

# LAGNIAPPE



**LOFTON**  
SECURITY  
SERVICE INC.

**Lofton** **Lofton**  
ENERGY SERVICES MEDICAL SERVICES

**Lofton**  
SAFETY SERVICES

## Monthly Employee News

March 2017

### Spring Cleaning Safety Tips By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

With the first official day of spring upon us, many people will be planning on doing a thorough spring cleaning around the house. But, did you know that some household cleaning products can become hazardous when stored or used improperly? Here are some safety tips to keep in mind while cleaning:

#### Use

- Open windows and turn on fans when using cleaners or other chemicals in the home.
- Read and follow the directions on all warning labels. Labels should be readable at all times.
- Never mix household cleaners together. This could result in an explosive reaction or dangerous gas.
- Use only approved chemicals to clean with. Never use gasoline to clean skin, clothes, auto parts, or floors.
- Clean up work areas. Put dangerous tools, adhesives, matches, or other work items away from children's reach.
- If spraying pesticides or other chemicals outdoors, don't spray on a windy day. The wind can carry the mist into unwanted areas or near people or animals.

#### Storage

- Properly store all chemicals—all poisonous and toxic chemicals should be stored under lock and key, away from children's reach. All products that release harmful fumes should not be stored inside.
- Check your barbecue grill for leaks and cracks, and be

sure to store any propane tanks away from your house and garage.

- If you clean out the medicine cabinet, keep all medications out of the sight and reach of children while working. For more information on disposing of unused medicines, visit [www.fda.gov/ForConsumers](http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers).
- Remove all fire hazards, including stacks of rags, newspapers, and magazines. Pay special attention to the spaces around your furnace, hot water tank, fireplace, space heaters, and dryer, as well as under the stairs.

#### Disposal

- Never dispose chemicals into the trash or pour down the drain.
- Never bury or burn leftover household cleaning or chemical containers.
- Never dispose of materials into the storm sewer.

#### First Aid

- If accidental poisoning occurs, call the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222 immediately.
- Every hazardous chemical has a safety data sheet that will tell you how to properly handle the chemical.
- The SDS provides you with what to do about first aid and accidental releases as well as much more.

### Rae Milano - Chamber Member of the Year

Rae Milano, Account Executive for Lofton Gonzales, was honored as Chamber Member of the Year, by the Ascension Chamber of Commerce. "Rae embodies the servant leadership that is the core philosophy of Lofton." Says Bart Lofton, Co-President. "Over the past 27 years with Lofton, Rae has enriched the lives of those she has served through her memberships and through her relationships with her clients, employees and co-workers. She cares about those she serves and we are truly thankful for her."

Rae serves as Chair for the Chamber's Ambassador Committee and on the board of the Ascension Parish Tourism Commission and the LA Chemical Industrial Alliance Board of Directors. She is a member of St. Elizabeth's Women's Advisory Council, Gonzales Rotary Club, City of Gonzales Diversity Committee, St. James Business and Industry Committee, a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, and a lector and Eucharistic minister at St. Anthony Catholic Church. Congratulations, Rae as Chamber Member of the Year!



Rae Milano with Bart Lofton, Co-President.

