

RAPIDES NEWS

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In My Opinion

BY BETTYE DEKEYZER



A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS!

I have always believed one can begin their life anew, change one's attitude, end an unpleasant relationship and start with a clean slate. I wrote a column recently about what the Zodiac held for 2021 and everyone was eager to learn more what the stars had in store for them.

But the happiness died quickly when they faced strange national issues and world affairs headed for disaster. Now if the perfect time for us to take charge of our own life in spite of bad news, costs of everything getting higher and personal disappointments.

I can and have faced facts when necessary. We can do nothing to return the world to sanity or even the assist others to fill their life with positive decisions, but we can make our life serene and even enjoyable.

However, a word of caution, I have discovered recently that altering our life can be accomplished only by concentrating on who and what is uplifting

and avoiding who and what is not.

Here are a few things that make me happy:

The Farmer's Almanac will give you hours of contentment and I have learned a lot as well. They look at several factors including the position of the Moon in all 12 signs of the Zodiac as well as the lunar phase and planetary relationships. The articles on planting is based on what the sun and moon are going to do. It makes me happy to realize the Sun was placed in the exact spot to heat our planet, insure our health grow plants and flowers, and give light to the world.

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Front Cover Image: Honey Bees are out in full force, they're also swarming his time of year too -- DO NOT KILL THEM ! Leave me alone and call your local AG Center or Beekeeper Association to relocate them.

Beyond The Beachhead

The 29th Infantry In Normandy - Part Two

By Dr. Patsy K. Barber

Narrative continued from April's Issue

They fired down the road hoping to hit a target. I was 75 yards away and fell on my back when they began dropping concussion grenades – like big ostrich eggs falling all around me. One hit my helmet and rolled down by my left ear. I could hear the fuse. I grabbed it with my right hand in front of my face. Shrapnel hit my knee, my nose and one was deflected by my metal fountain pen in my shirt pocket saving my heart. My right hand was dangling. Sgt. Spann threw me to the ground and cut off my hand with a bayonet. My battalion lost 254. While loading into a second ambulance, they learned the first ambulance was shelled killing all on board.

Finally in recovery in Scotland I was needed to board a ship for home on a Lockheed Constellation plane with 435 wounded on board. Thick fog and a German false radio signal brought down the plane with no survivors. I boarded a hospital ship Dogwood on which a malfunction caused it to steer only to the right forcing large circles across the Atlantic for 17 days.

Lucian P. Laborde, a successful farmer in Hamburg, Louisiana, earned several degrees at LSU when the school was known nationally in its prime working part

time and earning 29 cents an hour. When he was on the planning team at White River his pay was \$125. Then orders sent him to Camp Beauregard to Army Intelligence School. As a Lt. in the 29th Inf. Div., an 80-ship convoy directed to Liverpool arrived with 16 due to the submarine problems.

They landed on Omaha Beach D-Day but not where planned. The LST got caught on one of the underwater obstacles 75 or 100 yards offshore. We had to disembark and walk to shore, with heavy packs, they had to tiptoe and bounce around and moving. Explosions were bouncing around us – artillery and mortar shells. Our boat as hit with three navy men aboard.

I agree that “Saving Private Ryan” was the most realistic of any portrayal. The landing became so precarious the Generals had to decide to withhold other landings or send back the 2nd and others or abandon them. The beach landings at that hour had one-third casualties. With regiments decimated we had to change the mission we trained for. The American soldier can do that, but the German soldier could not.

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Landing at Omaha Beach - Beyond the Beachhead Picture courtesy of World History Net



Dear Bettye: One of our friends always gossips about well-known people and I am tired of hearing her repeat things that re not true. What can we do?

Tell her you are writing a book about prominent people and she seems to know all about them so you wanted to assure her you will give her credit as being your source of the information about them published in your book.

Dear Bettye: I smoke, and people are always telling me when and where I can smoke around them. Are there any real rules about smoking?

