

# LAGNIAPPE

## MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS

CELEBRATING



OF SERVICE

### Workplace Heat Stress By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

With the summer upon us, one concern that seems to sneak up on workers during high heat periods is heat-related illness. Working in a hot, humid environment can be difficult or even fatal if you ignore the signs and symptoms of heat-related disorders. While our bodies have several ways of maintaining a safe temperature (like sweating), it becomes much more difficult in a hot environment. When the body is unable to cool itself and begins to overheat, heat stroke is a likely outcome. When your body temperature reaches 104°F, you are suffering a heat stroke.

What are the symptoms?

- High body temperature
- Nausea/vomiting
- Flushed or red, dry skin
- Rapid, shallow breathing
- Headache or dizziness
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness
- Muscle weakness/cramps
- No sweating

Heat stress is the body's response to heat loading. Factors that contribute to heat stroke include:

- Environmental heat source
- Amount of exertion required to perform a task
- Amount of time spent in hot or humid conditions
- Type of clothing worn

Reacting to heat stroke: It's imperative to have a good emergency plan to deal with heat illness, including calling 911, when you suspect someone is suffering a heat stroke. There are other actions you can take immediately to aid a heat stroke victim:

- Move the person to a cool area.
- Remove PPE and excess clothing.
- Apply ice packs to the armpits, groin, neck, and back. If ice packs are not available, try to cool the person's body temperature by fanning air, while wetting his or her skin.
- Monitor and maintain their airway, breathing and circulation.

### Special Officer Kudo



Special recognition goes to **Officer Karissa Jones** in Lafayette, for going above and beyond the call of duty! During Tropical Storm Barry, Officer Jones was asked to assist in providing storm coverage for a New Iberia customer. While on duty, Officer Jones noticed a vehicle that had been pulled into a ditch beneath high flood waters. Officer Jones reacted quickly, helping to escort both children and staff passengers to safety. Her willingness to serve others in this potentially dangerous situation is commendable.



We are proud to be on your team, Officer Jones, and deeply appreciate your commitment to Lofton Security!

### AUGUST 2019

It's back-to-school month! To help get the kids adjusted back into the school routine, try these tips:

- Set your kids' sleep schedules back to "school time" at least two weeks before.
- Visit cultural attractions like museums to shift their brains into learning mode.
- Squeeze in at least one more book to get the mind in gear.
- Set your kids screen time rules back into affect at least one week before.
- Organize their closet with school uniforms or school approved clothing for easy access.
- Go through undergarments, socks, hair ties, etc. Replace worn items with new ones.
- Organize the food pantry with after school approved snacks.
- Arrange playdates with two or three of your kids friends to rebuild existing social ties.
- Set an alarm each morning at a designated time to get the kids adjusted to waking up on time.
- Let the kids help shop for school supplies.
- Check inventory of old backpacks, pencil bags, etc. to help save on expenses.
- Set an after-school schedule that allows time for snack, relaxation, play and study.





## Sad Endings, New Beginnings

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

As noted in the articles celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Lofton Corporation began back in 1978 when Tommy Lofton purchased a franchise from the Olsten Corporation and opened the first office in 1979. In November 1991, William (Bill) Olsten, founder of Olsten and a pioneer in the temporary-employment business died unexpectedly in his sleep of natural causes at his home in Old Westbury, Long Island. He was 72 years old. His death made headlines in *The New York Times*. In March of 1990, he had stepped down as Chief Executive Officer but remained active as Chairman of the Olsten Corporation which he had founded 40 years earlier. Starting with a one-man office in New York City, he expanded to open more than 700 offices in every state. His son, Stuart Olsten, became President and Chief Operating Officer in the 1990 realignment. When Tommy opened Lofton Staffing as a franchise of Olsten 40 years ago, we attended annual meetings with Bill Olsten, one at his home on Long Island in New York. After his death, his son, Stu, was kind enough to send Tommy the attached picture he had found in his dad's desk drawer, with the comment, "Great picture of Glenda." Tommy is in the picture, too. He just happened to have his head turned—working as always.

