



## GO CARDS!

By Kate Gregor (Proud Lafayette Staff)

**Immediate left:** Section 229

June 25<sup>th</sup> this year felt a little more close to “normal” as Lafayette finally got to go to a Cardinals baseball game. 361 individuals came out to the old ball game to cheer on the Cards! Early attenders got a Yadier Molina tumbler, in varying colors. Although we lost the game, there were a couple innings that had us on our feet. I lost my voice cheering through two homeruns and “the wave” that lasted about 5 times around the stadium.

Even through classic Midwest heat and humidity, it was wonderful to see friends and family finally celebrating in person together. This was the kickoff we needed for a summer of Lafayette fun and fellowship as we gear up for our Golf Tournament, Safety Buddies and the Employee picnic in September. Here’s to an exciting summer!

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**Far left:** Section 228

**Immediate left:** Rob and Peggy Libera enjoy the night out at the Cards game with the rest of the Lafayettes




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

**PICTURES FROM THE 2021 CARDINALS BALLGAME – CONTINUED:**



Lafayette Industries and TASK have teamed up to present

BE WELL.  WORK WELL.



Funded by the Productive Living Board of St. Louis

August 2021

A six- week Taekwondo course providing an opportunity to increase your *physical fitness* and *healthy living*

#### Enrollment Requirements

- Currently working on site at Lafayette Industries
- Have an attendance rate of over 90%
- Resident of St. Louis County
- Independently manage all personal care needs
- Participate in group setting and comply with TASK expectations
- Committed to attending **ALL** sessions
- **Responsible for transportation home from TASK in Fenton**
- Must complete a TASK online enrollment waiver
- Must complete required consent documentation required by Lafayette
- Must be approved by a physician as able to participate

**Lafayette will provide transportation to TASK**

Contact Stacey Elster at [selester@lafayetteindustries.com](mailto:selester@lafayetteindustries.com) for an application!

BE WELL.  WORK WELL.



**WORK ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED IN A FAMILY!!**



**Immediate left – left to right:** Alison Hanners and Alesia Roccia

Lafayette loves to celebrate life events. Recently we had a special work anniversary celebration within a family. Alesia Roccia and her daughter, Alison Hanners, celebrated their anniversaries of when they started working at Lafayette at the recognition ceremony held at the end of each month. Alesia has worked at Lafayette for five years as Development Director. Alison has worked as an employee at Lafayette for eight years. Both ladies are hard workers, and both ladies have added to the success of Lafayette. Congratulations, Alesia and Alison!

**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
Joseph	Cain	13
Lucretia	Hardy	15
Shawn	Flaherty	17
Colten	Lee	20
Brandon	Poindexter	20
Dion	Austin	26
David Armond	Ferguson	30
Abibat	Akinola	31

**WEST**

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



**KATIE MOORE BECOMES AUNT FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> TIME** By Connie Moore (Proud Mother)

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Katie Moore became an aunt for the 4<sup>th</sup> time. After 3 nephews, Katie has her first little niece, Jocelyn Kate. Jocelyn is the daughter of Katie’s brother, Dan, and sister-in-law, Cassidy. Jocelyn is also the little sister of big brothers, Lowery and Brennan. They live in Texas. We are all thrilled to have another baby in the family.



## WEST – CAUGHT

### BEING RESPECTFUL – MAY 2021

**Far left:** Petra Bauer

**Immediate left:** Blake Maurer



## WEST – CAUGHT BEING SAFE – MAY 2021

**Far left:** Scott Royal

**Immediate left:** John Hardcastle

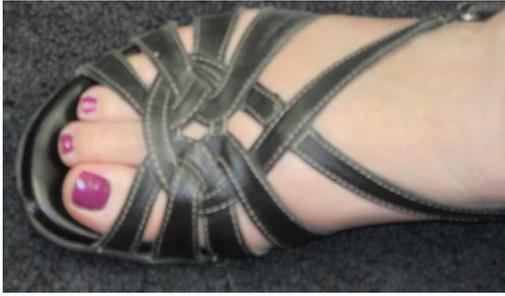


**Immediate left – left to right:** Elmer Weinrich, Chesterfield Lions representative; Tim O’Leary, Lafayette employee; Rob Libera, CEO and Executive Director of Lafayette.

