

#### AUGUST 2020

# THANK YOU LT. GOV. MIKE KEHOE, STATE TREASURER SCOTT FITZPATRICK AND DESE COMMISSIONER DR. MARGIE VANDEVEN!

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Things looked a little bleak in early June after Missouri was forced to make budget withholds due to the COVID situation and all the workshop funds for June were withheld, as well as the workshops' FY'21 budget was also cut due to revenue drops in Missouri. But thanks to the effort of Governor Parsons, our State Representatives and Senators, and especially State Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick, Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe, and the Commissioner of Education Dr. Margie Vandeven and their staffs, \$4 Million in Federal COVID-19 relief funds have been made available to the 86 workshops across the State which will help keep things moving forward. Several workshops made "thank you" cards for these three, pictured above is ours! Please send a "thank you" as well for keeping 6,000 hard-working and dedicate Missourians employed!



Rob Libera

<u>Mission</u>: 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. <u>Goals</u>: • 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

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#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR AUGUST FOLKS!

#### <u>NORTH</u>

| Stephanie | Esmond    | 4  | David    | Stafford  | 20 |
|-----------|-----------|----|----------|-----------|----|
| Melinda   | Proctor   | 4  | Anrico   | Gaddy     | 21 |
| Craig     | Donaldson | 5  | Jerry    | Phillips  | 22 |
| David     | Sims      | 6  | Dale     | Reuber    | 25 |
| Shirley   | Woodward  | 10 | Nicoro   | Verges    | 25 |
| Melvin    | Cosey     | 12 | Donald   | Jackson   | 26 |
| Florica   | Gault     | 13 | Byron    | Worsham   | 26 |
| Tracy     | Minion    | 14 | Margaret | Nilges    | 27 |
| Beatriz   | Trejo     | 16 | Sandy    | Shaw      | 28 |
| Anthony   | Williams  | 17 | Erica    | Humphreys | 30 |
| Michael   | Dauge     | 19 | Charles  | Brefford  | 31 |
| Andrea    | Becker    | 20 |          |           |    |
|           |           |    |          |           |    |

#### Michael Branca 1 2 Gentile Angela Darick Gaugh 5 7 Jerome **Butler** 8 Amanda Schlueter 9 Lisa Swoboda 17 Scott Carron Kenneth McLuen 19 **Boots** Berry 22 Debanjan 26 Bhowmick 28 Shelly Radinsky Suzanne Covington 29 Michael Owens 31



#### LAFAYETTE INDUSTRIES' HEALTH SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES

Lafayette North and West 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. If you can't wear a mask for some health reason, check in with Jerry at North or Kim at West. It is important for us to do this step so that we *all* can stay safe. Everyone needs to bring their mask to work, and if it is cloth, you need to wash it. The internet shows us lots of ideas on how to wash the cloth ones. Don't forget to <u>wash, wash, wash those hands and use hand sanitizer</u> throughout the work day as well. Please be sure to get your temperature taken when you enter Lafayette North or West. Visitors at West need to sign in and get their temperature taken in the front office. Staff at both workshops have digital thermometers located at several places throughout their facilities. After you get your temperature taken, you need to wear one of the "dots" provided. It indicates that your temperature is okay and that you have been cleared to enter the building. These precautions we are taking aren't meant to cause you any inconvenience, but they are meant to keep everyone else safe. So the more you can do to help follow the guidelines, the better. Thanks in advance for your cooperation, and thanks for helping to keep others safe. One other note – please put those masks over your noses. (We see more noses hanging out above, over the face masks, out in public and on TV. That defeats the purpose of the mask to begin with. If your nose isn't covered, then you're not properly protected, and you are exposing others to the virus if you are sick.) Remember, everyone – it's not about you but about others. Think beyond the end of your nose (pretty please).



Far left: Medical face mask

Middle: Cloth face mask

**Immediate left:** Front desk check in kit for visitors – digital thermometer, orange dot, hand sanitizer

**<u>Far left:</u>** Orange dot that indicates temperature checked and Okayed.

<u>Middle:</u> Washing hands is a very important step in sanitizing process. Sing "Happy Birthday"

twice, and that'll be your 20 seconds.

