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Celebrate Wildlife

The beginning of September brings wildlife awareness with the 64th anniversary of Congress's passage of the Wilderness Act, the purpose of which was to preserve and protect certain lands, and secure the benefits of wilderness for future generations. Following on its heels is National Wildlife Day, a holiday to promote endangered species conservation and wildlife diversity across the country.

Many environmental enthusiasts, however, celebrate wildlife year-round. Whether it's preserving and encouraging backyard songbirds or squirrels, fish in Kentucky's many waterways, or larger species that inhabit woodlands, wildlife conservation affects every Kentuckian. No one knows this better than Michaela Rogers, a University of Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Science alumna and environmental scientist with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"Wildlife is a key part of our natural resources in Kentucky," she said. "Whether someone enjoys hiking or bird watching, fishing, hunting or simply being outdoors, outdoor recreation would be lacking without wildlife. Conservation is criti-

cal to keeping our overall environment healthy for both humans and wildlife."

Habitat loss and degradation is behind the loss or decline of many species. Invasive species introduced from other parts of the world are threats, whether by crowding out native plants that provide food for wildlife or infesting and killing native flora. The introduction of the invasive insect, hemlock woolly adelgid, for example, has resulted in the death of 80% of hemlock trees in some parts of the Appalachian region. More than 120 animal species depend on eastern hemlock forests for habitat. The loss of those trees could have resounding effects on the ecosystem.

"Disease can also have devastating impacts, such as we are currently seeing in species like bats, many of which are heavily impacted by white nose syndrome," Rogers said.

Wildlife should be protected because they play a pivotal role in the state and the world, said Matt Springer, assistant extension professor of wildlife management in the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

"They provide ecosystems services like insect pest control and scavenging, recreational opportunities through hunting, fishing, photography, birding and herping (searching for amphibians or reptiles) to name a few, and nutritious meals to our residents and those less fortunate through Hunters for the Hungry," he said. "Plus, the associated activities annually contribute approximately \$1 billion dollars to our state's economy. Maintaining the species we have and conserving their

habitat will help keep these important benefits around for generations to come."

All wildlife need three basic things: shelter, food and water. The key to attracting and retaining a variety of animals and insects is to develop diverse habitats through plantings and water sources. Even simple steps can encourage a robust animal presence in woodlands or on farms. Undisturbed riparian zones along stream banks, ponds and lakes prevent sediment from flowing into the water and harming aquatic life. In the urban landscape, using native plants, providing water, and reducing both lawn area and chemical usage will attract a greater variety of birds, small animals and pollinators.

Rogers encourages students who are interested in the environment to take advantage of as many opportunities as possible.

"Gain hands-on experience in the field, whether it be helping with graduate student research projects, or interning during the summer with a consulting company or environmental/wildlife agency. Working on projects with experienced biologists will help you gain invaluable skills and allow you to learn what your interests are," she said. "Wildlife' is an extremely broad field, and there is always something to be learned from those with specialized knowledge about a particular species group.

For those interested in learning more about what the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife is doing to preserve wildlife diversity, and how to partner with the agency to protect wildlife, they can connect with the depart-

ment's Kentucky Wild program at <https://app.fw.ky.gov/kywild/>.

More information about UK's natural resources and environmental sciences degree program can be found online, <https://www.uky.edu/academics/bachelors/natural-resources-environmental-science>.

For teenagers and college-aged students interested in learning more about wildlife and the environment, the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment offers several options. The 4-H Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Academy is a three-year program designed to teach middle-school aged youth about their natural environment. In the program, scholars participate in hands-on investigations to learn about Kentucky's water, forest, entomology, and wildlife resources. More information can be found at <https://4-h.ca.uky.edu/NRESci>.

The Kentucky Forest Leadership Program is a weeklong, residential program designed for high school students completing their sophomore and junior years. The program offers three educational tracks: forestry, entomology and wildlife. More information can be found at <https://kflp.ca.uky.edu/>.

To read the full Q&A with Rogers, go to <https://students.ca.uky.edu/wildlifeday2020> or contact the Estill County Extension office at 723-4557.

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Wishing Well®

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

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: Y equals D

TS JIQ TH AIUPQNW JI DJV CAUD
CNWLNWTIQ ZJ AHQ, T'Y LAQHH TZ
VJAPY EQ EAZZQW UJISAHTJII!

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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.

