



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

By Bill Taylor
("New" Lafayette Employee)

Hello, everybody!! My name is Bill Taylor, and I am the new front desk receptionist on Fridays for Lafayette West. I have worked on the production floor for 3 years and running. I am a huge fan of the Cardinals and Blues!! I loved when the Blues won the Stanley Cup in 2019!! Both teams irritate me at times, but when it comes down to it, I'm a diehard fan. I am a big believer in following your dreams to the end, even if they seem impossible, because the future is not limited by what we can see right now. My goal is to help Lafayette and its workers be in the best possible position to succeed, much like they have helped me since I've been here. I'm grateful for this new opportunity, and hope I can make everyone proud!!!

WELCOME TO THE FRONT OFFICE, BILL!!




Rob Libera
CEO & Executive Director
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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



SAFETY THOUGHTS FOR DECEMBER 2021

By Tom Heitert (The Safety Guru)

HOLIDAY SAFETY

It's the Holidays, folks, and the Ol' Safety Captain has made a list and is checking it twice. First, allow me to share a tender moment from my youth. Our family was blessed to live in a nice home in South St Louis. A brick structure with a chimney and, of course, the accompanying fireplace. We had a golden screen and all the utensils necessary. Do you think we ever used that fireplace? NOPE. Some architectural genius placed an electrical outlet in the back of it. Mercy.

Getting back to our Holiday safety concerns, we will begin with fires. Watch where you place those candles, and do not leave them unattended (out of the home or going to bed). Artificial trees should have the "Fire Resistant" label. Finally, be sure to water the real trees regularly.

Fireplaces should have screens. Clean the chimney each year. Do not burn trees, wreaths, or the wrapping paper in the fireplace.

Are you hanging decorations outside? Get someone to hold your ladder! You can thank me later.

Move the turkey fryer **AWAY** from any structure or tree.

Finally, 2020 saw 150,000 toy-related emergency room injuries for children 14 years old and younger. This comes from the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission. We can't be too careful about this. A leading cause (21%) are non-motorized scooters. Buy a helmet with that scooter, and make sure they wear it. Don't be tempted to buy knock-offs. They had no safety requirements to live up to.

Hope these tips help, and have yourself a very merry holiday season.

SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT - MORE LATER!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR DECEMBER FOLKS

NORTH

Markus	Allen	1
Lois	Ross	1
Tim	Hubbard	3
Steven	Buswell	5
Tina	Tackett	5
Jamika Shunta	Jones	10
Angela	Taylor	12
Glen	Moore	14
Sheila	Zigrye	16
Torrey	Watson	19
Tiffany	Sudin	20
Christina	Sanders	26
Glendall	Davis	29
Kaleigha	Cross	30
Vonita	Jimmerson	30

WEST

Daniel	Zeller	1	Elizabeth	Goodwin	14
Michael	Nelson	5	Matt	Berry	16
Atul	Kakaiya	7	Camille	Lawrence	17
Ian	Wainz	7	Jeffrey	Beckerle	18
Fred	Ahrens	10	Mackenzie	Carr	19
Coranda	Edwards	10	Daniel	Scholl	26
Nathan	Hughes	12	Samantha	Behlmann	28
Keenan	Retzlaff	12	Emily	Prado	29
Anna	Walters	13	David	Markham	30
Lola	Boyer	14	Grace	Quinn	30





ANOTHER "GREAT" BLESSED EVENT

By Pam Gardner (Proud Great-Aunt)

Pictured to the immediate left is my newest great niece, Rayna Jane. Her parents are my niece, Amanda, and her husband, Jared. This is the first grandchild for my sister, Donna, and my brother-in-law, Mark.

PERSONAL DAYS

Please note, everybody: Since this is December and 2021 is drawing to a close, we would like to remind everyone that if you have any *personal days* left, you need to use them by the end of this year. Unlike vacation time, personal days don't roll over to the New Year. If you don't use them, you lose them. Please look at your latest pay stub to see if you have any personal days left. Just make sure by December 31st that you use those hours up, or they'll be gone. At the beginning of the New Year two new personal days will take their place.

To the West folks, we're letting you know that Becky S. will be out of the office on Fridays through the end of the year. We have Bill (see front page story) covering the front desk on Fridays. Please let him know you appreciate him, and wish him well. He's a great guy, and the job isn't as easy as people think. He learns quickly, and we're not done throwing challenges at him. Thank you in advance to everyone for your support. We also need to ask our West folks that if you send us a note or call us concerning your attendance plans, please designate whether or not the day off is to be personal day (don't forget to use them), vacation day or unpaid absent time.

OATS will not be running on Friday, December 31st. Because we have a lot of folks who use OATS to get to work, we're going to change **New Year's Day off** from Monday, January 3rd to **Friday, December 31st**. Please be sure and mark your calendars, as these are changes. Thanks a 1000.



LAURA FORTUS VISITS MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN "GLOW"

By Janet Riehl (Proud Mother)

Laura Fortus and her mom attended the Missouri Botanical Garden "Glow" on opening night.

Immediate left: Laura Fortus is tickled pink to be visiting the Missouri Botanical Garden "Glow"

TRACY MEYER CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AT LAFAYETTE

By Donna Meyer (Proud Mother)



On Friday October 29th, Tracy Meyer was awarded a gold watch by Rob Libera, to commemorate her employment at LWC for 25 years. A celebratory lunch was graciously hosted by LWC in her honor, and arranged by Kate and Kim. In attendance were her parents Norm and Donna, her sister Andrea, Godparents John and Bobbie, and Emmaus friends Aria and Paula. Tracy was overjoyed by the generosity and kindness shown to her by all of her fellow workers and LWC staff. Tracy's parents extend their heartfelt thanks for all those involved in making that day such a memorable one.



WEST CAUGHT BEING RESPECTFUL – OCTOBER 2021

Immediate left: Kate Moore, Carl Berger – United Healthcare, Pam Walsh, Diana Hemkens

WEST CAUGHT BEING SAFE – OCTOBER 2021

Immediate right: Cynthia Jacobson, Zach Adams



DECEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Hanukkah ends	7	8	9	10 PAY DAY	11 K of C Dance – St. Clare of Assisi School Cafeteria - 7:00-10:00p – Thanksgiving
12	13 WEST – RETIREMENT CELEBRATION LUNCHEON Kenny McLuen, the first employee in the workshop is retiring	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 West Free Lunch	23 PAY DAY North Free Lunch Both Workshops close ½ hour early for the Holidays	24 <u>Both Workshops closed for the Holidays</u>	25
26 Kwanzaa begins	27 <u>Both Workshops closed for the Holidays</u>	28	29	30 Both Workshops close ½ hour early for the Holiday	31 <u>Both Workshops are closed today for New Year's Day</u>	BOTH WORKSHOPS ARE OPEN AND WE ARE WORKING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 3RD