

SCRABBLE®

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A1OUB3T1G2T1

E1I1O1Y4T1P3B3

I1O1H4S1L1T1C3

E1O1K5L1N1R1B3

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160

BEST SCORE 218

FOUR RACK TOTAL

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

Answer below

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrags@gmail.com.

03-17

NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

WHY ARE YOU TWO JUST STANDING OUT HERE?

JEFFREY! GLAD YOU'RE HERE

CAN YOU CHECK UNDER THE BRIDGE TO SEE IF IT'S CLEAR OF VAMPIRE SLUGS?

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I REALLY NEED TO STOP ASKING YOU QUESTIONS

GET BACK HERE!!

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BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, MR. B.

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WOULD YOU SIGN MY REPORT CARD?

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DON'T YOU THINK YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER SHOULD DO THAT?

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NO WAY! NOT THIS CARD!!

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DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KAHYS

NEESS

MALROC

BRUTAP

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Did you find that after winning the Irish dance contest? Can you get the wrinkles out?

I'm afraid I'll ruin it if I try.

SHE DIDN'T WANT TO IRON HER FOUR-LEAF CLOVER BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT TO —

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ORBIT FLICK BOTHER ORIGIN Answer: He lost all his money playing poker after he decided to — GO FOR BROKE

HI & LOIS by Chance Browne

I'M TRYING OUT FOR TENNIS TODAY.

BUT YOU ALWAYS PLAY BASEBALL IN THE SPRING.

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WHY WOULD HE WANT TO BE ON THE TENNIS TEAM?

GIRLS.

SLAM

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne

I WISH I COULD BE THE KIND OF ROLE MODEL THAT INSPIRES YOU TO BE AN INDEPENDENT WOMAN!

G-ZAW YOU ARE.

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane

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3-17

Reader suspects mistreatment of man

Dear Dr. Roach: I would like your advice concerning my 75-year-old boyfriend, whom I have known for eight years. He had what I suppose would be called a nervous breakdown two years ago. He was admitted to a mental hospital for seven days.

He came out on olanzapine, lorazepam and Wellbutrin, and now has been prescribed mirtazapine and was told by the doctor — an MD specializing in geriatric medicine — that it is a “sleeping pill.”

This was a man who was a lot of fun to be with and who had a keen sense of humor. He now shows only one emotion, irritation — at traffic, long lines or at me if I try to talk to him about his medication or how his personality has changed.

His daughter makes the doctor appointments and lays out all his medications for the week. She claims her only concern is for what is best for

DR. KEITH ROACH
TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

her father and that I am not to interfere. She criticizes any decisions he makes, leading him to feel he is incapable of making any decisions on his own, which is eventually going to be the case, as I see his brain function deteriorating from all this medication.

He now makes few decisions on his own but calls her for everything. She then gets irritated with him and yells at him like he is a child. I suppose because he is bothering her.

I am able to get him to walk with me every day. We live in the same condo complex; I make sure he has lunch, and we always eat dinner together.

I am watching him become more and more a zombie, with no interest in doing anything and unable to follow even the

story line of a movie. He never laughs at a joke or funny incident. A smile is rare, and he used to have such a warm smile and a twinkle in his eyes. Now there is only a dull stare.

Is this a form of elder abuse? If it is, what steps should or could I take? — *P.B.*

Yours is a heartbreaking letter, and I hope I can be of some help.

Let me begin by admitting that I don't know why your friend's personality is changing.

You blame the medicines, and you might well be right, but it certainly is possible that it is an underlying neurologic or psychiatric disorder. Were I taking care of him, I would be tempted to stop all his medicines and watch him very carefully to see how he does and whether he needs all of them.

You ask whether this is

elder abuse. Elder abuse is common and can be much more overt, with physical, sexual and financial abuse. Based on what you are telling me, it sounds like verbal abuse, which is a type of mistreatment.

If you have witnessed or suspect mistreatment, you can and should report it. You can find out more information on elder abuse from the U.S. Administration on Aging's National Center on Elder Abuse by calling 800-677-1116 or visiting www.ncea.aoa.gov.

READERS: The booklet on Alzheimer's disease gives a detailed presentation of this common illness. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Roach Book No. 903, 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Can. with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

Bridge
by Frank Stewart

When two people love each other, nothing is impossible — except deciding where to eat out and always defending well against partscore contracts.

