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Farm Record Keeping is Vital

better long-term decisions. You can use a ledger book or a computer—whatever helps you maintain consistency. Software programs can make your data more meaningful.

Software has become more user-friendly over time, and while it may not make the record keeping process fun, it could help you see the overall picture of your operation. Some programs track purchases of inputs and how you use the input on a particular enterprise or field. You'll be able to keep track of repair and maintenance records for specific farm equipment and produce balance sheets, income statements and cash flow budgets.

The UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Agricultural Economics has several tools online that could help with bud-

getting and decision making. Visit the webpage <http://agecon.ca.uky.edu/budgets> to see what is available or stop by the Extension office.

If you prefer to keep records on paper, we have the Kentucky Farm Record Book available. Your first one is free then a small fee for additional copy. The record book format allows you to transfer numbers to the "IRS Schedule F" easily. For more information, contact the Estill County Extension office at 723-4557.

Soil testing saves

Why add certain fertilizers or lime if you do not need them? Farmers, gardeners, and homeowners should consider soil testing to determine exactly what nutrients are in their soils, what nutrients are lacking, and what must be added for proper growth of crops, pasture, vegetables, ornamentals,

or lawns. Soil testing is a special chemical analysis that provides a guideline for lime and fertilizer needs of soils. Soil testing service is available to every Kentucky citizen through the UK Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service. We have soil sample bags and soil probes we can loan you.

Estill County farmers can soil test through our office for FREE thanks to funding by the Estill County Extension District Board. Offer has some limitations. It takes about two weeks to get the results. For more information, contact the Estill County Extension Service at 723-4557.

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Wishing Well®

6	7	4	7	5	6	8	5	8	6	3	6	5
Y	N	P	E	C	O	A	O	C	U	B	P	N
6	4	3	8	7	2	3	6	8	4	6	2	5
L	R	E	L	W	O	S	A	E	A	N	T	T
7	8	4	5	8	6	2	6	7	4	7	2	3
F	V	C	R	E	A	H	C	R	T	I	E	T
4	2	6	5	7	3	5	6	4	6	5	7	5
I	R	R	O	E	R	L	U	C	I	N	M	
7	4	3	4	8	5	7	6	7	4	8	4	2
D	E	O	F	R	P	S	S	H	A	T	I	S
6	8	2	4	5	8	3	8	2	5	7	2	3
E	H	E	T	U	O	N	U	N	L	I	V	G
4	8	2	5	7	5	2	5	2	8	2	7	8
H	G	Y	S	P	E	Y	S	O	H	U	S	T

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: K equals P

VD YNM CELQVOU IEBQVOF LHYKKFR

DNOBHVOVOU, V VIEUVOF CF'R

QVMF E LKVO RYBHYM.

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

MEZ NJSCZR CYAEMN BL

OJTHYTR JCZ TBM MB GZ

CIOOJAZR LBC JOBTA BVR

WJCSEOZTMN BC OINMK

CZSBCRN.

— JVZUJTRZC EJOYVMBT

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Winter garden tasks

Sharpen and oil tools such as shovels, pruners and shears. Power tools such as weed eaters and lawnmowers need maintenance and cleaning. Could the wheelbarrow use a fresh coat of paint? Begin to think of a strategy for new spring plantings. You might want to create a small map of your garden, and use it as a guide for ordering new plantings. — B. Weaver

Source: thegardenhelper.com

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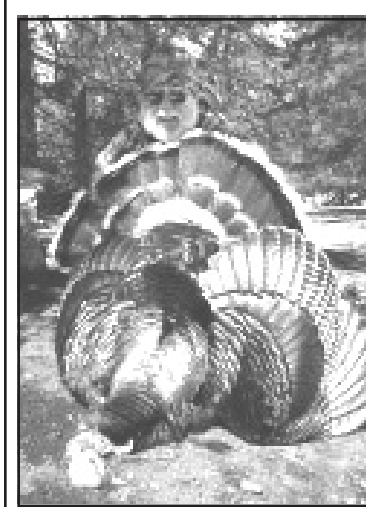


Winter Hints

Dear readers, do you have any special hints, tips, ideas or things that work to keep birds well-fed during the winter that you'd like to share? Please email me at birdingbits@cfl.rr.com, and I will print them. Thank you! Let's keep birds happy this winter.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com

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Just Hunting

by Steve Brewer

You know when a person has hunted over most of the United States for more wildlife than most people will ever see, it is good to sit back and remember how it all started. I was born and raised in the far southeast corner of Kentucky, in a little town called McRoberts. I lived on a 14-acre farm, and some of my fondest memories are centered around our property and the game that was there.

I started hunting with my dad when I was six years old; those were happy years growing up. Everything we needed was on that little fourteen acres. We raised three hogs each year, one for ourselves, one for the men that helped kill the hogs, and one for the neighbors that never had any. There was no government help back those days; we lived off the land and helped our friends who never had as much as we did. We had Jersey milk cows, an old mule, and always a hundred chickens; each for their own purpose, some for eggs, some for frying, some for chicken and dumplings. We had ground hogs, raccoon, squirrel, and my

favorite, grouse. We had a little patch of corn in the far north end of our farm where our property joined the property owned by the coal company. The coal company never cared who hunted on their property, and it extended our property by over a couple thousand acres. We could camp, hunt and enjoy their property just like it was ours. In all my years of hunting there, not once did I see a company person to bother us. The little patch of corn was grouse heaven.

