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As spring approaches, many homeowners are thinking about their yard's landscape. Our winter snow event damaged several trees and shrubs. To ensure healthy spring plants, homeowners may want to selectively prune the trees and shrubs around their home. Do not prune for the sake of pruning, make sure you have a valid reason for pruning before you begin. Remember to avoid topping your shade trees as this will hurt the overall health of the tree.

Pruning during the late winter months allows for the removal of damage

Spring Pruning Tips

caused by winter winds and precipitation. The wounds caused by pruning heal most quickly this time of year just as new growth is emerging on the plant.

Pruning also allows removal of diseased, crowded or hazardous branches. When pruning trees, the size of the tree does not need to be reduced too much in one season. Limit the pruning amount to one-fourth of the tree's volume. Start by thinning out branches by cutting them off close to the tree's trunk or a large limb.

Leave the base of the branch, known as the collar, intact. Cutting the collar will prevent the plant from growing over the wound caused from pruning. Pruning in this manner allows for a healthy tree that is more open to sunlight and air movement. If the branch is cut back only part way, there will likely be a crowded regrowth of new branches where the cut was made. Do not seal or paint the wounds resulting from

pruning because this will only delay the tree's healing process.

With spring-flowering shrubs, rejuvenation pruning may be needed, and the time to prune is fast approaching. The best time to prune these plants is right after they have flowered. If the shrub is pruned before it blooms, the buds have been removed before their flowers were enjoyed. When pruning is done after blooming, the flowers will have been enjoyed, and the plant can recover, grow and produce more buds for flowers next spring.

Rejuvenation pruning removes one-third of the shrub's oldest growth. This pruning entails selecting the thickest, darkest and unhealthiest stems or branches and cutting them back. Stems should be cut back to soil level and branches to the point of intersection with the shrub's main trunk. This ensures that only the youngest, most productive wood (that which

produces the most/best flowers) remains a part of the shrub. Shrubs that will bloom during the summer months can also be pruned during the early spring.

Pruning is not limited to a certain time of year. Homeowners can prune at any time if they notice branches and limbs that are damaged either from weather, disease or insects. Pruning is invigorating for the plants in a home landscape so one should not necessarily think of pruning as a means of size control. If you have a plant that has grown out-of-bounds, pruning may not be the answer - you may need to consider replacing the plant with one that will reach a smaller size at maturity.

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

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Wishing Well®

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

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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: A equals L

R ZWFAU AWGJ XW IJ M
CJMGKZJRBCX TCMQY EWQJUMK,
IFX YJWYAJ XJAA QJ RX'E WOAK
M NRBCX WN NMOTK.

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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.

GR'W JPAPQTVPHHO VHRPA ...
CN ONX FANB, PJQRS GR
QPFRW P ZPQG GR BPWGRW
QGR WNPI.
— GXUG HRNAPSC

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Puzzle Answers

April 4, 2018



Indian shot is another name for *canna indica*, a wildflower of the Caribbean and tropical Americas.



Its spherical black seeds are hard and perfectly round, resembling oversized BBs or buckshot from a shotgun shell. They are often used as beads.

- Brenda Weaver

Sources: usf.edu, waynesword.palomar.edu

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April Showers

If you live in an area where it rains a lot this time of year, be sure to keep your feeders as clean and dry as possible. Wet seed causes bacteria growth that can make birds sick. If possible, bring your feeders in at night to help keep them dry.

E-mail: birdingbits@cflrr.com

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Farming News
from Extension Agent Eric Baker
Monday, April 9th @ 7pm
Vegetable Disease Seminar
Gardeners are in a constant battle growing vegetables under many pests, especially diseases. Plant diseases are a particular challenge, especially with tomatoes. If you want to learn how to manage disease issue in the garden, you will want to attend our Vegetable Disease Seminar on Monday, April 9th, 7:00 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office. UK Extension plant pathologist Emily Pfeufer will be our instructor. If you plan to attend, please pre-register by calling 723-4557 by April 6th.
Estill Extension is an Equal Opportunity Provider

Stickeler's Puzzle
STICKELERS [sic].
by Terry Stickels
What number comes next?
1 2 4 6 10 12 16 2
A) 20
B) 18
C) 16
D) -32
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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11
Jimmie L. Johnson, DMD, PSC
Family Dentistry
87 Wildwood Place (off Court St.)
Irvine, Kentucky
(606) 723-3213

Puzzles4Kids
Answer
What kind of job is it easy to stick to?
Working in a glue factory.
Letter Box
Solution

O	U	R	C	L	I	E	N	T
I	C	N	T	R	E	L	U	O
E	T	L	O	U	N	I	R	C
N	L	E	R	O	C	T	I	U
R	O	T	I	N	U	C	E	L
C	I	U	E	T	L	R	O	N
T	N	C	L	E	O	U	R	I
L	E	O	U	I	R	N	T	C
U	R	I	N	C	T	O	L	E

Even Exchange
answers
1. Season, Reason 6. Flour, Floor
2. Harpo, Harps 7. Pocket, Picket
3. Maggie, Maggie 8. Marge, Merge
4. Lodge, Ledge 9. Elate, Slate
5. Peach, Peace 10. Tables, Tablet

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Bible Trivia Answers
Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.
ANSWERS 1 Neither; 2) Peter; 3) Stephen; 4) Num- bers; 5) Nahum; 6) 700