CRAZY AS A BETSY BUG

MARY CHRISTIE CRAIG Pineville, Louisiana

Every part of the country has its own unique expressions. Here are some good ones taken (well, almost) out of the mouths of Louisiana folks from around these parts:

"Hey, girl! How you doin'?"

"Gooder'n snuff. Happy as a dead hog in the sunshine! How 'bout yuhself?"

"Aw, we got some kinda epizootics goin' around in the family. I feel like a blowed-up peckerwood."

"I'm right sorry to hear that. Eat you a mess of greens and drink the pot likker. That'll cure what ails yuh."

"I will later. Right now I'm stuffed as a dog tick."

"Say, you hear about Fanny Frolic?"

"Yeah, that girl's crazy as a betsy bug! Her mama had a real hissy fit when she came home sayin' she wanted to marry Booger Bougeot. I mean, she blessed her out good."

"Her mama oughta snatch her baldheaded."

"That Booger is meaner than all billy get-out. He's been raisin' nine kind of hell since he was a little kid."

"Serves her mama right. She's always been the kinda woman who's lookin' for higher bushes and better berries."

"Yeah, she's Miss Fancy Pants, like she came from high cotton, but that dog don't hunt. She grew up poor. It was root, hog, or die. Family woulda been butt nekkid if the church hadn't helped out..."

These women could talk the horns off a billy goat.