

Chickens

Continued from A7

A wire-mesh enclosure now houses the five heritage hens — each a different breed — and protects them from bobcats, foxes and other predators.

Mark Podgwaite, a Vermont chicken breeder who heads the American Poultry Association, said he and other breeders have noticed an uptick in demand for chicks since the pandemic began. His organization, which represents breeders and poultry-show exhibitors, has seen a jump in new members.

“Without question, the resurgence in raising backyard poultry has been unbelievable over the past year,” said Podgwaite, who keeps a flock of roughly 100 birds. “It just exploded. Whether folks wanted birds just for eggs or eggs and meat, it seemed to really, really take off.”

The Abta family bought the chicks from Mill Valley Chickens, which sells chickens, feed and supplies and builds coops and runs. Owner Leslie Citroen also offers classes for first-time chicken keepers. She



Terry Cheal/AP

Members of the Abta family, from left, Allison, Violet, Eli, and Ariella hold hens in front of their backyard chicken run in Ross, California.

estimates her sales have grown 400% this year.

“Once COVID hit, my phone just started ringing off the hook and it just has not slowed down,” Citroen said. “I don’t think it’s going to slow down. I think this new interest and passion in chickens is permanent.”

Citroen said most of her customers this year are first-time chicken keepers. They range from parents looking for something to keep home-bound children busy to “preppers” who want their own protein supply in case the world falls apart.

“Demand is just through the roof right now,” Citroen said. “I’ve sold all my baby chicks. I’ve sold all my juveniles. And I’m starting to sell some of my family flock.”

One of her newest customers is Ben Duddleston, who lives in nearby San Anselmo. He stopped by her home to buy three hens.

The self-described “first-time chicken dad” wanted to surprise his kids, ages 5 and 10, on Christmas.

“I think it’s totally pandemic related. I don’t think that I’d be doing this in normal times,” Duddleston said.

Markets

Continued from A7

“It was probably very hard to imagine getting those back in such a short period of time,” said Shawn Cruz, senior market strategist at TD Ameritrade.

Wall Street’s recovery was due in large part to unprecedented actions from the Federal Reserve and Congress to support the economy. Investors also flocked to big technology companies such as Apple and Amazon and smaller compa-

nies like Grubhub and Etsy that were poised to take advantage of the shift to working and shopping from home.

The S&P 500 jumped 12.7% in April. From there, markets disconnected from the rest of the still-reeling economy and pushed higher in fits and starts as vaccine development progressed and analysts and economists looked ahead to the eventual end of the pandemic.

The end of the virus and its pummeling of the economy seems even closer now that vaccine approval and dis-

tribution is ramping up. The U.S. government has approved another round of aid for businesses and people dealing with another surge in the virus and tighter restrictions on businesses.

Thomas expects pent-up demand and high savings rates to help drive an economic recovery in 2021.

Many of the more beaten-down stocks will benefit from a “vaccine-shaped” recovery as the number of vaccines on the market increases and distribution widens.

Scouts

Continued from A7

The Girl Scouts also referred to a not-for-profit global organization it belongs to called the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, which promotes ethical production, including the treatment of workers, writing: “If certain suppliers are not following ethical practices, we expect our bakers and RSPO to take action quickly to rectify those exceptions.”

The Girl Scouts had not

responded to repeated requests from the AP for comment about the findings ahead of Tuesday’s story, which found many children working in the palm oil industry do not have access to adequate school or health care and that some never learn to read or write. The story detailed how others live in fear of being rounded up by police and tossed in detention centers because they were born on plantations to parents who are working illegally, and how girls are vulnerable to

sexual abuse.

Reporters traced child labor to the supply chain of one of the Girl Scout cookies’ bakers, Little Brownie Bakers, owned by the Italian confectionary brand Ferrero, which did not comment on the findings. The other baker and its parent company, Canada-based Weston Foods, did not provide any details about its supply chain, citing proprietary reasons. Both said they were committed to sourcing sustainable palm oil.

DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at dearabby.com or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



Dear Readers: Welcome to 2021! The new year has arrived, and most of us are beyond grateful to leave the last one behind. The worldwide pandemic has sadly touched all of our lives. But this new year brings with it our hope for a new beginning.

Today presents an opportunity to discard destructive old habits for healthy new ones, and with that in mind, I will share Dear Abby’s often-requested list of New Year’s Resolutions — which were adapted by my late mother, Pauline Phillips, from the original credo of Al-Anon:

Just for Today: I will live through THIS DAY ONLY. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all of my problems at once.

I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for Today: I will decide to be happy. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away and fill it with sunshine.

Just for Today: I will accept what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those I cannot.

Just for Today: I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer.

Just for Today: I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will be kind and courteous to those who cross my path, and I’ll not speak ill of others. I will improve my appearance, speak softly, and not interrupt when someone else is talking.

Just for today, I will refrain from improving anybody but myself.

Just for Today: I will do something positive to improve my health. If I’m a smoker, I’ll quit. And I will get off the couch and take a brisk walk, even if it’s only around the block.

Just for Today: I will gather the courage to do what is right and take responsibility for my own actions.

And now, Dear Readers, allow me to share an item that was sent to me by L.J. Bhatia, a reader from New Delhi, India:

Dear Abby: This year, no resolutions, only some guidelines. The Holy Vedas say, “Man has subjected himself to thousands of self-inflicted bondages. Wisdom comes to a man who lives according to the true eternal laws of nature.”

The prayer of St. Francis (of which there are several versions) contains a powerful message:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

And so, Dear Readers, may 2021 bring with it good health, peace and joy to all of us.

