnified on the shop floor in Lafayette Industries. There is a prodigious amount of cardboard being handled, which absorbs moisture from our skin.

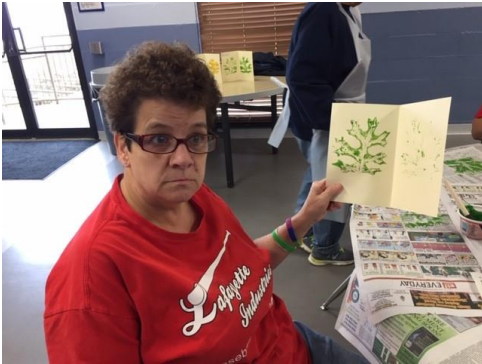
Add to this the prolific use of hand sanitizers and frequent hand washing. Our skin has no chance. It becomes cracked, and often bleeds, presenting a whole new set of problems.

It is recommended that all employees keep and use hand lotion regularly. Keeping some in our lockers, on our desks or on our person can go a long way in heading off problems.

**SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT!**

- **MORE LATER!**

**WEST ART CLASS – 10.11.2019**



**SEE REGISTRATION FORM FOR NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> ART CLASS EARLIER IN THE NEWSLETTER – LAST ART CLASS BEFORE THE DECEMBER ART CONCERT!**

## WEST'S FREE LUNCH AND FORMER EMPLOYEE VISITS



This month is almost the 2 year anniversary for our partners. Our current helpers are members of the Assistance League that decided two years ago to volunteer to help serve our Free Lunch because we were so limited on available staff to help out. They had a full lunch this past Friday, with at least 4 extra things to go on the hamburgers and fries we had. Above left is the group that was here this particular lunch. The



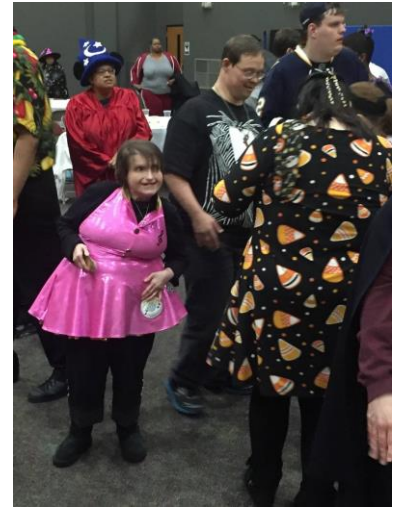
middle picture is of everybody eating quietly. That was strange for this lively group of talkers. Thank you to Callier's for a fantastic lunch, and thank you to our partners who continue to volunteer faithfully month after month.

We also had a special visitor that day. Brian Dino came to visit his former co-workers to say hello and catch up on what was going on. It was good to see Brian out and about, with his father, Len, and his sister, Pat. He had a nice visit with everyone, and then it was time to get back to work for his team and for Brian to go to another appointment. Thanks to everyone for helping out and for coming back to visit every now and again.

## SIGMA DELTA LUNCHEON – 10.5.2019



WEST HALLOWEEN PARTY – 10.18.2019



WILL WE SEE YOU OR YOUR LITTLE DOG,  
TOTO, AT NEXT YEAR'S HALLOWEEN  
PARTY? WE HOPE SO!!!!



## TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVES

By The Editor

The 2019 Tootsie Roll Drives are now history, and there are two Knights of Columbus Councils in West County that will tally up how much was collected. The Knights help out several deserving agencies besides Lafayette. Then the Knights have Christmas parties in December, at which time they present the checks to the various agencies they have helped over the years. We thank everyone who volunteered to collect, and some did multiple shifts. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You have a desire to help out others, and you aren't afraid to step in and get the job done. We are proud of all who volunteered.

**Immediate left:** Bill Florent and his daughter, Casey, collecting for the St. Clement Tootsie Roll Drive at The Egg & I, located in Des Peres

## NOVEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 All Saints Day	2
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends  Bowling Tournament – 2-4p – Bowlero Lakeside Lanes	4	5 Election Day	6	7	8	9 K of C Dance – St. Clare of Assisi School Cafeteria - 7:00-10:00p – Thanksgiving
10	11 Veterans Day  PAY DAY	12	13	14	15 K of C Dance – at Valley Industries – 6:30-9:00p – Thanksgiving  West Art Class – 3-4p  North Free Lunch	16
17	18	19	20 No Board of Directors meeting	21	22 West Free Lunch	23
24	25 PAY DAY	26	27 <u>Workshops close ½ hour early for the Holidays</u>	28 <u>Thanksgiving – Both Workshops are closed!</u>	29 <u>Both Workshops are closed!</u>	30