

LOFTON LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Spring Cleaning Safety By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services



With spring upon us, many people plan to do some 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.

Administrative Professionals' Week

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

Administrative Professionals' Day is on April 21st, but celebrated the entire week. There are more than 22 million administrative and office support professionals working throughout the United States. Thank you!



APRIL 2021

APRIL 1

April Fools Day

APRIL 2

Good Friday

Lofton offices will be **CLOSED** on Friday, April 2nd in observance of Good Friday.

APRIL 4

Easter



APRIL 15

Tax Day

APRIL 21

Administrative Professionals' Day



Happy
Administrative Professionals'
Day





“You Decide - 2021”

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

Life is filled with decisions for all of us - some with long term consequences. For that reason, I paid particular attention during the recent presidential election. Our country was founded on the belief that the freedom to decide is a God-given right, that we are "endowed by our creator with certain unalienable rights, among them Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." However, when God gave us the right to decide, He also gave us the right to decide about Him as well.

The bad news is that since our beginning, we have consistently chosen our independence over a relationship with God. The good news is that God loved us so much that He came up with a plan to restore that relationship - a relationship built on mutual love and trust. The Bible tells the history (His story) of the relationship between God and man and reveals His plan. In Part I of God's plan, He gave us rules to live by. Through Joshua God pleads, "Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses...Oh that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! You can make the choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying Him and committing yourself firmly to Him. This is the key to your life" (Deuteronomy 30:19-20a, NLT). But once again we made the wrong decisions. Even when we tried, we broke the rules (we sinned), and as God had warned, our disobedience had a penalty - death and

separation from Him. Thankfully, God's plan for us had a Part II - to send a Messiah, a Saviour, to do what we could not do: "For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16-21, NLT). The Bible tells us that God's son, Jesus, died on the cross to take the penalty for our disobedience, that He rose from the dead, and conquered sin and death. Through faith and trust in Him we can reestablish the relationship with God that He wanted with us from the beginning. Yet God does not force His love upon us. Each of us decides.



For some the decision is easy. Bret Lofton was only six years old when the pastor of our church asked those who had decided to accept God's plan to come to the front of the church. Tommy and I were singing in the choir, and Crowe Peel, former NCAA boxing champion for LSU, was sitting with Bret. All three of us were shocked when Bret walked to the front to make his commitment. Later, when the pastor, talked to him to be sure he understood what he was doing, he said,

"Well, I've been believing that Jesus was my Saviour so I decided I may as well tell somebody." Thankfully Tommy, Bret, and I watched Bart profess his faith at the age of 10. Both Bret and Bart married believers and since then all four of our grandchildren have put their faith in Jesus.

For others like Josh McDowell, well-known author, the decision was not so easy. In college he recalls thinking that Christians must be "out of their minds." He put them down. He argued against their faith. But eventually he saw that his arguments wouldn't stand up. In 1959, he repented, decided that God was real, and asked Him "to make him the person He had created him to be." Since then he has spent his life collecting historical evidence that the Bible is true, and that Jesus was who He said He was. As summarized in the title of one of his books, now in two volumes, he calls it Evidence that Demands a Verdict.

Sadly in today's world, we see not only a lack of faith in God but an attack on Christianity and the principles on which America was founded. What do you believe and why do you believe it? YOU decide...but, as one of my favorite radio talk show hosts used to say when he signed off from his daily broadcast, "If you decide there is no God, you'd better be right!"

Easter is a great time for reflecting and remembering, as Tommy often reminds us, that "Life is a Temporary Assignment." Here's wishing all of you a Blessed and Happy Easter!

P.S. Tommy also said that I've quit writing and started preaching.

Caring For Your Pets While You Are Working

Ever feel guilty about leaving your pets all day without stimulation? Do you worry about their mental health and overall wellbeing? Wouldn't it be great to keep them occupied and engaged while you are at work? Cable television has introduced a pet channel, but there is only so much TV a dog can watch. Well, Google has introduced Google Play for Pets. It's a new category of online games, apps and training tools to keep your pets occupied in your absence!

With the Google Pets category, you can choose engaging apps like Exterminator Mouse Hunter for cats, Angry Birds for chickens, and Newbie Treat Academy for dogs. There is even a feature for owners to play head-to-head for more personal play time! Your pet can earn rewards on leader boards that you can trade in for treats through Google Pay.

At home, at the office and everywhere in between, you can stop worrying about your pets' mental health. And if you believe that...you'll be interested in Google's other feature in finding lost socks, the Samsung rubber phone, and Uber's baby delivery to your office, because you've been April Fooled!

