



NEWS AND VIEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

OCTOBER 2011



Far left: George Schumacher breaking ground for new building in Valley Park

Immediate left: LWC today

CONGRATULATIONS ON 35 YEARS OF PROGRESS!!

THE BEGINNING OF LAFETTE WORK CENTER (“LWC”)

By Bob and Ethel McLuen

“Lafayette Work Center was founded during the years of 1975-76 by several organizations which included parents who were interested in establishing a sheltered workshop for adults with disabilities. At that time this community did not have a workshop. Also there was no Productive Living Board to supply money. After searching for available space, the workshop was opened in September 1976 with 16 workers in a small rented building in Valley Park. In order to rent this building, the Teschner, McLuen and Mertz families guaranteed the \$10,000 lease if LWC could not pay. Because the building had previously housed a rather greasy and dirty operation, we found it necessary to cover the floor with tile. Luckily a member of the Board owned a flooring company and supplied the tile which the parents were able to install. We hired a Director and partitioned the area for his office. I remember when he moved into his office he placed a Bible on the shelf, and I felt certain we were going to be successful. One of our first contracts was to package powdered Clorox. As a result the workers had to remove their shoes when they arrived home so they would not ruin the family floors. In this rented space we managed to have parties and dances for the workers. The parents car-pooled as there was no transportation.

I am certain our success has been due to Directors who know what it takes to be successful in business while showing empathy for adults with disabilities.

A “working” Board of Directors - our first bookkeeper-treasurer was a Board Member. The Board Members solicited work-orders and donations.

Support from Parents, churches and the community all contributed to the growth of our workshop.”

On behalf of the current and past Board of Directors; the Staff, Parents and Guardians; our Supporters; and most important, all the current and past dedicated workers of Lafayette Industries whose lives had been enhanced through the joy of employment—we thank “our Founding Fathers” of LWC and the Founding Fathers of I.T.E, now known as Lafayette Industries North, Inc., for having the vision, compassion, dedication, and perseverance to start this Dream and continue to create Opportunities for folks just wanting a chance to show what they can do.

The Dream continues and as we continue to meet the employment needs of adults with disabilities, **as we have gained approval to start the design for our Expansion at Lafayette Industries North! What a great “Birthday” present!**



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



TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE IS COMING!

By Helen Roder

St. Clement Knights of Columbus' Tootsie Roll Drive is October 7, 8 and 9. They need volunteers in Des Peres at Schnucks, Sams or The Daily Bread. Let's show our appreciation for their support the last three years by volunteering for a two hour shift. Call Helen Roder at 314-822-7794.

THANKS TO OUR OTHER VOLUNTEERS AND A CORRECTION: We heard of other people that deserved recognition for their contributions to the big job a few months back. Mike and Polly Rutherford came and lent a helping hand. We thank them for helping us out during a squeeze time. A few months back we listed Chris and John Watson. That should have been Chris and **Jeff** Watson. We apologize for this incorrect information, and again we appreciate their willingness to lend a hand. If you still did not see someone and know they worked, let us know and we will be sure they get recognized in the newsletter.



DANNY AND LIZZIE SIMPSON'S FIRST BABY

"We praise God for the birth of our son, Micah Daniel. Micah was born at 10:39pm and is 7 lbs. and 6 ozs. and 20¾" length! Mom and baby are doing great!" With these words the life of two people changed forever as Danny and Lizzie Simpson became parents for the very first time. The new baby's name was pretty much determined well before

he was born. The only thing in question was his middle name. Micah Daniel was born on Tuesday, August 30th. He was much loved by Lafayette people even before he got here. After nine months of anxiously waiting the big day approached, but Micah decided he wanted to get started a little early. He made his appearance two days earlier than scheduled. Welcome to the world, Micah! We know you will keep your mother and father busy. Lizzie, we miss you but wish the best for you and your family in the future. Thanks for making Lafayette a nicer place to be.



