

THE Leavenworth CONNECTION



Jan/Feb 2018

EDITOR: LISA ALLEN

Ward Hawley Retires

Thanks to everyone for the retirement cards, gifts and well wishes. The thought is very much appreciated. It's ironic that producing a product that helps families and individuals connect socially also connects and unifies our manufacturing family here in Leavenworth. Leaving that family today is difficult.

Best of luck in 2018 with the new equipment and increased work volumes. With the talent in this building, Leavenworth will deliver great results. Each of you has an important role to play. Please act like owners and feel empowered to offer ideas that will drive better safety, cost, quality and service. To say that this level of engagement is critical for 2018 is an understatement.

Please also take care of each other. The human element of manufacturing often gets lost in the daily grind. The moments when you assist someone with a problem, protect them from a potentially unsafe act, offer a word of encouragement, listen to their concerns, or make them feel valued are truly the fabric of our culture. I believe Colin Powell said - "to the world you're just one person, but to one person you might be the world."

Ward Hawley



LEAVENWORTH WELCOMES BACK DAVE BUEHLER

2018 will mark the third time I have been fortunate enough to work in the Leavenworth plant, and to be associated with the people manufacturing our domestic gift wrap, tissue, stickers, ribbons and bows. We have a tremendous opportunity to play a direct role in the growth of the products we make and contribute to the Greetings business success for Hallmark. These opportunities do not come along very often, and this challenge is one of the primary reasons I wanted to come back to Leavenworth and to be a part of the growth we expect in the next two to four years. The opportunity to introduce new printing technology and gift wrap converting equipment to Leavenworth will help provide stability in the coming years. Our challenge will be to deliver on-time and to hit our expected cost of production targets. To succeed, we will need the best efforts by all the production areas, maintenance, engineering, distribution, scheduling, and our warehouse.

On a personal level, I would like to thank Ward Hawley for his hard work, commitment and dedication to the Leavenworth plant. I've known Ward for a long time and fully appreciate the energy he gave to Leavenworth the last two years. He will be a tough act to follow, but I am confident we will build on the foundation he started. I also want to wish him and his family all the best in retirement.

Last year the Greetings business, which includes Leavenworth in Gift Presentation and Packaged Expressions, had a great year, especially with the competitive takeover of Dollar Tree for core greetings. The three priorities for the Greetings Business include 1) New Business Growth, 2) Existing Business Growth, and 3) Executional Excellence. While the work we do in Leavenworth impacts the first two priorities, I believe our greatest contribution can be to the third priority of Executional Excellence. Simply put, we must meet our growing production requirements with levels of quality we all expect of Hallmark. And we must do this while meeting cost of production requirements, and serviceability (ship) dates. Included in this priority is elimination of waste, to directly impact the profitability of our products.

My career with Hallmark began in Leavenworth almost 34 years ago. It's nice to see familiar faces in the plant again, and many new faces as well. I look forward to re-connecting with those of you I already know, and getting to know those I don't. We have a tremendous amount of talent working in Leavenworth, and our collective efforts will help us succeed this year. Thanks again, for the warm welcome you have given me, and let's have a great 2018.

Dave Buehler



2018 Health Rewards

Hallmark Health Rewards is being revamped in 2018 with a new partnership with Provant!

Leavenworth Hallmark will launch the 2018 Health Rewards on Wednesday, January 17. Information sheets will be available at a table located in the start-up meeting room (crown room area) and the medical office.

The wellness program provided by Provant is an added wellness benefit that Hallmark offers free of charge to employees in a Hallmark sponsored medical plan.

The information sheets will provide the website to access the portal as well as specifics regarding the rewards and incentives. Employees will be able to earn up to 400 Rewards points. Provant offers an easy to use portal, on-site enrollment of wellness workshops and challenges to participate in. In addition, you'll be able to integrate your fitness device to sync with the health rewards portal and access everything on the go via downloading the free mobile app.

Please contact Tricia Crowe RN if you have questions.



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

**Congratulations to Chris & Brian Sanders on the birth of their 1st grandchild! Chris & Brian's daughter Dana and son-in-law Evan welcomed baby... Emilia Marie Hitchcock
Born: Monday, January 8, 2018 at 3:19pm
6lbs 9oz, 19 1/2" long.**

CARD SHOP

All Christmas is now 1/4 price in the card shop, this also includes Hallmark Keepsake ornaments. Hurry in today, the shelves are clearing out fast!

Don't forget Valentines Day. The card shop is beaming with big red hearts and cute and cuddly plush animals that sing and dance. They will certainly bring big smiles and precious giggles to all the little valentines in your life.

For the adult valentines you'll find pillows with X's and O's, throws, baskets, candles, candlesticks, wood art and of course that perfect Hallmark card!



BIRTHDAYS

January

- 03 Jim Wagner
- 06 Kurt Whalen
- 08 Stephan Hamrick
- 08 Mark Toy
- 09 Bob VanSchoelandt
- 12 Christy Stein
- 13 Sarde Doutherd
- 14 Pam Bailey
- 14 Bill Kermashek
- 14 Tasha Novak
- 17 George Link
- 17 Jay Sims
- 18 Richard Tate
- 19 Jacob Colgate
- 19 Kevin Starnes
- 23 Anita Jackson
- 25 Shelly Mohan
- 25 Veronica Morris
- 25 Beatrice Wake
- 26 Vanessa Moreno
- 26 Connie Robinson
- 26 Rhonda Skaggs
- 27 Mathew Nichols
- 28 Derek Denney
- 28 Brenda Jury
- 29 Petra Baker
- 31 Teri Morgan

February

- 01 Neil Stafford
- 04 Greg Jarman
- 05 Dawn Lacey
- 07 Rick Shaffer
- 10 Bob Carder
- 11 Joe Collins
- 12 Brenda Brune
- 12 Rick Campbell
- 12 Lisa Knight
- 14 Tim Mallonee
- 14 Brandon Maxey
- 14 David Smotherman
- 16 Alicia Forbes
- 16 Damian Haddock
- 18 Peggy Evrard
- 18 Linda Watkins
- 20 Betty Ellis
- 20 Dennis Faber
- 21 Grant Greene
- 22 Terry Ready
- 25 LoAnn Hattock
- 26 Tammy Prouty
- 28 Jill Barbuto



ANNIVERSARIES

January

- 40th** Dave Birkes
Jan. 5, Gravure
- 20th** Jay Sims
Jan. 26, Engineering
- 40th** Rick Link
Jan. 30, Roll Wrap

February

- 40th** Randy Carmack
Feb. 1, LV Packaging

