

DEAR ABBY

Nonbeliever credits work, not 'blessings,' for success

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have had some crazy life swings since the beginning of the pandemic, mostly positive. I found a wonderful, well-paying job that I enjoy. In our 16th year of marriage, we have also brought a healthy, happy daughter into our lives. We recently bought a lovely home, and have added another, nicer, used car to our assets. In addition, my job allows my husband to live his dream of being a stay-at-home dad with our daughter.

I come from a very religious family, although I am no longer religious. We don't attend church services with the family, and it seems they have adopted the philosophy of mostly "don't ask and we won't tell." My dilemma is: How should I respond to their constant comments that we are "so blessed" to be where we are?

I have worked extremely long, hard hours to get to this point in my career. I put myself

through school with no support from my family and worked my butt off to get us to where we are. Yes, I'm thankful for the people I've worked with who have helped me to grow and reach this point. However, it feels wrong for me to equate my success to being blessed from God.

That statement comes up numerous times during family get-togethers. Normally, I ignore it or say we feel very lucky to have what we do. Should I continue saying that or ignore them altogether? Is there a tactful response I'm not seeing in this kind of awkward situation? — DESERVING IN MICHIGAN

DEAR DESERVING: In the interest of family harmony, smile, nod and agree with the person making the comment. Of course you have worked hard and are deserving

of your success. But to announce it in this instance and with those deeply religious people would be braggadocious and is uncalled for. This is not a personal putdown, so continue to resist the urge.

DEAR ABBY: I have been happily married for 32 years. My wife is going to a girls' thing this coming Saturday and asked me what I will be doing. I said I'm going to a funeral for a girl I knew in high school. (We were never boyfriend/girlfriend, just friends.)

My wife asked me how I heard about it, and I shared that one of my friends mentioned it during our Monday night football chat. She said, "You haven't talked to her in more than 40 years. You really didn't know her anymore, but you're going to her funeral?" I said yes. Then she said it is "eerie,



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922

The bounty system of fighting predatory animals in Oregon stands an excellent chance of being succeeded by paid state trappers and hunters if sentiment expressed by those who attended the state meeting of the game wardens and the state game commission materializes, according to W. H. Albee, deputy game warden from the Umatilla district who returned yesterday evening from Portland where he was in attendance at the meeting. An effort to increase the present bounty on wolves caused the present bounty system to be attacked. It is claimed that Oregon has been assisting neighboring states materially by making payments such as are allowed on predatory animals. That the employment of hunters and trappers will be more effective and less expensive was the belief expressed at the meeting.

50 years ago — 1972

Lilly Chinn, Hermiston, 41-year-old Hong Kong Cafe owner-operator, has a deep-rooted bitterness toward the Red Chinese government for the misery and death it has dealt her family. She said she does not want to see the United States get associated in any way with the Red Chinese. Mrs. Chinn tussles with her English, but she put it this way: "If Nixon and those people get acquainted, we are going to get in trouble." Mrs. Chinn's husband, Daniel, is a native of Heppner. They met when he made a trip to Canton City in 1947. When

the Communists swarmed over Canton City, China, it was a nightmare for Lilly and Daniel, with air raids and dynamite blasts. In the wake of the Communist move Lilly's parents lost their two movie theaters. An uncle and his children starved to death. Many people were shot by the Reds. Mrs. Chinn said she likes Hermiston. She and her husband have no worries, no dynamite and no airplanes terrorizing them.

25 years ago — 1997

It will cost \$4 million to repair aging, leaking McKay Dam, a price tag that would have to be partially borne by irrigation districts. That was the message Bureau of Reclamation officials delivered at a public information meeting at Stanfield Senior Center. "There's not too many structures that are 50 years old that don't need some structural modifications," said Larry Wolf, a Safety of Dams engineer from the bureau's Boise office. But many of the audience members complained loudly about the costs of the safety measures, arguing that irrigators were the only ones being charged for the repairs. The repairs are necessary to prevent a dam failure, although that threat is not at this time considered acute. There are approximately 4,200 people living along the Umatilla River, and 1,900 downstream of the dam along McKay Creek. If the dam were to fail, Wolf estimated the floodwaters would reach McKay School in 20 minutes and the confluence with the Umatilla River in 30 minutes.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

In 1473, astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus was born in Torun, Poland.

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr, accused of treason, was arrested in the Mississippi Territory, in present-day Alabama. (Burr was acquitted at trial.)

In 1878, Thomas Edison received a U.S. patent for "an improvement in phonograph or speaking machines."

In 1942, during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which paved the way for the relocation and internment of people of Japanese ancestry, including U.S.-born citizens.

