



NEWS AND VIEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

NOVEMBER 2011



From Left to Right:

Fred Wark, Lafayette Board President; Darren O'Donnell, Mike Roder's cousin and our featured bike rider, and Mike Roder, long-time Lafayette employee



From Left to Right:

First Row - Darren O'Donnell, Rob Libera, Fred Wark, Fredbird, Mike Roder, Jeff Hall, Tim Gregerson and Darick Gaugh

Back Row - Fredbird and Cardinal photographer

THE JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

On Sunday, September 25th, at the afternoon Cardinal baseball game, the journey of a lifetime came to a peaceful conclusion at Busch Stadium in downtown St. Louis. Earlier this year, starting off on April 8th in Bellingham, Washington, Darren O'Donnell started a bicycle tour of all 30 major league baseball stadiums. Darren is the cousin of our own Mike Roder, who has worked at Lafayette for 22 years. Darren bicycled over 10,000 miles on his journey to St. Louis. We were his last stop of this epic bike tour. During his trip he encountered all the usual hazards that bicyclists run into - headwinds, heavy cold rains, hills, heat, humidity and lots of flat tires. During his trip however, he also encountered the generosity and support of people all across the nation. They welcomed him into their homes and gave him encouragement and support during his time on the road. Many of the major league teams also welcomed him to their stadium.

He used the tour to:
▪ Promote the unique aspects of baseball;
▪ Promote healthy and sustainable lifestyles, including bike riding;
▪ Promote the benefits of local food cooperatives;
▪ Promote the support of local food banks;
▪ Promote the personal and social benefits of volunteering.

Darren O'Donnell decided that Busch Stadium would be the last ballpark he would visit. St. Louis is home to his aunt, Helen Roder, and his cousin, Mike. Obviously wherever Darren went on his bike tour he received the attention of the national media. At September 25th's game he biked onto the warning track and got to throw out the first pitch with his cousin. At the same time he decided to share the spotlight with Lafayette Industries, and requested donations. Mike's uncle, Jim O'Donnell, worked very hard with the Cardinal PR group to make sure this happened. On the field with Darren and Mike were Mike's buddies from Lafayette, Jeff Hall, Darick Gaugh and Tim Gregerson, and our Board President, Fred Wark and our Executive Director, Rob Libera. Thanks to all present for representing Lafayette so well!!



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

2011 LAFAYETTE NORTH HOT DOG DAY

We are going to let pictures do the talking in this year's article about Hot Dog Day. Lafayette North held its annual Hot Dog Day on September 16th. It was kicked off this year by the St. Louis Cardinal's very own Fredbird. He visited with all our workers, stirring them up and getting them all excited. He played a game of musical chairs with the workers in the warehouse, and then he quietly disappeared as lunch began. Folks were treated to a lunch provided by Chris' Cakes of hot dogs, chips, etc. After lunch was over the fire truck arrived from Berkeley with its lights flashing. Everyone received a helmet from a fireman, and then they put up the ladder for the water to shoot out from. They gave one or two of the employees a chance to work the ladder's remote control. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day. A special thanks to Eric Klein for his part in getting Fredbird to come visit for the special day. Then the vans began arriving to take everyone home early for the weekend. Congratulations to North on a wonderfully fun day!



Fredbird gives an employee a beaking greeting



Fredbird is big on hugs!



Fredbird gets mobbed!



Fredbird gets serious about musical chairs



Good friends sharing good times!



Lunch gets underway!



Fireman prepares ladder for demo



Remote control ladder shoots out column of water



Volunteer firemen sporting their new helmets are watching!



Trying to use remote on ladder



Everyone just enjoying the day and each other



Time to go home, tired, but happy

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE NEWSLETTER ON THE WEBSITE - ALL PICTURES ARE IN COLOR!



PIANO MAESTRO SHARES TALENT

Do you ever wonder what the parents of our employees do when their loved one is at work? A lot of our employees have parents who work, but there are a lot of the parents who are retired. How you handle your retirement years is as individual as the person, but at least one person decided to take a talent he had and learn even more. Fred Gaglio, Michael Gaglio's father, has played by ear since he was a



kid. He's had lessons on a couple of occasions through the years, but if you are a musician, you know that this type of playing has its limits. A few years ago he decided he wanted to start taking them again and so as a retired person this is where he is using some of his energy - in learning to do something in a new and arguably, better way. So a few of us assembled on Sunday, September 25th, and Fred played a Scott Joplin piece he'd been practicing and learning (believe me, this is a BIG-TIME challenge) on a Yamaha concertmaster piano valued at \$175,000. Being a pianist as well, the Editor got a chance to play a number of pieces and sometimes a duet with Fred. It was a real treat, and he is a seriously talented musician. Good luck, Fred, as you learn a new way of doing something. Michael, at least this will keep your father busy and out of trouble!

