

LOFTON LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Top Workplace Related Injuries By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

Accidental injuries in the workplace have become an increasing problem for thousands of workers in the U.S. According to the National Safety Council, workplace injuries account for over 70,000 lost work days annually due to workplace injuries totaling over \$161.5 billion in lost wages, medical expenses, productivity loss, etc. Below are the top 8 causes of workplace injuries (annually):

- #1 Overexertion, bodily reaction: 282,860
- #2 Falls, slips, trips: 240,160
- #3 Contact with objects/equipment: 235,740
- #4 Transportation incidents: 50,650
- #5 Violence and other injuries by persons or animals: 44,000
- #6 Exposure to harmful substances or environments: 40,130
- #7 Nonclassifiable: 5,360
- #8 Fire and explosions: 1,480

The top three leading causes of work-related injuries- Overexertion and bodily reaction, Slips, trips and falls, and Contact with objects and equipment - account for

more than 84% of all nonfatal workplace injuries. Every worker needs to understand the data in order to help prevent future injuries and possible death.

To help prevent workplace injuries, be sure to follow your workplace safety procedures.

Educate: Know the Hazards

Evaluate: Create a Safe Work Area; Inspect equipment; Pay attention

Engage: Use Safe Lifting/Operating Techniques; Use Personal Protective Equipment; Communicate

While there is no way to completely eliminate workplace accidents, if every worker takes proactive steps, preparations, and actions, they can help reduce incidents. Remaining safe at the workplace and preventing accidents is a full-time commitment. Educate – Evaluate – Engage.

As Lofton employees, if you ever experience a workplace accident while on assignment, be sure to call the office IMMEDIATELY. 24/7 On-call Support.

Lofton Receives Best of Staffing® Service Award - 10 Years

We are very proud to announce that Lofton Staffing & Security has been named to the exclusive list of Best of Staffing Service Award winners for the 10th straight year!



The Best of Staffing award is given to staffing firms who beat industry standards in providing superior service to their clients and employees (talent). Lofton is in an exclusive firm to earn the Best of Staffing award for 10 straight years.

How exclusive? It is estimated that no more than 8 of the several thousand staffing firms in the U.S. and Canada have earned this distinction.

What does this mean? Earning this award for 10 straight years says a lot. We utilize the surveys to measure our progress and results against ourselves year after year. We take the good with the bad to improve our service standards to not only you, our employees, but to our clients and the community. We come together as a team to serve others through employment. We did great! But, even with winning for 10 years in a row, we will continue to take steps to improve our service standards to you, our clients and to each other.

We would like to thank each of you who have been placed on assignment or security post. You are an important part of this success. Great job everyone! We don't just say that we have the best service in the industry, **WE PROVE IT!**

MARCH 2020

MARCH 8

Daylight Savings Begins



MARCH 17

St. Patrick's Day



MARCH 19

1st Day of Spring





“A Sentimental Journey”

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

Recently I took a short trip out to Pride, LA where my longtime friend and coworker, Betty and her husband, Russ, now live. (Betty was originally from Winn Parish in north Louisiana where my family was from. I knew her mom, a distant relative, but I didn't know Betty until we worked together at the State Department of Education in the late 70's and 80's.) I went to pick up a book Betty had ordered for me, Refugee by Alan Gratz, a New York Times Bestseller for young readers that we will be discussing with our Delta Kappa Gamma Education group in April. However, for me, the drive turned out to be a sentimental journey. My dad, Gordon Gaar, taught and coached at Pride High School until his early retirement due to Parkinson Disease. For the first four years that he taught there (1951-1954), we rented a house, and I attended grades 5-8. We had hoped to buy a house, but no one wanted to sell their property, so we eventually moved to Baton Rouge, and Dad commuted.

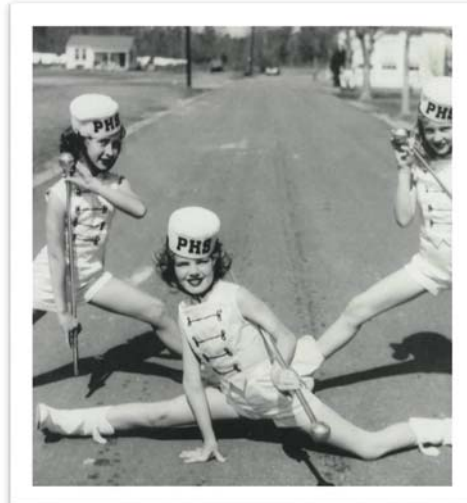
As I turned off Greenwell Springs Road onto Pride Road, I could not believe the emotion I felt and the memories that surfaced. Unlike my first drive there with Mom and Dad so many years before, the road was no longer gravel. When we turned on that narrow road the first time, I remember my mom's words, "No wonder you got the job. You were probably the only one that could find it!!!" On my right, the same Methodist Church was still there surrounded by a "larger" cemetery. A few miles down the road on the right, the Forbes' old house was still there, but the house where we had lived on the ridge above Sandy Creek was gone. As I passed by our house's location, I remembered the garden where we grew our food, our chicken house, and the creek behind

the house where I helped Dad set out "trout lines" to add fish to our diet. I also remembered the flood that forced us to wade to the Forbes' house which was on a higher hill than ours. Thankfully, the water came right up to the floor level of our house, and then went down. On the left I passed the Henderson's house and the pasture land where they



Dad and my classmates.
One of his champion teams.

raised cows. They had one of the first telephones in the area. It was on a "party line" meaning several homes shared the same line, and you picked up when your unique ring sounded. Even if we could have afforded a telephone back then, the lines were not available, but the Hendersons were wonderful about sharing their phone with the neigh-



Barbara Ann, Glenda, and Dale ready to perform!

bors. We didn't have a TV back then either until my dad's half-sister, Aunt Evelyn, came and helped us buy one on credit and an antenna to pick up the few channels available.

Next I crossed the bridge over Sandy Creek, passed the road that once led to the Girl Scout Camp, and on my right the house where Miss Lena McRae, my sixth grade teacher, lived. She was the teacher who brought fear to all students. If you misbehaved, she grabbed you by the shoulders and shook you until your teeth rattled! I was always "very good" in her class. Just down the road from her house, on the left, was a small country store (now gone) where we bought groceries and chicken feed stored in pretty cotton print bags that my mom used to make clothes for my brother and me.

Not too far from there was Betty and Russ's home surrounded by the barns where Russ trains horses and riders to ride and compete. We had a great visit and together relived many memories. I told Betty I wished I had time to travel on down the road five miles or so to see the construction of the "new" and growing Sandy Creek Baptist Church that our family had attended so many years before, or to see the former location of Pride High School which sadly is no longer there. To follow other country roads I traveled with Dad when he dropped off his basketball players after each game, and to visit the homes of longtime friends that still live there, particularly Dale and Barbara Ann who were majorettes with me back then and marched with me in my first New Orleans Mardi Gras parade. Betty knows both of them now, and has promised to travel with me soon on the second lap of my sentimental journey.

For employees and clients of Lofton Staffing, I hope the 40th Anniversary which we celebrated in 2019 was also a sentimental journey for you as it was for my family and me, and I look forward to the next lap of the journey as we live, learn, have fun, get the job done, and grow stronger together!



Officer Promotions

Congratulations to the following Officers on their recent promotions. Thank you for your dedication to our clients, officers and the community!

You earned it!



Paul LeBleu, Lake Charles, promoted to the rank of Captain.



Officer Timmy Atkinson, Lafayette, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.



Officer Chris Stelly, Lafayette, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.