

LOFTON LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Fire Prevention Month



The U.S. Fire Administration reports that fires kill more than 4,000 Americans each year and injure approximately 20,000 more. Fire departments in this country respond to nearly 2 million fires each year, with three-quarters of them occurring in residences. This month, make sure your home is protected from a fire. Here are a few simple tips to help you avoid fires and reduce the risk of injury should one occur:

Smoke Alarms: These are still a very important addition to your home. Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home and test it monthly.

Prevent Electrical Fires: Don't overload circuits or extension cords. Cords and wires should never be placed under rugs or in high traffic areas. Avoid loose electrical connections by checking the fit of the plug in the wall outlet. If the plug fits loosely, inspect the outlet right away. A poor connection between the plug and the outlet can cause overheating and can start a fire in minutes.

Keep Plugs Safe: Unplug all appliances when not in use. Follow the manufacturer's safety precautions and use your senses to spot any potential disasters. If a plug is overheating, smells strange, shorts out or sparks, the appliance should be shut off immediately, then repaired or replaced.

Portable Heaters: Make sure there is ample space around any portable heating unit. Anything that could catch fire should be at least three feet away.

Positioning Appliances: Keep TV sets, kitchen and other appliances away from windows with curtains. If there is a wiring problem, curtains can spread a fire quickly.

Clean Dryer Vents: Clean the lint filter every time you start a load of clothes to dry or after the drying cycle is complete. Make sure your exhaust duct is made of metal tubing and not plastic or foil.

Fire Extinguisher: Keep a portable fire extinguisher on hand for emergencies. Use the PASS method: Pull the pin – Aim the nozzle at the base of the fire – Squeeze the lever slowly – Sweep from side to side.



Officer Kudos

Shout-out to the Houma security team who stepped in post Hurricane Ida. Even though they had significant damages personally, they worked their shifts and even took on additional responsibilities to help out our client. **Lisa Oncale, Suzette Jackson, Richard Robinson** and **Margie Scott** are outstanding officers who represent Lofton Security with pride and integrity! Great job team! Keep up the amazing work!

Another shout-out to Officer **Mary "Coot" McInnis**, Lake Charles. She has been filling in at different sites for the Lake Charles office. Lake Charles is still feeling the effects of the recent storms, and Officer Coot has been more than willing to cover sites that have a planned or unplanned absence. We cannot thank her enough for going above-and-beyond! Thank you!

Frednell Brown In Memoriam

With a very heavy heart we announce the passing of Ms. Frednell Brown on September 17, 2021. We have been blessed to have Frednell as part of our Security team for over six years. Those six years were dedicated to one client site. Her loss has affected everyone who came in contact with her. Frednell was the type of person who made you feel better just by saying "hello". As Tommy Lofton has often said, "Life is a temporary assignment," so make every moment count.



We lost you too soon, Frednell. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family, friends, and all those you have touched over the years.

OCTOBER 2021

OCTOBER 11

Columbus Day

OCTOBER 16

Boss's Day

OCTOBER 31

HALLOWEEN





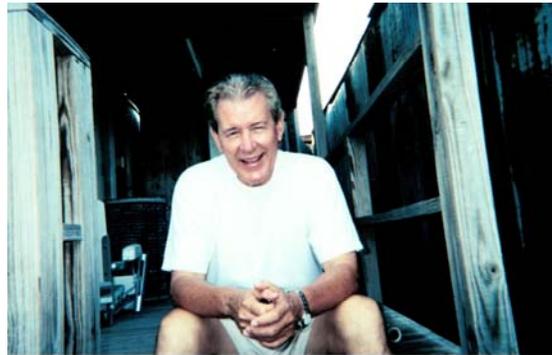
In the Journey of Life...Bon Voyage!

