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Winter Care for Strawberry Plants

tion) of the plant crowns. But be sure to wait until plants are dormant before you pile on the mulch. Applying mulch too early can cause the crown of the plant to rot. Plants should be mulched before the temperature drops below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, usually by late November or early December.

Several materials can be used for winter mulch, including clean (weed-free) straw, chopped cornstalks, hay, corn-cobs or bark chips. Tree leaves and grass clippings are not recommended, since they tend to mat down and smother the plants. About 2-3 inches of mulch, after settling, should provide adequate protection. This is a great use for those fall decorative straw bales.

Put a note on your garden calendar to uncover the plants in spring as new growth begins. Rake off most of the mulch as soon as the first new leaves develop. The new growth will probably look a little yellow at first but will green up with exposure to light. Rake the mulch between the rows to provide weed control and a source of emergency cover in case frost threatens. Mulching around the plants will also help keep the berries clean.

Mulching strawberry plants will insulate them from extreme low temperatures, minimize soil heaving and decrease excessive drying (desicca-

FARMER TAX SEMINAR

Attention farmers. Co-operative Extension will host a farmer tax seminar on Monday, November 12th, 6:30 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office off Stacy Lane Road. Come learn about federal and state tax law changes and how those changes can impact filing tax returns for your agricultural operation. Jonathan Shepherd, UK Farm Management specialist, will be our guest speaker. Please let us know if you plan to attend by calling 723-4557.

SPRING-FLOWERING BULBS

Now through Thanksgiving you can plant bulb-type flowers we associate with springtime: daffodils, crocus, and other easy-to-grow flowering bulbs. If you aren't growing any spring-flowering bulbs in your landscape, you are missing out on some easy-to-grow plants that provide early color to your garden.

These bulbs are planted in fall because it corresponds to the end of their natural dormancy. Most of these plants begin root growth in fall, followed by a cool stratification period necessary for proper flower development and then shoot growth in late

winter and early spring. No matter which bulbs you select, remember that the largest bulbs will produce the greatest show next spring. However, smaller bulbs will still produce some flowers, and these may be the best choice for mass planting or naturalizing. Avoid any bulbs that feel lightweight as these may have severely dried during storage.

It's important to plant flowering bulbs at the proper depth, so inquire about plant depth at the nursery or follow the label directions. A light application of bone meal fertilizer at planting is often recommended, though probably not always necessary. Most bulbs do not need fertilization until growth emerges in the spring. When you see plants emerging, apply 1 to 2 pounds per 100 square feet of a complete fertilizer (for example, a 10-10-10 blend).

Once flowering occurs, remove the faded blooms, but don't remove the foliage. The leaves produce sugars and other compounds necessary for the bulb to overwinter and bloom again the next spring. Most bulbs will enter dormancy in late spring or early summer and will renew growth, starting with the root system in the fall.



The Garden Bug
Natural fall decor
Leaves that display fall color can be collected and dried between the pages of a large book for 1 to 2 weeks. When dry, spray with sealer for a glossy appearance, then let dry. String together to drape across walls, windows, doorways and mantles.

- Brenda Weaver

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Birding BITS BY Cindy Brook
Winter is Coming!
Are you ready? Some high-fat foods to have on hand are:
• Peanuts, peanuts, peanuts. Unsalted, in or out of the shell.
• Suet cakes or nuggets (any flavor), seed blocks, Bark Butter
• Black oil sunflower seed, sunflower heart chips, safflower seed. And don't forget roosting boxes and heated birdbaths too.

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

STICKELERS [sic] by Terry Stickels

Below are three normal dice. How many dots are on each of the faces that are touching? How many dots are on the face that has a question mark? Faces are numbered left to right 1-5.

Faces 1 & 2 Faces 3 & 4 Face 5

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Stickeler's Answer on Page B-5

Farming News

from Extension Agent Eric Baker

Thursday, November 1st @ 12:30pm

Smart Driver Course Offered

There will be an AARP Smart Driver Course on Thursday, November 1st, 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Estill County Extension office, 76 Golden Court (off Stacey Lane) in Irvine.

This driver safety course is designed especially for drivers age 50 and older. Some insurance companies offer a discount for clients who attend this type training. To see if this course qualifies you for a discount, contact your insurance agent.

The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Please call 723-4557 to pre-register by October 28th.

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The highest compliment my clients can give me is the referral of their friends, family and business partners.

Thank you!

Wishing Well®

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

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: O equals B

ETPD H OXGV XB VXNXPDSNK

OIXNVXDY XSB DPBS XD H SGPP,

EQINV KQI FHNN STHS OGHDF

VGPBBXDY?

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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.

JWVH X QXH OXPO NS'O X

ONRRP, FWNRCNOW AXQV, NS'O

TGMZXRZP OMQVSWNHA WNO

JNBV FXH ZVXS WNQ XS.

— CMH VTTVGOMH

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Puzzle Answers

October 31, 2018

Puzzles4Kids
Answer

Riddle Answer:
It's too far to walk.

FEAR & KNIGHT
answer

Letter Box
Solution

E	L	O	U	N	G	D	T	I
G	N	I	T	E	D	O	L	U
U	D	T	L	O	I	N	E	G
O	T	D	E	G	U	I	N	L
N	U	G	I	T	L	E	O	D
I	E	L	N	D	O	G	U	T
T	G	E	D	U	N	L	I	O
L	O	N	G	I	T	U	D	E
D	I	U	O	L	E	T	G	N

Even Exchange
answers

- Curse, Curve
- Fright, Flight
- Margie, Margin
- Bride, Pride
- Liner, Linen
- Sister, Sitter
- Crust, Crest
- Patent, Parent
- Pinky, Picky
- Lawyer, Sawyer

THE BACKYARD

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

CryptoQuip
answer

I think I may probably get you that job as a marionette worker if I just pull a few strings.

King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Bible Trivia Answers

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

ANSWER: 1) Neither; 2) 7; 3) Nahum; 4) Exodus; 5) Saul; 6) 666