Yes, and there has always been rules. 1. Smokers should be confined to places away from those who do not smoke. 2. One should not smoke at the table where others are eating. 3. If you wish to smoke when you are with a lady you must ask for permission and be prepared to accept refusal gracefully. 4. Smoke outside. 5. Don't smoke.

Dear Bettye: My supervisor crashed into my office and screamed that I was late with a report I do not prepare and would not listen to me or anyone else that he was screaming at the wrong person. He slammed out of the office. He does

this with someone frequently. What should I do? Some say ignore him and other say talk to him about it.

Speak to the manager and tell him you are not filing a formal grievance, but you expect something to be done about it. Remind him the supervisor acts like others we read about who comes to work one day and shoots everyone in the office.

Dear Bettye: What can we do about a man who asks everyone in the office how much they weigh? No matter what people say he still does it. What would you do?

He is not the problem. All of the people in the office are because they did not handle it the first time. One challenge to a rude person and they collapse like a deflated balloon. Take a close look at him and find his flaw – and everyone has one. The next time he asks someone one about their weight ask him “Are you rude because you are (too short, too thin, hairy, have a long nose, big mouth, huge ears, ugly teeth, part your hair on your ear), or just because you are an insufferable rat?”

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Send your comments and questions to:
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MAY IS NATIONAL HONEY BEE MONTH!



Worker Bees Have Different Jobs As they Age.



1-2 days old: have the job to clean the cells, and they start with the one they were born in. They also keep the brood warm



3-5 days old: their job is to feed older larvae



6-11 days old: they have the responsibility to feed the youngest larvae



12-17 days old: they are producing wax, carrying food, building combs and have undertaker duties



18-21 days old: they are protecting the hive entrance and have guard duty



From 22 days to the end of their life (at around 40-45 days): they fly from the hive and collect pollen, nectar, water etc.

www.beekeepingbasic.com

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Beyond the Beachhead

The 101 Paratroopers came in the night ahead of us to drop 500# bombs for holes on the beach. Instead, their bomb landed way inland. That was a problem for there was not a hole on the beach where we could dodge the machine gun fire.

Our immediate goal was to reach Saint Lo. We thought it would take one week but it took six in hedgerow country where we lost a lot of men. Our tanks could not penetrate it. One GI figured out how to weld prongs on the front of a tank and go through them. In the fight for Saint Lo we destroyed a hospital and churches and all kinds of things – the town was almost destroyed. After the war, the 29th Division raised enough money to rebuild the hospital. Everything had to be rebuilt like it looked before.



Devastation of Saint Lo - World History Net

Everything we carried was heavy and no picnic. I remember sleeping in a foxhole with two inches of water. We had to an army blanket we could wrap around us and dry it the next day, maybe.

Once Saint Lo fell, some 20 km south Germans tried to

make a counterattack to cut off the Cherbourg Peninsula. We were able to stop that by knocking out tanks on narrow roads that blocked any further penetration. It was rough. At one point the group I was with was isolated for three days and it as the happiest time we had because no one could give us instructions. General McNair was killed while we were waiting for a 100th plane bombing mission. When they finally came over, they dropped their bombs short, and the first bomb hit him.

General Middleton, commander of the VII Corps, was assigned to clear the Brittany Peninsula. Brest was heavily fortified, and it was where we had one of the worst fights. Several officers were lost there.

The 29th saw action in numerous places and ended up to fight in the Battle of the Bulge, Dec, 16 holding positions near the Roer River, It seemed to snow most of the time. They were in the outposts and in trenches. German resistance as terrific see the were determined to get a port on the Channel. Frostbite was one of their biggest problems other waiting period was at the Elbe Tiber why they would they need the Russians. They sent most of their time receiving Germans trying to cross the river and surrendering to the Americans. The women bought the Hohenzollern china and silver turned it over to the Division. There were 800 chests, with silver service for 800. It was taken to the storage facility of the 29th Infantry in Baltimore before returned to Germany.

V.E. Day marked the end of war but Laborde had to stay at Bremerhaven Enclave in December, and everything was shipped back to the States.

