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

Level: Advanced

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

Level: Intermediate

SUDOKU

Fun by the Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test! **Here's How It Works:** Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

FARM AND AG WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- AGRICULTURE
- AGRONOMY
- ANIMALS
- ANNUAL
- APIARY
- BIODIVERSITY
- BIODYNAMIC
- CAPACITY
- COVER
- CROPS
- CULTIVATION
- DEADHEADING
- DRAINAGE
- DRILLING
- ECOLOGY
- EROSION
- FARMING
- HARVEST
- HUSBANDRY
- IRRIGATION
- LIVESTOCK
- ROTATION
- SOIL
- TILLAGE

CLUES ACROSS

- Unsheared sheep
- Rock TV channel
- Streetcar
- Concerning
- Expression of recognition
- Greek goddess of youth
- An iPad is one
- Adult beverage
- Manning and Wallach are two
- Makes a petty verbal attack
- Tyrion Lannister's nickname
- Pointed ends of pens
- Wristwatches
- Body part
- Made a mistake
- Adjusted
- Turkish honorific title
- Yell
- Historic Alabama city
- Cub
- Type of sea bass dish
- To call (archaic)
- Unfortunate
- Separate oneself from others
- Hero sandwiches
- Former OSS
- Open spaces in a forest
- Innermost brain membranes
- Fortune
- Hunting expedition
- Doomed queen Boleyn
- Peyton's little brother
- Type of wrap
- Scottish tax
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- An increase in price or value

CLUES DOWN

- Works of body art
- Abba ___, Israeli politician
- A desert in Asia
- Eat greedily
- Doomed French queen

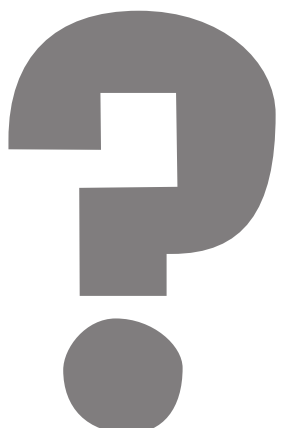
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11			
12				13		14				15					
16					17		18			19					
20							21			22					
					23		24			25					
26	27	28	29					30							
31								32							
33									34	35	36	37	38		
					39	40	41		42	43					
						44	45			46					
									47						
49								50		51		52	53	54	55
56								57			58				
59										60			61		
62												63			64

- Beat
- One who survives on blood
- As a consequence
- Counted on
- Acquired Brain Injury Behavior Science
- Unclean
- One who does not drink
- Wild ox of the Malay Archipelago
- ___ student, learns healing
- Bacterial skin infection
- Expresses surprise
- What one says on a wedding day
- Crony
- Where you entered the world (abbr.)
- Unit of length
- Side that is sheltered from the wind
- More (Spanish)
- Autonomic nervous system
- Violent troublemakers, originally in Paris
- Statements that something is untrue
- Greek alphabet letter
- Suspends from above
- Popular types of cigars
- Girls
- U.S. philosopher and logician
- Nocturnal hoofed animal
- Relaxing spaces
- From a distance
- Form of Persian
- Amounts of time
- Trigonometric function

Riddle me this...

Riddle: I have cities, but no people. I have roads, but no pavement. I have rivers, but no water. What am I?

Answer: A map.



— Puzzle answers on page 4 —

⊙ * ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN

☾ ☿ ♁ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

Solve the code to discover words related to agriculture. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 22 = O)

A. 5 18 20 10
Clue: Growing operation

B. 3 20 18 6 3 22 20
Clue: Farm equipment

C. 3 17 6 4 11 22 26 22 12 21
Clue: Scientific tools

D. 6 20 22 19 14
Clue: Plants

Answers: A. farm B. tractor C. technology D. crops

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Slices of life

Signs and things unseen



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

One of the most bittersweet moments in life is when you have good news and no one to call.

I have lots of people to call about lots of things. But certain pieces of good news, require certain people.

And, for me, those people are no longer here.

I can talk to them. I can tell them my news, but I can't call them on the phone because they no longer require physical entities like phones, or bodies.

Today was one of those days.

I had some good news. But it was a certain sort of good news. Not the kind you share with just anyone.

