

What do you have to be thankful for during this quarantine?

Focus on that.

I ran across a Facebook post Monday night asking, "What do you have to be thankful for during this quarantine? Focus on that."

Thank you, Karla Deaton, for giving many friends something to think about, and *me* something to write about when I couldn't sleep.

Common responses were salvation, faith, health and employment.

Many are [obviously] thankful they have avoided the coronavirus and others are glad they have the ability to work during this time of quarantine.

Several referenced their appreciation for a simple, ordinary life.

At least one person mentioned what a blessing it is to have dinner at home with family.

The first reply, from Jenny Stilts, really puts life into perspective.

Jenny said she is thankful for her salvation and knowing life can change in the blink of an eye.

Her father-in-law, J.W. Stilts, fell from a ladder Friday afternoon and was flown to UofL. He has a pretty extensive brain injury, is being kept sedated for the most part and also still on a ventilator from what I gather. Jenny is posting updates on her personal page for those who would like to follow.

"We know this is going to be a long road with many ups and downs," she said Monday, "But our God is bigger than anything... and we so appreciate each and every prayer. They are truly being felt."

Other replies to the original post include:

Ms. Pam Pierce mentioned, "Slowing down."

That's a good one. Another friend, Brandi Anderson, said, "Baby kicks."

All the hearts for that one! I am absolutely giddy that she will be welcoming a sweet baby boy in only a few months. She is proof that God's timing is perfect.

Local author Lanny Tucker threw some humor out with his answer, "Valid reason not to get a hair cut."

(I'll disagree with that!)

Cindy Caldwell said, "Time to regroup. Mostly just a little extra time to get caught up."

What am I thankful



Crystal Cecil
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for during this unusual time?

I am thankful for the health of my family and that of myself.

Honestly, I didn't take the threat seriously in the beginning. A friend reminded me as a type one diabetic, I'm high risk. *Okay, fine.* I end up at the ER with a stomach bug. A severe case of poison oak had me near death on steroids in April... I don't want to take my chances with Covid. I stocked up on insulin and bought a red mask with polka dots (at least it's cute).

My husband has been sick once in the 12+ years I've known him. While I'm not too worried about his contracting Covid—I'm not doltish, either.

I would like to put my children in a bubble, always, but that isn't feasible, so... xbox mask for my boy, and Conleigh's teacher made her the cutest crayon print mask.

Next—I'm thankful for employment. While we don't have a lot of news right now, I still have a job. I am still responsible for putting this newspaper out each week, running reports, etc. etc. I'm beyond grateful that my kiddos can join me when needed. They both think Walt Gorin hung the moon. And Conleigh, well, she thinks she runs the place.

I'm grateful our readers faithfully read the R-H. We sold out most places last week; that is a great problem to have. I have answered some of the sweetest phone calls recently and have gotten personal cards in the mail at the office. I am beyond thankful my husband works for a great company. A manufacturing plant for Toyota, they have been on shutdown, however, his position within the company still requires him to work. He has had the option to work from home many days/weeks, which has made life much easier.

(Disclosure: I am not a homebody; Adam is not a homebody... this could have gotten a *little* dicey if we were "trapped" together!)

I am SUPER thankful I am not a teacher. Those NTI days about got me, and I didn't

even do most of them, Adam did. Patience isn't my strong suit (or his, but he drew the short straw). I strongly believe our school district is nothing short of *wonderful*. I have thought about moving away many times, even as of late; the schools keep me here.

I am blessed with wonderful friends who have kept me afloat over the last few months—thankful. Many relationships

have gotten stronger, even with lack of physical contact. That tells me a lot. A simple text that says, "Hey—thinking about you," can make a person's day.

If you have made me genuinely smile, thanks... and if you have made me laugh, I'm going to keep you forever!

I have mentioned two of my favorite pastimes are eating and exercise. I've

been able to do both and in great amounts because, what else is there to do!?

Read. I've read a lot. I've also learned a lot about myself, life. Thankful for that.

I've gotten to spend good quality time with my family. We have gotten all kinds of stuff done; projects are being checked off the Cecil-To-Do-List.

Most essentially, I'm thankful for my time in prayer. For several reasons, I have prayed

devoutly and earnestly over the past few months. Church via Facebook has been an appreciated alternative to the norm, but still, prayer has been of utmost importance lately.

It's been a good pause in life and I am grateful for the past few months in the most unusual way.

What are you thankful for?

Focus on that.



