



**2022 MOUSE RACES (IN PICTURES)**

Great big Thank You to Carl Miller, who always takes excellent pictures!



**2022 MOUSE RACES (IN PICTURES) – Continued on next 2 pages**

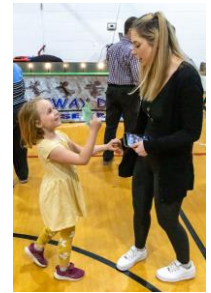



**Rob Libera**  
CEO & Executive Director  
[rlibera@lafayetteindustries.com](mailto:rlibera@lafayetteindustries.com)

**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

**2022 MOUSE RACES (IN PICTURES) – Continued:**



Race #	# Of Bets	Payout Per \$2 Bet
1 Prickly Pete	29	\$4
2 Twana	14	\$8
3 Teddy	30	\$4
4 Jerry	17	\$7
5 Diana	12	\$10
6 Minnie	41	\$3



**2022 MOUSE RACES (IN PICTURES) – Continued:**



**Lafayette's Employees, Current Staff, Retired Staff and Board of Directors Members**

**EDITORIAL NOTE:** Even though the Editor didn't attend, I had asked a couple of co-workers to make sure that my mouse, Pipsqueak, didn't win her race. It would continue my losing streak. She didn't win, so my streak continues!!

## LAFAYETTE INDUSTRIES 403(B) RETIREMENT PLAN

As an employee of Lafayette Industries, you are eligible to participate in the Lafayette Industries 403(b) Retirement Plan if you work 20 or more hours per week. Through payroll deduction you can contribute a portion of your pay (even as little as 1%) to your retirement savings account in the 403(b) plan.

For eligible employees who have been employed with Lafayette one year (with at least 1000 hours of service) and are age 21 or older, Lafayette will match your contribution, dollar for dollar up to the first 4%. This match *doubles* the amount of your investment (for the first 4%), and is a significant contribution to your retirement savings plan.

Representatives from Renaissance Financial will be onsite to answer investment questions you may have about your investments in your account in the Lafayette Industries' 403(b) Retirement Plan. If you're not currently an active participant in the plan, the representatives can answer your questions about this valuable benefit and provide enrollment documents.

To schedule an appointment during the times shown below at either location, call Vicki Whiteside, Human Resources, 636-227-5666, ext. 1120 or email to: [hr@lafayetteindustries.com](mailto:hr@lafayetteindustries.com).

**Lafayette North - Lunchroom**  
**Monday, May 16, 2022**  
**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

**Lafayette West - Office**  
**Thursday, May 19, 2022**  
**10:00 am – 12:00 pm**



### WEST – FEBRUARY 2022 CAUGHT

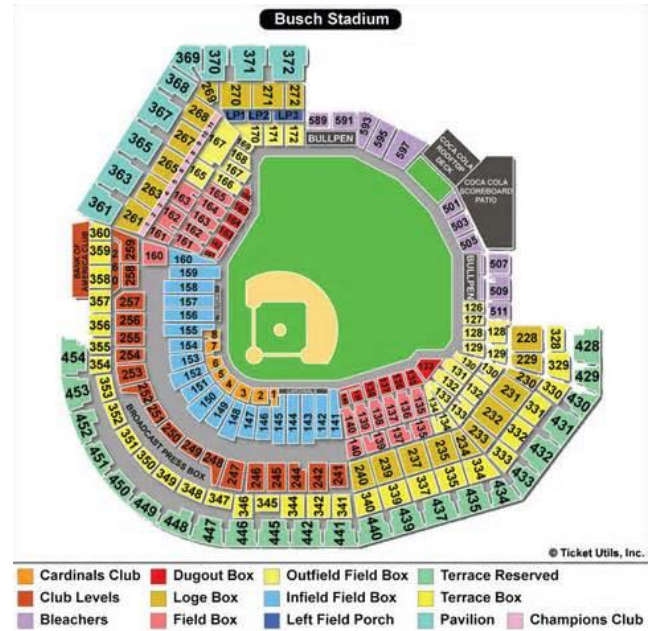
### BEING RESPECTFUL AND SAFE

**Immediate left:** Kim Lamb, Carl Berger (United Healthcare), Brendan Sonnabend (Respectful), Claire Gardiner (Respectful), Andrew Martinez (Safe), Rob Libera and John Langley (Safe).

