



NEWS AND VIEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

NOVEMBER 2010

A TIME TO GIVE THANKS!

Thanksgiving is always a time for reflection, to give thanks and to really appreciate all that we are grateful for. In the year 2011, we will see our 35th anniversary of Lafayette's founding, 35 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 the 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, some with wonderful support and some without any, they come to 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. Dedication, loyalty, and pride in your work—doesn't every employer wish they could have a workforce like that? Thank you, guys, and as the current generations express themselves: **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 in the State, we enhance their work experience through some one-on-one training, hot lunches, and our wellness imitative, just to mention a few of our programs. This year is a particular challenge as we face potential budget cuts from Missouri. I know that there are several worthwhile causes out there, so on behalf of Lafayette and all who work diligently to make this a better world, I thank you for your support. We couldn't do what we do without you.

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
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



FRAUD PREVENTION TASKFORCE

By Dan Rechten, Coordinator

Part 1 of 2-Part Article: With the holiday season on the horizon, I want to share some basic rules that ensure our financial and personal safety when we are out shopping. Let's try to make this Christmas shopping season a safe one.

Before you leave home:

1. Empty your wallet of any document listing your Social Security number.
2. When you shop, take only the checks or credit card(s) you know you will need on that trip. Do not carry your entire checkbook.
3. If at all possible, leave small children at home with a babysitter. You will be less distracted and more alert to safety issues.
4. Ask a friend or older child to accompany you to help carry shopping bags. It is difficult to carry numerous packages and still properly secure your wallet, credit cards, and cash.
5. Gentlemen, carry your wallet in your front trouser pocket to avoid pickpockets.
6. Ladies, consider leaving your purse at home and instead carrying a wallet in a fanny pack or front trouser pocket. If you must take a purse on the trip, consider locking it in the trunk of your car before you leave your home.

When you arrive at the store or mall:

1. Make note of where you park your vehicle and write the information down if necessary. Package laden customers who wander aimlessly in a parking lot searching for a car can be targets for criminals.

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

LWC WEST AUXILIARY DUES:

If you have not sent in your 2011 dues it's not too late. Please send your check or cash, along with the form below, to the LWC office.

2011 LWC WEST AUXILIARY DUES

179 Gaywood Dr.



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 _____ E-MAIL _____



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, NOVEMBERITES!



West

North

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

Old people are fond of giving good advice; it consoles them for no longer being capable of setting a bad example.

- Francois De La Rochefoucauld



FOOD FOR KIDS

By Mary Beckerle



On October 4th, Manchester United Methodist Church approached Lafayette about joining in their food drive. MUMC contributed \$1,500 to Lafayette this past year and we were anxious to help.

With only three days to collect, we ended up donating 300 cans and food items. Good work, everyone!

The total collected from MUMC was over 16,000 food items. This is one of the largest annual food drives in St. Louis. The food goes to Kingdom House for their food pantry for the underprivileged in downtown St. Louis.



ST. LOUIS ENTERTAINMENT: 2011 BOOKS: The books are in and are better than ever! This year the cover includes SIX \$5 gift cards to T.G.I. Friday's, Culpepper's, Chevy's, Cecil Whittaker's Pizza, Casa Gallardo and AMF Bowling with "**no additional purchase necessary**". The \$30 value covers the cost of the book even if you don't use any of the other great coupons inside, like the \$30 in Shop 'n Save coupons. A copy of the book will be in the LWC office so that you may look through it. Call Gloria at 636-256-3976 if you have any questions or if you need additional order forms for friends and/or family. The Auxiliary values your support.

JOIN THE WEST AUXILIARY EMAIL GROUP: Information has become the cornerstone of this particular age in which we live. Email has become the vehicle for transmitting this information to a large group of people with just one keystroke. The presidents of our Lafayette West Auxiliary are the Mareks - Gloria and Wayne. They have compiled a listing of parents and guardians to whom they send mailings about upcoming events and the menu for the free lunch. Occasionally they send out notices about other items, as Rob might ask them. If you want to get on their list and receive this information, then contact them at lwcaux@aol.com. They can't add your name unless you let them know that you want to receive their mailings. It's a timely way to receive those all-important memory nudges that we all need every now and again.

DID YOU KNOW: To remove a stain from the bottom of a glass vase or cruet, fill it with water and drop in two Alka Seltzer tablets. Who knew that two little Alka Seltzers could do so much good!



NEW GRANDBABY FOR WENDY JOHNSON

On August 16, 2010, Skyler Raine Redman made her way into the world. She was 8 pounds and 11 inches. She was born to Shea and Heather Redman at St. John's Hospital. Wendy Johnson is the proud grandparent. Way to go, Wendy. We are so happy for you.

AGILITY DOG COMPETITION



On August 27 and 28, 2010, David Vanek accompanied his brother, Mike, and dog, Ruby, to the Agility Club Trials held in St. Peters, Missouri.

