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According to UK Horticulture Extension professor Richard Durham, few plants can live up a winter day like the amaryllis. The large pink, white, red, orange and variegated flowers are truly spectacular. You may have received an amaryllis bulb as a holiday gift.

A member of the lily family, the amaryllis rises from a large bulb. The growth habit makes it well suited for blooming during the colder months of the year. Knowing about its natural habitat in Central and South

Amaryllis Can Live Up Winter Days

America will help you successfully grow and flower an amaryllis at home. The plants are adapted to ecosystems with a long, moist growing season, followed by a shorter dry season. At the beginning of the rainy season, the bulb sends forth foliage and flowers. Although the flowers last only for two to three weeks, the foliage grows throughout the moist season during which time new flower buds form within the bulb. It goes dormant during the dry season, but resumes growth and flowers when the rainy season begins.

When you buy an amaryllis, it likely will be a dormant bulb. If so, pot the bulb about 6 to 12 weeks before you want the plant to bloom. Use a container with a diameter just slightly larger than the bulb and a potting mix that promotes good drainage. One-third to one-half the pointed end of the bulb should remain above the soil. Thoroughly water and put the pot in a bright, warm window. Wa-

ter when the soil becomes dry to the touch, but do not give it too much water because this will cause the bulb to rot. Never allow water to accumulate in the saucer beneath the pot.

In a few weeks, a flower stalk should emerge, usually before the foliage develops. Rotate the container every few days to keep the flower and foliage from leaning too much toward the light. You may need to stake the flower stalk to keep it upright in a low-light situation. When the bloom is spent, remove the wilted flowers and cut the flower stalk back to the top of the bulb. Do not remove any foliage because the leaves continue to provide energy for the next season's flowers. Fertilize it every couple of weeks to promote healthy foliage.

If you want to keep the amaryllis and get it to bloom again next year, give the plant as much light as possible after it flowers. It will help to move the plant outdoors when the danger

of frost is over, generally around mid-May. Gradually acclimate the plant to brighter light by first putting it under a tree or awning; then moving it to brighter light every few days until the plant is in full sun.

When summer is over, keep the plant in a sunny location, but withhold water. As the foliage begins to die, move the pot to a cool, dry location such as a basement or closet. In the winter, repot the bulb to a new container, again only a few inches larger than the bulb's diameter. As an amaryllis bulb becomes larger, it may produce two or even three flower spikes during the blooming period.

For more information, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

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Wishing Well®

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

ZGY LYXX-TNN BTKWAVG NATB
OAWQHY AYWXUEYM ZGWZ GY
LTHXM XUCY ZT TOYK W VEYVG
CUKQ WVVTHKZ.

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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.

DYNDIY BYJYHUIIA YJMNA
VUJEPJB XN ZNJBZ XFUX
FUCY GNHVZ UJV UHY NT
HYUZNJUSIY IYJBF.
— THUJ IYSNPXR

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Puzzle Answers

December 27, 2017

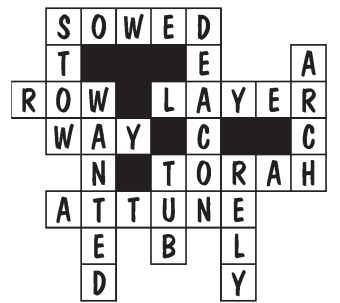
Puzzles4Kids

Answer

- | | | |
|--------|---|-------|
| EASTON | A | STONE |
| WASTED | T | WADES |
| DEACON | O | CANED |
| STRIPE | E | FIRST |
| SACHET | T | CHASE |
| SANDER | R | DEANS |
| SALUTE | U | LEAST |
| CASTLE | C | STEAL |
| LINKED | K | LINED |

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer

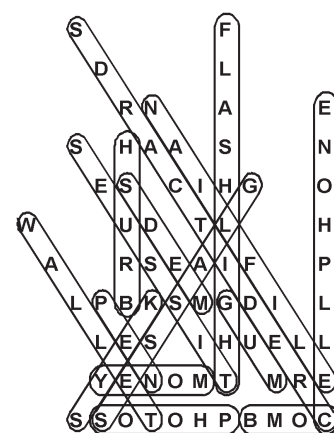


Letter Box

Solution

R	T	K	W	C	E	O	H	I
C	W	I	O	R	H	K	E	T
O	E	H	T	K	I	C	W	R
H	I	C	R	O	W	E	T	K
T	K	E	I	H	C	R	O	W
W	O	R	K	E	T	H	I	C
I	C	O	H	T	K	W	R	E
K	H	T	E	W	R	I	C	O
E	R	W	C	I	O	T	K	H