**ARE YOU READY FOR 10-DIGIT DIALING?:** 314 area codes are going to run out by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter this year, according to the Missouri Public Commission. In the meantime the cause for this change is not only the fact that they are running out of them, but is because the national 988 emergency suicide hotline is going to be activated in August. It's displacing a lot of area codes. 557 becomes the overlay for the 314 area codes in the St. Louis area, so that will be the new area code found in our area once they run out of 314s. What does all of this really mean for the rest of us? If they enforce 10-digit dialing, you will \*have\* to dial 10 digits in order to get through to the number you are dialing. Otherwise you will more than likely get a message that tells you to try again or that they aren't able to reach that number. Please plan ahead, as August is the planned date for the activation of the new area code, and that will give you lots of practice with 10-digit dialing. Good luck!

## 2022 CARDINAL BASEBALL GAME

This year Lafayette's Night Out at the Cardinals game is going to be on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Be prepared for hot weather - it's August! Again, mark the date on your calendar – **Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>**, starting @ 7:15 p.m. The opposing team is going to be the **New York Yankees**. Yes, indeed, the Yankees, one of the most storied teams in the American League meets one of the most storied teams in the National League, the St. Louis Cardinals. We will be sitting in Sections 128, 129 and 130 this year. No, your eyes are fine, and you are reading that correctly. We are in the lower parts of the ballpark this year. Wheel-chair seating will be available. The cost of the tickets is the same as it has always been – **Lafayette employees get their first 4 tickets for just \$5.00 each.** What has changed is that after the first 4 tickets the cost of additional tickets go up to \$40.00 each. That is what the Cardinals are charging Lafayette for the additional tickets. First come, first served is the rule for these tickets. This year there will be no giveaways as we've had in the past. Instead, our treat is getting to see the New York Yankees play. **We will start selling the tickets in May, so please *do not* send in any money or checks before you see the order blank in the newsletter.** *When you see the order form, then we'll let you know it's time to send in your money for the tickets.* Remember – NO MONEY OR CHECKS UNTIL THE ORDER FORM SHOWS UP IN THE NEWSLETTER!



## CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL – SATURDAY, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> – 3:00-6:00P – SCHROEDER PARK

\$25 through April 30<sup>th</sup>      \$30 May 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>  
\$35 day – or, if tickets remain

Join us and Circle 7 Ranch Tapahouse & Grill at the 2022 Manchester Craft Beer Festival in Schroeder Park! Treat your taste buds with an incredible variety of featured samples from over 20 craft breweries! A portion of the proceeds will benefit Lafayette Industries. **Thanks to our sponsors – William Adams with Farmer's Insurance & Promotions Pronto!**

## MANCHESTER UNITED METHODIST MEN'S GROUP

For many years we have heard from the Manchester United Methodist Men's Group, and they have visited us in the springtime. We received a call recently from Dave Divjak about a check that their men's group wanted to present to Lafayette. They wanted to come by on a Friday. Both Rob and the Manchester United Methodist Men's Group got together for a presentation of a donation that came from the proceeds of sales at their Christmas tree lot. Thank you to them, and Lafayette says thank you for all you have done over the years.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRILITES!



## NORTH

Roxanna	Robinson	5
India	Stewart	5
Daniel	Kuminowski	6
Vaughon	Caldwell	9
Sean	Watson	12
Mattie	Abercumbia	17
Tamu	Johnson	18
Demitri	Johnson	21
Pedro	Cruz	25
Sally	Grant	25
Sara	Morgan	25
Ronesha	Pflederer	27
Laura	Fortus	29

## WEST

Margo	Bates	1	Craig	Marek	14
Andrew	Martinez	1	Jonathan	Walle	15
Sheri	Cooley	2	David	Pfeiffer	16
Elizabeth	Cendekowitsch	3	Joseph	Oxler	17
DeWendel	Williams, II	3	Mary	Good	18
Justin	Moslander	8	Mark	Carlson	19
Carli	Binek	10	Tim	Roccia	20
Robyn	Zerillo	10	Pamela	Walsh	23
John	Woerner	11	Tara	Rehagen	25
Pam	Gardner	12	Cynthia	Jacobson	26
Andrew	Villaire	12	Geoffrey	Reusch	28
Ryan	Clemente	13	BJ	Burns	30