REMEMBER LAFAYETTE INDUSTRIES

By Ruth and Dick Kallemeier

Recently we were invited to two birthday parties with invitations noting "no gifts please". Our response to this type of suggestion is to estimate the per person cost of the event and then make a contribution to Lafayette. We enclose the Lafayette gift recognition card in the birthday or anniversary greeting card and take it to the celebration. This is a response to one of our birthday gifts, "What a wonderful idea to use an 'occasion' to help someone in need. Thank you for sending a gift to the 'workshop' in recognition of my 80th birthday."

Also don't forget to remember Lafayette when an expression of sympathy is needed. A charitable gift in lieu of flowers is appreciated and valued long after the mourning is over. Contribution envelopes are available by calling, visiting the West/North offices or going to the newly updated www.lafayetteindustries.com.

RAISING A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY

Submitted by Mary Beckerle

Describing what it's like to raise a child with a disability is difficult to put into words. Emily Pearl Kingley submitted this to the "Dear Abby" syndicated newsletter column in 1990. It's doubtful that it's been described more eloquently since:

WELCOME TO HOLLAND: When you're expecting a baby, it's like planning a fabulous trip to Italy. You read guidebooks and make elaborate plans. The Coliseum, Michaelangelo's David, the gondolas of Venice. You may learn some handy Italian phrases. It's all very exciting.

After months of anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later the plane lands. The stewardess says "Welcome to Holland."

"Holland!? What do you mean? I bought tickets to Italy. All my life I've dreamed about Italy!" But there's been a change in the flight plan. You have landed in Holland and there you must stay.

But you haven't landed in bad place. It's just a different place. So you must read new guidebooks and learn a whole new language. You will meet a whole new group of people.

It's slower-paced than Italy - less flashy. But after the initial shock begins to wear off and you've been there for awhile, you start to notice things. Holland has tulips, Holland has windmills, Holland even has Rembrandts!

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy, and they're all bragging about the wonderful times they are having there. For the rest of your life you will say, "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go too. That's what I had planned."

The pain of that will never go away, because the loss of a dream like that is a very significant loss. But if you spend your life mourning Italy, you may never become free to enjoy the very special and very lovely things about Holland!



LAKE EGYPT - 10/02/2011

By Jennifer Schweiss

My dad thought I had caught a turtle. But I didn't. I had a catfish and it was pulling really hard, and it tap too. I thought in a minute I was going to lose my fishing pole. But I did it and we tried to weigh it, but the scales needed new batteries. But I got to hold it and I used a bobber and a worm on it with a hook. The hook was in the catfish's mouth, but not the worm. It ate the worm.



ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

For

**LAFAYETTE WORK CENTER
EMPLOYEES ONLY**



Sunday, December 4, 2011
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

St. John's Evangelical United Church of Christ
11333 St. John's Church Road
St. Louis, MO 63123

The Youth Fellowship Group sponsors this event each year for our employees. The afternoon will include refreshments, entertainment, carols, crafts, and a visit from SANTA.

The Fellowship Group looks forward to this party with our group. So if you make a reservation, please be courteous and arrive by 1:00 p.m.

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS
Wednesday, November 23rd**

This party starts promptly at 1:00 p.m. Drive-time from West County is approximately 30 minutes. Leave early so you will be **ON TIME!!**



Return this section the LWC Office, attention Gloria Marek. Taking Call-A-Ride? _____ Yes _____ No

PRINT NAME: _____ will attend the St.

John's Christmas party on December 6th.

Please provide a contact telephone number _____.



**REMEMBER..... THE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 23RD.**





FERRANTO WEDDING

By Mary Ferranto, Proud Mother

It was hard to wait and it was a lonnnng time coming, but on September 3, 2011, Megan Ferranto was "Maid of Honor" for her sister, Marina. Megan was very excited about being a bridesmaid for Marina. Little did she know she would be asked to be "Maid of Honor", and share the spotlight with her sister's best friend, Debbie Newman. There were 2 maids of honor!!!

The wedding day began with the girls being treated to a "Bridal Party Beauty Bash" at St. Louis Salon and Spa in Lamp and Lantern. Megan had her hair styled and also had her make-up done. She looked gorgeous. There was a wonderful



breakfast bar that family friends had supplied for the wedding party. Delicious! It was the start of a terrific day. The wedding began at 1:30, and one by one, the bridesmaids started down the aisle. Megan escorted by

her twin brother, Michael, put on a big smile as she walked down the aisle. She did a great job. After the wedding, the bridal party got to ride in a "Party Bus". They went around St. Louis and took photographs at Forest Park and other St. Louis sites. Finally, at 6:00, the bus delivered them to the reception for an evening of dinner and dancing. Before dinner, Megan stood up and gave a lovely toast to the Bride and Groom. Then she spent the rest of the night on the dance floor. It was a special day to remember. Fabulous job, Megan!

EMPLOYEE CALENDAR By **Mary Beckerle**: Now that our new website is up and running, we'd would just like to remind Parents, Employees and Guardians to check the PEG section of our website to read the various announcements in the PEG Announcements section and to look at the PEG Calendar section for upcoming Lafayette events. If you don't want to check it occasionally, you should at least know that it's there as a backup reference if you lose a handout or forget a date, etc.

