



Eric Baker
Estill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

When purchasing a cut Christmas tree, remember the following points: 1) a fresh tree is green, although some growers may spray dyes on their trees to tint them and reduce water

Cut Christmas Tree Tips

loss, 2) fresh needles are hard to pull from branches, 3) when bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break, 4) the trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and 5) when the trunk of a tree is bounced on the ground, a shower of falling needles shows that tree is too dry. The fresher the tree, the longer it will retain its needles. The freshest trees are locally grown.

In order to keep your cut Christmas tree looking good longer and decrease needle drop, consider the following tips. After you get the tree home, remove another 1 or 2 inches of the cut end of the stem

to allow the sap to flow. Place the tree in a bucket of warm water (the heat will help get the sap flowing and open the water conducting channels in the wood) until you're ready to move it into the house. Select a spot in the home away from any heat sources - stoves, registers, fireplaces, etc. Limit the hours that electric lights are lit on the tree because each light is a hot spot on the needles.

Keep the cut tree watered. Use the following solution: 1 cup of corn syrup and 3 tablespoons of liquid bleach added to 1 gallon of water (The bleach tends to thin out the sticky

pitch from the tree's water conducting channels and allows water to get into the tree. The corn syrup provides the tree with a source of simple carbohydrates for food.) Continue adding the solution to the reservoir as long as the tree remains in the house.

A listing of Kentucky Christmas tree farms is at the website kychristmas-treefarms.com. We hope each of you have a joyous holiday season!

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

Wishing Well®

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

©2017 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

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: L equals R

CIPXP BQZX V DLPOPL XNGKDCGLP
SHPL DQVUCVUM. V MGPXX ZSG
NSGKB XQZ V'HP IQB Q NIQUMP
SO QLC.

© 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

CryptoQuip puzzles \$3.50 • 24 Volumes • Order at: rbmamall.com

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.

JGZAJRYZJY UYXA E QGX GB
JPYMRX XWEX NYQGZUA XG
JGQM BYYX. — EZGZOFGCA

©2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

New! CryptoQuote puzzles \$3.50 • 6 Volumes • Order at: rbmamall.com

Puzzle Answers

December 6, 2017

Puzzles4Kids

Answer
KISSER S SKIER
EARWAX A WAXER
HARDEN N HEARD
CASTLE T LACES
SHARON A SHORN

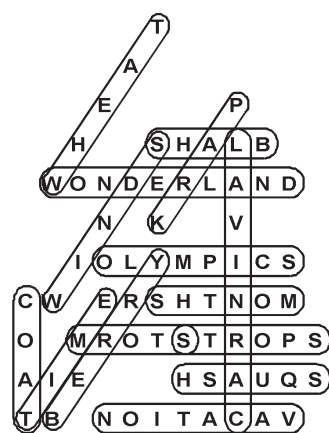
PARTED P DATER
SATIRE A RITES
AUSTIN U SATIN
LISTED S TILED
BEAKER E BRAKE

Letter Box

Solution

D	O	Y	A	E	R	H	V	C
V	R	C	D	O	H	E	Y	A
H	E	A	V	Y	C	O	R	D
O	D	V	E	H	Y	A	C	R
A	C	E	R	V	O	Y	D	H
R	Y	H	C	D	A	V	O	E
E	A	D	Y	R	V	C	H	O
C	V	O	H	A	D	R	E	Y
Y	H	R	O	C	E	D	A	V

WINTER



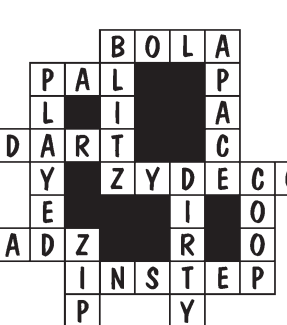
CryptoQuip

answer
These days I prefer sculpture over painting. I guess you could say I've had a change of art.

