Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com. HI & LOIS by Chance Browne THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME MOM?

WAS YOUNGER

BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall

WELL, I'M

ALL ABOUT

CONSISTENT!

CERTAINLY

ARE, DEAR

BUT AFTER FOUR KIDS, I COULD NEVER PULL THAT

NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

IS IT HARD) (SOMETIMES! THE

BEING TRICK IS TO

AND CONSISTENT

BOSS?

SEE? I TOLD YOU TRUMP UNIVERSITY ACTUALLY HAD SOME GRADUATES

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne

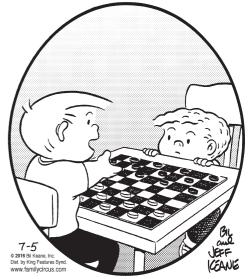


DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



"I'LL BETCHA THEY CAN FIRE ROCKETS WITH THOSE THINGS!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane



"No, it doesn't work on batteries. You hafta do the playin' yourself.'

Annual physical a hands-on experience

Dear Dr. Roach: I am a 75year-old female in fairly good health. I take statins to keep mv cholesterol under control, and am being followed by an endocrinologist for a parathyroid problem, which also is under control.

Jumbles: ACUTE

one letter to each square to form four ordinary words

DEWEG

NURDO

CCYATH

GULENJ

For the past two years, when I visit my physician for an annual wellness check, I have some blood work done before our visit and fill out a health risk assessment. Other than having my blood pressure taken, the doctor talks to me but does no other physical exam.

My heart is not listened to, and no part of my body is touched. I am told that Medicare will not pay for any kind of physical exam and that is all the doctor will do.

In the past I have had some nedical problems found because the doctor has done a more-extensive exam. Is this new type of exam adequate?

DR. KEITH ROACH

ALLIED

THE SUBMARINE WAS BRAND-NEW AND THE CAPTAIN WAS ANXIOUS TO ---

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

BLIGHT

RIVER

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

No, and this is not what is supposed to happen at an annual wellness exam.

Instead of trying to deal with known problems, the purpose of this special annual visit is to encourage the doctor to take extra time to listen to you, do a full exam and evaluate how to prevent new problems and screen for any you may have but don't know about yet.

This includes discussing periodic health checks like mammograms or colonoscopies, but the physical exam essentially is a series of screening tests. Some have a higher yield than others; however, the explanation that "Medicare will not pay for a physical exam" is simply not true.

is the time to do as complete move during speech.

18

a history and a physical, as is appropriate.

Dear Dr. Roach: I am an active 72-year-old woman. I am a salesperson and need to be able to talk on the phone and network with people.

My voice began to crack and my speech became more difficult to understand when I was 40 years old. Fifteen years ago, I was tested for spasmodic dysphonia, but although I had all the symptoms, they could not find anything wrong. Do you have any suggestions? *C.J.*

Spasmodic dysphonia is a localized nerve problem, isolated to the nerves of the vocal cords. It causes variable The annual wellness check looking at how the vocal cords

16

19

40

32

37

56

51

7/5

22 23

46

Because your symptoms have lasted so long, and especially because of your profession, I think it is worthwhile to get another evaluation.

Experts in this field include head and neck surgeons (ENT), neurologists, and speech and language pathologists.

If you do get a diagnosis, treatment often includes speech therapy, sometimes medication and occasionally surgery.

You can read more at www. dysphonia.org.

READERS: The booklet on thyroid gland problems explains this and other common thyroid illnesses. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Roach Book No. voice changes, sometimes a 401, 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, whispering and breathy voice, FL 32803. Enclose a check or but also voice breaks and a money order (no cash) for strained-sounding voice. The \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Can. with the diagnosis is confirmed by recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four mind as long as she did it with a weeks for delivery.

315 JATOT

BACK 4 = 15

Temporary truce

Bridge by Frank Stewart

"I heard you and Wendy called a truce," I said to Cy the Cynic. Cy, a chauvinist, and Wendy, my club's feminist, are always fighting.

"Until a deal in today's game," Cy growled.

Cy and Wendy were East-West, defending against 3NT. South won the first club with the jack and led a heart to dummy's jack.

You advise letting declarer win his first try at a repeatable finesse,' Cy said, "so I ducked."

South came to his king of spades and led another heart. When Wendy showed out, South took the ace, cashed three diamonds and the ace of spades, and exited with a spade. Wendy had to give South his king of clubs. Making three.

CLOSED MOUTH

"Wendy told me I was hopeless," Cy said. "I said she could speak her closed mouth. So much for a truce." Cy's defense was wrong in practice

and in theory. Against notrump, strive Scrabble Solution to return your partner's lead as soon as you can.

"Women," Cy sniffed. "They never forget where they buried that hatchet."