On August 25, 1999, the Olsten Corporation made the decision to sell to Adecco of Switzerland. Although we were saddened, as Tommy noted in a letter to our clients back then, to see

the name of Olsten fade locally and nationally, four of the approximately 50 franchises made the decision to remain independently owned and operated companies including the Hawkins' in San Antonio, the Arnolds' in Kansas City, and the Ruchs' in Columbus, Ohio. To assist us in that endeavor, we hired our now longtime friend and attorney from Chicago, Marc Seidler, to negotiate for us.



Tommy & Glenda at an Olsten meeting,  
March 1979.

(Marc later would tell us that he'd had many friends become clients, but this was the first time a client had become a close friend.) With Marc's help, on August 16, 2000, Tommy announced the name change in a letter to our clients. The name, he noted, had changed, but "our business philosophy, operating procedures, benefit programs and management procedures would remain in place"—all of which were unique to the Lofton Corporation from the beginning. At that time we had six offices in Baton Rouge, Beaumont, Texas, Gonzales, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and LaPlace. Since that time we have added locations in Houston, Texas, 2001; New Orleans, 2003; Covington, 2007; Houma, 2014; Little

Rock, Arkansas and Jackson, Mississippi, 2015.

The year 2000 was a time of ending and beginning for me personally as well as for Lofton Staffing. After 11 years as a classroom teacher, 11 years at the State Department of Education, and 11 years as a college professor, much to Tommy's dismay, I decided to retire. He thought I was too young to retire, but I wanted to be a Grandmere to Bret's children in Lafayette, Megan and Samuel, (and eventually to Bart's two, Via and Zach). I had been a career mom, and although I loved my work and Mamaw Lofton did a great job watching over Bret and Bart, I was ready. I continued to write a research column for the Louisiana Reading Association, and our pastor, Tommy French, had me write a few articles for the *Louisiana Baptist Message*, and THEN Tommy decided I needed to write articles for Lofton Staffing. He was right! I've loved it! When I wrote my first four articles in April, May, June, and July of 2000, we were still an Olsten franchise, and the newsletter was entitled "The Lofton Corporation's OLSTEN OUTLOOK". In the April and July articles I was able to relate success in athletics to the proven principles of teamwork that characterize effective organizations. Effective organizations are made up of people who trust one another, complement each other's strengths, compensate for each other's limitations, have common goals that are larger than individual goals, and produce extraordinary results. The group functions as a whole, and the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Eighteen years later, we're proud to say, Lofton Staffing continues to believe in and model these principles.

## Rae Milano Honored

By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing & Recruiting

Congratulations, Rae Milano, Account Executive Gonzales, on attaining the **Ascension Chamber of Commerce's 2019 Women in Business Leadership Award**. Rae embodies the impression of servant leadership in countless ways. She is a past board member and past Chairwoman of the Ascension Chamber Board. She has served on various committees for the chamber including Golf Ascension Membership and Total Resource Campaign. Currently, Rae is Chair for the Chamber's Ambassador Committee, Leadership Ascension Alumni, a current member of the Gonzales Rotary Club where she serves as Program Coordinator, Chairwoman of the Ascension Parish Tourism Commission, serves on the LA Chemical Industrial Alliance Board of Directors, and Chairwoman of the OLOL Ascension Women's Advisory Council. Congratulations, Rae!



Rae Milano, Lofton Staffing & Security Account Executive in Gonzales with Chamber President, Barker Dirmann.

Rae celebrated 29 years with Lofton in July 2019.

## We Did It Again!



Lofton was awarded ClearlyRated's **Best of Staffing Diamond Award for 2019**. This makes Lofton's 9th year to earn ClearlyRated's Best of Staffing Award.

## Forbes

Lofton Staffing Services was also named to the prestigious **Forbes America's Best Professional Recruiting Firms** in 2019 and 2018.

Thank you! We could not have achieved this honor without the relationships we have built. We are better...together.