



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Secrets among the seniors

I was thinking the other day about all the money women are saving by not applying lipstick because they're wearing masks in public.

There are so many positive things about the pandemic, right? It's probably a good psychological exercise to think of the advantages of a situation instead of the inconveniences.

One of my sons-in-law loves to pick up books on aging to further educate me (I suspect) in the art of aging.

He himself turned a young 70 during the Christmas season.

One of the books contained several articles from the 1970s about growing old. It dawned on me that I was probably using such tactics on my own parents about that time. I suppose it is my "kids" turn to help me.

I think I may have entered my era of "growing old." Some of the books on aging that I've been given or have purchased seem to have a basic theme expressed by "older people" -- Why am I still here? What is my purpose? Who needs me?

"So, teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom," Psalms 90:12 admonishes us.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was past 70 when a younger person asked his secret of continuing creativity.

Longfellow pointed to an old apple tree covered with blossoms and said, "I try to be like that tree. I grow a little new wood every year."

There again, I keep reminding my senior friends as well as myself that having a good

attitude is half the battle and, perhaps, more.

I recall going over our 50th wedding anniversary photos with local photographer Lisa Lamping (almost 25 years ago now). As she pointed to the wrinkles that were obvious on both of us, she offered to do some "touch-up" and "erase" those wrinkles.

Almost simultaneously, we both said, "No. Please don't erase those wrinkles. We earned every one of them."

To this day, when I study that photo, it delights my soul that we kept our wrinkles. Hopefully, most were from smiling!

I am reading a book that was written in 1911 and it's amazing how the author's thoughts on aging and retirement parallel those of today's retirees. We have the same problems and blessings overall. The main differences, however, seem to involve secrets.

We are blessed nowadays to be willing to share things -- even secrets -- more readily. At the same time, we possess the wisdom to know that some secrets should remain private.

More than a century ago, age was considered a blessing from God rather than something to be covered up with cosmetics, surgery, hairpieces and even lies, as some do today. There can be so much coverup that some hardly recognize their true selves.

Retirement was a common source of dissatisfaction.

A common grumble from the wife of a retiree: "Half as much salary; twice as much husband."

ZED by Duane M. Abel



Spotlight on the City

by Jane Sweet, harbormaster

Marina plans include help from advisory panel

A new Marina Advisory Committee has been formed by the City Commission and our first meeting was held in March 2021.

The committee was formed as a citizen advisory board intended to work closely with the Marinas Department.

The committee is helping to develop a comprehensive master plan for both marinas, providing input in immediate and future capital improvement spending, and finding funding sources, as well as any other assistance the city's marinas may need in developing and planning for future success.

A big thank you to all Marina Advisory Committee members for their time and for the energy they dedicate. They are a huge asset.

The second phase of the Hammond Marina dredging was completed recently, and we are waiting for the post dredge survey to be performed.

Bergerson Construction was our dredging contractor and the company seemed positive with the results of the project.

It is the city's goal to work toward regular mainte-

nance dredging, so we'll be setting money aside each year in the Hammond Marina Capital Improvement Fund to support future dredging needs.

Design plans are being drawn up by PBS Engineering for the rehabilitation of the commercial work pier in Warrenton.

The project is being funded by urban renewal dollars supported by the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and the City Commission.

It is a much valued, used and needed asset for our commercial fishing fleet.

The rehabilitation project will ensure that the pier is available for years to come. We hope to begin the first phase of the project in July.

Another big thank you to

the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee for their time and continued support.

I am also happy to report that the Marinas Department just filled the position of marina foreman.

Don Beck has joined our team and brings a vast amount of knowledge in many different areas of maintenance and repair that we need to provide marina users.

Don started his position Dec. 1 and already has made huge contributions in maintenance, repairs, planning and providing consistent productivity with the maintenance crew.

He's a very positive person and brings us fresh ideas and approaches to our maintenance and repair needs.

We're lucky to have him.

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