**Immediate left:** Hand sanitizer - please ise it!

#### **WEST**

### MORE QUARANTINED TRIPS OF LAURA FORTUS

By Janet Fortus (Proud Mother)



Laura and I took more quarantined trips by car to visit areas of interest around the St. Louis region. There are lots of places that you can take someone on a quarantine trip in the car to visit. We hope we have given you some good ideas that you can do with your staff, or some things that you can do just to get out.

#### **ANNIE WALTERS GOES FOR A VISIT**



By Patricia Walters (Proud Mother)

**<u>Far left:</u>** Annie in her pontoon boat for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Board Parade on our Lost Lake

Immediate left: Evening ride

### ANDREW FURRER'S FAMILY FARM IN ILLINOIS DAMAGED IN RECENT STORMS

By Kim Furrer (Proud Mother)

Our farm in Millstadt was hit hard in the recent storms. It tore the roof off our hay barn and we were finding parts of the steel roof imbedded in the pond .25 miles away. We lost about 40 beautiful trees, and the last peach tree and part of the last apple tree fell against the house siding and onto the milk barn, which was gouged out. We have a mess. Brigit Mahoney from Fox 2 News came out and reported live on Channels 11 and 2, and then blurbs on their later forecasts. Initially she thought she saw tornado path, but apparently it was just straight line winds. Two years ago we were hit as well, and we had to replace the roof on the house. Back then we also lost most of our fruit trees, and a lot of other trees as well.









#### ANDREW FURRER'S FAMILY FARM IN ILLINOIS DAMAGED IN RECENT STORMS - CONT.:



#### **CORY OWEN'S STAYCATION**

By Carolyn Owen (Proud Mother)

Instead of going to Canada and Niagara Falls as originally planned, our family had a staycation. Hiking, picnics and swimming. We kept good social distancing in state parks in Missouri and Illinois. We went to Johnson Shut-Ins, Elephant Rocks, Pere Marquette, Garden of the Gods and Rim Rock in the Shawnee National Forest. It was a great week spent with family. The pictures below were taken – from left to right - Johnson Shut-Ins, Rim Rock and Pere Marquette.



**2019 TAX YEAR WRAP UP** By Dick Kallemeier



The 2019 tax season is finally over, and our number of returns were greatly reduced due to the virus suspension. This year 54 people used the free AARP Tax Aide Foundation income tax service at Lafayette compared to 70 last year. Twenty-seven workers, 10 staff members and 17 family members filed returns. Eleven workers qualified for the Earned Income Credit for an average of \$330 each.

If you receive a letter from the IRS or the state of Missouri requesting additional information about tax returns we have filed, please contact me <u>dickkall@charter.net</u>

Tax fraud has been reduced, but do not give your social security number or bank account information to anyone without being absolutely sure they represent a legitimate organization. The IRS does not call tax payers and request social security numbers or bank account information. A basic rule should be <u>do not</u> give information over the phone, hang up.

Special thank you to Peter Lasalle and Rich Marking-Camuto, our additional volunteer tax counselors and Becky Stillwell for their dedicated work supporting the program.

#### **SAFETY TIP FOR AUGUST 2020 – WORKING TIRED** By Tom Heitert (Safety Guru)



Well, the Ole Safety Captain relearned a hard lesson recently. Taking risks while working tired is a terrible idea.

We really must stop taking chances, using short-cuts or handling tools or machinery when we are whooped. Bad things, some really bad things, can happen. Our concentration is not what it should be. Our arms and legs have lost strength. Judgment is off. A recipe for disaster, my friend.

So when tired, don't be tempted to walk across a pallet to save steps or time. Don't carry too much so you can save a trip. Put that knife down when talking. Send that email tomorrow. And, if you're feeling wobbly, stop all together.

You are, of course, wondering what happens to the Old Safety Captain. Picture this. I was painting the house. Only had a few feet of trim to go, and I had accomplished what I had set out to do. 10 minutes max. I had to straddle a set of steps leading to the basement. Not a great idea to begin with, I realize. But I had done it numerous times. However, this time I was tired, it was hot and I was used up. Yep, I missed, and down the steps I went. Probably about 10 feet. Hit both walls and a step or two. OUCH!