### What's Happening This Month

#### March 1

Ash Wednesday

#### March 12

Daylight Savings Begins



#### March 17

St. Patrick's Day



#### March 20

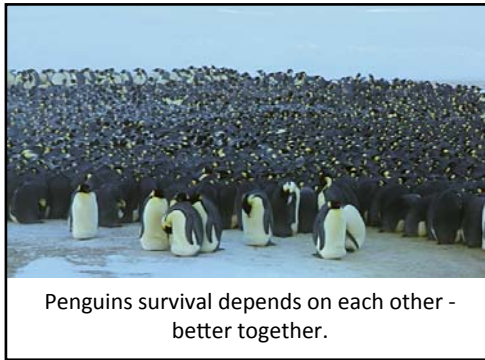
First Day of Spring



## Better Together By: Glenda G. Lofton, Ph.D.

At the recent Lofton Staffing Manager's Meeting, Tommy, as the founder of the company, and I were invited to the dinner by Bret and Bart, and that made us happy. At the dinner, Bret started telling me about the meeting and the talk he had given earlier about being "better together". He knew I would love it because of my work in SPUR, Louisiana's highly successful statewide school improvement project (1979-1988). The project involved people at the school and district level in collaborative planning, problem-solving and decision-making to improve teaching and learning. It was amazing to see different leaders emerge to meet different challenges. A five year follow-up study after the project ended showed that two-thirds of the districts and three-fourths of the schools were still getting better together and showed increased levels of student achievement (Effective Schools Research Abstracts, 1998-99).

Tommy, in his work as a consultant and as an employee in industry, had found that the same principles applied in the workplace as well, and the system of beliefs on which Lofton Staffing were founded reflect these principles. I remember once when he was a consultant to a struggling company, he received a letter of praise and gratitude from the company for his suggestions for improving productivity. I was



impressed. "How did you know what was needed?" I asked. He replied, "I just talked to the employees at all levels and asked them what needed to be done. Someone always knows. So I wrote it down, and gave it to them."

In keeping with those shared beliefs, Bret gave me some examples he had used in his talk to reinforce being better together. He had gotten them from a sermon he heard recently by a well-known pastor. As he told me the stories, I recalled that the church was established for just this reason: we need each other. The apostle, Paul, reminds the church, "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together...but

encourage one another (Heb. 10:24-25 NLT). Together in the church or the workplace we are better-- stronger, and more productive. Following are the three examples that show even nature reinforces being better together:

1. Do you know why geese fly in a v-formation? Flying together requires 40% less energy. Applied to those working together, that's 40% more productivity.
2. How do penguins survive in a climate 40 degrees below 0 and winds 120 mph? They survive by huddling together—about 6,000 penguins standing side by side. Their feathers catch and hold the warmth of all the bodies in the group. Survival is dependent on staying connected—drawing on the warmth and strength of each other.
3. How do redwood trees grow so tall and live 350 to 2000 years when their roots are only 6 to 12 feet long and 1 inch in diameter? The roots of each tree intertwine with others, spreading 100 feet, connecting with others around until the whole forest is linked together. Each tree is supported by the strength of the whole forest.

Thanks, Lofton family, for being great alone and better together!

## 4th Annual Red Stick Roux Rally

Lofton Staffing & Lofton Security participated in the 4th Annual Red Stick Roux Rally gumbo cook-off held in Baton Rouge. Proceeds from the Roux Rally benefited Baton Rouge's Youth Oasis, whose mission is...to provide emergency shelter and necessary support to runaway, abandoned, and homeless youth in the Baton Rouge area.

A great day to be together and show support to our community.



Christy Crabb & Lisa Babin help serve up gumbo & King cake at the rally.



Lofton's gumbo squad. L to R: Ernest Poinson, Steve Brock, Jay Babin, Shane Poinson, and Melvin Morgan.



## Officer Kudos

As if Rae's accomplishment was not enough, we have a few more shout-outs to some of our officers who also embody the servant attitude.

**Officer Bennie Woods**, Little Rock, was praised by our client for his servant attitude. "He is always smiling and does a great job." As with life, it's the little things that can make a difference. Keep up the good work, Bennie!

Another shout-out to **Officers John Savoy & Ginger York**, Lafayette. In February, our client took the time to write a letter to the manager to express their gratitude. "What a pleasure it is to have both John and Ginger working in this building with us! I've been with this company for eight years, and I don't think there has ever been Security Guards who, not only do an excellent job with their ordinary duties, but also who go far beyond in the courteous and genuine service they give all of us daily...consistently." Great job, John & Ginger. This again is the servant attitude that sets Lofton apart from other companies. Keep it up!

Last, but certainly not least, a shout-out to **Officer Ulysses Robertson**, New Orleans. Moving operations from one location to another can be stressful for clients, but having an officer like Ulysses can help. "Officer Robertson is extremely proactive and takes his job very seriously." Great job, Ulysses. Our officers truly make the difference!