DEAR ABBY

Husband keeps close tabs on wife following overdose

Dear Abby: My 47-year-old daughter is an alcoholic. A year ago, she took several benzodiazepine pills along with the booze and overdosed. My son-in-law found her in time and called 911. She spent five days in a psych hospital to detox, but never went to any follow-up rehab. I had been led to believe she was sober, but recently found out it was not true, and my son-in-law for some reason decided not to tell me.

JEANNE PHILLIPS
ADVICE

The other issue is, since she OD'd, he keeps track of all her online spending and personal emails (he has all her passwords) because he claims it's the only way he can keep tabs on her to find out how much she's drinking and where she goes to do it. She doesn't know he's doing this, and I'm afraid if she finds out she will go ballistic. I don't know whether or not to tell her, because I don't want to do anything to make things even worse between them. Advice? — **Fearful in Florida**

Dear Fearful: I see nothing to be gained by telling your daughter her husband is watching her closely. She is a woman with very serious problems, and it's a shame she didn't follow through with more rehab after what may have been a suicide attempt.

Your son-in-law cares about his wife. When he realized she had overdosed, he called to get help for her. That he's monitoring her closely is not a bad thing; it means he loves her and wants to avoid a repeat of what happened. Ask him what you can do to support your daughter, if anything, and take your cue from there.

Dear Abby: Ever since I got married a year ago, my family has been trying to "fix" me. My sister texts me asking if I'm OK and how she can love on me better because she thinks I have no life and don't socialize. My mom makes comments whenever I'm over about how I'm introverted, etc.

Abby, I just had a baby, and I work full time. I don't have time to go over to see them often, so they think I stay home all day long and do nothing. But it's so far from true. I have tried talking to them about it and saying I have friends, etc. But nothing works. What do I do? — **Fine As I Am**

Dear Fine: Because talking to your mother and your sister hasn't helped, remember that they mean well and are trying to be helpful. Then tune them out.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 21, 1919

Several fake magazine agents who are traveling around the country were reported to have "worked" Pendleton recently. Local people are requested by local agencies and high school salesmen to buy all magazine subscriptions in Pendleton, thereby avoiding fakers and keeping the money in the city.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 21, 1969

Loading of 4,000 tons of fortified alfalfa cubes on a large ocean-going barge is scheduled to get under way Wednesday, after which the Florence, a 7,500-ton barge, will leave Boardman for Hawaii. Construction of the underground conveyor from the cube plant to the waterfront was nearing completion Monday. The alfalfa cubing plant of the I. M. Docken Corporation is the first industry to locate in the new Port of Morrow industrial park. Docken, the corporation president, said the plant is operating three shifts and is producing approximately 160 tons of cubes daily.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 21, 1994

Gov.-elect John Kitzhaber spent about an hour of his Pendleton visit Wednesday listening to Hermiston residents tell him, in the words of irrigator Ron Baker, "We could slowly bleed to death" if the area is cut off from its water supply. Kitzhaber reaffirmed a campaign promise to eventually give Eastern Oregon a spot on the Northwest Power Planning Council. As far as the power council goes, "The people most impacted are east of the mountains," he said. He wants to borrow Pendleton native Mike Thorpe, Port of Portland's executive director, for three or four months to help launch his new administration. In his way, Kitzhaber was telling Hermiston-area residents they'll have meaningful access to state government at the highest level.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On Dec. 21, 1988, 270 people were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a Pam Am Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, sending wreckage crashing to the ground.

In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln signed a congressional act authorizing the Navy Medal of Honor.

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman concluded their "March to the Sea" as they captured Savannah, Georgia.

In 1891, the first basketball game, devised by James Naismith, is believed to have been played at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. (The final score of this experimental game: 1-0.)

In 1991, eleven of the 12 former Soviet republics proclaimed the birth of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the death of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

In 1995, the city of Bethlehem passed from Israeli to Palestinian control.

Today's Birthdays: Talk show host Phil Donahue is 84. Actress Jane Fonda is 82. Actor Larry Bryggman is 81. Singer Carla Thomas is 77. Musician Albert Lee is 76. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas is 75.