E PEQ NGEN STMA TXN E LTTD
VEQQTN YOHM TY AEOD
GOPAMD L OQNT VTPPTQ AMQAM.
— RTAMZG EHHOATQ

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Puzzle Answers

September 9, 2020

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

C	T	R	E	T	N	U	O	C
O	N	H	E	P	Y	R	H	U
N	T	G	L	A	A	G	A	P
A	E	L	I	N	V	C	E	R
I	O	C	V	K	M	T	S	S
N	E	E	O	F	E	S	A	C
E	N	B	D	O	N	O	R	D
B	S	T	R	U	O	E	L	I
U	L	E	G	A	B	G	H	E

Riddle Answer:
They have lots of dough.

SEAFARING WORDS

S	S											
E	E	R										
S	T	A	E	S	E	V	O	L				
L	S											
A	E	O										
N	A	B	N	C								
T	R	T	I									
S	C			S	A	N	A	M	A	E	S	
H	A				E	G						
E	L	B	A	E	S	J	A	N				
E	S	A	E	S	I	D						

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer

H	I	M										
O	I											
C	A	M	E	L								
O	I		K	L	U	T	Z					
R	E		O		R							
N	O	R	D	I	C	A						
O												
Z	I	T	E									
E												

Even Exchange

- answers
- Racket, Rocket
 - Scald, Scold
 - Margie, Margin
 - Pluto, Plato
 - Raven, Ravel
 - Taller, Teller
 - Oblong, Oolong
 - Vents, Venus
 - Whine, White
 - Paddle, Puddle

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	W	I	G	J	O	E	T	A	K	E	
P	A	T	H	O	W	N	A	G	E	D	
A	S	S	O	R	T	E	D	H	O	P	E
A	S	S	U	P	S	O	R	I	G	I	N
P	S	A	L	M	A	R	O	N			
I	O	N	S	A	S	S	A	I	L	E	D
T	N	T	O	U	T	E	R	I	K	E	
A	S	S	I	S	T	E	D	S	E	E	M
F	L	O	P								
S	H	B	O	O	M	T	O	E			
E	A	R	N	A	S	S	I	G	N	E	D
E	T	A	L	T	E	A	R				
D	E	N	Y	E	A	R					

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution

L	I	E	K	V	C	M	S	O	
M	C	O	S	I	E	V	L	K	
K	S	V	O	M	L	E	I	C	
E	O	K	I	L	V	S	C	M	
C	V	M	E	O	S	L	K	I	
S	L	I	C	K	M	O	V	E	
O	E	C	L	S	K	I	M	V	
I	M	L	V	C	O	K	E	S	
V	K	L	S	M	E	I	C	O	L

Answer

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

Bible Trivia Answers

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

ANSWERS (1 New; 2) Ezekiel; (3) Locusts; (4) Bethel; (5) Bethel; (6) Colossae



The Garden Bug Peonies

These garden favorites are usually sold as bare-root tubers. For planting, pick a sunny spot with good drainage, and work some organic matter and a cup of bonemeal into the soil. Place the root in a hole about 2 inches deep (if planting in southern states, only 1 inch deep), and cover with soil, tamping gently. Water well. Plant peony tubers in late September or October, or about six weeks before the ground freezes. Peonies take years to fully develop, and may need support stakes.

Source: www.almanac.com

- Brenda Weaver

Birding BITS

BY Cindy Brook

Seed Tips

- Freeze seed for 24 hours to kill bugs, moths and other creepy-crawly things and their eggs.
- Try safflower seed if you don't want nuisance birds like grackles or pesky squirrels.
- Use hulled sunflower chips or a waste-free blend to avoid messy hulls under your feeder.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com
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Stickeler's Answer

Stickelers Answer

- hail, sleet, rain, snow and freezing rain
- d. altonimbus
- wind speed

Stickeler's Puzzle on Page 7

The Garden Bug

The American Toad

These chubby amphibians can be large, sometimes growing to 4 or 5 inches. They are usually brown, brick-red or olive-colored, with patterns of lighter colors, brown spots and bumps on their bodies. They are found just about anywhere there is moisture and good cover. They are mostly active at night, eating insects, spiders, worms, snails, and slugs - just about anything that fits in their mouths. They lash out with long sticky tongues to grab prey.

- Brenda Weaver
Source: www.fcps.edu

Puzzle Answers

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers

I	J	M	I	G	H	T	A	J	W
X	W	L	N	B	E	L	O	N	G
E	H	T	I	O	H	R	O	F	D
Y	E	A	A	V	S	T	H	M	L
Q	T	A	H	T	I	A	O	A	O
C	H	R	I	S	T	E	N	E	R
A	E	V	I	L	E	G	R	D	
U	R	O	E	A	D	I	F	E	N
G	N	T	H	I	S	V	D	I	H
N	D	E	N	R	U	T	E	R	L

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