## BILL TAYLOR HELPS OUT DURING FIRE DRILL

By The Editor



On Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, we had a re-scheduled Free Lunch. In February and March Lafayette West had to cancel one of its Free Lunches because of bad weather and re-schedule the other one to the middle of March due to a request from Rob. The reason was that Lafayette planned to hand out t-shirts to the employees on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> celebrating March as National Disabilities Awareness Month. The t-shirts were printed in green because it was St. Patrick's Day. On Free Lunch days, Bill covers the front office at West for me. Since he was already in the front office, it was decided that he would be able to help out and learn what his duties would be if he was covering for me, and there was a fire drill. It was another facet of my job he would be able to learn should I be gone. My duty during a fire drill is to locate any visitors or outside supporting staff we

might have at Lafayette West, to make sure that they all got out safely. Bill put on his orange vest so he would be visible from the front or back as we went outside after everyone vacated the premises. We went searching to make sure everyone was where they were supposed to be. Turned out to be a light day, as everyone had departed. He did a great job, and now he will know what his job duties will be when he's covering the front office and we have a fire drill.



## TAX RETURN "SEASON" OVER

After a few technical issues with a front office computer that didn't cooperate, we got off to a promising start for the tax season. However, February wasn't quite done throwing snowballs / iceballs at us. Two weeks had to be canceled due to nasty weather. One week was a wintry mix and the next one was ice. It was a mess, but then it cleared up. Since then Dick Kallemeier and Peter LaSalle have worked tirelessly getting one tax return after another done. They completed their tax appointments on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. They wore masks during all the appointments and also had a protective shield in between their client and themselves to offer

protection to both. There have been a lot of us who have benefited from their special wisdom and expertise over the past years. So, Dick and Peter, thank you from all of us you have helped over the years. You have really provided a much-needed service to those of us who needed an extra hand around tax time. Thank you!!



**SUNGLASSES AND SAFETY**

Yes, my friends, sunglasses are more than just an accessory to the outfit we may be wearing. They can provide safety for our eyes as well as the rest of our person.

They are protection for our eyes from the sun's rays. The rays are electromagnetic radiation transmitted from the sun in waves. UV-rays can hurt vision and damage the retina of the eye. The damaging rays can lead to macular degeneration or even cataracts. Therefore anyone heavily exposed to sunlight all day should wear sunglasses.

These damaging UV Rays are three times as severe in the summer as in the winter. Reflections off water or snow intensifies these rays more.

Buy glasses that remove 99% to 100% of the UV Rays. They should screen out 75% to 90% of visible light. Colors matter too. Each color (green, amber, grey, red, and mirrors) serves a different set of circumstances.

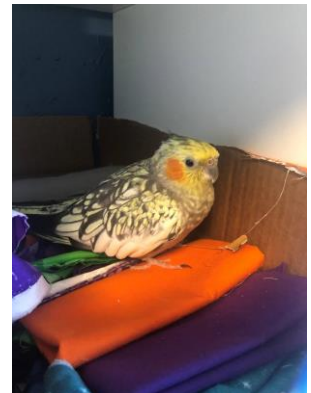
Take care regarding the medicines you take, as some of them make our eyes even more sensitive to light. There are safety sunglasses for those of us working outside as well. Safety glasses come with a numbering system that is in regard to a particular type of danger one might encounter.

Pack your glasses, folks!

**SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT - MORE LATER!**

**PET OF THE MONTH**

By Kate Gregor (Proud Lafayette Staff)



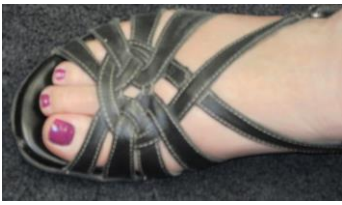
**Above – upper left:** Agnes — a Leghorn Chicken and an avid egg layer! Because of her we make lots of fresh pasta and angel food cakes.

**Above – middle left:** Paco and Piña — Paco is the little one. He is a lineolated or “barred” parakeet. He is about 7” long from beak to tail and very affectionate. He loves to sit on my shoulder whenever I nap on the couch. Piña is a Pineapple Green-Cheeked Conure. Her favorite activities are acting as a “screaming alarm clock” at 6am and stealing the other birds’ treats.

**Above – middle right:** Penny — Penny is an Australian Cattle dog, or Red Heeler, and is ALL ENERGY! She drops a ball at my feet to play fetch before I’ve even had my first sip of coffee in the morning!

**Above – upper right:** Pistol — Pistol is a Grey Pearl Cockatiel. Pistol is the newest addition to our “flock”, and she is the friendliest. If you come over, Pistol will definitely want to fly to your shoulder and ask you to pet her.

