

LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS

CELEBRATING  OF SERVICE
1979 2019

Spring Cleaning Safety By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

With the first official day of spring upon us, many people plan to do spring cleaning around the home. Spring is also a good time to add a few safety tasks to your list.

Mind the clutter. In the middle of a spring cleaning whirlwind, our homes become more cluttered with all the tools and supplies being used. Keep clutter off the floor as much as possible to avoid tripping and falling. This includes electrical cords.

Fire Extinguishers. Check your fire extinguisher and replace if needed. It should be checked regularly to ensure it's fully charged, easily accessible, and in good condition.

Change Batteries. Smoke detectors should be tested monthly and the batteries changed at least yearly. Flashlight batteries should be checked in prep for tropical storm season.

Check Doors. Be sure to check doors and locks to ensure the door is secure. These two elements are essential to door security – one swift kick to a weak jamb or frame and your door can open with ease.

Mind the Open Windows. Spring is a great time to open the windows and let that fresh spring air in. Remember, screens keep bugs out, but they do not keep children in.

Clean Out Chimneys and Gutters. Cleaning your chimney will help reduce the risk of fire as well as carbon monoxide buildup. This same principle goes for your roof gutters: not only is the buildup of debris a fire

hazard, but if your area is prone to rainfall, dirty gutters are a flooding hazard, as well.

Update Your First Aid Kit. Check your first aid kit and replace any missing or expired items. Make sure you have all the essentials, including bandages, water, and emergency phone numbers for the local poison control center and your family physician.

Clean Out the Medicine Cabinet. Properly dispose of all expired and unused medications in your home. Many medications are considered too dangerous to throw away or flush down the toilet, so call your pharmacy or local poison control center to find any drop-off sites that will take your expired medications.

Replace Filters. Indoor air can be up to five times more polluted than outdoor air – especially during the winter when we trap our indoor air inside with us. To help improve your indoor air quality, air out your house while spring cleaning, and clean or replace the filters on your air conditioning unit, as well as your dryer, vacuum, range hood, and refrigerator. Cleaning dust and lint from underneath as well as behind your refrigerator, washer and dryer can also prevent fires.

Check Outdoor Equipment. Inspect all outdoor use equipment including mowers, gas containers, sprayers, grills, propane tanks, and electrical cords. Any frays, cracks or leaks should be fixed or replaced before use.

Lofton 40th Anniversary Covington, LA

Lofton continued our year-long 40th Anniversary celebration with our Covington office on February 28th. It gave our employees and community the chance to “look behind the curtain” at everything that goes into providing staffing & security services to the Northshore. Look for the next scheduled open house on our FB page.

Pictured (L to R): Bart Lofton, Kelly Vest, Meredith Wright, Samantha Lemoine, Gene Lemoine and Carl Carver.



APRIL 2019

APRIL 1

April Fools Day



APRIL 15

Tax Day

APRIL 21

Easter



APRIL 22

Earth Day

APRIL 24

Administrative
Professionals Day

Lofton Staffing Services would like to salute all our amazing administrative assignment employees who positively contribute to not only Lofton's success, but to our clients success, as well. *"No one is more cherished in the world than someone who lightens the burden of another."*





Lofton Staffing Expands to Lafayette, 1987

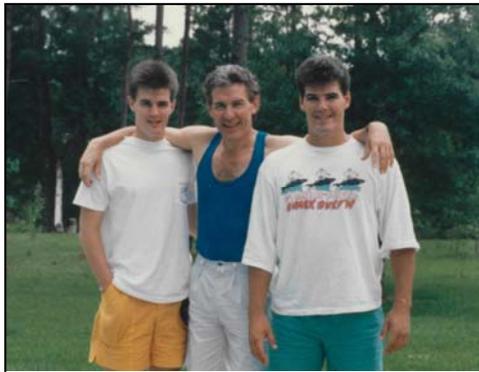
By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

As noted in last month's article, Bret after graduating LSU left Baton Rouge and moved to Lafayette in 1987 to open the first office away from the Baton Rouge area. He immediately rented an apartment on his own, and thankfully it was next door to The East Bayou Baptist Church. There, Pastor Mike Walker quickly adopted Bret as one of his sons, and promised me that if he didn't show up for church on Sunday he would go over there and get him! That proved to be unnecessary, however, because Bret was strong in his faith, and was soon singing solos with the church choir and music group. While Tommy made a few trips over to look at office locations with Bret, it was Bret who ultimately made the decision to locate the office in Tara Place West on Pinhook near the Vermillion River. He furnished the office, and hired his staff.

