



Betty Kaiser: Chatterbox

Memorial Day: Honor, Remember, Never Forget!

Betty Kaiser

ly honor the tens of thousands of men and women who fought and died for our country in approximately 93 wars and rebellions.

It is our yearly opportunity to say "thank you" to those guardians of peace. It is a day of remembrance and sorrow mixed with pride and appreciation and hope that some-

day the madness will stop. A day to reflect and remember that those heroes died for you and me.

Memorial Day's history is about 160 years old. After the Civil War, it began as a grass roots occasion called National Decoration Day. On May 20, 1868 over 5,000 people decorated the graves of the 29,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who were buried at Arlington National Cemetery. A tribute to both the North and South sides of the conflict.

In 1968, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress.

May 30 was the

official date until 1971 when Congress changed it to the last Monday in May.

Now it is celebrated in almost every country where American soldiers are buried. Flags on government buildings and ships throughout the world are

lowered to half-mast, as a tribute to those who lost their lives.

This weekend, prior to the holiday, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment will honor America's fallen heroes by placing American flags at thousands of gravesites for service members buried at Arlington National Cemetery and at the Airmen's Home National Cem-

etry.

The most solemn Memorial Day ceremony is when the President of the United States lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Other dignitaries also pay their formal respects. All flags will be removed after Memorial Day, before the cemetery opens to the public.

To remember military sacrifices is a sacred charge.

Thanks to the COVID-19 situation, things will be a little different around the country this year. There will be fewer parades and public gatherings. But there is one thing that we can stop and do together wherever we are:

com USO. Pay special attention to the timing of flying the flag. Do this:

1. Display the flag—the U.S. flag is flown at half-staff from dawn until noon on Memorial Day. Raise it again to the peak after noon.
2. Call a friend or loved one who has lost someone during a war.
3. Visit a cemetery and honor the memory of a family member or other veteran by putting flowers on their grave.
4. Watch the National Memorial Day Concert on our local PBS station.

Here are some reminders of things not to do:

1. Don't wish anyone a Happy Memorial Day. This is not Christmas.
2. Don't thank the current troops. Veteran's Day is coming up!
3. Don't let politics keep you from rendering respect.

God bless America! Let freedom ring!

Contact Betty Kaiser's Chatterbox at 942-1317 or email bchatty@bettykaiser.com



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FRIDAY 68° 45° Partly Cloudy	SATURDAY 76° 47° Partly Cloudy
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TUESDAY 93° 58° Mostly Sunny	WEDNESDAY 88° 55° Mostly Sunny

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LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY
LIL THOMPSON
FOR THE SENTINEL

Construction work on Stoney Point is coming along.

Traffic lights are up for one lane travel and part of the road is now packed gravel.

Depending on the time of day, everyone should allow 10 extra minutes to your driving schedule.

Remember to slowly approach either end and drive slowly through the area. There is a lot of work on both sides of the road so you'll need to keep your eyes on your lane.

Lorane Grange meets next on Thursday, June 3 at 7 p.m. Women will be serving the men in honor of Father's Day later in the month.

Crow High School will hold its prom on June 4 in the courtyard for Crow students only and faculty as chaperones.

Graduation for Crow HS Seniors will follow last year's format with a drive-in attendance around the football field on June 11.

Last graduation was very moving and the staff plan on making this celebration just as special. Our seniors will have a memorable evening.

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