Correction: In a previous article we mention the PEG Calendar would be color-coded. However, we aren't able to do the color-coding. Instead, each posting will be labeled *West* or *North*, depending on which facility the posting pertains to.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, NOVEMBERITES!!



WEST

NORTH

Keith	Veselsky	1	Patricia	Lehmann	14	Cynthia	Behan	2
William "Sam"	Williams	1	Dan	Libera	16	Kadie	Gallo	9
Gregory	McCarthy	2	Michelle	Watson	16	Jerry	Ring	12
Todd	Thornberry	2	Jon	Munoz	17	Pam	Burton	14
Ken	Kolker	4	Joe	Payne	17	Samuel	Sullivan	14
Suzanne	Myers	6	Jason	Rice	17	Gary	Arnold	17
Kenneth	Lederich	7	Michael	Woolverton	18	Alice	Gibson	21
Jeffrey	Hall	9	Tod	Lomax	22	Gary	Killibrew	23
Cynthia	Jackson	10	Dennis	Richter	24	Michelle	Lee	25
Timothy	O'Leary	10	Michelle	Albers	26	James	Hawkins	26
Andrew	Furrer	11	Kristin	Kallansrud	29	Carolyn	Eller	27
Timothy	Gregerson	12	Goldie	Panhorst	30			
Yvonne "Cherie"	Maloney	12						



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2011 NATIONAL
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP ST. LOUIS CARDINALS!**

Far left: Michael McClinton models the brand-new jersey his mother brought him to go to the Thursday night World Series game.

Left: Fredbird telling us early on that we would be celebrating big-time!

PURSES WITH PURPOSE LUNCHEON WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

By Mary Beckerle

On Oct. 12th Lafayette held our 4th ladies purse auction and luncheon at Meadowbrook County Club. The 290 attendees enjoyed great purse shopping. We had over 200 purses to bid on. Over 70 were top designer brands such as Coach, Dolce Gabbana, Gucci, Tory Burch and many more. Attendees also enjoyed a fabulous lunch while listening to Dennis Dillon, father of Lafayette employee Ryan Dillon, speak briefly about how Lafayette has helped Ryan. Rob Libera kept the crowd entertained as he auctioned off several oral auction items. Thanks to the countless volunteers that put an incredible amount of thought and work into this event. In addition, thanks to all of you who supported the event by attending, donating cash or auction items, or buying raffle tickets. We raised over \$27,000 for The Worker's Challenge Fund benefitting our Lafayette Workers. We hope to see everyone back for the 2013 Purse with Purpose Luncheon, in addition to some new faces!



Our greeters who helped assign the tables



Some of the wonderful purses we had



Let the bidding wars begin...



Our hosts behind the scenes



Our hard-working volunteers



There was an inner room with the really good stuff!



Waiting to look over and bid on the purses



Clarifying a question about a bid



It's a family event!



Enjoying a good meal with good friends



Last minute bidding



Oral auctions begin

LWC WEST AUXILIARY DUES

If you have not sent in your 2012 dues it's not too late. Please send your check for \$25 or cash, along with the form below, to the LWC office.



2012 LWC WEST AUXILIARY DUES

179 Gaywood Drive

Manchester, MO 63021

Please return this form, along with \$25 in cash or a check made out to LWC Auxiliary, to the LWC office.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

_____ CASH _____ CHECK _____ EMAIL _____



ST. LOUIS ENTERTAINMENT 2012 BOOKS!!



With several holidays to celebrate before the end of the year, now is the time to think of your gift list. The Entertainment 2012 Books are a great bargain at \$30 each, and you accomplish two nice things at once.... Giving a present the recipient can use all year long and supporting the LWC Auxiliary with your purchase. Remember, the Auxiliary receives \$15 for every book over 50 that is sold. We are just at the 50-book mark now, less than half of the 2011 and 2010 sales and the campaign will be drawing to a close on December 15th. Please help support the LWC Auxiliary.



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.

**MAILED OCTOBER 26, 2011
 DATED MATERIAL
 DELIVER BY NOVEMBER 1, 2011**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NOVEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Veterans Day - Friday, Nov. 11 th	1 	2	3	4	5 West - Knights of Columbus Dance - St. Clare of Assisi School - 7:00-10:00 
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends 	7 	8 Election Day 	9 9:00 a.m. - Friends of ITE Meet	10 PAY DAY 	11 North - Knights of Columbus Dance - Valley Ind. - 7:30-10:00 	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 	21	22 	23 PAY DAY 	24 Happy Thanksgiving! 	25 First Day of Christmas Shopping 	26 Islamic New Year 
27	28	29	30	 Full Moon - Thurs., Nov. 10 th	Eid el-Adha - Sunday, Nov. 6 th	 عید اضحیٰ مبارک