



LAGNIAPPE

December 2009



Monthly Employee News

Celebrating 30 Years of Service



Lofton Security Service

Christmas Tree Safety

From: Fred Mingo, Director of Safety

These tips on Christmas tree safety will help you keep your holiday season free from accidents and injuries.

- * When purchasing a Christmas tree, pick a green, moist tree. The needles should bend and not break.
- * Once the tree is in your home, be sure to cut the bottom of the tree to expose the new wood. This will enable the tree to soak up water.
- * The tree should always have water in the stand, and the stand should be able to hold at least one gallon of water.



- * Always secure the tree to keep it from tipping over or leaning.
- * Never place your tree near ignition sources such as fireplaces, space heaters, candles, and overhead lights.
- * Miniature lights with cool-burning bulbs are safe to place on the tree.
- * Before going to sleep or leaving your home, turn off any Christmas lights.
- * When the holiday season is complete, be sure to dispose of your tree properly and NEVER burn your tree in your fireplace.

Keep these holiday tips for Christmas tree safety in mind and have a safe and **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Lofton Spotlight Lake Charles Branch



Lofton first opened the Lake Charles office in 1990 under our founding name of Olsten Staffing. In 2000, Olsten changed to Lofton Staffing and has serviced the Lake Charles area in various staffing and security needs ever since. The branch is run by a group of Lofton professional placement personnel including Angelle Hollier, Lori Barnett, Nic Sheppard, Roy Miles, and Noelle Kirkland.

Angelle Hollier began with Lofton in Lafayette as Payroll Manager. In 2007, Angelle was promoted to Regional Operations Manager which includes the Lake Charles office.

Lori Barnett is a native of Sulphur, LA and is a graduate of McNeese State University. Lori has worked as Account Manager for the Lake Charles branch since January 2003.

Nic Sheppard is a native of Doniphan, MO and a graduate of Arkansas State University. Nic joined the office in June of 2007 where he first worked as a temporary employee, but was then hired perm taking on duties in placements, payroll and a trained security guard. Nic is now in sales for the Lake Charles branch.



L to R: Noelle Kirkland, Angelle Hollier, Roy Miles, Lori Barnett & Nic Sheppard.

Roy Miles is a graduate of Lake Charles High School and attended McNeese State University. Roy left MSU to begin his law enforcement career and served as a Police Officer serving both in the Uniform Patrol and Crime Scene Division in Lake Charles and Sulphur. After leaving Law Enforcement, Roy worked security with local casinos. Roy joined the Lofton team in 2008 where he serves as Security Field Supervisor.

Noelle Kirkland is a native of Ragley, LA and a graduate of S. Beauregard High. She joined the Navy and served as a military police officer until 2009. Noelle is the first person you see at Lake Charles office, processing applicants and filling job orders.

Announcements

Lofton Staffing & Security will be closed on Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2010!



Open Enrollment

December is open enrollment for Lofton's mini-medical plan. The plan is going to continue to be offered through Benefits in a Card. You should be receiving a payroll stuffer with details on how to enroll. Should you have any questions, please contact Barbara Gregoire, Employee Benefits Coordinator @ 225-924-0200.

24 Hour On-Call

Please remember that Lofton Staffing & Security has a 24-hour answering service to receive calls while the office is closed in the evenings, on weekends and holidays. This includes Christmas and New Year's. If you are going to be late or cannot make it to your assignment for any reason, you must call and let us know.



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www.twitter.com/LoftonStaffing

Season of Hope By: Glenda G. Lofton, Ph.D.

In preparing for the annual performance of the Twin Living Christmas Trees at my church several years ago, I found that one of the songs kept echoing in my mind. Taken from the popular film, *Home Alone*, the song entitled *Some-where in My Memory* captured in melody and lyrics, the "precious moments, special people...all of the music, all of the magic" living in our memories of Christmases past. As I reflected on my most memorable Christmases, much to my surprise my thoughts kept returning to a Christmas Eve a few years before when I had attended the funeral of the husband of one of my dearest friends. When I spoke to her, I remarked how sad I was that her husband's death had come at Christmas. "Oh, don't let that make you sad," she said. "I love Christmas so much. It has really made everything much easier for me." Her words were reinforced a few moments later when the priest who was conducting the service noted that on the way to the funeral home he had passed homes decorated for Christmas, listened to the Christmas carols on the radio, and watched the excited faces of families as they celebrated the Christmas season. "Today," he said, "we too are here to celebrate what Christmas is all about—the hope made possible through the gift of God's son, Jesus Christ."

As I reflected on the thoughts and feelings of that moment, I found myself reliving a trip Tommy and I had made with friends in 2001 to the 600 acres of catacombs outside of Rome where thousands of Christians were buried and some had worshiped to avoid persecution during the years 200 to 300 A.D. Many of them died for their faith. The guide who conducted the tour said to us, "The people who are buried here would not want you to look at this as a place of death, but as a place of hope as

they anticipate the return of their Saviour, Jesus Christ."

At the conclusion of the tour one of the men on the tour unexpectedly turned to my friend, Carolyn, and asked, "Are you a Christian?" "Yes," she said, "and you?" "No," he said. "I'm an atheist." I can still hear her words as she turned to him and with a voice of genuine compassion



But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing, you may have life in his name.

said, "I'm so sorry. I pray that this will be the beginning of that hope for you." "Perhaps it will," he said sincerely. "Perhaps it will..."

This year my hope has been strengthened not only by singing in the Twin Living Christmas trees, but also by participation in a year-long international Bible study on the gospel of John. John, referred to as the disciple whom Jesus loved, was the only disciple present at his crucifixion, and the one to whom Jesus entrusted the care of his mother. Years later he wrote a detailed eyewitness account of his time with Jesus, the miraculous signs he did in the presence of his disciples, and the things he taught. After seeing his miracles, John writes that many believed, but some, like the man we encountered

at the catacombs, did not. At one point, John writes that many of his followers said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it..." They turned back and no longer followed Him. "You do not want to leave, too, do you?" Jesus asked the twelve. And Simon Peter who would later die for his faith answered, "Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (John 6: 60, 66-69) Near the end of his book John wrote, "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:60, 66-68)

As I anticipate Christmas 2009, I give thanks for John, the early disciples, and the people through the years who have lived and died that my family and I might know the hope of Christmas and for a country founded on Judeo-Christian principles where we are free to acknowledge and share our faith. And once again, in light of world events, there's a new song echoing in my head from the Twin Living Christmas Trees—

"We need a little Christmas right this very minute, candles in the window, carols at the spinet..."

From house to house we bring the message of the King again: Peace on the earth, good will to men..."

We need a little Christmas now!"

Merry Christmas and may you and your families experience the joy and hope of the season!



Darlene Mire: 20 Years of Service Lofton Gonzales

Lofton Staffing & Security Services is pleased to congratulate Darlene Mire for 20 years of service. Darlene began her career with Lofton in placements in 1989 in the corporate office in Baton Rouge then transferred to Gonzales in 2007 to be closer to her home in Ascension Parish.

"The key to Darlene's successful placements is attributed to her strong work ethic and integrity," says Rae Milano, Gonzales Branch Manager. "She has been successful over the past 20 years because of her desire to succeed and placing a quality candidate with the client's specific needs." We congratulate Darlene on her success with Lofton and look forward to working with her for many years to come.