— Love, Abby

YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Madalyn Aslan

Stars show the kind of day you’ll have

★★★★★ DYNAMIC | ★★★★★ POSITIVE | ★★★ AVERAGE | ★★ SO-SO | ★ DIFFICULT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 2021: Sensitive, organized and brutally honest, you’re a complex individual. You succeed this year by not bottling up your emotions but by sharing them. Your work reflects this and receives accolades. If single, patience is key, as you can decide on a mate impulsively. This year, you meet someone very different. It is fate. If attached, you’re connected at the hip. Breathing space is sometimes essential. SCORPIO gives you necessary distance.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Benevolent aspects of this New Year’s Day generate enthusiasm and well-being. Music is a special focus. Play rhythm instruments such as drums or rattles during meditation or while exercising. Sing to all that is unfolding around you. Tonight: Early bedtime-byes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You can relax as 2021 begins. Legal matters are on their way to clearing up. Just be sensitive to the needs of partners and family members. Resist the temptation to be evasive if demands arise. Tonight: Express love and support for relatives.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ The first day of 2021 concludes with interesting gossip and intriguing ideas being expressed. Listen and learn — and enjoy — but don’t be too easily swayed. Avoid noise pollution if stress builds. Strong wills and diverse viewpoints take you by surprise. Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ It’s not the time to gamble. Secure your belongings and play by the rules today. Your productivity and versatility are on the rise, and the year is off to a good start. There is promise of abundance. Tonight: Becoming closer with distant family members.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ The new year with physical activity. Exercise such as yoga or hiking help you attune to the needs of your psyche. The kindness of a friend blesses your life. You feel truly grateful. A personal touch carries you a long way. Tonight: Celebrating yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ The beginning of the new year is the time to finalize your plans and begin putting them into action. Seize an opportunity to do this today. A creative outlet is healthy. Honesty is a must. Psychic sensitivities are opening further. Tonight: Relaxing quietly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ The new year awakens a strong influence in you. You will explore options concerning goals, including new types of associates in your social circles. Your world widens, promising tremendous growth. Reflect upon developing potentials. Tonight: Happiness is shared with one you love very much.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ As the new year begins, those around you may feel uncertain. Be patient until they feel more settled before announcing your own goals. Recognition is a bit slow in coming just now on this day. But it comes for the year! Tonight: A relaxing soak.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ The promise of 2021 stirs a powerful spirit of adventure within you. Your motivation and enthusiasm are evident today. You also just relax. Reread books you’ve enjoyed before or watch a favorite film again. Tonight: You say the right thing at the right time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ There is a new intensity to your desires and feelings as the new year of 2021 begins. You are determined this will be a good year. Today brings a lyrical quality to your words. You’ll communicate especially well. Tonight: Contact a faraway loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Others are inspired by you. A partnership is available. Listen carefully to the words and ideas expressed to sense whether a closer involvement is right for you. Humor and good-natured acceptance may be the best remedy for an awkward situation. Tonight: Be philosophical.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You will be very sensitive to winds and chills today. A combination of minor aspects accents weather in your birth chart. Meditate on a warm fire while sipping hot soup or a cup of cocoa. Tonight: Your heart will be warmed as 2021 begins.

Cigarettes

Continued from A7

An overwhelming two-thirds of Oregon voters approved the taxes in November, reflecting a gradual but persistent change in public attitudes toward smoking. Just 13 years ago, a \$12-million tobacco industry campaign against a similar measure crushed an effort to raise cigarette taxes.

This time, the ballot measure was virtually unopposed.

Those who get their nicotine through devices that vaporize liquid containing the addictive stimulant also face a big price bump. Those products include devices with replaceable pods, such as Juul, as well as disposable e-cigarettes and pricier devices that are more versatile but require greater maintenance and commitment to the habit.

Vapor devices and products will be taxed at 65% of their wholesale price, up from no tax at all. In a hypothetical scenario where companies don’t mark up their products, a store that now charges \$16 for a pack of four Juul pods could soon be charging more than \$26.

Lung damage from vaping drew the alarm of health officials about a year ago after more than 2,800 people fell seriously ill after using vape products. Nearly 70 people died, including two in Oregon. While most of those cases were connected to marijuana-based vape products, not nicotine,

The taxes could reduce vaping. One 2018 study involving nearly 24,500 middle and high school students nationwide showed that a 10% price increase for disposable e-cigarettes cut the number of days users vaped by just under 10%.

the national concern morphed into a broader effort to fight a rise in youth vaping.

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Cigar taxes can vary because they are set at 65% of their wholesale price. But, starting Jan. 1, the current 50-cent maximum will be raised to \$1.

The state has estimated it will haul in about \$166 million more a year from the new taxes, most of it coming from the cigarette tax.

After paying for management of the tax, 90% of the money will go to the state’s health care program for the poor, called the Oregon Health Plan.

The rest will go to programs for helping people quit tobacco.



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DEATH NOTICES

Walter “Walt” Richard Schneider
of Pasco, WA
March 9, 2020 -
December 22, 2020

Arrangements:
Baird Funeral Home of Bend is honored to serve the Schneider family. Please visit our website, www.bairdfh.com, to share condolences and sign our online guest book. 541.382.0903

Services:
A Private Service will be held.
Contributions may be made to:
Partners In Care:
www.partnersbend.org
2075 NE Wyatt Ct.
Bend Oregon 97701
541-382-5882

Kathleen M. Bowler
of Redmond, OR
April 10, 1932 -
December 21, 2020

Arrangements:
Autumn Funerals, Redmond
541-504-9485
www.autumfunerals.net
Services:
A Graveside service will be held at a later date.

OBITUARY DEADLINE
Call to ask about our deadlines
541-385-5809
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No death notices or obituaries are published Mondays.
Email:
obits@bendbulletin.com

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