## SUMMER CLOTHING DRESS CODE – IMPORTANT!!



It has been a whole year since last summer, and some of us may have forgotten that Lafayette **does** have a dress code. There are ways we do and **don't** dress when coming to work. ***Absolutely no sandals or shoes with open toes allowed on the production floor.***

We require **knee length shorts to be worn**. **NO** tank tops, **NO** muscle shirts, **NO** spaghetti straps or tube tops and **NO** inappropriate wording on clothing. ***Absolutely no sunglasses in the shop.*** Please try to keep these things in mind as you dress for work during the summer months. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. The dress code is the same for **both** workshops.

### JESSE BROOKS TAKES CRUISE

By Jennifer Brooks (Proud Mother)



Our trip was amazing. We were sailing on the Norwegian ship, Breakaway. Jesse did snorkeling, the water slide, swimming, beach time, a dune buggy excursion and enjoyed eating his way through the week on the ship. Our ports where we docked were Cozumel, Belize, Costa Maya and Roatan (Honduras).



### SPECIAL MONTH MARKED BY NEW T-SHIRTS

On Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, Lafayette Industries celebrated National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) by getting t-shirts printed up in green for a St. Patrick's Day distribution. On the front of the t-shirt was one of the Rob's favorite sayings is: "The only disability in life is a bad attitude". West further celebrated both the month and St. Patrick's Day by having its Free Lunch two weeks early. West had Shepherd's Pie, a traditional Irish dish, provided by Callier's. The idea for the t-shirts was suggested by Dennis Dillon, one of Lafayette's Board members. We took pictures at both North and West to mark the occasion. Thanks, Dennis, for a great idea. The folks had fun getting their new shirts, and we took pictures to capture the moment. The message, however, was a

Article continued on next page



**SPECIAL MONTH MARKED BY NEW T-SHIRTS – Continued:**

serious reminder – to be inclusive, and give folks who are considered disabled a chance before turning them down for employment. This population is one that has a much higher unemployment rate than the general population. When folks are given a chance to work, they prove they can do it. Let’s celebrate Lafayette’s employees, because they have so much to teach us. Pictures below were taken on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**NORTH – Working in New Shirts and Sharing Break Time in New Shirts**



**WEST – Working in New Shirts**

**and Photo Op in New Shirts**



**LAFAYETTE SAYS THANK YOU TO**

**ALL OUR EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR HARD WORK!!**

## MARY GOOD'S WONDERFUL "SISTERS' VACATION"

By Janice Butler (Proud Sister)

Mary Good had a wonderful "Sisters' Vacation" in March. Mary and her two sisters went to Kentucky for a week. They spent one day in Cincinnati, and went on a food and history tour. They learned a lot of interesting facts about Cincinnati, and ate some wonderful new foods! Next, they spent a day at the Creation Museum where they learned about how God created the whole world. There were even some braille plaques of information that Mary could read to her sisters. The last day they went to the Ark Encounter. Here they got to walk through and explore Noah's Ark, which was built to scale. They learned about all the animals that were on the Ark, and how they brought enough food and water for all the people and animals as well. Did you know there were 6,744 animals on the Ark? And only 8 people to care for them all. There was also a zoo outside of the Ark. They had plenty of time to meander through the zoo and see some animals. Mary and her sisters were all very impressed with all they learned here as well. It was a very fun vacation. Mary is looking forward to her next adventure with her fun sisters!



**REMEMBER AS PEOPLE BEGIN TO TRAVEL AGAIN – TAKE SOME PICTURES AND DO A SMALL ARTICLE. SEND IT IN TO ME AT [bstillwell@lafayetteindustries.com](mailto:bstillwell@lafayetteindustries.com). WE'LL BE GLAD TO SHARE WITH OTHERS, AND WE KNOW THAT PEOPLE ENJOY READING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S ADVENTURES!**

**APRIL 2022**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 April Fool's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 K of C Dance – St. Clare of Assisi School Cafeteria - 7:00 – 10:00p – Celebrate the Cardinals – wear Cardinal Red
10	11 PAY DAY	12	13	14	15 Passover  Good Friday	16
17 Easter	18 Tax Day – Taxes are due!	19	20 6:00p – Board of Directors meeting	21 North's Free Lunch	22 Earth Day	23
24	25 PAY DAY	26	27	28 West's Free Lunch	29	30