

Opinions

June anniversaries are time to work on building marriage

by Lucien Coleman

(Like many other couples, my wife and I celebrate our wedding anniversary in June. Recently, I came across an anniversary letter which I wrote to Bobbie a year ago. I would like to share it with you, with her permission, because I think it speaks to a need which many couples in their middle adult years have in common.)

Dearest:
The experts say that middle-aged people often restructure their value systems and modify their priorities. So, being very middle-aged now, I want to exercise that privilege.

For three decades, now, I've been very busy building a career. Now, I think I'd like to concentrate on building a marriage. As I look back on our 29 years

Things That Matter

together, I'm reminded of that house we've passed so often on the road to Lunsford, the one that was never quite finished. It has always been serviceable enough, reasonably comfortable and liveable. But it never fulfilled its potential as a beautiful home, because it seems that nobody ever had enough time to bring it to completion. So, it never became what it might be.

That's what I would like to do with respect to our marriage. Devote enough time to it to make it become what it might be.

I care about my career. My teaching. My writing. But I care more about you. And, in our thir-

tieth year of marriage, the gift I most want to give you is more of myself.

Yes, I know. That statement could sound very vain to someone who didn't understand what I meant by it. But you understand. And that's what matters.

There is an element of risk in putting these thoughts on paper, because I know it would be so easy for me to fail to turn them into reality. You know, as no one else in the world knows, that it will require an enormous adjustment on my part.

I'll need your help. And it might take a while to modify my habits, my addiction to extra work. But, as President John F. Kennedy once said, "Let us begin."

All my love,
Lucien



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Farmers need consumer understanding

by John Sledge

N.C. Farm Bureau Federation
Agriculture in recent years has been transformed into a highly-efficient industry with farmers using complicated, expensive equipment and scientific techniques.

Unfortunately, with that modern efficiency, we sometimes "lose touch" with each other and

that concerns those of us in agriculture. We're a minority and we need consumer understanding -- because if we don't have it, farmers and consumers can end up on opposite sides of an issue.

Take embargoes, for example. If we are to continue to produce food and fiber at full production, we must maintain strong markets

abroad for U.S. farm commodities. This is necessary to offset high production costs and improve net farm income so our family farmers can stay in business.

Another area where there is sometimes misunderstanding is the use of agricultural chemicals. We are all interested in a clean environment. This is possible with reasonable use of the chemicals we must have for the good health of our crops. We need more people working in government regulatory agencies who have an agricultural background, as well as a strong desire for a clean environment.

We also need consumer understanding about farm prices. While they do go up, they can and do come down just as rapidly. However, farm production costs, which have continued to escalate, seldom go down.

With consumer understanding and support on such issues as these, the family farmer can stay down on the farm and grow the food and fiber so essential to all of us.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged and welcomed. Writers should keep letters as short as possible. Names, addresses and telephone numbers should be included and all letters must be signed. Names will be printed, however, other information will be kept confidential. We reserve the right to edit letters for good taste and brevity. Letters should be received by *The News-Journal* by noon on the Monday of the publication week.

... Letters continued

(Continued from page 2B)

County protesting foreclosures on farmers land and their homes.

If you see a petition or are approached by me, PLEASE SIGN.

These petitions will be sent to our congressman and ultimately to Ronald Reagan. We need many, many signatures to make a difference.

My sincere thanks,
Judy C. Crawley

Car wash big help

To the Editor:
On June 4, a car wash was held at the 401 Gulf Station.

It was held to raise money for the Woodmen of the World Rangerettes. The girls raised \$150 which was total profit.

It would not have been possible unless it was for Billy Norton who runs the station.

Norton unselfishly donated the use of his station and some miscellaneous items for the car wash which we never imagined we would need.

During this day and time it is very rare to find someone that is willing to go to that extent to help others.

If it weren't for his compassion to donate these things from his business the profit would have been cut in half.

We felt that the public should know of what a good deed had

been demonstrated on that Saturday.

We also want to thank J.R. Kennedy, owner of The Decor Center, who donated a gallon of paint to the Rangerettes to help with the T.M.H. Carnival in October and Mr. and Mrs. John Gaddy have opened their home to us for the last two years so we could participate in the Christmas Parade. For the people who have worked on floats and the mess it holds you can understand how thankful we are of the Gaddy's big heart.

Allen Edwards has let us use the Upchurch gym, and should be thanked most of all for sitting in the dunking booth at the T.M.H. Carnival.

For all of the citizens of Hoke County who have helped us from raffle tickets down to salt and flour Christmas ornaments, thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts!

Sincerely,
Monte and Patti Lunsford

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:
I don't know any more about how much money we should spend on military defense that I do about the international money market or how some Congressmen hold their jobs.

And every once in a while an

item shows up in the newspapers that befuddles me even more.

For example, I read last night that the Army is replacing the Jeep with a car called the Hummer. Each one costs \$20,000 and the Army has ordered 55,000, at a cost of \$1.2 billion.

But on test runs the Hummer averaged only 367 miles between breakdowns, whereas the Army's standards call for at least 1,300 miles between failures.

I had to read that twice for it to sink in. You mean the Army would be satisfied with a car that goes only 1,300 miles between breakdowns?

I know that car manufacturers have been accused of building cars with planned obsolescence, but bringing one out that goes only 1,300 miles between repairs and costs \$20,000, seems like carrying the idea way too far.

On the other hand, the Army may not be as wasteful as you think. If it's buying 55,000 Hummers that break down every week or so, and it'll probably take three soldiers per repair job, think of the soldier-mechanics it'll be giving on-the-job training to, so when they get out they'll be prepared to work on some of the general public's cars and manufacturers are always having to recall.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

Bankruptcy can be complicated

Most people do not realize it, but there are two general forms of bankruptcy: liquidation and rehabilitation.

The former is fairly quick and simple while the latter is more complicated and lasts for a long period of time.

The majority of all bankruptcy filings are of the liquidation type,

Law For Laypersons

known as bankruptcy lawyers as a "Chapter 7" because it is set out in Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. A liquidation proceeding is also known as "straight bankruptcy" or just plain "bankruptcy."

In a liquidation case, a person, known as the trustee, collects the property of the debtor, converts that property into cash, and distributes the cash to the debtor's creditors.

In a rehabilitation case, the debtor does not give up all of his property so that it can be liquidated by

a trustee. Instead, the debtor generally keeps all of his assets, and his creditors look to his future earnings to satisfy their claims. The debtor must propose and have the court approve a plan by which he will pay all of his creditors from his future earnings over a period of years.

In this manner, the creditors will get more than they would have gotten under a liquidation, and the debtor is saved from the embarrassment of going through a liquidation proceeding in which his property is taken away from him and sold.

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"Member Information Nights"

| LOCATION | DAY | DATE | TIME |
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| Lake Rim District Office, Hwy 401, Fayetteville | Thurs. | June 30, | 7:30-9:00 p.m. |
| American Legion Building, Wagram | Thurs. | July 7, | 7:30-9:00 p.m. |

Come meet the staff of Lumbee River EMC and find out how your cooperative works. You're invited to "Member Information Nights" which are being held at any one of the above locations. The purpose of the meetings is to update members on the cooperative and to answer questions. Come prepared to participate, or just to listen. You're welcome at any of the meetings. Be sure and mark your calendar for these special meetings, or better yet, clip and post this ad so you won't forget. See you there.

Lumbee River EMC

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