## CHESTERFIELD LIONS MAKE DONATION TO LAFAYETTE

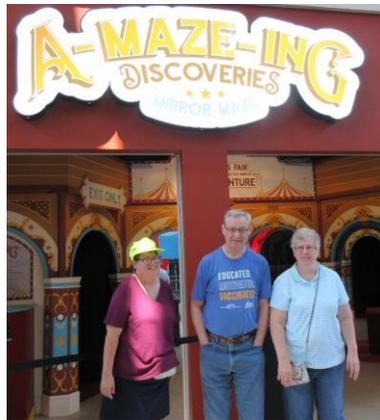
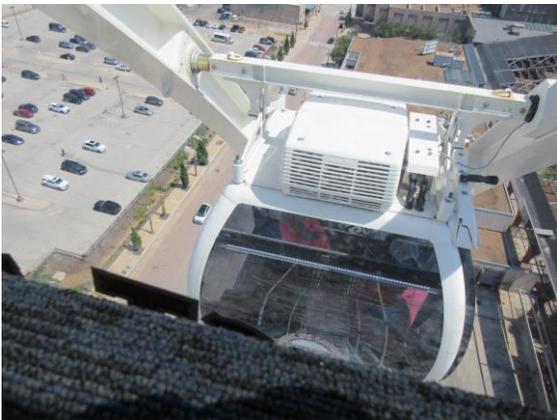
Every spring, except during last year’s pandemic, the Chesterfield Lions have come by at some point to make their annual donation to Lafayette. Last year they were unable to come due to the pandemic. This year they were back again. The check was always quietly presented to Lafayette, and we insisted on getting a picture of the presentation. They would always get their picture taken with Rob, and this year was no exception. Elmer Weinrich came by quietly on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, to drop off their donation. He gave us an update on how the group has fared through all of the changes over the last year. Their numbers have declined, but they have started meeting in person again. Even so, they managed to give us a generous gift. Thank you, Chesterfield Lions, for your faithfulness to Lafayette!

## REMINDER TO EVERYONE



It is summertime, and we printed the basic rules of dress for both workshops back in our June newsletter. Please review what items of clothing we *shouldn't* wear to our jobs. However, one big item that is something you **NEVER** wear on the production floor is something that we've found visitors and visiting staff wearing from time to time - open-toed and open-heeled shoes. ***If someone is coming in for an appointment, please be sure to let them know they need to have closed-toed and close-***

***heeled shoes available.*** It's simply too dangerous to walk with your feet unprotected in an area where there are people that are pulling product with a handcart in all different directions. The handcarts are being pushed to move product from one location to another. The people that are moving around may not always see you or not be able to stop in time. Therefore, you need to protect your feet and yourself against that possibility, and wear close-toed shoes. It's a safety issue, so please wear closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes.



## THE ST. LOUIS WHEEL

By The Editor

**Far left:** View of wheel car from above

**Immediate left:** Joyce Klipsch, Travis Nichols, Becky Crump in front of Mirror Maze

**Below left:** Joyce Klipsch, Travis Nichols and Becky Crump in wheel on way

**Below right:** View of wheel from below



On Sunday morning, June 13<sup>th</sup>, a small group of adventurers made their journey to Union Station. Their destination was The Wheel and the Mirror Maze. Both of these places had been voted by the group as where they wanted to go. They had waited two years to go. The Wheel's cars each hold 6 riders. The cars swung back and forth a little bit as The Wheel circled. Two of the group had a big fear of heights, so nerves were on edge. We lived through the ride. The Mirror Maze was next to be visited. The group laughed all the way through this one. When one of them walked into a mirror along the maze, the rest of them would laugh because they thought it was really funny. When they got to one part of the Maze, the mirrors made it look like there was forty people instead of just a few people. That made them laugh even harder. Along the way they learned about the 1904 World's Fair food. The Wheel's cars are air-conditioned, so if you go in summer it'll be a cool ride. We circled about 5 times or for 15 minutes before the ride ended. They even got a picture that would serve as a memory of the experience. Everyone had a good time. If you haven't been down to ride or visit these attractions, they are recommended to anyone.