I'm good, but that easily could have been an ambulance ride. So, use good judgment out there, folks. Safety means NO ACCIDENT.

#### SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT! - MORE LATER! STAY SAFE, MY FRIENDS!!

#### **BRAD JANDRO'S BIRTHDAY**



By Linda Jandro (Proud Mother)

This year has been a challenge for everyone especially when celebrating birthdays! We were fortunate to find a great local person who did yard cards. (Showmeyardcards.com). We encouraged family to drive by, honk, splash (hand sanitizer), grab (cookie and bottled water) and go!





#### AND THEN THERE

#### WERE THREE

By Ann Kelly (Proud Mother and Grandmother)

Colleen Kelly became Aunt Coco for the third time on Apr 27th - another nephew, Owen Joseph. Due to social distancing, she didn't get to hold him for 6 weeks. But once she did, the bond was instantaneous. And now that he's 3 months old, she has a knack for making him smile.

His big brother, Sam (3) and big sister, Zoey (2), also love spending time with Aunt Coco. When it's babysitting day, Grandma has her hands full. Thank goodness we're all Cardinals fans.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EMPLOYEE CELEBRATION "DRIVE THRU" PICNIC

Lafayette Industries will celebrate our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Employee Family Picnic a bit differently this year. The Celebration will take place at each workshop October 4, 2020 with a drive thru celebration and Picnic-to-go! West will celebrate from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. North will celebrate from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Drive through the Celebration displays with performers and exciting visuals and pick up your Picnic meal. Let's all picnic "together" at home!

This event is free to all employees and four (4) guests. Reservations are required. Send your reservation name and number of meals to <u>picnic@lafayetteindustries.com</u>

Throughout this adjusted environment, Lafayette Industries employees take PRIDE in the DIGNITY of full-time WORK. We practice SAFETY every day and appreciate the OPPORTUNITY and DREAMS we build. Please join in celebrating our outstanding employees!

Please join the Dream Builders as a *Picnic Sponsor* and make an impact for our employees all year long. Picnic Sponsorships are a key component to funding the mission here at Lafayette. Build a dream by choosing to be a Dream Builder, Visionary, Champion, Advocate or Patron!

Picnic Sponsors provide opportunities *unique* for Lafayette employees that enhance their work experience, and now our programs are more in demand than ever. Your Sponsorship will enable us to: expand Lafayette's Positive Behavior Supports<sup>TM</sup>; enhance workplace programs that ensure the continuation of full-time employment and long term careers; provide a nutritious monthly free lunch (an employee favorite!); and several other initiatives such as safety programs and the newly launched RESPECT Program. Picnic Sponsors will be acknowledged on banners at both workshops. Consider giving a Sponsorship as a gift or honorarium.

Please contact Alesia Roccia at <u>636.227.5666</u>, ext. <u>1118</u> or <u>aroccia@lafayetteindustries.com</u> for any questions.





# Sunday, October 4, 2020

**Event held at both Workshop locations** 

*"Drive Thru"* at West Workshop: 1pm to 2pm *Drive Thru"* at North Workshop: 2:30pm to 3:30pm

Drive through the celebration displays and pick up a PICNIC TO GO at each workshop all from the safety of your vehicle.

Let's all picnic "together" at home!

This is a free event for Lafayette Employees. Registration is required with a limit of four (4) guests per employee.



## AUGUST 2020

| SUNDAY | MONDAY        | TUESDAY       | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|---------------|---------------|--|----------|--------|----------|
|        |               |               |  |          |        | 1        |
| 2      | 3             | 4             | 5  | 6        | 7      | 8        |
| 9      | 10<br>PAY DAY | 11            | 12   | 13       | 14     | 15       |
| 6      | 17            | 18            | 19<br>6:00 pm – Board<br>of Directors<br>meeting | 20       | 21     | 22       |
| 23     | 24            | 25<br>PAY DAY | 26   | 27       | 28     | 29       |
| 30     | 31            |               |  | 1        |        | 1        |