NEW JERSEY SHORE ADVENTURE

By Laura Westerhold (Proud Mother)

From August 12-15, Katie Sears and her parents, Tim and Laura Westerhold went on a fun and exciting trip to New Jersey. We went there because one of her cousins, Christina, was getting married to a really great guy named Sasha. Sasha is from Russia. To Katie he is a real hottie. This trip was pretty cool for her because it was her first time flying. The last time Katie flew was when she was 2 weeks old. Katie thought it was really fun to be given a certificate from the flight attendants, co-pilot and pilot. Katie had also earned her wings. While at the wedding Katie caught the bouquet. This was one of the highlights of the

Christina, Sasha & Katie

Laura, Kim, Roy, Katie & Tim at the Jersey Shore

trip. The other fun highlight from the trip was the day after the wedding her Aunt Kim and Uncle Roy took Katie, her parents and her cousin, Ashley, to the beach. This was the first time that Katie and her mom had ever been or seen the ocean, beach or palm trees. Katie and her mom both said, "It's the most beautiful thing we've ever seen in our lives." Katie and her mom picked up seashells off the beach. And even her mom scooped up some sand to bring home as a souvenir.

NAME OF NEWSLETTER FOLDER TO BE ADDED: Ruth Kallemeier is another one of our most faithful folders. We are glad to have her in our loyal bunch that keeps the news moving every month.

ODDS AND ENDS: **1)** When you are sending in notes for an early pick up or vacation, please make up two copies. One copy comes to the front office and the other one goes to their supervisor. This way everyone who needs one can get a copy. The note doesn't have to be long at all, just when the person will be gone. We appreciate your assistance. **2)** **The second item has to do with signing folks out.** We have put this message out before and people are not doing this again. Please, please, please, folks - it is important that you **come in to the front office and sign out the person / people that you are picking up.** We have had increasing numbers of people leave without signing the person they are picking up out. **This is a big safety issue.** We need to be sure of who is picking the person up, so it's a matter of **personal safety** for them as well as staff or parents or guardians. Second, **in case of a fire** we wouldn't know whether or not that the person is gone and out of the building. This could put our good friends, the firefighters, at risk of having to go back into the building to rescue someone who winds up not being there. This definitely is a long shot, but long shots happen and we don't want to be the ones responsible for putting someone's life at risk because we forgot to do something that is easy, and would take about 30 seconds to do. So we need everyone to step up and be sure that this job gets done.

REQUEST FROM A COUPLE OF PARENTS: A couple of our West parents requested that we put something in the newsletter about people who are picking up employees at the busiest time of day - 3:00 p.m. They are stopping in the *street* and they block other cars from leaving. Not to mention it may block the cars and their drivers from noticing people crossing the street. In addition other cars must then go around the stopped vehicle, putting everyone, both other cars and riders, at risk!! It has really created a *dangerous* situation! Please ask all drivers during this very busy time, to park in any of the various parking lots like everyone else does! **Editorial note:** We must always be courteous and thoughtful of others and not put anyone in danger. Even if parking in the street is convenient for staff people picking up their clients, for the rest of the employees it creates a very unsafe environment. So please, take a minute to park your car and come and get the person you are picking up. Do not park in the street!! Everyone is in the same boat, folks, so please make it safer for everyone, including yourself.

LWC West Auxiliary E-Mail: If you are new to Lafayette West or have not yet signed up to get e-mail messages from the Auxiliary, all you have to do is send an e-mail to lwcaux@aol.com with your name and e-mail address. We use e-mail to keep you informed of upcoming activities at the Workshop along with Auxiliary events. If you have any questions you can call Wayne at 636-256-3976.

ST. LOUIS ENTERTAINMENT 2012 BOOKS: There are great values and bargains in the St. Louis edition of Entertainment 2012 Books! In addition to getting great deals, you are also helping the LWC Auxiliary in this once-a-year fund-raiser. The Auxiliary keeps part of the \$30 cost of books one through fifty and receives a full 50% starting with the 51st book sold. Call Gloria at 636-256-3976 if you have any questions or if you need additional order forms for friends and/or family. A copy of the book is on display in the LWC office for you to look through. We can also help you get books for other cities and the Auxiliary gets credit for them, too... ask us how. Thank you for helping 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 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.



“LIKE” LAFAYETTE ON FACEBOOK

By Mary Beckerle



Lafayette now has a Facebook page. The address is *Lafayette Industries*. We'll be posting announcements, pictures from events, etc. Lafayette followers can also post pictures, make comments on our wall, etc.*

If you don't have a Facebook account: If you don't use Facebook, don't feel you'll be missing any important announcements. Facebook is strictly for entertainment purposes and is just an additional means of communication. In addition, you can still view our Facebook page by clicking on the blue "f" logo that appears in the lower lefthand corner of every page on our website (www.lafayetteindustries.com).

