



TOM HEITERT RETIRES

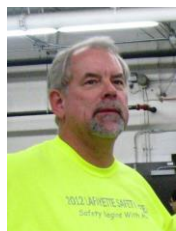
FROM LAFAYETTE

If you are around Lafayette long enough you will hear, in hushed tones, the name of Tom Heitert. He was the person that everyone started with when they first began their new job at Lafayette. Tom would help the new employees become acclimatized to

work life here, and get them used to what a job and its responsibilities would entail. The employee might go on to other teams or other jobs outside of Lafayette, but they first began with Tom Heitert as their supervisor when they started with us. Like your average person, he is so much more than just his job here. He not only worked as a production supervisor but if you needed to talk basketball, he was your man to go to. Other sports? He could talk about them without slowing down to think about it. He has a great family that supports him, and his daughter worked at Lafayette for several years. When asked for a quote about his time at Lafayette, he gave us the following: “‘It takes 10,000 hours to truly master anything. Time spent leads to experience; experience leads to proficiency; and the more proficient you are the more valuable you’ll be. - Malcolm Gladwell.’ If I did prove valuable to Lafayette, I suspect this is a big part of it.”

Below is a stained glass and woodworked plaque that Jim Eppel made for our retiring friend that gave all the names of his co-workers on the back, along with his name, years of service and a thank you to him.

It was a beautifully done job. We chose to lead with the pictures of the special item, along with the presentation to Tom. On Friday, June 19th, we had a drive-by retirement car parade for him out front, where folks could come by and say their goodbyes to him from the safety of their cars. We have more pictures from the event later in the newsletter. Tom - enjoy retirement (we’re envious), and don’t forget to come by and visit occasionally.




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 – CAUGHT BEING SAFE – MAY AND JUNE 2020



Farthest left: Dorothy Gilmore – Caught Being Safe May 2020

2nd from left: Torrey Watson – Caught Being Safe May 2020

3rd from left: Brittany Sudan – Caught Being Safe June 2020

Immediate left: Jerry Phillips – Caught Being Safe Award Presenter!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR JULY FOLKS!

NORTH

Tem-ra	Rakhem	2
Tammy	Kornfeld	4
Brittany	Sudin	4
Melissa	Jordan	5
Darryl	Mullen	8
Mary	Willenborg	8
Jasmine	Young	12
Joseph	Cain	13
Lucretia	Hardy	15
Shawn	Flaherty	17
Colten	Lee	20
Brandon	Poindexter	20
Abibat	Akinola	31

WEST

Vicki	Whiteside	7	David	Kendall	15
Nicholas	Altmeyer	8	Adam	Olivastro	16
Stephan	Eyer	8	Zach	Adams	18
Steven	Smith	8	Bradley	Jandro	21
John	Langley	9	Claude	Turner	24
Christina	Young	11	Diane	Hoferlin	26
Kathryn	Luckey	12	Jason	Marx	28
Michael	Russell	13	Tommy	Michael	30
William	Hawn	15	James	Nash	31



6.8.2020 WEST WIOAA TRAINING AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

Editorial Note: Tom has retired now. I asked him if he would still consider writing a monthly column us. We expanded the places he could include as a safety topic. Safety at home and on trips out and about are areas he will cover as well as work. He will talk about risks to our safety that we might encounter there. This expansion will give him the broadest range of safety subject matter. Thank you, Tom, for your columns that have made us think about our safety and the safety of others, and to hopefully be more careful with what we're doing and how we're doing it. Is it safe? Ask Tom.



SAFETY TIP FOR JULY 2020 – HEARING LOSS

By Tom Heitert (Safety Guru)

Back in the day, (Oh boy, here he goes again) we played our music pretty loud. Yep, that was the birth of Rock 'n' Roll (Here to stay, my friends) back then, and we could crank it pretty loud. Of course, I can't hear a word you say anymore. Just ask my boss.

But seriously folks, loud music IS hazardous to your health. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, 1 in 5 American teens already suffer a hearing loss. That's a 30% increase over just 15 years ago.

85 decibels is the magic number. Anything over that for prolonged periods risks hearing loss. 8 hours at 85 decibels is a definite limit. At its loudest, a MP3 player can reach 105 decibels. Due to the nature of how these things are measured, that is 100 times louder than 85 decibels. Whoa!

Young ears are better equipped to recover from such a blast, but don't take that as a license to blast away. Of course, all this information translates to the noise levels in the work place as well.

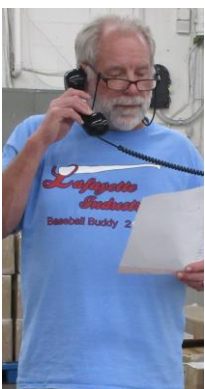
So to quote all our parents, **“TURN THAT DOWN!!”**

SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT!

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MORE LATER! STAY SAFE, MY FRIENDS!!

WEST - CAUGHT BEING SAFE - MAY 2020



Left to right: Rob Libera reading the names of award winners; Logan Weber;

Suzy Morrow; Kathy Schmid; Beth Goodwin

JESSE BROOKS, LAWN TRACTOR OPERATOR

By Jennifer Brooks (Proud Mother)



This afternoon Jesse is helping his dad with spring cleaning in the yard. Whenever Jesse does something that he's proud of he'll ask, "You text Becky?" He wanted me to let everyone know. So cute.