Thought for Today: "It is not necessary to understand things in order to argue about them." — *Pierre Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais, French author and dramatist (1732-1799).*

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 with a spring in one's step (5)	_____
2 like a spring chicken (8)	_____
3 spring on someone (8)	_____
4 they spring from one's mind (8)	_____
5 common signs of spring (7)	_____
6 spring to life (6)	_____
7 like one with spring fever (10)	_____

SE	KEN	THO	BOU	UL
SUR	UGH	OWE	FL	AWA
PPY	THF	RS	PE	USE
ND	YOU	TS	PRI	HO

Today's Answers: 1. PEPPY 2. YOUTHFUL 3. SURPRISE 4. THOUGHTS 5. FLOWERS 6. AWAKEN 7. HOUSEBOUND 12/22

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WORD ★ Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

Three months	☑☐☐
Three eight-letter words	☐☐☐
Three seven-letter mammals	☐☐☐
Three crustaceans	☐☐☐
Three pieces of furniture	☐☐☐

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: AUGUST APRIL JUNE / GOVERNOR CIRCULAR SINGULAR / MUSKRAT WARTHOG HAMSTER / LOBSTER SHRIMP CRAB / CHAIR SOFA DESK 12/21

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

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

12/21

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

2÷		12×	1−	2÷	6
1	11+				2−
		1	12×	12+	
1−		3−			5+
2−	6		2÷		
	24×			5+	

12-21-19

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RULES

1. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating.
2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
3. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg December 21, 2019

ACROSS

1 "Iliad" city
5 About
9 Costa ___
13 Alleviate
14 Gesture of indifference
16 Smell of spoiled milk, e.g.
17 Economist Smith
18 One way to cook onions
19 Primordial gunk
20 Causes a conifer to soar?
23 Went off, as a phone
24 Decorated at a bakery
25 "I'm certain I know what that bow was made of!"
32 "Nova" network
35 Ad headline
36 Luxury Honda line
37 Whiskey cocktail
39 Short-legged African beast, informally
42 TV personality Jenner
43 Piece of bacon
45 Istanbul inhabitant
47 Vanilla extract meas.
48 Lads who live in shade trees?
52 Mobile phone
53 Amount of work
56 Dave Matthews Band remix about this puzzle's puns?
62 Thick carpet
63 ___ Lauder
64 Falafel bread
65 "Catch!"
66 Went after
67 The only perfect place
68 Loaf parts that you may eat last
69 Famous Amos
70 Education station

DOWN

1 Mets, Jets or Nets
2 What picks up speed?
3 Tennis star Naomi
4 Neighbor of an Omani
5 ___ prof.
6 Former Iranian leader
7 Word before "self" or "love"
8 Jeans and a T-shirt, for one
9 Sunbathing site
10 Taylor Swift, for Swifties
11 Snug as a bug in a rug
12 Exist
15 Progressive competitor
21 Certain NCOs
22 Country great McEntire
26 "A likely story!"
27 Fictional woodcutter Baba
28 Pool measure
29 Mongolian shelter
30 Discordia's Greek counterpart
31 Insect often mistaken for a bee
32 (Check this out)
33 Not just one
34 "No problem!"
38 Chest protectors
40 Stop on a crawl
41 Gold, in Guatemala
44 Actress Amanda
46 Ren in "Star Wars: The Force Awakens"
49 Cary of "The Princess Bride"
50 Skeleton's site?
51 Like a hot rod, with "up"
54 Comment to the audience
55 Goes out with
56 "Say ___" (waiter's request)
57 Like most clues that end with question marks
58 Name that anagrams to "toot"
59 Beloved
60 Ape-like Himalayan
61 Tug sharply
62 Doe or sow

"Tree of a Kind!" *by* Paul Coulter

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	
48					49	50					51	■	■
■	■	■	52				■	■	■	53		54	55
■	56	57					58	59	60				61
62				■	63				■	64			
65				■	66				■	67			
68				■		69			■	70			

SOLUTION:

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

11/21

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