I would come in from school, mom would have my gun and powder sack ready for me to make the twenty minute hike to what we called Grouse Ridge and ambush the grouse as they came in our corn patch for their evening feeding. The years and miles can never strip my mind of the fun times I had hunting grouse on Grouse Ridge. I never remember leaving there but what I'd killed at least three. Sorry, I never then, nor do I today, have a clue as to what the limit was, or is. I was raised believing what dad told me, "Son, always leave seed." I would shoot a grouse, leave it lay, and repeat the process. From the age of ten 'till about seventeen, I probably got a coal truck load of grouse from that little spot. I remember well, sitting there under the big beach trees, eating beechnuts, while I waited for the grouse to arrive. Right before dark, I would pick up my grouse, and haul them to Uncle Lo to clean. Uncle Lo was not really my uncle; he worked for my family and stayed in his own little shotgun house built on our farm. The grouse left Letcher County when the turkey arrived. I have my thoughts as to why but will keep them to myself, unless someone asks.

Well, thanks for going down memory lane with me, I hope this takes you to a simple time, a time of our youth.

Farming News

January, 2020

Fruit Tree Rootstock Orders

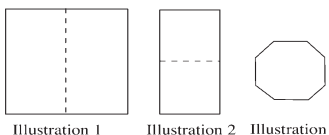
The Estill County Extension Service will be taking orders for apple and pear rootstocks through Friday, January 24th.

In addition, we will take orders for strawberry, blackberry, blueberry, raspberry, asparagus, rhubarb, and Candy onion plants. Plant delivery will be in early April. If you are interested or have questions, call our office at 723-4557 or visit our Facebook page by searching for "Estill County KY Cooperative Extension". Plant orders must be placed and prepaid by March 13th. Call 606-723-4557 for details.

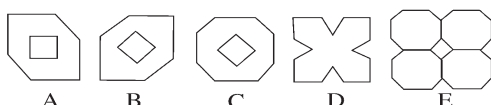
Stickeler's Puzzle



Illustration 1 is a square piece of paper. Illustration 2 is the piece of paper folded in half, and Illustration 3 is the piece of paper folded into fourths with the corners snipped.



Imagine you have snipped off the four corners as shown in Illustration 3. Now open the piece of paper. The result will look like:



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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

Puzzle Answers

January 22, 2020

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

What book would you use to find words that are not true?

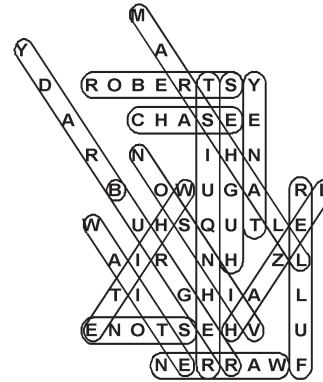
A fiction-ary.

Letter Box

Solution

A	I	M	C	R	O	E	G	P
G	P	C	E	A	M	R	O	I
R	E	O	G	I	P	C	A	M
I	M	A	O	E	C	P	R	G
C	O	R	P	G	I	M	E	A
P	G	E	R	M	A	I	C	O
O	R	I	A	P	E	G	M	C
E	C	P	M	O	G	A	I	R
M	A	G	I	C	R	O	P	E

ADMINISTERED PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL OATH



CryptoQuip

answer

If our washing machine stopped functioning, I imagine we'd hire a spin doctor.

CryptoQuote

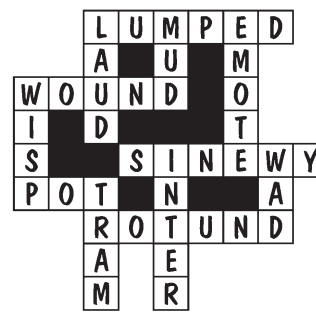
answer

The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments or dusty records.

— Alexander Hamilton

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer



Even Exchange

answers

- Peach, Perch
- Vanity, Sanity
- Mayor, Major
- Tackle, Tickle
- Rivet, River
- Glade, Clare
- Police, Polite
- Judge, Nudge
- Scare, Score
- Matter, Mutter

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	4	1	9	5	6	2	3	7
6	7	3	2	1	4	9	5	8
2	5	9	7	8	3	1	6	4
1	8	6	3	4	7	5	9	2
5	9	4	8	2	1	3	7	6
7	3	2	5	6	9	8	4	1
4	1	5	6	3	2	7	8	9
9	2	8	4	7	5	6	1	3
3	6	7	1	9	8	4	2	5

Answer

8	4	1	9	5	6	2	3	7
6	7	3	2	1	4	9	5	8
2	5	9	7	8	3	1	6	4
1	8	6	3	4	7	5	9	2
5	9	4	8	2	1	3	7	6
7	3	2	5	6	9	8	4	1
4	1	5	6	3	2	7	8	9
9	2	8	4	7	5	6	1	3
3	6	7	1	9	8	4	2	5

Bible Trivia Answers

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.

ANSWERS (1 Old; 2) Joab; (3) Paul; (4) Elisha; (5) Hagar; (6) Lois