

LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS

CELEBRATING OF SERVICE

1979 2019

Hurricane Preparedness

By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

It's that time of year again...hurricane season. The hurricane season runs from June 1st to November 30th. While hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property, tropical storms and depressions also can be devastating. Floods from heavy rains and severe weather, such as tornadoes, can cause extensive damage and loss of life.

A violent tropical cyclone with constant wind speeds of 75 miles per hour or more is known as a hurricane. A category 5 hurricane is the strongest storm, with wind speeds of 155 miles per hour and higher. A hurricane watch means conditions pose a possible hurricane threat in a specific area, usually within 36 hours. Are you prepared? Here are some things to do to prepare for a hurricane:

- Have plenty of cash on hand.
- Plan multiple escape routes.
- Plan where to go if told to evacuate.
- Learn locations of official shelters.
- Ensure vehicle(s) have plenty of gas.
- Prepare a supply kit, including batteries, candles,

flashlights, first aid kit, portable radio, non-perishable food, and several days' water supply.

- Don't forget prescription medications.
- Prepare sanitation items, including toilet paper, personal hygiene items, towels, baby wipes, etc.
- Prepare items for pets including, food, kennel, collars, leashes for each pet.
- Prepare the interior of your home.
- Prepare the exterior of your home.
- Bring in light-weight objects, such as garbage cans, garden tools, toys and lawn furniture.
- Don't drive in low-lying or flooded areas.

After the hurricane is over, keep listening to the radio or television for instructions. When local officials tell you it is safe, you may return home. While no one knows where the next hurricane may form or hit, being prepared is a good defense.

To stay prepared, you can log onto the National Hurricane Center at www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare and download the Hurricane Preparedness Guide.

Lofton 40th Anniversary Lafayette, LA

Lofton continued our year-long 40th Anniversary celebration with the Lafayette team on April 5th. The groundbreaking ceremony had to be moved to the office location due to weather, but you couldn't tell from the support from Acadiana. Check out more photos on Facebook.



Good times start with Good food. Jay Babin and Terrill Torres cook up jambalaya while Carrie Sonnier and Kaydee Parich help themselves.



Architectural plans of the new Lafayette office soon to start construction. L to R: Tommy Lofton, Angelle Hollier, Bret Lofton and Kaydee Parich.



Lafayette crew toasts in celebration of 40 years of service and to new beginnings. Congratulations!

JUNE 2019

JUNE 6

D-Day



JUNE 14

Flag Day



JUNE 16

Father's Day



JUNE 19

Juneteenth

JUNETEENTH

Celebrate Freedom

JUNE 19

JUNE 21

First Day of Summer





Teaming for Excellence

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

On November 29, 1990, 12 years after Lofton Staffing became a franchise of Olsten Staffing, Tommy Lofton purchased our current home office building at 9414 Interline Avenue running parallel to Interstate 10 in Baton Rouge. In 1996, he purchased a lot for additional parking across the street. Unlike his first leased office on Corporate Blvd. in which we picked out the "bare necessities," Tommy allowed me to be a little more creative in helping him furnish his office with an antique oak desk, and matching cabinet and chairs. I also continued to assist him in providing training for all staff members in all offices. One of my favorite sessions was a one-day event in February 1996 at the Lafayette Hilton on the Vermillion River across the street from the Lafayette office. It began with a Continental Breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and concluded with a dinner at 7:00 p.m. Then and now we emphasized having fun AND getting the job done!

Prior to the meeting, each office was provided a copy of the agenda entitled, "Growing Stronger Together" and each office was asked to provide a status report including (1) a summary of 1995 accomplishments, (2) concerns, and (3) 1996

goals. Also included with the agenda was a copy of the planning form to be used in the afternoon breakout session to establish concrete, measurable criteria for excellence. The forms were provided so that each office would have the opportunity to review them before the Lafayette meeting and begin thinking about measurable criteria for excellence.



Tommy Lofton's new office, 1991.

In between the status reports and the planning session on the agenda, a Lou Holtz video on "Teaming" was shown to the group. (Yes, many of the same principles apply to sports and business, and as I'm writing this, I just saw LSU's baseball team beat Auburn in the final moments of the ninth inning!) According to Lou Holtz, "a team is a group of people all committed to each other's success. Success is predicated on how well we work together.

There are three rules for developing teamwork: (1) Do what's right. (2) Be committed to excellence. (3) Care!" Holtz continued, "There are three universal questions at the heart of any relationship: (1) Can I trust you? (2) Do you care? (3) Do you want to be better?" Tommy really believed in and reinforced these questions in his relationship with staff, and concurred with Lou Holtz, on the following statement: "The leader's job is to get people to believe in themselves...Attitude is everything, and that's something we control. God gave us the power to love, think, create, imagine, plan, but the greatest power we have is the power to choose." This caring applies not only to staff within our offices but also to all the staff we assign to other companies and to those who apply at our office for work.

In this technological age when so many are applying online, it is so easy to lose that personal touch and let people know we care. The last verse of Edgar Guest's poem, "Teamwork" which we read at the training session sums it up well:

You may think it fine to be praised for skill,
But a greater thing to do
Is to set your mind and set your will
On a goal that's just in view;
It's helping your fellowman to score
When his chances hopeless seem;
It's forgetting self-till the game is o'er
And fighting for the team.

Open Enrollment

By: Mary Dixon, Benefits Coordinator

Open enrollment will be held **July 18th through July 26th**. Don't miss out! Be sure to verify your contact information on file with Lofton. Information will be emailed and/or texted so confirm your information with Lofton is up-to-date!



Officer Kudos

Congratulations to **Officer Sandra Reuben**, Lafayette. Officer Reuben did such an outstanding job that our client posted a message on the Security Facebook page.

"I just wanted to compliment one of your staff who worked Festival International in Lafayette this past week. Sandra Reuben was a very courteous and caring employee! She really deserves some type of recognition! I thank her for her help and thank you for employing her!"

Another shout-out to the officers who worked the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society event in **Little Rock, AR**.

"Hi Tom, We had the largest fundraising event in LLS history here in Arkansas! Thank you for being attentive to our needs for extra manpower the night of the event. What professionals you all are!"

Lofton MVP: HAVE FUN & BE BETTER AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS Kaydee Parich, Lafayette for winning Lofton's MVP Award for Have Fun & Be Better. Our founder, Thomas Lofton's vision was to create a work environment where it is possible to have fun, while working to get the job done, and be better through that process. Kaydee embodies those principles by making Lofton a GREAT place to work!

Congratulations, Kaydee Parich and all our nominees!



- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Addie McKee | Francesca Shreve | Rae Milano |
| Amanda Knapp | Gene Lemoine | Roy Cates |
| Amy Duffy | Jay Babin | Samantha Lemoine |
| Angelle Hollier | Jeremy Olivier | Sandra Hughes |
| Bobby Dickson | Julie East | Sarah Dunbar |
| Brian Anderson | Kara Urban | Scott Bull |
| Byron Blanchard | Kaydee Parich | Sean Henagan |
| Courtney Thompson | Kim Cancienne | Sherry Blattenberger |
| Cpt. Carson Griggs | Lauren Cancienne | Steve Ham |
| Danette Anderson | Marci Longnecker | Tiffany Cochran |
| Derick Weeks | Marla Gregory | Tom Maupin |
| Dustin Winn | Matthew Bailey | Willie Cooper |
| Elnora Sonnier | Nikki Wiggins | |
| Felicia Douglas | Peter Rafferty | |