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: AJ83 VAQJ74 ♦ K Q 7 ♣ 9 6. You open one heart,

and your partner bids one spade. The opponents pass. What do you say?

ANSWER: A rebid of two hearts would suggest a six-card or longer suit, and you have no other suit to show. A bid of 1NT would not be a terrible action, but your best call is a raise to two spades even though you would prefer four-card support. Auctions are more comfortable when a trump suit is set quickly.

East dealer

Neither side vulnerable

NORTH **♦** J83 ♡AQJ74

WEST **EAST** ♠ Q 10 7 2 V K 1096 ♦ J 10 9 3 ♣ A Q 10 5 4 2 **\$83 SOUTH ♠** A K 4 ♥853 ♦ A 6 4 2 **♣**KJ7 East South West North

3 NT All Pass

Pass

Pass

Opening lead — ♣ 5

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1 NT

Pass

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker

COOK! EIV

21 N' B' N' I' N' E' BYCK3 = 10

E1 C3 C3 H4 E1 V1 D3 BYCK S = **62**

O 1 V4 U1 L1 A1 T1 E1 RACK1 = 60

SCKABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION





SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell







Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given num-

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

bers. 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											
8	2	6	7	3	5	4	1	9			
4	5	1	8	2	9	6	7	3			
9	7	3	6	4	1	2	8	5			
7	1	4	9	5	3	8	6	2			
3	8	2	1	6	4	9	5	7			
6	9	5	2	8	7	1	3	4			
5	6	7	4	9	8	3	2	1			
2	3	9	5	1	6	7	4	8			
1	4	8	3	7	2	5	9	6			
Difficulty Level ★ 7/0											

The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- 1 Repeat verbatim Mont in the Alps 10 Crystal balls, e.g.
- 14 Sketched 15 Rustic
- 16 Swain 17 Get lost!
- 19 Persistent pain
- Porch raider 20 On the briny Bulletin board 22
- posting Copal and amber 26
- Tropical grassland 29 Put a message in
- the air
- 32 Papa 33 Buns
- 36 Old-time music systems
- Wedding words 38 Sheriff Taylor's kid
- 39 Nickel parts 40 Get out of bed 41 Gibson of "Mad
- Max" 42 Go after
- 43 Howard or Isaac
- 44 Be nosy
- Red soil 47 Lumberyard
- employees 49 Overturned
- Dodge Ram engine 54 "The Last Song
- singer Rower's need 56
- 57 Stand in line
- 59 Underground buildup
- 62 Part of ABM

58

- 63 Bouncing off the

Visit: ADailyCrossword.com

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

S	Α	L	Е	S		Μ	Α	0	R	1		0	С	Т	
Α	R	Т	Ε	L		Α	С	R	Ι	D		W	0	Е	
F	Π	L	L	Ι	N	Т	Н	Ε	В	L	Α	Ν	K	S	
Е	S	Α		Р	Α	Т	Ε			Ε	S	S	Ε	S	
R	Ε	С	L	0	S	Е		Ε	L	S	Е				
			0	٧	Α	L		М	Α	Т	Α	Р	Α	Ν	
0	Р	Τ	N	Ε			Α	Π	М			0	Ν	Ε	
Р	R	0	G	R	Е	S	S	R	Ε	Р	0	R	Т	S	
Т	0	W			W	0	K			R	Α	Т	Ε	S	
S	W	Α	R	М	Ε	D		Α	В	Е	Т				
			0	Α	R	S		R	Α	Т	Н	0	L	Ε	l .
S	Т	Α		R			Α	С	R	Е		R	Ε	D	
С	Α	L	L	1	N	G	Т	Н	Ε	S	Н	0	Т	S	
Α	Р	Е		S	Н	0	R	Е		Т	П	Ν	G	Е	

ALTARSPOOL

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TEX

64 Yard sale caveat

54 55

36

39

59 60

63

45

65 Uses aniline 66 Game setting Yearnings

DOWN

- Mystery award Old hag Judges weight by liftina
- Hooter Presumptuous Young Skywalker
- Song for a diva Journalist Hentoff
- Ornamental climbing plant 21st-century
- President Abstruse Exclamation
- indicating scorn Litigate 18
- Sharp ierks 23 Holiday forerunners Tiny landmass Cook's device

- 27 How low you can go 28 Beautify
- 30 Cereal grasses Shampoo step Cavorts "La Boheme" or
- "The Bat" 35 Pure 39 Personal magnetism Rung relative
- One of Red's characters Gordon Sumner New York college 46
- town 48 Abominable snowmen State of balance Phone for Chinese

food, perhaps

52 Attire Plain girl? 54 "Havana" star Lena 55 Bankroll 58 At least one

Cigarette negative Has permission to

Difficulty Level ★★

7/05