



RIBBON CUTTING MARKS A BRIGHT NEW CHAPTER AT LAFAYETTE JEFFCO

On June 20, we officially celebrated the newest addition to the Lafayette family with a ribbon cutting ceremony at Lafayette JeffCo! The event brought together staff, families, community members, and supporters to recognize this exciting milestone. Hosted by Site Director Scott Shelton, the morning was filled with warm welcomes, proud smiles, and a strong sense of community. Enterprise Bank generously sponsored the event, and Compass Health joined us on-site to host an informational booth.

The acquisition of the Jefferson County location has allowed Lafayette to further expand our services to Jefferson County, increase business capacity, and welcome 60 new full-time employees to our mission-driven workforce. It was clear during the ceremony that this growth is more than numbers — it's about creating more opportunities, building stronger connections, and supporting even more individuals on their employment journey.

Thank you to everyone who made the day so memorable — whether you attended, helped organize, or simply cheered us on from afar. We're thrilled about what's ahead at Lafayette JeffCo!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rob Libera'.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR JULY FOLKS

NORTH

Jerome	Binder	3
Brittany	Sudin	4
Melissa	Jordan	5
Joseph	Cain	13
Marie	Ball	17
Shawn	Flaherty	17
Brandon	Poindexter	20
Dion	Austin	26
Abibat	Akinola	31

WEST

Nicholas	Altmeyer	8
Steven	Smith	8
John	Langley	9
Jillian	Reed	12
Kathryn	Luckey	12
Nathan	Schiera	14
David	Kendall	15
Zach	Adams	18
Bradley	Jandro	21
Claude	Turner	24
Diane	Hoeflerlin	26
Jason	Marx	28
Tommy	Michael	30

JEFFCO

David	Schumer III	1
Teresa	Bruce	2
Zachary	Earli	6
Daniel	Van Sickle	12
Chauntel	Cook	21
Lucas	Reichmann	24
Jonah	Beyer	26
Debra	Arnold	27
Adam	Stockwell	31



FLU VACCINATION CLINIC INFORMATION

We haven't really publicized the flu vaccinations, and it's important get the word out to everyone so that you can put the day, date and time of the flu vaccination into your calendar. The West will have their flu clinic on Wednesday, October 15th, 9:00-11:30a, and North's will be on Wednesday, October 22nd, 9:00-11:00a. In preparation for these flu vaccination clinics, we'll be attaching the required VNA forms for both locations to the pay stubs in early August. Rob has said that the employee's family get their flu shots with their loved one. For those who are 65 and older, we do need to have flu shot forms for that age group available as well. That way the nurses will be sure that they have enough of these shots, so advance notification is required.

The deadline for getting your flu shot forms in is Tuesday, September 30th. That is also the end of Lafayette's fiscal year, so both North's and West's forms will be due at the same time. It gives plenty of time for everyone to get the information filled out and turned in to your front offices. Don't forget to have it signed, dated and a copy of your insurance card attached to it. Thanks in advance for everyone's cooperation.



TIPS FOR FALL PREVENTION

Most of this information came from a NY Times article on what we can do to prevent this most common, yet often serious injury. 14 million Americans 65 and older fall every year. A lot of baaaaaad outcomes come from those. One doesn't have to be the Safety Captain's age to fall and have a bad injury. In years of distant past, I remember a few here at Lafayette. The staff member was carrying boxes too high to see in front of themselves AND carrying a travel cup full of coffee, AND walking through a curtain. OUTCOME? Broken nose. The safety training is great at Lafayette, but reminders in all aspects of safety are important.

TIP # 1: Wear the right shoes. That simple. If the soles are worn thin and there is no tread left, get some new ones. There are shoes made for just this reason. They don't slip. Used in restaurant kitchens, etc.

TIP #2: "Sit to Stand" exercises available online are effective. They are quite simple, and I can attest, they do work improving balance. We can all use that.

TIP # 3: Yoga and tai chi can help with overcoming the fear of falling, help with correct turning movements, and loosen rigidity in our walk.

TIP # 4: Get a set of Nordic Poles. Not kidding. Really help, and they also encourage you to walk more.

TIP # 5: Fundamental. One must be able to see where they are going. Make two trips. Don't carry so much.

There are a few for us. Keep exercising! For the rest of our lives. If we have a setback, start up soon as you can

SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT - MORE LATER!



THE LAFAYETTE ARCADE: RESPECT THE CLASSICS

By Bill Taylor (Proud Lafayette Staff)

Modern gaming is very deep, and a lot of those games have interesting characters and stories. The graphics are pretty amazing these days too. In order to really appreciate the games we have now, it's important that we remember the ones that came before. They were not as flashy as now but many of those types of B games are still fun. Many are very simple to play, Super Mario Bros. PAC MAN, and Galaga are all still fun in their own right today and they are all very simple. The challenge doesn't come from the controls, it's about challenging yourself to get better with each time you play: Respect the classics, enjoy yourself. After all, it's just a game.

Brad Davis's Africa Trip

Part 2

After flying back to South Africa from Zimbabwe we made our way over to the Timbavati Game Reserve, a private game reserve in the Greater Kruger National Park. The Kruger National Park consists of over 8000 square miles of public and privately held game reserves in the northeastern part of South Africa.

One of the entrances to Kruger National Park. The exterior of the park is surrounded by massive electric fences which exist not only to keep the animals in but also to keep out poachers.