Avoyelles Parish was his destination, and it is where he farms over two thousand acres.

“The 29ers were humble men caught up in a war of immeasurable complexity. Any soldier who could bring himself to leap over a hedgerow upon command and race, hunchbacked cross a grassy field while bullets snapped over his head like cracking whips was a brave man indeed.”

HISTORICAL PLACES: ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA



The rare photo of many special buildings and areas shown within the letters that spell Alexandria. The photo is dated 1950.

Dated 1949 the photo shows Hotel Bentley on the left, in the middle the Alexandria City Hall and on the right, the Confederate Monument on the original site where it was placed. The statue honors all who were killed in the civil war.



A wonderful photo taken in 1928 features the tallest building at that time, the Hotel Bentley, cars of the era and the Alexandria City Hall. The smoke from a building beyond the Hotel is from a wood fire. Gas heat was on its way but not everywhere in 1928.

Postcards, photographs, and memorabilia from the Private Collection of Keith LaCour.

In My Opinion
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I love the Moon because it is beautiful and wonderful to see in the night sky. Look for magazines that offer sound and interesting advice. I saw an article in a magazine and found it wonderful. The subject was Best Days in May.

The Best Days In May Are:

- ◆ May 1-5 : Cut hair to encourage growth, make jams and jellies
- ◆ May 6-9: Quit smoking, call a friend and tell them a joke.
- ◆ May 10-20: Bake cakes and give someone a compliment.
- ◆ May 21-26: Pick fruit, make cider and kiss your spouse.
- ◆ May 27-30: Go fishing and have a barbeque, pick a bunch of wildflowers to place on the kitchen table.

Look at the sky every morning and afternoon. Sometime in late May the Earth will sweep through a trail of star dust left behind by a comet and that will result in a gorgeous display of shooting stars. That's enough to make anyone happy. I like to sit on the front porch and watch the sky in the evening. The colors are absolutely fantastic.

It should make you smile to remember in a few months there will be another election and it is predicted many new senators and representatives will be elected.

While there is little to smile about on TV but there is a TV show called "The Five" that does make me not only smile, but laugh now and then. Several of the people are very intelligent and extremely funny. I really enjoy it when one of them who has a wicked sense of humor can deflate even the most annoying "expert" with a few quiet comments. There is one I cannot stand to hear because he constantly tries to rewrite history to make certain people appear to be correct, truthful and capable of giving a speech. I simply turn it off until he stops blabbing.

Try to avoid watching the news, because we can't unsee anything we see because our brain sees, classifies and files every minute of the day. I realized years ago national news services specialize in bad news. If you must hear the daily news stick with a local radio station.

Many happy hours can be spent planning birthday and Christmas gifts and what you can make or do for someone. I have a journal filled with what relatives and friends would like and have started to paint, stitch and write all sorts of things.

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If You Ask Me....

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Dear Bettye: We have been married for five years and a woman he dated once many years ago has never stopped calling him at his office and at our home. He had asked his secretary to never put her calls through to him. What can we do?

The best way to deal with her is to be blunt. When she calls again tell her you and your husband want the calls to cease at once. He and you do not wish to know her. If she calls again, you should see your lawyer and he will know exactly what to do.

Dear Bettye: I have been dating a man for several months and I want to know what his feelings are for me. I don't want to ask.

If he calls every day, takes you out several times a week, gives you gifts, takes out the garbage and likes your family are all signs he is serious. If not, don't ask. You may not like the answer.

Dear Bettye: My husband says he thinks he does not have to tell me he loves me when I tell him I love him. He says, "Me, too". What do you think?

I think it means he loves you, too. I know a woman who told me when she tells her husband she loves him he said, "Ditto".

Dear Bettye: I am worried about my son who is 32 and not married. He is successful, owns his own home, dates a lot of women and has many friends. He never seems to want to settle down.

He will meet the right woman who will settle him down. He is successful, dates a lot, has plenty of friends and lives in his own house . I would say you do not have a problem.



