







MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS

December 2018

Holiday Safety

By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

Christmas is a time of joy and giving, but sometimes it can be tragic due to fires. Did you know that 12% of home fires in December are caused by candles and 43% are caused by electrical problems? Increased use of candles and fireplaces, combined with an increase in the amount of combustible, seasonal decorations present in many homes, means more risk for fire. Following are a few simple tips to ensure a happy and safe holiday season.

- When purchasing a Christmas tree, pick a green, moist tree. The needles should bend and not
- If purchasing an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled or certified as fire retardant.
- The tree should always have water in the stand to prevent drying out.
- · NEVER place your tree near ignition sources such as fireplaces, space heaters, candles, and overhead lights.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Before going to sleep or leaving your home, turn off any Christmas lights.
- NEVER use candles to decorate the tree.
- NEVER leave burning candles unattended or sleep in a room with a lit candle.
- Make sure candles are on a stable surface and out of reach of children.
- When the holiday season is complete, be sure to dispose of your tree properly.
- NEVER burn your tree, wreaths or wrapping paper in the fireplace, which can contribute to creosote buildup.

· Check and clean the chimney and fireplace area at least once a year.



Year End W-2

It's almost that time of year again - W-2's! It's important to review your paystubs this month to make sure the following are correct:

- Your address
- State and federal withholdings
- Your social security number

If you worked for more than one department, i.e. Security, Clerical, Industrial, Medical, you will receive a W-2 for each. If you need to make any changes (address, etc.), you can log into your account through the employee login on the Lofton website, or contact your local payroll department immediately. Changes must be called into the payroll department by January 15th. W-2(s) will be mailed no later than the last day in January. W-2's can also be printed from your Lofton online account (employee paystubs link) in mid February.

Survey Reminder

Beginning the week of December 3rd, a short survey will be emailed out asking a few questions about our service here at Lofton Staffing & Security. It would help us greatly if you could spend a few of minutes completing the survey online. These Lofton surveys help us to continue to deliver and/or improve our service each year.

The email will be from Inavero Survey. If you do not receive the email, please let us know and we will get one sent out to you.

** Everyone who participates in this online survey will be entered in a drawing for a Best Buy Gift Card.



What's **Happening This** Month

December 2 - 10

Hanukkah



December 21

First Day of Winter

December 24 **Christmas Eve**

December 25 Christmas Day

The Lofton offices will be closed Tuesday, December 25th

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!



Follow Us!









"Out of the Mouths of Babes"

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

As a second grade teacher of eleven years, I relied on the thoughts of children to lift my spirits and brighten my days. Since then, I have been blessed to rely on my four grandchildren. Looking back, I can't believe it has been ten years since my granddaughter, Olivia, then two, decided she would prefer to be called "Via," and at the Lofton Staffing Christmas party reminded her Parrain, Fred Hebert, to "pay attention" as she told him the Christmas story. To help Fred, she held up the characters from the manger scene that her Great-Mamaw Gaar had lovingly made for her mom and dad before she was born. (Today Fred and Mamaw are in heaven, but we know we will see them again.)

At four, Via was still learning (and so were we). This time she was attending a weekly Bible Study with her mom and Mamere (that's Olivia's name for me) on the book of Isaiah. As you know, Isaiah was a prophet who wrote about 700 B.C. to call the nation of Judah back to God and to tell of God's plan to send a Messiah to save the world. Even Isaiah's name carries a message; it means "the Lord saves." He has been called the Shakespeare of Hebrew literature, and the New Testament quotes him more than all the other prophets combined. His writing is complex and sometimes difficult for even adults to understand, however, I was particularly interested in Via's insights. As I did

with my students, my children, and now my grandchildren, I always reminded Via to listen carefully so she could tell me what she learned. (When my grandson Samuel, now in college, was 12, he not only listened to the sermon at church but took notes and handed them to me before I could ask. No greater gift for Grandmere, Samuel's name for me, and I could tell he knew that!)

One day when we were driving home from Bible study, Via, like Samuel, began to tell me



"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

what she had learned before I even asked. Her face was pensive and her tone was serious. "Mamere," she said, "God told Isaiah that we choose to be good or bad." "Oh Via," I said, "I hope you choose to be good." "I was good today," she answered as she showed me the stamp on her hand for good behavior. She sat there a minute, and then she added

solemnly, "And Mamere, when you're bad, it stains your heart, and only God can make it clean." I was so proud. At four, she had summarized the main message of Isaiah. However, a few days later, she helped me to understand "the rest of the story." I had asked her to wash her hands, and she looked at me and said, "No, I don't want to." "Olivia, I said, "remember what you learned from Isaiah? You choose to be good or bad; you choose to obey or disobey." She stood there a moment and said as she pointed to her body, "Mamere, this side is good, and this side is bad." And that, I thought to myself, is why we all need the Messiah that Isaiah wrote about so long ago.

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of the Messiah, and we are reminded that "God so loved the world (even though we're part good and part bad) that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). The week Via had this lesson, she reminded her mom and dad to say the blessing at dinner time. "God wants us to praise Him," she said. It is interesting to note that years ago King David through whom the Messiah would come wrote. "Out of the mouths of babes...God has ordained praise" (Ps.8:2). Jesus himself referred to this scripture when the children saw the miracles and the wonderful things He did and shouted, "Hosanna (praise) to the Son of David" (Mat. 21:9). At this Christmas season, I hope that you will take the time to learn with and from your family and together give Him praise.

UMR's NurseLine

By: Mary Dixon, Benefits Coordinator



No one likes to feel alone when it comes to their health. When we have questions about a minor medical issue, we want answers fast! A call to

UMR's NurseLine service will connect you to a team of registered nurses who can answer your questions and provide advice.

BY PHONE

Calling UMR's NurseLine is easy. Simply call the toll free number on the back of your member ID card. Nurses are available 24/7. The best part - It's part of your health benefits, so there is no cost to you!

CHAT ONLINE

Log into your account at umr.com and select **Health Center** from myMenu to live chat with nurses who can answer questions and provide information about common conditions, treatments and preventative care.

Lofton Staffing Services was honored as one of the 2018 LSU 100: Fastest Growing Tiger Businesses. The LSU 100 is a highly competitive program that identifies, recognizes and celebrates the 100 fastest growing LSU graduate-owned or LSU graduate-led businesses in the world.

Lofton Staffing was founded by Tommy Lofton, LSU class of 1960, and is now in its second generation, run by brothers Bret Lofton, LSU class of 1987 and Bart Lofton, LSU class of 1989. This is Lofton's third year as an LSU 100 honoree.

We are very appreciative of those who helped us to achieve it, including our inside team, our assignment employees and our clients.

LSU ONE HUNDRED fastest growing tiger businesses 2018 HONOREE



Bart Lofton, Michelle Lofton and Tommy Lofton at the LSU 100 awards banquet.