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

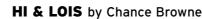
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org
For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com.

NUYGO

DEWGE

TEFSAY

GRAAJU



NON SEQUITUR by Wiley

IRONICALLY, HES FINALLY LEADNED TO LIVE IN THE

MOMENT





YOU'D BETTER

START GROWING



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham

"KINDA BORING OVER HERE. ÄLL *HE* WANTS TO PLAN IS STARING CONTESTS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bil Keane



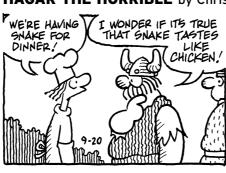
house, he was - QUIET AS A MOUSE

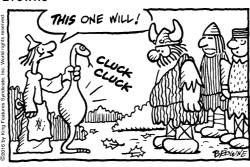
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon Print your answer here: Jumbles: STOMP PAUSE SKIMPY EQUATE When Mickey needed to sneak back into the

IT'S GETTING COLDER, SO I'M GETTING OUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING

BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne





"Daddy just yawned and now we're all sharing it.'

Toilet seats are comparatively very clean

Dear Dr. Roach: Like most DR. KEITH ROACH women, I was raised to avoid letting any part of my body touch the seat of a public toilet. As I age, I find it more and more difficult to maintain "the stance." Just how dangerous is that toilet seat? What awful diseases are we chancing by giving in to our quivering thighs and sitting down? Millions of women want to know! — B.G.

Toilet seats are comparatively very clean and free from unhealthy bacteria. I say "comparatively" since the 50 bacteria per inch on a toilet seat compares to 10 million per square inch on a typical kitchen sponge. Your kitchen counter and cutting board are likely to have many more bacteria than a toilet seat. If your skin is healthy and intact, you can sit down on a toilet seat and be reassured that you

It is possible — however,

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

unlikely — to catch a disease from a toilet seat. If the last person who used it had a contagious gastrointestinal illness (Norovirus and Shigella are the main ones), it's possible you could pick it up. You are much more likely to get a contagious disease via your hands, by touching other people or what they have touched. That's why washing your hands remains your best defense, especially after using the bathroom. If you are in an outbreak of a contagious illness (cruise ships have historically been associated with Norovirus), you could considthe toilet seat, which reduces bacteria count by 98 percent. Also, during an outbreak or in high-risk situations (such as if you have or are taking care of someone with a compro-

paper towel to turn off the faucet and to touch the door handle.

Dear Dr. Roach: My husband just had his appendix taken out by laparoscopic surgery. Is it safe for him to fly? If so, are there any precautions he should take? — D.G.

There are two issues involved here. The first is that air introduced by surgery into the body will expand while at altitude, at least to a small extent, even in a modern pressurized cabin. That means you'll need to wait up to a week after major abdominal surgery. Chest surgery er using an antiseptic wipe on might mean a wait of up to two weeks. For laparoscopic surgery, two days is probably sufficient. Ask his surgeon to be sure.

> The second issue is blood clots. After any surgery, there

> > 16

mised immune system), after is a propensity for blood clots washing your hands, use the for as long as four weeks. For those flying after surgery, it's particularly important to take precautions, such as flexing your leg muscles while seated and getting up and moving possible.

Only his surgeon may recommend aspirin or other treatment to reduce clot risk, if appropriate. Aspirin can be risky after surgery.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med. cornell.edu or request an order form of available health newsletters at 6 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803. Health newsletters may be ordered from www. rbmamall.com.

by Frank Stewart Ed's one weakness

Bridge

Ed, the best player in my club, has one weakness: a mild gambling in the cabin as frequently as addiction of which he is well aware. "There's a gambling hotline you

9-20

could call for help," I remarked. "I'd try it," Ed said ruefully, "if

every tenth caller were a winner. The only place Ed won't gamble is at the bridge table. When he was declarer at today's six hearts, West led a spade. Ed might have played dummy's queen; a winning finesse would have given him at least 12 sure tricks. But he played LOW from dummy.

DIAMOND LOSER

East won with the ten and shifted to a diamond, but Ed took the ace, cashed the ace of trumps and the A-K of clubs, and ruffed a club high. He led a trump to dummy, ruffed a club, got back to dummy with the ace of spades, discarded his diamond loser on the good fifth club and claimed the slam.