Q: How many honey bees does it take to make 1 pound of honey?

A: A worker bee gathers in her entire life 0.8 gram (0.0288 ounce) of honey. It requires 556 worker bees to gather a pound of honey. Bees fly more than once around the world to gather a pound of honey.

In My Opinion

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You can think of several people who would love to have a book filled with treasured family recipes.

Make albums of photo you have and others would love to see. There are beautiful small albums that would be an unforgettable gift for anyone. Many famous people have found the way to be happy. Here are a few of my favorites:

Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy. They are the charming gardens who make our souls blossom. -- Marcel Proust

Rules for happiness: Something to do, someone to love, something to hope for.
--Immanuel Kant

Happiness doesn't depend on what we have. We can be happy with little and miserable with much.
--William D. Hoard

The human race has one really effective weapon and that is laughter.
--Mark Twain

If all else fails call me and we will talk about amusing things and we will both be happy.





Did You Know?

May was named for the Roman goddess Maui, who cared for all plants that grew from the earth. She was honored and celebrated when there was a great crop of vegetables and when flowers were blooming on the hills.

Holidays:

- May 3 – First spam email sent;
- May 8 – Victory In Europe 1945;
- May 9 – Mother’s Day;
- May 11 –New Moon,
- May 27 – Adhesive tape patented.

Blue Light and Aging

Blue light can damage retinal cells. Human blue light exposure is increasing with the widespread use of LED lights and electronic devices.

Strong Body – Strong Heart

In a recent study men and women with high muscle mass were 81% less likely to have a stroke or heart attack.

Red Hair Soon Extinct

Researchers have discovered there are fewer people with red hair. It is believed that people spend more time in the sun than in prior years and too much sunlight can destroy the special gene that produces red hair. Once the gene is destroyed red hair cannot be passed to the next generation. Other colors are not affected by sunlight.

Mosquitos Prefer A Special Type Of Blood

If your blood is O positive the mosquitos do not like you best, They are attracted to dark clothing so wear light colors in the summer. It will be cooler and sun light is reflected from light colors while the heat of the sun is absorbed in black and dark colors.

The Nutty Secret To Longevity

People who eat nuts every day - about 25 almonds or other nuts were likely to live 30 years longer than people who do not eat them at all. The New England Journal of Medicine said the unsaturated fats in the nuts were lowering the possibility of cancer, heart disease and other diseases.

Do Not Wear Flip Flops While Driving

Flip Flops have been blamed for some tragic accidents that occurred when the driver lost control and crashed into other cars. They can slip off and or get stuck under the gas or brake pedals or press both pedals down at the same time. The AAA says it is better to drive barefoot than to wear Flip Flops.



NOSTRADAMUS PREDICTS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE



Michel Nostradamus, a French philosopher, lived in the 1500s and left some poetic predictions - 6,388 – and so far many have come true.

He predicted the beginning of the Second World War, Hitler's horrible life, the fall of communism, the death of President John F. Kennedy, and the 2020 virus pandemic.

Many predictions for 2021 include the State of California will be destroyed by an earthquake and the scientists are beginning to perfect artificial intelligence and will surpass human ability. He warns while the robots are wired to never harm a human being it will lead to robots ruling the world.

Predictions for 2022 say the labor market will crash. The automatic machines will replace

workers because machines do not demand raises and hospital coverage. There will be social disorder and massive unemployment.

Two countries that are American allies will declare war on each other. That will lead to a global war that will end when America reveals a new military weapon that can eliminate an entire country without killing anyone. America will then rule the world.

The President of America will resign in 2023 because of ill health and Americans will demand their choice to replace him.

He predicted information hidden for centuries concerning the Christian religion will be disclosed by a group of people and will cause a new religion to be formed in 2023.

Of great interest is his prediction that visitors from another planet will arrive who assure they are peaceful. Their planet is in dire need of people to help repopulate their planet since people live to be 300 years old.

Information about their first visit to Earth will end the world's fear of space and people from space.

