



LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Knife Safety

By: Jeremy Olivier, Lofton Safety Services



Knives are common tools in many workplaces, including restaurants, kitchens, and construction sites. While knives are essential for many tasks, they can also be dangerous if not used properly. Following are tips to help prevent injuries while using these tools in the workplace.

Using the wrong knife can lead to injury or damage to the knife. Make sure to use the appropriate knife for the task at hand. Most job-related cutting operations do not require the knife to have a point. In these cases, selecting a knife with a rounded tip will remove the possibility of puncture injuries.

Generally, dull knives are more dangerous than sharp knives because they require more force to use, which can lead to slips and injuries. Keep knives sharp by using a sharpening stone or honing steel.

Proper storage of knives is essential for safety. Knives should be stored in a designated area, such as a knife block or drawer, and should be kept out of reach of unauthorized personnel. Blades should be fully retracted on knives with this feature. Never leave knives unattended, even for a short period of time.

Always use a cutting board or other flat, stable surface when making cuts. This stability will prevent possible slips which can lead to injury. The surface should be made of durable material, such as wood or plastic, and should be cleaned and sanitized regularly.

Holding the knife properly is crucial for preventing injuries. Hold the knife with the blade facing away from the body and use a firm grip on the handle. When making the cut, always cut away from your body and keep your fingers and other body parts away from the blade.

Whenever possible, Personal Protective Equipment, such as cut-resistant gloves, should be used.

Never use a knife unless you are aware of the risks and proper techniques for use. If you are unsure of these, or generally lack confidence in using a knife, then inform your supervisor immediately so that you may receive training before proceeding with use.

Open Enrollment Update

Open enrollment for major medical will continue through **September 3, 2025**. If you are currently enrolled in medical and do not wish to make changes, your coverage will continue through the 2025-2026 plan year. All other eligibles are required to enroll or decline coverage.

If you need additional information or need assistance with enrollment, please feel free to contact the Benefits Department at 225-924-0200 or benefits@lofton.jobs.

Patriot Day: 9/11

Patriot Day commemorates the tragic events of September 11, 2001, when terrorists hijacked four airplanes, leading to the devastating attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, with a fourth plane crashing in a field in Pennsylvania.

This day honors the nearly 3,000 lives lost and the countless others who were forever impacted by the events. Patriot Day serves as a national day of

mourning and remembrance. It is a time for Americans to reflect on the resilience and unity demonstrated in the face of adversity, the heroism of first responders, and the strength of the American spirit.

On Patriot Day, flags are flown at half-staff, and a moment of silence is observed at 8:46 a.m. EDT, the time the first plane struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center. This day not only marks a somber chapter in American history but also symbolizes the enduring commitment to freedom, peace, and the values that unite the nation.

September 2025

September 1

Labor Day



Happy
LABOR DAY

Lofton offices
will be
CLOSED

September 7

Grandparents' Day



September 11

Patriot Day



September 22

First Day of Autumn



STAY CONNECTED





In Memory of Paul Anthony Milano

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

Paul Anthony Milano, father of Rae Milano, peacefully passed away on Sunday, August 10, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. A devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend, Paul left an indelible mark on the lives of many through his generous spirit and kind heart.

You may remember that I wrote an article in October 2020 about Paul and the restoration of a beautifully refurbished historic confessional that was returned to the Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church in Donaldsonville after a 40-year absence. This confessional was one of two removed during the church's remodeling in the early 1980s. Notably, these confessionals were originally crafted by the ancestors of Rae Milano, our Lofton Staffing & Security Account Executive in Gonzales. The Milano family immigrated from Sorrento, Italy, to Donaldsonville in the mid-1800s. Frank Milano Sr. and his brother, Tony, constructed the two confessionals in the 1930s, along with the side altars and the lower portion of the pulpit, which harmonizes with the main altar that was originally made in Italy.

Fortunately, Jay Lemann, the owner of Thibaut's Rice Mill, who possessed one of the confessionals, contacted Paul Milano, the grandson of Frank Milano, and offered him the confessional. Paul, along with his close friend and classmate, Ronnie Rome, meticulously restored the

confessional to its original splendor, where it now resides at Ascension Catholic Church in Donaldsonville.

This dedication to community service exemplified how Paul lived his life. A proud graduate of Ascension Catholic High School, Class of 1955, he valued the lifelong friendships he forged with his classmates. Paul served honorably in the U.S. Navy from 1955 to 1957 as a Seaman during peacetime. His professional journey included 12 years with Mobil Oil, where he developed lasting friendships with colleagues, and he dedicated decades to farming, harvest-

ing soybeans and sugarcane from 1975 until his retirement in 2004.

Paul was actively involved in various organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, the St. Joseph's Altar Society in Donaldsonville, and the Maintenance and Building Committee at St. Anthony of Padua in Darrow, where he was a parishioner. He also served as a board member for the Farm Bureau and ASCS. Always ready to help, Paul utilized his skills as a master woodworker on projects of all sizes.

Above all, Paul was a man of faith and family. He cherished the annual Milano family reunions, the time spent at the ballfield with his grandchildren, family vacations with his children and grandchildren, and the simple joy of gathering with loved ones. His larger-than-life smile, generous heart, and unwavering love for others will be profoundly missed by everyone who knew him.



Paul Milano, alongside Rae, embodies the principles upon which Lofton Staffing was founded—to study, train, and work not only to serve our clients but also to support each other. Rae has consistently demonstrated her father's passion for service by helping others through employment at Lofton. She has been recognized multiple times by the Ascension Chamber of Commerce for her contributions to the community, the boards she serves on, and her dedicated service to Lofton, marking over 35 years with our company.

Our hearts and prayers are with Rae and her family during this difficult time, as they exemplify one of my favorite scriptures: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Colossians 3:23, NIV).

Texting vs Email: Know the Difference

By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing

Text messages and emails, though both digital communication methods, exhibit significant differences in writing style based on their intended purposes and contexts.

Text Messages:

- Informal and concise, used for quick exchanges.
- Conversational tone, often includes abbreviations and emojis.

Emails:

- Formal and structured, used for professional or detailed communications.
- Includes subject line, greeting, body, and closing, focusing on clarity and detail.

Understanding these differences is vital for effective communication, especially with

potential employers. Poor writing skills can adversely affect job opportunities; a 2020 survey by Grammarly and The Harris Poll found that 76% of employers regard writing as a critical skill, often overlooking candidates with weak writing abilities.

This underscores the necessity of tailoring your writing style to fit the medium and audience. For example: A text message is appropriate for a quick status update or casual chat with a colleague. An email is more suitable for discussing project details or providing feedback.

Improving your writing skills can enhance communication and facilitate career advancement, as strong writing reflects profes-

sionalism, attention to detail, and the ability to articulate thoughts clearly.

To further aid in crafting effective emails, consider using AI programs like Grammarly or Hemingway. These tools can help you refine your writing by checking for grammar errors, suggesting style improvements, and ensuring clarity and conciseness.

Whether you're sending a text or crafting an email, being mindful of tone, clarity, and purpose—along with leveraging AI tools—can significantly boost your communication effectiveness in both personal and professional contexts.