Today's East-West were a married couple. Against two hearts, West led a diamond, and East took the ace and returned the three. West won and continued with the four, a suit-preference signal to suggest an entry in clubs. East ruffed and duly led a low club.

West won and led a fourth diamond, and East ruffed with the queen of trumps. But on that trick, South discarded his last club. He ruffed the club return, drew trumps and claimed eight tricks.

“You're taking me to my favorite place for dinner,” West sighed.

Partscore defense

doubles. The next player passes. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner's double is for takeout (though you might pass for penalty with strength in clubs). He has a hand worth 17 or more points and will often have support for all the unbid suits. Bid four spades. If partner has a typical hand such as Q J 6 4, A K J 3, A 9 4 2, 6, you can expect an overtrick.

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
♠ A K 5 3 2
♥ 7 4
♦ J 10 7 5
♣ 9 7

WEST
♠ 10 7
♥ 10 8 5
♦ K 8 4 2
♣ A 8 4 2

EAST
♠ Q J 9 6
♥ Q 2
♦ A 3
♣ K 10 6 5 3

SOUTH
♠ 8 4
♥ A K J 9 6 3
♦ Q 9 6
♣ Q J

The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

1 Popular terrarium pet

7 Lark

15 Toy pistol

16 Cut to fit

17 Informal alliance between countries

19 Cuckoo relatives

20 Alps' data

21 Country singer K.T.

22 Ornamental stone

23 Gun grp.

24 River of Spain

26 Ageless love conflict

32 Jinx

33 Greasy

34 Barroom spigot

35 Blood: pref.

38 Deluge refuge

39 Phnom __, Cambodia

40 Laver of tennis

41 Webber play

43 Wide shoe width

45 Increasing feature of a contract

51 Laura or Bruce

52 End of schnozz?

53 Homer's TV neighbor

54 Small drum

57 Travel org.

58 Latin 101 verb

59 Flowering herbaceous plant

63 Treat with a drug

64 Upgrade machinery

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Visit: ADailyCrossword.com

3/17

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

ABLEPOPSPHRASE

WOODABERROONEY

LAUGHTERENTIRE

EMIRMAEMAT

MIASNOWEDCOPE

ARNOANITATASIS

PENNSNEPOTIST

ISANINSTANT

SCHEDULETAILS

CHITBIRDSPEEK

OILSBASILSSOY

UMAAIDLIPS

RETAPVACATION

ERODESATEACRE

RARESTTEDBEET

3-16

DOWN

1 Long cold snap

2 Seabird with black wing-tips

3 Manufacturing statistic

4 Matures

5 Sister

6 Bacterial disease

7 Customary extras, briefly

8 __ Tome and Principe

9 Round fig.

10 “God's Little Acre” co-star

11 Lethal substance

12 Inland sea of Asia

13 Place for a nosh

14 First family garden?

18 And others, briefly

23 GPS heading

24 Bruhn of ballet

25 Puppeteer Baird

27 Pi follower

28 Trunk

29 Phone co.

30 Multi-computer syst.

31 N.T. book

35 Otto I's realm

36 Dawn goddess

37 Four CDs

38 Business letter abbr.

39 Garden sphere

41 Pastors, rabbis et al.

42 Bern's river

43 Cream-filled pastries

44 Old high note

46 Beloved of Aphrodite

47 Lion's comment

48 Cast off

49 Add herbs

50 Cars of lemon-lore

54 Office fill-in

55 Declare

56 Anglo-Saxon theologian

57 High point

58 Uffizi Palace display

60 Grab hold of

61 Old Pontiac

62 Congregated

Scrabble Solution

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BEST SCORE 218

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03-17

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker

WANT TO PLAY POKER, ZERO?

NO, THANKS

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I DON'T LIKE PLAYING WITH COSMO. HE ALWAYS WANTS TO WIN

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SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell

AN' YA DID THIS WHY, JUGHAID... ?!

DON'T 'CHA 'MEMBER SCHOOL ?!

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TEACHER SAID ALL TH' REALLY COOL CAVES HAVE PAINTIN'S IN 'EM !!

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Conceptis Sudoku

2

6

9

1

3

4

2

7

3

6

1

9

4

3

2

4

5

9

8

2

3

3

8

1

5

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

319275648

725648319

468913527

976482153

231569784

584137296

853791462

147826935

692354871

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/16