Agility dogs compete against similar sized canine athletes in different categories of timed trial. The dogs are measured by height at the withers (from floor to shoulder) to determine which category they fit in. The handler directs their dog through an obstacle course competing for time and accuracy. They are off leash and the handler may not touch the dog or obstacles during the course. Each trial allows up to two runs with two separate courses. One is a "standard obstacle course" which includes an A-frame, teeter and dogwalk, and the other is a "jumper's course" with weave poles and involves a series of jumps, through the tire and over the bars, timed for speed. The standard obstacle course is laid out by a different judge at each trial who chooses their own course design on a rough 100 by 100-foot area. The obstacles are numbered to indicate the order in which the dog and handler must complete them.

Mike guides Ruby and she relies on his direction during the trial. He can talk to her, provide her with body signals, and move around the course at the trial, but it requires exceptional training for both the handler and the dog to perform as a team. The handler is allowed a short walk-through without their dog before the trial begins to review the course and determine a strategy for guiding their dog through the course. The handler is limited to a specific amount of time to access the layout and decide how to complete the trial.

Ruby has currently earned "Excellent B" status and she continues to accumulate points at each competition. Mike competes in Kansas City and St. Louis areas and when they come to the St. Louis area, you can bet David is right there cheering them on!

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR LAFAYETTE WORK CENTER EMPLOYEES ONLY!

Sunday, December 5, 2010 - 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 lunch, a craft, singing and a visit with 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 - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd

This party starts promptly at 1:00 o'clock. Drive-time from West County is approximately 30 minutes. Leave early so you will be on time!

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

PRINT NAME: _____ will attend the St. John's Christmas party on Dec. 5th.

Please provide a contact telephone number _____ **DEADLINE: Tuesday, November 23rd!**

FRIENDS OF I.T.E.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Cleo Jones' mother, Effie Mae Williams. She had two sons, three daughters, 25 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. We know she will be sorely missed by her family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

If there are any parents who want to become members of Friends of ITE, call Jerry Phillips at 636-227-5666, x2101 or Joan Giofre at 314-426-6886.

2010 LAFAYETTE NORTH HOT DOG DAY

By Sheryl Hardy

Greetings from Lafayette North! On September 17th our long awaited much anticipated Hot Dog Day was greeted with smiling faces and beautiful weather. Lunch time could not come fast enough for the workers here. Many Thanks to our parents and volunteers who came to celebrate and served from our indoor station. Outside, Lafayette staff members served the overflow crowd. Everyone enjoyed the hot dogs grilled and provided by Chris's Cakes with baked beans, chips & cold drinks. After lunch everyone stepped outside to enjoy the weather, conversation and ice cream.

The excitement grew as we awaited the arrival of the Berkeley Fire Department. The welcome was thunderous applause and shouts of joy as they extended the ladder, up and up, until suddenly the water shot out from atop. Many of the workers had the opportunity to sit in the driver and jump seats of the fire truck. Others watched as the firemen rolled out the hose and gave many a chance to take turns manning the hose. A great time was had by all and offered many wonderful photo ops.

Once again Thanks to Any and All that helped make Hot Dog Day a success from all of us at Lafayette North.



Enjoying the sun and getting out of work!



The Berkeley fire department puts on a show!



Holding on is a lot harder than it looks!



People eat wherever they can find room!



Some folks know where to find more room!



"They gave you how many servings?"

KUDOS TO LAFAYETTE VOLUNTEERS

By Helen Roder

Many thanks to the Lafayette employees and parents who generously volunteered for several hours collecting for the St. Clement Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive. Those volunteers were: Rob and Dan Libera, Mary Beckerle, Becky Stillwell, Mike and Helen Roder, Jeff Hall, Carol Broadwater, Sue Berg, Polly Rutherford, Daniel Zeller and Marilyn Watson. Also, thanks to the St. Clement Knights for their continued support to Lafayette Industries.

LAFAYETTE INDUSTRIES
 179 GAYWOOD DRIVE
 MANCHESTER, MO 63021-5421

Non-Profit Org.
 U. S. Postage
PAID
 Valley Park, MO
 Permit No. 46

MAILED OCTOBER 26, 2010
 DATED MATERIAL
 DELIVER BY NOVEMBER 1, 2010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NOVEMBER 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 All Saints Day 	2 Election Day 	3	4	5	6 Knights of Columbus Dance – St. Clare of Assisi School - 7:00-10:00 
7 Daylight Savings Ends 	8	9	10 9:00 a.m. - Friends of ITE meet at Lafayette North PAY DAY 	11 Veteran's Day 	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 WEST ONLY FREE LUNCH	19 NORTH ONLY FREE LUNCH OPEN HOUSE	20
21 Full Moon 	22	23	24 PAY DAY 	25 Thanksgiving -  Both workshops closed	26 First Day of Christmas shopping  Both workshops closed	27
28	29	30	 November 17 th - Eid el-Adha			