

LAGNIAPPE

June 2010



Employee Newsletter

Hurricane Preparedness

From: Fred Mingo, Director of Safety



The National Hurricane Center is getting ready for a busy storm season. The hurricane season runs from June 1st to November 30th. Are you prepared for a major hurricane? A violent tropical

cyclone with constant wind speeds of 75 miles per hour or more is known as a hurricane. A category 5 hurricane is the strongest storm with wind speeds of 155 miles per hour and higher. A hurricane watch means conditions pose a possible hurricane threat in a specific area, usually within 36 hours.

Here are some things to do to prepare for a hurricane:

- ☀ Have plenty of cash on hand.
- ☀ Plan multiple escape routes.
- ☀ Plan where to go if told to evacuate.
- ☀ Prepare a supply kit including batteries, candles, flashlights, and several days water supply.
- ☀ Prepare the interior of your home.
- ☀ Prepare the exterior of your home.
- ☀ Avoid low-lying areas.

After the hurricane is over, keep listening to the radio or television for instructions. When local officials tell you when it is safe, you may return home. While no one knows where the next hurricane may form or hit, being prepared is a good defense.

Be safe and be prepared this hurricane season!

Kudos!



Congratulations Officer Bobby Green, Lofton Security New Orleans. Bobby was praised by a client for being "the most professional officer she had ever met". Great job, Bobby! Keep up the Lofton spirit!

Resume Pitfalls

By Julie East, Corporate Marketing & Recruiting

There's probably nothing more frustrating than getting your resume together to send to a company, only to realize that when you send it out, you don't really know where it's going. How do you know if it will ever return some type of response for you? It's easier than you think. Here are some great tips to get your resume noticed and not lost in a sea of resumes.

1. Tailor Your Resume for Each Employer

Employers recognize generic resumes a mile away. The generic resume is the one that you pull off of a template website then change only a little bit to match your specifics. If you want to let an employer know that you're serious about the job you're applying for, you have to conduct research on the company and position to learn exactly if you qualify. Then, tailor your work history & skills to match what they are looking for. Focus on your accomplishments, NOT on the job description. Show what impact you can make to their company.

2. Make Your Resume Keyword Heavy

Often times, resumes get lost because they have been run through scanning software meant to catch certain industry-specific keywords. If your resume doesn't include some of these keywords, then it may be readied for deletion. To avoid this from happening to you, conduct a good amount of research on the company, as well as the industry as a whole, to learn what industry terms should be included in your resume.

3. If You're Not Qualified ... Don't Apply

Recruiters see hundreds of resumes a day, when an applicant sends out mass resumes to positions they are not qualified for, it sends up red flags. Even if there is another position in the company you may be qualified for, you may not be considered. So if you know that you can provide absolutely no proof that you qualify for a position, it's best not to apply.

The job search world is a tough one, but not an impossible one. If you tailor your resume to a specific job and only apply to those for which you are actually qualified for, you will increase your chances of landing a great position.

What's Happening this month

D-Day June 6

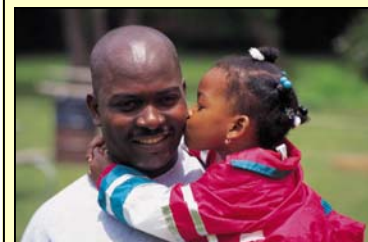
D-Day commemorates the epic battle that foreshadowed the end of Nazi domination. The landing included over 5,000 ships, 11,000 airplanes and over 150,000 service men. When it was over, the Allied Forces had suffered nearly 10,000 casualties.

Flag Day June 14



Flag Day is a day commemorating the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.

Father's Day June 20



A father is someone who makes sure you do what your mother says. A daddy is someone who lets you eat cake for breakfast, tells you ghost stories, and lets you stay up late when Mom is not there.



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Until the Twelfth of Never

By: Glenda G. Lofton, Ph.D.

I met Tommy on my first day of class at LSU. Already a senior, he was standing in front of Allen Hall when my beautiful, natural blonde, and shapely best friend, Pat, and I walked up. He immediately turned red, and so did she. Pat, you see, had met Tommy the day before when she accidentally walked in on him changing into his swimsuit at a party at False River. I was not surprised when he started coming over to talk to Pat and me at the Field House where we “hung out” between classes. All the good looking guys were attracted to Pat, but I was surprised when it turned out that he was interested in me.