It was the kind you share with your mom, or your husband.

Neither was available for conversation, unfortunately.

So I contemplated my favorable situation and wished they were here to share my excitement.

And then I smelled cigarette smoke. (My mom was a smoker.) I whispered, "Hi, mom."

All day long birds kept flying in weird patterns above my head and in front of me – uncannily close. I smiled and acknowledged my husband, "I see what you're doing."

And I took both for what

they were: signs.

Some of you reading this may not believe in signs. I lived much of my life not knowing for sure, but certainly not being on the receiving end of them.

And then, here I am.

Watching birds do weird things. Smelling cigarette smoke when no one's been smoking around me.

If you don't believe, if you haven't cause to believe, consider yourself fortunate.

I only know what I know. Believe what I believe (unapologetically).

I also, consider myself fortunate. Maybe even more so than many others. Here's why:

I have been put into a place in this life where I have to believe – to have faith – in things I can't necessarily see.

And faith is a wondrous thing.

It provides peace amongst discord. It provides love amongst hate. It provides light amongst darkness. It

provides joy amongst sadness. It provides healing amongst hurt. It provides trust amongst uncertainty. It provides hope amongst despair.

It provides a platform bigger than oneself. It provides a knowledge that none of us is in this alone.

Because we aren't. And that is a beautiful thought.

We all feel alone sometimes. I know I do and I have great faith that I am not alone. Still, despite that faith, sometimes aloneness creeps in and I feel separated from the world. Most often this occurs when I am struggling or when I have something especially good to share (and no one to share it with).

Like today.

And then the birds put on a show for me. And I smell cigarette smoke.

And I know – I believe – without a doubt that there are things we don't see with our eyes that nonetheless are as real as everything we do see.

For me, that is faith.

And I am very, very glad and grateful for it – and for the love that's helped me know it.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.



Page 2 puzzle answers

PUZZLE 1	PUZZLE 2	CROSSWORD
7 8 3 5 9 6 4 1 2	1 8 6 4 2 5 3 9 7	T E G G M T V T R A M
4 5 2 1 8 7 6 9 3	7 3 2 8 6 9 4 5 1	A B O U T A H A H E B E
1 9 6 3 2 4 5 8 7	9 4 5 1 3 7 8 6 2	T A B L E T R U M H E L I S
6 4 8 7 1 2 9 3 5	2 1 9 5 7 8 6 4 3	S N I P E S I M P N I B S
5 2 7 8 3 9 1 4 6	8 7 4 3 1 6 9 2 5	T I M E P I E C E S
9 3 1 4 6 5 7 2 8	5 6 3 2 9 4 1 7 8	H I P B O N E E R E D
2 1 9 6 5 8 3 7 4	3 9 1 7 4 2 5 8 6	A D A P T E D D E Y
8 7 5 9 4 3 2 6 1	4 2 8 6 5 1 7 3 9	H O L L A S E L M A
3 6 4 2 7 1 8 5 9	6 5 7 9 8 3 2 1 4	L A D C H I L E A N
		C L E P E H A P L E S S
		Q U A R A N T I N E
		S U B S C R I P T I O N
		P I A S H A P S A F A R I
		A N N E E L I S A R A N I
		S E S S S R R I S E

Word search grid with words highlighted:

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 FCAREETIVVYTDUNGTLS
 MKGGROCESRLIMTFNKIBM
 LOAIGIYODODYCOINVPMG
 SPORCRGNLTRURMNESTBTB
 FIMCAHAAABOLERASOTHN
 RTNISBOSTTGATOTORMFK
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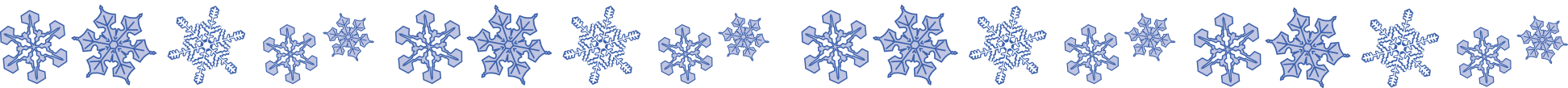
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