In 1945, Operation Detachment began during World War II as some 30,000 U.S. Marines began landing on Iwo Jima, where they commenced a successful

month-long battle to seize control of the island from Japanese forces.

In 1959, an agreement was signed by Britain, Turkey and Greece granting Cyprus its independence.

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford, calling the issuing of the internment order for people of Japanese ancestry in 1942 "a sad day in American history," signed a proclamation formally confirming its termination.

In 1985, the British soap opera "EastEnders" debuted on BBC Television.

In 1986, the U.S. Senate approved, 83-11, the Genocide Convention, an international treaty outlawing "acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group," nearly 37 years after the pact was first submitted for ratification.

In 1997, Deng Xiaoping, the last of China's major Communist revolutionaries, died at age 92.

In 2003, an Iranian military plane carrying 275 members of the elite Revolutionary Guards crashed in southeastern Iran, killing all on board.

In 2019, President Donald Trump directed the Pentagon to develop plans for a new Space Force within the Air Force, accepting less than the full-fledged department he had wanted.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Smokey Robinson is 82. Actor Carlin Glynn is 82. Former Sony Corp. Chairman Howard Stringer is 80. Singer Lou Christie is 79. Rock musician Tony Iommi (Black Sabbath, Heaven and Hell) is 74. Actor Stephen Nichols is 71. Author Amy Tan is 70. Actor Jeff Daniels

is 67. Rock singer-musician Dave Wakeling is 66. Talk show host Lorianne Crook is 65. Actor Ray Winstone is 65. Actor Leslie David Baker is 64. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell is 63. Britain's Prince Andrew is 62. Tennis Hall of Famer Hana Mandlikova is 60. Singer Seal is 59. Actor Jessica Tuck is 59. Country musician Ralph McCauley (Wild Horses) is 58. Rock musician Jon Fishman (Phish) is 57. Actor Justine Bateman is 56. Actor Benicio Del Toro is 55. Actor Bellamy Young is 52. Rock musician Daniel Adair is 47. Pop singer-actor Haylie Duff is 37. Actor Arielle Kebbel is 37. Christian rock musician Seth Morrison (Skillert) is 34. Actor Luke Pasqualino is 32. Actor Victoria Justice is 29. Actor David Mazouz (TV: "Gotham") is 21. Actor Millie Bobby Brown is 18.

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.

Table with 2 columns: CLUES and SOLUTIONS. Clues include 'Miss Piggy's pursuit (6)', 'pig in a 1995 movie (4)', etc.

Grid of letters for the 7 Little Words puzzle.

Today's Answers: 1. KERMIT 2. BARE 3. CAPYBARA 4. SUPERMARKET 5. GLUTTONOUS 6. CONTENTED 7. NEVER

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four amphibians
Four five-letter birds
Three countries starting with E
Three forms of precipitation
Part of the Indian Ocean: Bay of

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: CLOUDY STORMY SUNNY WINDY FOGGY HAZY / BADGER RABBIT BABOON JAGUAR / GRAND CENTRAL / ANDY GIBB / ROBIN HOOD

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Word search grid with a diagonal line through it.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pendleton Lighthouse Church: Sunday Service: 9am & 6pm, Tuesday Kingdom Seekers: 7pm

Redeemer Episcopal Church: 241 SE Second St. Pendleton (541)276-3809

First Presbyterian Church: 201 SW Dorion Ave. PendletonPresbyterian.com

Pendleton Church of God: ONLINE and IN-PERSON SERVICES, SUNDAYS | 8:30 AM & 10:00AM

Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church: 565 W. HERMISTON AVE. MASS SCHEDULES

Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora de los Angeles: 565 W. HERMISTON AVE. HORARIOS DE MISAS

Solid Rock Community Church: 140 SW 2nd St Hermiston, OR 97838 541-567-6937

Community Presbyterian Church: 14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR 922-3250

Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church, ELCA: OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOOR, Sunday Worship 8:45 a.m.

St. Johns Episcopal Church: N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston 541-567-6672

A PLACE TO BELONG: PENDLETON FIRST, Sunday Mornings Service: 10:00



COME WORSHIP WITH US AT THE COUNTRY CHURCH: Sundays at 11:00am 32742 Diagonal Rd. Hermiston, OR

First Christian Church (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST): 215 N. Main • Pendleton In Person worship Sundays at 11:00am

The Salvation Army: Center for Worship & Service, Sunday Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH: in Mission for Christ LCMC, Sunday Worship.....9:00 AM

To advertise in the Church Directory, please contact Audra Workman 541-564-4538 or email aworkman@eastoregonian.com