## VALERIE SHAW WINS 3 GOLD MEDALS IN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By Brenda Shaw (Proud Mother)

Valerie wanted me to share the pictures below of her special day at the Special Olympics. She was a 3 times gold medalist in the 400 meter run, standing long jump and javelin throw.



## SAFETY TIP FOR JULY 2021: YOUNG PEOPLE AND HYDRATION

By Tom Heitert (Safety Guru)

Before I started high school, two of my brothers were already there and in the football program. It was nothing like it is now. We, as a people, have gained a lot of knowledge since then. Starting on August 15<sup>th</sup> the football program had two practices a day. One in late morning, and the other in the early evening. The heat was brutal and so were the practices. I remember both brothers coming home totally exhausted, and likely dangerously dehydrated. Our mother was super smart though. She always had numerous quarts of a new product called Gatorade on hand. Boy, did they drink it up. Both had great careers in the sport.

I think of this because of the awesome heat we are experiencing as this is being written. Mercy, there is a lot of summer left. Not a lot of information is broadcast about our youngest children and their hydration. So let us take a look at that. This information comes from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

How much water do children REALLY need?

Children 1-3 years old-----4 cups per day (can include milk) Children 9 & years & older-----8 cups per day

Children 4-8 years old-----5 cups per day

It can seem like an awful lot of water to them. They will need our help:

- 1) Make water ALWAYS available.
- 2) Parents must partake. Set a good example.
- 3) Special cups or straws might bring some enthusiasm to the youngest.

The warning signs of dehydration could be dark yellow urine, chapped lips or a lack of tears. So drink up folks and stay healthy.

More Later,  
Tom

**SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT!**

**Editorial note:** Many Americans have not yet received their tax refunds. Therefore, as everyone did, we have checked with IRS and also with our tax preparers. I asked one of our tax preparers for several of us at Lafayette about if he would speak to what might be causing the delay, given his experience in preparing taxes. Thank you, Dick!

## WAITING FOR YOUR TAX REFUND?

By Dick Kallemeier

If you are waiting for your tax refund, you are not the only one. There are still 6 million 2019 returns that are not processed. I cannot imagine what the 2020 count is. Why so long to be paid? The IRS has been charged with paying stimulus money, was impacted greatly by the pandemic. Then they are also dealing with Congressional changes in 2020 tax law after the end of the tax year. As a result, they generated millions of stimulus checks because they have the only federal data base capable of reaching most Americans. In addition, many of their offices were closed due to the pandemic. Finally, their software needed to be changed in March because Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which changed the tax law for tax year 2020.

My guess is the number of refund payments will increase in July and most will be made in August. If you are contacted by the IRS please tell me [dickkall@charter.net](mailto:dickkall@charter.net) . Remember only respond to official IRS letters no telephone or email inquiries.



## LAFAYETTE NORTH HAS WATER COMPANY DOING WORK IN AREA AND WATER TURNED OFF!

Jim Bianchi, Chief Operating Officer for Lafayette Industries, can usually be found at our North location. He's a man who wears many hats. Think it is a safe bet that he never knew that would mean wrangling to get portable, temporary restrooms into place. If you've been around either North or West for any length of time, you know that if the water is off, both Workshops have a big problem on their hands. The water company has a big responsibility as well, taking care of the miles of pipes that carry water to our homes and businesses. These pipes age and have to be replaced sometimes because of upgrades to their equipment. They set up a day when they have to make the changes, and that day was today - on Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. The water is

scheduled to be off today at Lafayette North from 9:00 a.m. this morning (a few hours ago as of the writing of this piece) till 3:00 p.m. this afternoon. The staff and employees of North are going to have to have an extra measure of patience, and it's going to make a long day for everyone. Jim asked if he could send a picture of these necessary facilities, and we absolutely had to say yes. They'll deserve a big congratulations after it's all over. Hang in there, folks, the water will hopefully be back on tomorrow. Good luck!

# HAPPY JULY, EVERYBODY!!!

## JULY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 North gets off ½ hour early for the holiday weekend.	3
4 Independence Day	5 <u>Both Workshops closed for Independence Day</u>	6	7	8	9 PAY DAY	10
11	12	13	14	15 North Free Lunch	16	17
18	19	20	21 No Board of Directors meeting	22 West Free Lunch	23	24 Full Moon
25	26 PAY DAY	27	28	29	30	31