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

For me, Hurricane Ida brought back memories of Hurricane Katrina when it hit New Orleans. In August 2005, with 175 mph winds, Katrina inundated 80% of the city with water for weeks, and we lost our camp in nearby Grand Isle. It has never been replaced. On October 22, 2006, almost a year later, the Norwegian Sun became the first cruise ship to set sail from New Orleans after the storm. Tommy and I were grateful to be part of a large group of people from Louisiana, including many from New Orleans, who were there to celebrate one more accomplishment in the rebuilding of the city and to take time to renew for the work ahead. The recently remodeled terminal building was impressive, but it took second place to the smiles and pride that showed in the faces of the New Orleanians who welcomed us to the city, who directed us to the parking facility, and processed us for the cruise. There was an air of nostalgia aboard the ship as it sailed down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.

There was also a spirit of optimism. A lady told of her brother who was the first to reopen his business in the devastated "Ninth Ward." Though he lost everything in the storm, instead of giving up, he used the storm as a motivation to open a shop he had always dreamed of starting. Family members told how they had grown closer as they worked together, helped each other, and were reminded of what really matters in life—people not possessions, faith in God, pride in a job well done, and the "joie de vivre" as the Cajuns say. To the delight of the Louisiana passengers as well as others, Jo El Sonnier, a native of Rayne known

as the King of Cajun, was one of the featured entertainers on the cruise. He played the Cajun accordion and sang of the indomitable spirit of the people of Louisiana that had helped overcome adversity in the past. In the introduction to his CD, "Cajun Blood," he also thanked God who makes all things possible, and encouraged listeners with the words, "Please remember, when He's all you've got, He's all you need."



Tommy at our camp in Grand Isle.



Glenda and Tommy Lofton setting sail.

Reinforcing the spirit of optimism and hope for the future were the members of the crew and the people we met in the ports of call. From the moment we stepped on the

ship, the cruise staff modeled its mission "to delight our guests with friendly and efficient service from a dedicated, passionate team...with the spirit of determination and innovation." It was obvious from their actions and attitude that they cared about the people and the task and took pleasure in a job well done. Crew members, representing 52 different countries, worked together to serve us and each other.

In the four ports visited by the cruise ship—in Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize, the beauty of the countryside, the beaches, the reefs, and the crystal clear waters of the Caribbean were enhanced by the friendly and gracious people who welcomed us there. In Guatemala, for example, we visited a marketplace where the local people displayed and sold their weaving, embroidery, jewelry, carvings, paintings, and other handicrafts. Tommy and I spent most of the day talking to the people and listening as they took pleasure and pride in explaining the traditions and work of their family members. While most would be considered economically poor, they, like the rebuilders of New Orleans, were rich in those things that bring joy to living. That evening when the cruise ship prepared to sail from Guatemala, the people from the marketplace lined up at the dock to wave goodbye. Behind them were two rows of taxis and vans that spanned the length of the cruise ship with lights on and their horns blowing. As the cruise ship sailed away from the dock, they all called in unison, "Thank you!" "No," I whispered, "Thank you," and in the journey of life, "Bon voyage!"

In the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, let us also take time to be thankful for the things that matter most—the people in our life, the opportunity to work with and serve others, pride in a job well done, and a faith in God that sustains us.

Benefits Update

Open enrollment was a great success and we appreciate everyone who took the time to complete enrollments and waivers, especially those of you who were impacted by Ida's devastation. Thank you for making the extra efforts. We wish you all the best.

IMPORTANT WELLNESS PROGRAM MESSAGE:

All employees enrolled in one of the three major medical plans with Lofton (UMR) are eligible to receive a 30% discount on health premiums. In order to qualify, you will need to visit your healthcare provider for your annual wellness visit with lab work before December 31,



2021. If you are already receiving the incentive, you will need to participate this year to maintain the reduced rate for the 2021/2022 plan year. Physician visits completed between December 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021 will be accepted. Provide the Sterling Wellness Physician Form (found on the employee portal or at www.loftonstaffing.com) to your physician for completion. The labs and form must be submitted to Sterling Wellness Solutions no later than December 31, 2021. (Submission information can be found in the bottom left corner of the physician form.)

Still have questions regarding the program? Please email Benefits@loftonstaffing.com.