I, on the other hand, was more interested in Bret's living quarters. Not long after he moved in, I went to visit. The apartment was very nice, but unfurnished except for kitchen appliances. (I wasn't sure Bret would need a kitchen, because he and Bart had grown up with me, a career mom who pleaded with Tommy to take the family to the Picadilly Cafeteria every evening after work. When Bret made the decision to move into the dorms at LSU, he soon called to tell me he was the only person there that liked the dormitory food. It was so regular!) Other than the kitchen appliances, the apartment was still bare except for a bed frame and a mattress that Bret had purchased. As I mentioned previ-

ously, Tommy began work at 12 himself, and after his Dad's death at 52, he had learned to live with "the bare necessities." Business came first! I understood that, but I did go purchase him a sofa before I left that day. It was three years later that he would be able to purchase a small house and slowly begin to furnish it.

Over the years as the business began to grow, so did the space leased on Pinhook. Eventually, Lofton Staffing occupied over half of the large bottom floor. Sadly, the lease of that space ended with the major flood that



1987: Bart, Tommy, and Bret working together, playing together, growing stronger together.

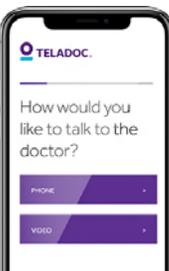
occurred in Lafayette just after the office had been totally redecorated with new office furniture. The Lafayette office is currently in the process of building a new office on "higher" ground that was purchased soon after the flood. As I was writing this article, I called Bret to reminisce. "Mom," he said, "it's hard to believe it has been 32 years since I moved here!" I agreed!

Simultaneous with the growth of the business was the growth of Bret's love for Lafayette, a place that I, being born in North Loui-

siana, referred to as "Cajun Country." I will never forget one day when he called me to say, "Mom, why in the world didn't your family come on down to "Cajun Country" a long time ago?!" Like my dad, Gordon Gaar, Bret grew up loving hunting and fishing, and he loved the people in the Lafayette area, especially those down in Pecan Island. He said he was born to be a Cajun. As further proof, he noted the name on his business card: "T. Bret" Lofton. (Tommy and I named Bret, like his brother "G. Bart" Lofton, after the "Maverick brothers," characters in my favorite TV show back in the 60's, so both our boys went by their middle names.) His friends in Pecan Island who were not always open to outsiders welcomed "T. Bret" from the beginning. Bret still loves accompanying his Pecan Island friends on their annual alligator hunts as well as on seasonal hunting and fishing trips.

On a personal note, while Lofton Staffing Services, doing business initially as Olsten Staffing Services was growing, the Lofton biological family was also growing. In 1992 both Bret and Bart married, Bret to Cindy, a neonatal nurse that he met in Lafayette and Bart to Michelle, a student he met when both were attending LSU. Although they married the same year, Bret and Cindy now have two children, Megan and Samuel, both in college, and Bart and Michelle have two children, Via in junior high and Zach, in elementary. How happy it makes me to know that both the "Lofton biological family" and the "Lofton Staffing family" are united by a common system of beliefs and are committed to "Growing Stronger Together."

Teladoc By: Mary Dixon, Benefits Coordinator



Teladoc gives you access 24 hours, 7 days a week to U.S. board-certified doctor through the convenience of a phone, video or mobile app visits. Set up your account so when you need care, a Teladoc doctor is just a call or click away.

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Lofton MVP: PHONE ETIQUETTE AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS Tusdy Shelton, Baton Rouge, for winning Lofton's MVP Award for Phone Etiquette!

Customer Service is not just a buzz word here at Lofton. It's a call to serve others that starts from the very first phone call. Our goal...to make each person feel better after they leave (or hang up) than they did when they first arrived or called. Congratulations, Tusdy Shelton and all our nominees.

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| Allie Labure | Kristina Metz |
| April Eaton | Lacey Taylor |
| Bria Anderson | Laurie Salazar |
| Carrie Sonnier | Marci Longnecker |
| Dominique Roberts | Mary Dixon |
| Felicia Douglas | Matthew Bailey |
| Joy Lemoine | Michelle Champagne |
| Julie East | Nikki Wiggins |
| Kara Urban | Robin White |



Scott Bull presenting Lofton's MVP Award for Phone Etiquette to Tusdy Shelton, Baton Rouge Scheduling Coordinator.