FOUND IN A PURSE



Even Exchange

answers

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Silver, Salver | 6. Norman, Normal |
| 2. Towel, Tower | 7. Powder, Ponder |
| 3. Peppy, Puppy | 8. Spare, Spade |
| 4. Wizard, Lizard | 9. Lease, Leave |
| 5. Major, Mayor | 10. Flint, Faint |

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Farming News

from Extension Agent Eric Baker

February and March

Haymaking Short Course

Madison and Estill County Ag Extension agents have organized a haymaking short course for February and March among Madison and Estill County producers. There will be five educational sessions from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. one night per week, including an optional visit to UK Spindletop Farm forage variety trials. Light refreshments will be included and each participant will receive a binder of printed materials. Registration cost is \$20 per person. The tentative topics include cool season forages and haymaking, soils and fertility, hay machinery & marketing, warm season forages & baleage overview, hay production economics, and weed control in forages. Please call 723-4557 or email ebaker@uky.edu if you have questions or wish to register.

Apple Rootstock Orders

The Estill County Cooperative Extension Service will be ordering apple and pear rootstocks in January. If you want to propagate a favorite apple or pear, grafting is one of the easiest ways to preserve that cultivar. We typically order Malling7 (55% of standard size) and/or MM.111 (80% of standard) semi-dwarf apple rootstock and a pear rootstock. Please pre-pay your order by January 19th. The rootstocks usually arrive in late February. For more information, contact the Estill County Extension office at 723-4557.

Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS [sic]
by Terry Stickels

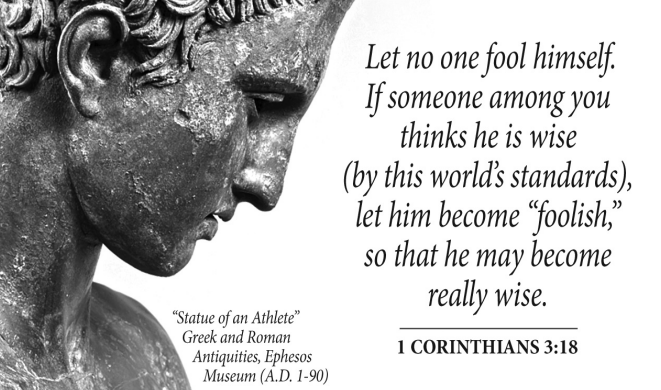
Match the words on the left with their respective meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. capitulate | a. monetary |
| 2. abstemious | b. to surrender or submit |
| 3. catenary | c. a tower with tiers |
| 4. ziggurat | d. temperate |
| 5. pecuniary | e. the shape a cable makes when suspended from above |

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



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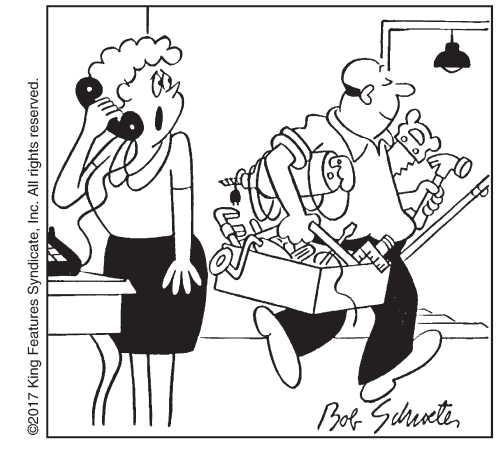
SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- | | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Unkind | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| DINES | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Level | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| BLEATS | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Correct | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| GIRTH | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Tally | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| OSCAR | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

"I'd better call you back, Marge, I'm afraid a _____ is about to come up!"

TODAY'S WORD



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Bible Trivia Answers

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

ANSWERS 1 Established; 2) Pass; 3) Leviticus; 4) Moving forward; 5) 7th; 6) Wisdom