Ed goes down if he gambles on the spade finesse. East will take the king and return a spade, killing a vital entry to dummy, and Ed will have to lose a diamond.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: \clubsuit A Q 4 \heartsuit Q 5 \diamondsuit J 7 2 \clubsuit K 9 5 3 2. North in today's deal opened one club with this hand.

Do you agree with that action?

ANSWER: I can't say that opening is wrong, and I suspect that most experts would open. The hand

has two defensive tricks. The case for passing is that the long suit is a ragged minor. I would open a 12-point hand such as K Q 10 3 2, Q 5, J 7 2, A 3 2. With the actual hand, my personal style would suggest passing.

North dealer N-S vulnerable

NORTH

WEST **EAST ♦** J 9 7 5 3 $\Im 32$ ♥ **76** ♦ Q964

> ♣ Q J 10 8 **SOUTH ♠** 6 2 ♡ A K J 10 9 8 4 ♦ A 10

North East South West Pass Pass 1 NT All Pass Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 5

♣ A 6

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The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

38

60

63

15

42

52

ACROSS

- 1 Spiked 6 Valuable discovery
- 11 Bride's new title
- 14 Without support 15 Drive away
- 16 Casual agreement Richard Dreyfuss 17 movie, with "The"
- 19 Evergreen
- 20 Put in place 21 Chains of
- mountains
- 22 Compos mentis 23 Language of
- northern India 24 Foolish
- 26 Fine, twilled linen 29 Not so tough
- Exploitive individual
- 32 Toward dawn
- 34 Contradict 37 Leaders
- 39 Rapturous delight 41 _ Monica
- 42 Writer Ogden
- 44 Waste time 45 Soaked to the skin
- 47 Toed the line 49 Axilla
- Olfactory offenses 51
- 53 Puts down
- 54 Go against
- 56

E B R O

L I M B O

ONAN

DIEU

U|N|Z|I|P

REGICIDE

TATTOOER

- 59
- Keats offering Sizable Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

|O|M|M|A|N|D|E|E|R|

DANES

RIATA

| E | N | G | I | N | E | E | R

AGATE

TANTOAAA

59

- Visit: ADailyCrossword.com 60 Richard Gere movie 63 Show host
- 62 Continental NASA equivalent

ONPARADE

A I R S C R E W

K N E E D

RENES

ANNA

I D A

LIFEPEERDEN

NONET AERO

BRONXCHEER

- SARI **DOWN** CLEA 1 Falls behind Z O E R A H A L 2 Medicinal plant

 - 3 Codger 4 Conclude 5 Refuse

64 Lord Byron's Muse

65 Slipperv catch

67 Descartes and

Auberjonois

66 Toddlers

- 6 Prevailing tendency 7 Miller and Jackson
- 8 Mayberry kid 9 Opposed to 10 Corner pipe
- 11 Rex Harrison movie

40 9/20

26 Ignorant comments

Roscoe

Difficulty Level ★★

36 Gazed at 38 Neighbor of Molokai

43 Former orphan

"A Delicate Balance" playwright 50 Poker option

(mollycoddles) Quick kiss

56 Eastern sultanate 57 Palm tree fruit

Ai Li P3 Ai C3 Ai BACK 4= 10 B3 II NI M4 OI BI M3 BACK 3 = 85

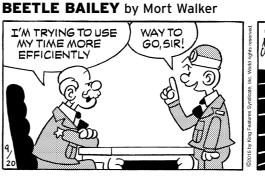
O 2 1 1 4 8 4 6 7 8 8 CK 1 = 00

SCKABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION

MY TIME MORE

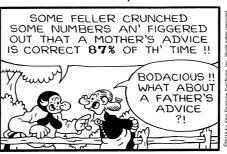
EFFICIENTLY

Scrabble Solution





SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell







Conceptis Sudoku

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

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

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

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12 Horse checkers 13 Shopping bender 18 Bronx Bomber 22 Honeybuns 23 Quasi convertibles 25 Pen points

Between ports 28 Gene Kelly movie 30 Old-time actor

33 Queen Elizabeth's daughter 35 Cay

40 Difficult to please

46 Tempestuous Milwaukee player

52 on 55

58 Cain's nephew 60 Touch tenderly

61 Mine yield