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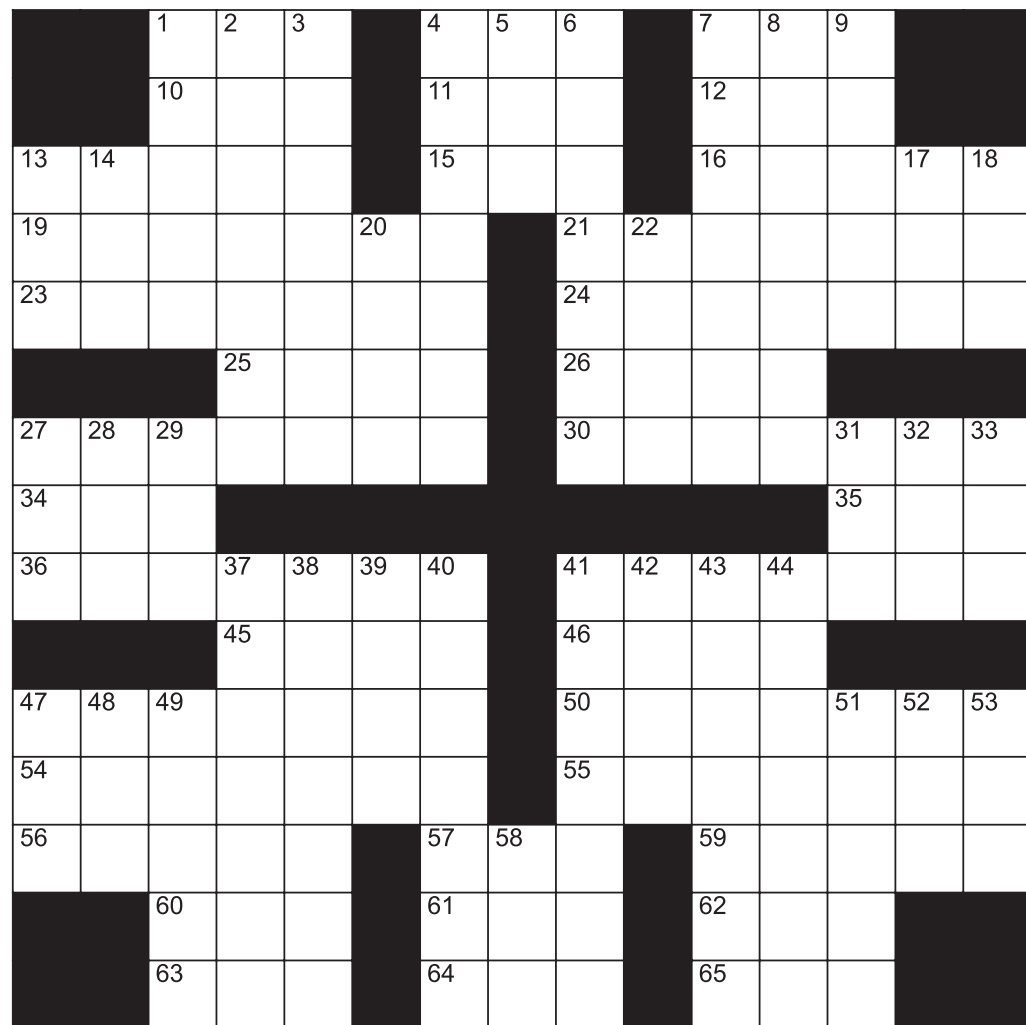
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Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work together to keep our families and communities healthy.



Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. It's now called Experian
4. You can draw it
7. Very fast aircraft
10. Go quickly
11. Fifth note of a major scale
12. Biochemical abbreviation
13. Make somebody laugh
15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
16. City in NE Morocco
19. Colorless gas
21. NE football player
23. A snake is one
24. Small spot
25. Inform
26. Republic of Ireland
27. Large statues
30. Documents about an individual

CLUES DOWN

1. Hit heavily
2. Italian rice dish
3. Some are cocktail
4. A citizen of Israel
5. Read-only memory
6. Passed by
7. Northern diving ducks
8. References
9. Iranian language
10. Swiss river
14. Woman (French)
17. Gov't department (abbr.)
18. Consumed
20. Ailments
22. Balkan Jewish appetizer
27. Reciprocal of a sine
28. Skywalker mentor __-Wan
29. Resinous secretion of insects
31. Similar

CLUES DOWN

32. Female sheep
33. Cool!
37. Borders the Adriatic Sea
38. Flowers
39. It's sometimes upped
40. Immobile
41. Female body parts
42. Common request
43. Made a second thrust
44. Fell into deep sleep
47. Subway resident
48. Brew
49. The event of being born
51. Aspirations
52. Doctor of Education
53. Punk musician __ Dee Ramone
58. A subdivision of a play

Answers found on page 9A

Next week's Record-Herald will include the GCHS Class of 2020 Graduation Keepsake Section