CryptoQuote

answer
Conscience gets a lot of credit that belongs to cold feet. — Anonymous

FEAR & KNIGHT



Even Exchange

- answers
- Lodger, Dodger
 - Horse, House
 - Fiance, France
 - Never, Newer
 - Merry, Mercy
 - Simple, Sample
 - Santa, Sante
 - Hammer, Hamper
 - Marsh, Harsh
 - Nibble, Nimble

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers
Solution time: 24 mins.

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

Bible Trivia Answers

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

ANSWERS 1) New; 2) Nazareth; 3) Census; 4) Micah; 5) Bible not specific; 6) Silver

Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS [sic]
by Terry Stickels

Here are the first 10 consecutive squares that are palindromes (a palindrome reads the same forward and backward).

What comes next?
0, 1, 4, 9, 121, 484, 676, 10201,
12321, 14641, ?

Stickeler's Answer on Page 11
©2017 King Features Syndicate

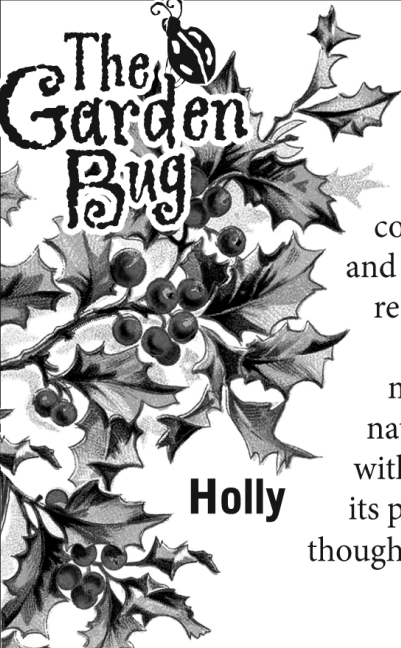
Farming News

from Extension Agent Eric Baker

Thursday, December 14th at 6:00pm

Estill Cattle Producers Meeting

The Estill County Extension Service and Estill County Cattlemen's Association are sponsoring a cattle producer meeting on Thursday, December 14th, 6:00 p.m. at the Estill County Extension office, 76 Golden Court (off Stacy Lane). Guest speaker is UK Ag engineering specialist Josh Jackson and he will discuss cattle handling systems. A chili supper will be provided. Please call 723-4557 to pre-register by December 11th so we can have enough food. The Cattlemen Association will meet afterward.



Long before holly was used for Christmas decoration, it was considered sacred to the Druids. While other plants wither away in cold weather, holly leaves remain green and strong, and the berries remain bright red even in the harshest of winters. The pagan Druids regarded this as potent magic against the destructive forces of nature, and adorned their surroundings with cuttings of the plant to benefit from its powers. Cutting down a holly tree was thought to bring very bad luck. - Brenda Weaver

Source: howstuffworks.com

© 2017 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.



Greatest Birding Moment
As the year comes to a close, I love to reflect on my greatest birding moment. This year it was the male painted bunting that came to my yard for an afternoon. He was more beautiful than any picture I've seen. I simply love birding. It's great fun!

E-mail: birdingbits@cflrr.com
© 2014 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

GET-R-DONE
Tree Trimming & Removal
Also, NEW! Pressure Washing!
Homes, Decks, Driveways, Sidewalks
Contact Anthony Conrad
FREE Estimates! 606-975-3799
Available 24 Hours For Storm Damage!

MILLERS CREEK
TOP SOIL & FILL DIRT
Rock Hauling 1-12 Tons
We've added more equipment to better serve you!
Let us take care of your backhoe & trucking needs!
Call (606) 726-9004
or (606) 254-6660

Jack Walling
GRAVEL HAULING &
DOZIER WORK
Free Estimates!
606-975-1736 or
606-643-5080

Jimmie L. Johnson, DMD, PSC
Family Dentistry
87 Wildwood Place (off Court St.)
Irvine, Kentucky
(606) 723-3213