If you do have a Facebook account: **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Please "like" us on Facebook. Currently we only have 13 people that *like* us. We want that to grow to a really big number!

What is "like" and how do you do it? An easy way to describe *liking* is that it's *friending* for businesses, associations, groups, etc. You *friend* an individual, whereas you *like* an organization. Once you have *liked* Lafayette, you'll automatically receive posts that are made on Lafayette's Facebook page. In other words, you won't have to visit Lafayette's page to see what's new – each new Lafayette post will stream to your Facebook page automatically.

We want anyone that views our page to see that we are *well-liked*. It shows that a lot of people are interested in seeing what's going on at Lafayette! Please *like* Lafayette today and have your friends and family do the same.

***** **VERY Important Notice:** **Our Facebook page will be monitored for improper content and to protect our employees. Anything of a questionable nature and / or containing profanities will be immediately unposted at Lafayette's discretion. Any Lafayette employees making improper postings will face consequences, in addition to being blocked from the Lafayette Facebook page. Please respect others by not making any inappropriate posts!**



HALLOWEEN PARTY



Sunday, October 30, 2011 - 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Trinity Lutheran Church ▪ 14088 Clayton Road ▪ Chesterfield, MO 63017

Only \$10 Per Person!!

Lafayette West employees, family, and guests are invited to attend a dinner/dance with music provided by Sounsational D. J. Service, and dinner catered by Callier's. Dress up in costume - or not – it's entirely up to you. Just come and have a good time!

Every person attending needs a reservation. **The reservation deadline is Tuesday, October 25th.** Please make your check payable to LWC Auxiliary and send it and the completed reservation form to the LWC office prior to the deadline. Call Gloria Marek at 636-256-3976 if you have any questions.

HALLOWEEN PARTY RESERVATION FORM

\$10 per person (Please make check payable to LWC Auxiliary)

_____ Check _____ Cash (in sealed envelope with amount written on outside) Are you taking Call-A-Ride? _____ Yes _____ No

Please print name(s) of person(s) attending (\$10 each)

Contact Telephone Number

Every person attending needs a reservation. **The reservation deadline is Tuesday, October 25th.** If you have never attended an Auxiliary party or it has been more than one year, we probably need a new release form for our records. Please check with Gloria Marek (636-256-3976) if you have any questions.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, OCTOBERITES!!!




WEST

Michael	Siddle	2	Carol	Pratt	12	Daniel	Rechtien	22
Keith	Halsey	5	Rebecca	Crump	13	Rebecca	Stillwell	22
Doug	Miller	5	Andrew	Zivnuska	13	Tracy	Meyer	23
Alicia	Rutherford	6	Shelly	Walker	17	Esther	Goldstein	25
James	Riester	7	Kathleen	Moore	19	Rob	Libera	25
Jesse	Brooks	8	Maureen	Teschner	19	Courtney	Foote	26
Harry	Kuhlenbeck	8	Dana	Thebeau	19	Martha	Gibbs	26
Julie	Tennenbaum	8	Colleen	Kelly	21	Cary Jay	Bankendorf	27
Jamie	Bovyn	9	Karen	Van Berkel	21	Stephen	Keller	29

NORTH

Veronica	Quinn	5
Emanuel	Baker	10
Paul	Baker	31
















 You're not old until you can't read this writing anymore.

LAFAYETTE NORTH: Only two things for North - 1) Wednesday, October 12th - 9:00 a.m. at Lafayette North; 2) Knights of Columbus Dance - 7:30-10:00 p.m. - Valley Industries.

**MAILED SEPTEMBER 27, 2011
 DATED MATERIAL
 DELIVER BY OCTOBER 1, 2011**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OCTOBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Yom Kippur - Saturday, October 8th 						1
2 	3	4	5 	6	7 PAY DAY 	8 West - Knights of Columbus Dance - St. Clare of Assisi School - 7:00-10:00 
9	10 Columbus Day  Workshops OPEN	11 Full Moon 	12 9:00 a.m. - Friends of ITE Meet	13	14 North - Knights of Columbus Dance - Valley Ind. - 7:30-10:00 	15
16	17	18	19 7:00 p.m. - Executive Comm. meets 7:30 p.m. - Board of Directors meets	20 	21	22
23 / 30 Halloween Party - 1:00-4:00 p.m. - Trinity Lutheran Church 	24 / 31 - Halloween 	25 PAY DAY 	26	27	28	29 