After a few wrong turns we arrived at our camp and were immediately greeted by a pair of



elephants enjoying a nearby watering hole. Each room had a small pool but since we were there during their autumn the water was freezing. I imagine it would've been nice if we had come in the summer though.

After settling into our room and meeting the camp staff we headed out on our first safari. We went on a total of six safaris over three days: one each morning before sunrise and one each afternoon an hour or so before sunset.

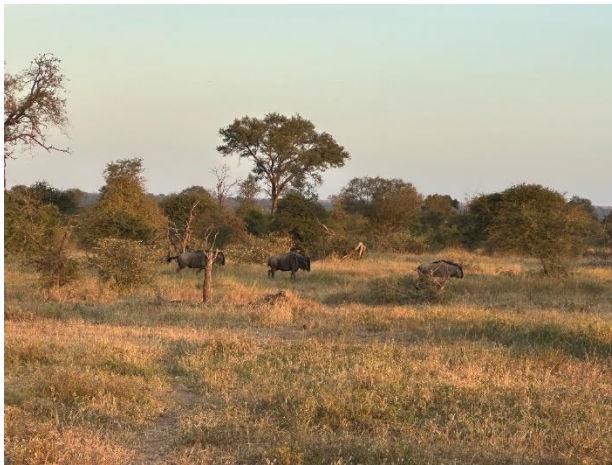


Our first safari started off strong as we ran into a herd of buffalo at a watering hole. African buffalo are one of the Big Five, originally a term used by big game hunters to describe the five most dangerous animals to hunt. The other four are: the lion, the jaguar, the elephant, and the rhino.

A lapwing does its best to try and drive a curious young buffalo away from its nest. We checked on it the next morning at it and

its mate were still there, so it seems like it was successful.

A small herd of wildebeest.



Halfway through each drive we would get out of our jeep to stretch our legs and have some snacks. On our first night we were joined by a large female hyena.



While there was no chance of her attacking group as large as ours, she wouldn't hesitate to steal the food right off our table given half a chance, so we still had to keep an eye on her.



On our way back to our camp we ran into a serval and her cub. I couldn't get a good picture of the cub as my phone did not like the high-powered flashlight our tracker was waving around.



We were joined for dinner that night by Wilbur, the camp cat. Despite being surrounded by lions and leopards, Wilbur frequently wanders past the electric fence to drink from the watering hole.

Our second day started of strong encountered a rhinos. The three mother, her young female You can tell from that they were rhino farm. ownership of illegal in South them is, so you people farming hoping that the eventually they'll be able to enormous



once again as we group of white in front are a daughter, and a she adopted. their short horns rescued from a Private rhino horns isn't Africa but selling end up with rhino horns, laws will change and sell the horns for amounts of

money. When these farms go under the government buys the rhinos and releases them into the park. The rhino in the back is a wild-born male which is why he has a full-sized set of horns.



A pair of young female elephants crossing the road. The best way to tell the difference between and female and a male African elephant is that the females have angular foreheads while the males have more rounded foreheads.

An older female elephant follows the two younger ones.





Khanya (Zulu for light) the leopard. It's a tradition in Timbavati that the first person to identify a new animal gets to name it.

Khanya wandering down the road. The man driving the jeep is Paul, our guide. The man sitting on the hood of the jeep is Phanuel, our tracker. The two of

them have been working together for almost a decade.

One of the many, many herds of impala we came across. It was their mating season, so the sounds of male impala fighting for dominance were a constant feature of our drives.



A herd of waterbucks with calves.



Male impala who lose their fights for dominance often form bachelor herds for protection.



Wildebeest and impala grazing together.





An older bull elephant leading a group of younger males who recently left their mothers' herds. By observing the older bull, the younger ones learn how to behave. In the past there were parks that intentionally culled their older bulls, and they discovered that this led to the younger ones growing up to be far more violent and unpredictable. They ended up having to bring in older bulls from other parks to bring the problem elephants under control.



A zebra and her calf.



THE ADVENTURE TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH



THE GREGORS GO TO ALASKA

By Kate Gregor (Proud Lafayette Staff)

This summer Matt and I were able to celebrate our 10th anniversary with an epic adventure to Alaska. We spent two weeks cruising, hiking, and driving through this “final frontier”. It is one of the more beautiful landscapes I have experienced; everywhere you look is amazing.

Along the way we saw caribou, bears, eagles, both golden and bald, moose, otters, humpback whales (and their babies!) otters, harbor seals, stellar sea lions, puffins, arctic squirrels to name a few. We hiked a glacier, through rainforests, through un-trailed peat forests of Denali, and redwoods.



I picked a few photos to share, though they only begin to reflect how impressive Alaska really is. It was a trip we'll remember for a long time.

WELCOME BABY ROMAN

By Brenda Shaw (Proud Lafayette Mother)

Valerie's sister had her baby, and this is the first time she met and held him. He had a little rough beginning in ICU for a week but he's doing great now. Roman was 19" long, 6lb, 12.8oz. Valerie was so emotional when she saw him, she cried.



JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 North Free Lunch Early Dismissal (All Locations) 2:30 JeffCo & West 1:00 North	4 Independence Day <u>ALL</u> WORKSHOPS CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY	5
6	7	8	9	10 PAY DAY (North and West) West Free Lunch	11 PAY DAY (JeffCo)	12
13	14	15	16	17 North Free Lunch	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 West Free Lunch	25 PAY DAY (North and West) PAY DAY (JeffCo)	26
27	28	29	30	31		