STAS JOHNSTON

By Rick & Kelli Johnston (Proud Father and Mother)



Stas Johnston has missed all his co-workers at Lafayette, and hopes you are all safe.

In the meantime, he has been busy working from home!

Stas is looking forward to seeing all his Lafayette pals very soon.

DAVID VANEK AT HOME

By Reggie Vanek (Proud Mother)

David has been busy while at home with training.

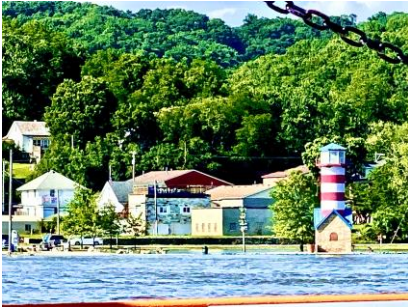
Far left: David is sorting out coins. He worked with pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters. He also worked with matching up cards, and then he'd paper clip the matching cards together.

Immediate left: David is using his problem-solving skills by putting a puzzle together.





Far left: Spectacled owl at Wild Bird Sanctuary
2nd from left: Bald eagle at Wild Bird Sanctuary
3rd from left: Bison at Lone Elk Park
Immediate left: Raccoon at Greensfelder Park



Far left: Ferry ride to Grafton, Il.
Immediate left: Laura Fortus at Jefferson Barracks

QUARANTINE

INFORMATION RIDES

By Janet Fortus (Proud Mother)

Because Laura has been quarantined, we've been taking her for informative rides, wearing masks and staying in the car for the most part. She has enjoyed finding out more things about St. Louis. We have taken the ferry across the Mississippi, have visited Washington, Mo., Alton, Il., Eckert's Farm, Lone Elk Park and the Wild Bird Sanctuary. Last weekend we went to Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery to see 188,000 graves, and to appreciate the service that the armed forces had performed to assure our country's freedom.

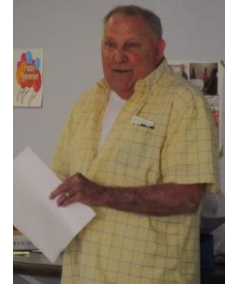
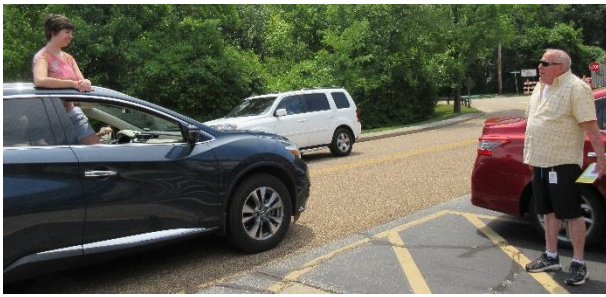
*** Folks – We all are at home more, but this article presented some great ideas about safe things to do around St. Louis. A lot of these activities are outside, but if other people are around, there's plenty of room to spread out. We hope you had a chance to get out the past holiday weekend, but mostly we want everyone to stay safe and stay healthy while doing it. Go see something special, but don't forget your mask and hand sanitizer. Maybe try some of the above ideas. Have a fun summer, everyone!! ***

MORE PICTURES FROM TOM HEITERT'S RETIREMENT CAR PARADE AT WEST – 6/19/2020

Here are some of the pictures that we got from Tom's retirement car parade at West. We hope you enjoy them!



PICTURES OF CAR PARADE IN HONOR OF TOM'S RETIREMENT – CONTINUED:



HAPPY RETIREMENT, TOM!

MANDATORY FACE MASKS

Lafayette North and Lafayette West now are following the mandatory public health orders of St. Louis City and County for everyone over the age of 9 to wear face masks at all times inside and outside also (when social distancing isn't possible). If you can't wear a mask for some health reason, check in with Jerry at North and Kim at West. It is important for us to do this step so that we all can stay safe. We hope everyone will bring their mask to work, and if it is cloth, wash it. Remember: Wearing a mask isn't about you, it's about keeping others safe. Thanks for your cooperation.



6th Annual Employee Celebration

**Sunday, October 4, 2020
1pm to 4pm**

McDonnell Park

2961 Adie Rd., 63074 (.03 mi. north of the Page and North Lindbergh intersection)



**Join the Celebration as a Sponsor
PICNIC & "Back to Work"**

Sponsor Levels

***Dream Builder* - \$1,000**

***Visionary* - \$500**

***Champion* - \$300**

***Advocate* - \$200**

***Patron* - \$100**

***Friend* - \$25 per name**

Sponsors will receive Sign Recognition at Picnic and at the Worskshop including Newsletter Recognition in the Picnic Issue.

JULY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 <u>Early dismissal – Both Workshops:</u> West—2:30 p.m. North—1:30 p.m.	3 <u>Both Workshops are closed for the Holiday!</u>	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10 PAY DAY	11
12	13	14	15 <u>NO</u> July Board of Directors meeting	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 PAY DAY	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	