A new friend, who had attended high school with Tommy at Istrouma, was at my house when he called to ask me out on our first date. When I told her who had called, she said, “What! I had a crush on him all through high school! Well, I guarantee you I’ll have a date with him before the summer is out!” And she did! When I was naive enough to tell him what she said, he immediately called and asked her out. (It’s times like these that Bret and Bart raise their eyebrows and say, “And Mom has a Ph.D.”) I’m not sure why, but he eventually chose me. Maybe it was because my daddy was willing to get out of bed and take him to get a gallon of gas when he repeatedly ran out on his way home after our dates. (Tommy’s dad had died the summer he finished high school so he didn’t have a lot of money. He was working his way through college, and he never put more than \$1.00 worth of gas in the family car.) Maybe it was because my favorite date was attending church with him every Sunday night (no admission charges for that, but to me it was definitely “priceless”). Whatever the reason, two years later on June 12, 1960, Tommy and I were married. Ironically, “our song” was “Until the Twelfth of Never” by Johnny Mathis, “and” as Tommy often adds, “that’s a long, loooong time!” This month we will celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

When we had our first major argument after our marriage, I asked, “Do you want a divorce?” At that he said rather heatedly, “That’s not an option to even be considered in this relationship!” “Well, then,” I said, “let’s make up. There’s no point in staying angry for the rest of our life.” There may have been times when he regretted making that statement, but it has definitely been a great comfort to me, and I’m holding him to it!

In “his walk and in his talk” I’ve learned a lot from Tommy about relationships. On our first date, one of his best friends said to me, “You’ll never really know Tommy until you hear him sing ‘I Believe.’ It will give you goose

bumps!” By the time I did hear him sing the song and listened to the words sang with such conviction, I knew why it had such an impact on others: “I believe above the storm the smallest prayer will still be heard. I believe that someone in the great somewhere hears every word. Every time I hear a newborn baby cry, or touch a leaf, or see the sky, Then I know why I believe.” (Drake, Graham, Shirl, and Stillman, 1952) The words expressed core beliefs on which his life is based. On our wedding night, he knelt by the bed, and asked God to guide us in our marriage. When our sons came along, I saw him instill in them his belief, “When faced with a choice, do what’s right.” When he made the decision to begin Lofton Staffing, he met with our pastor and prayed for God to help him build a company where “people could have fun...and be better”. We knew what he stood for.

On one of his birthdays (when I had not bought a present), I decided to type up the principles, values, and beliefs that I had learned from him—that not only define who he is but would provide guidance for others in planning and decision making at Lofton Staffing. I called it “I Believe...” by Tommy Lofton. He said it was the best present I had ever given him...and that made me happy. Most of you are familiar with these principles. Many apply not only to work, but to marriage and life as well: (a) Can I trust you? Do you care? Do you want to be better? (b) Problems are possibilities—opportunities to build relationships and trust. (c) When we help others, we help ourselves. (d) Remember...life is a temporary assignment. (e) Have a good day; you won’t get it back. (f) Why we do the things we do...for the joy of it. Here are just a few more I’ve learned from him in 50 years of marriage.

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15)
From the beginning this was a “given” in our relationship, and the thing that made it possible for Tommy to say after our first argument, “Divorce is not an option to be considered in this relationship.” He always trusted God and His timetable for our lives. When he started Lofton Staffing, I saw a love and passion for his work that I knew he had prayed for over the years, and I

said, “Don’t you wish you had done this years ago?” and he responded, “No, I wouldn’t have been ready then.”

Grow stronger together. Bret was in college and Bart was in high school when, while dusting, I accidentally found Tommy’s written goals for the new year. Three of the goals included specific ways he was going to help Bret, Bart, and me grow in the year ahead. It is one of my most cherished memories, knowing that he cared enough to write it down, and then do it. On March 24, 1988, when I was an applicant for state superintendent of education, Tommy wrote without my knowledge a letter of support for me. He wrote despite his reluctance “to give up his wife to the demands of the superintendency” noting that “this is a selfish reason and not a proper consideration since it is what she wants.” Apparently, Tommy instilled this unconditional love and desire to support others in his sons, because on April 19, 1988, I received a letter from Bret addressed to Dr. “Should Have Been Superintendent” Glenda Lofton.

Focus on what matters most. Because I was a career mom, I often found myself torn between my commitment to God, my family, and my work, and I had a hard time saying “no” when asked to do something. One day Tommy said to me in a quiet, sincere tone (not always his usual way of communicating when I “mess up”), “Would it help to remember that when you say yes to others, you’re saying no to me?” I can’t believe what a difference it made when I could honestly say, “I’m sorry. I have a prior commitment.”

Happy Anniversary, Tommy, and thanks for helping all of us—your family at home and at work-- have fun and be better!

“Perhaps in this issue the author was just a bit excessive in her credits to me over the years, however I think it mostly indicates that she does not have a gift for me again.”

-Tommy Lofton, Chairman Emeritus