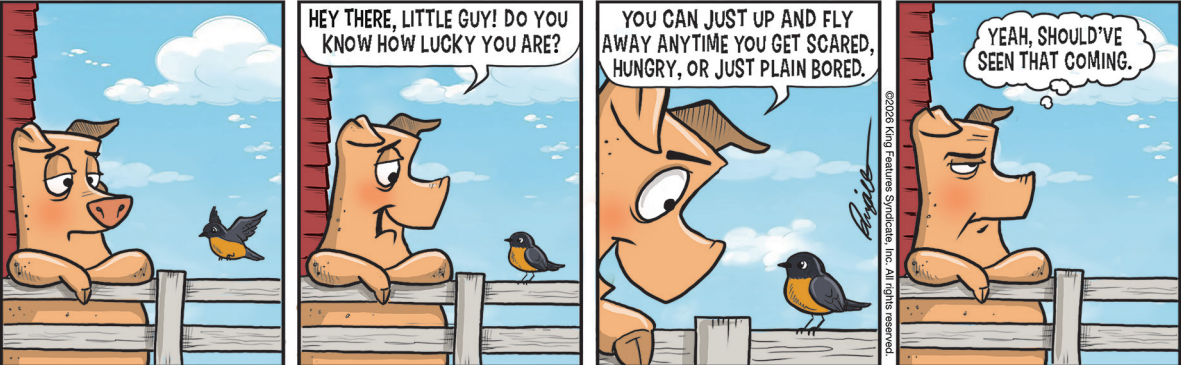


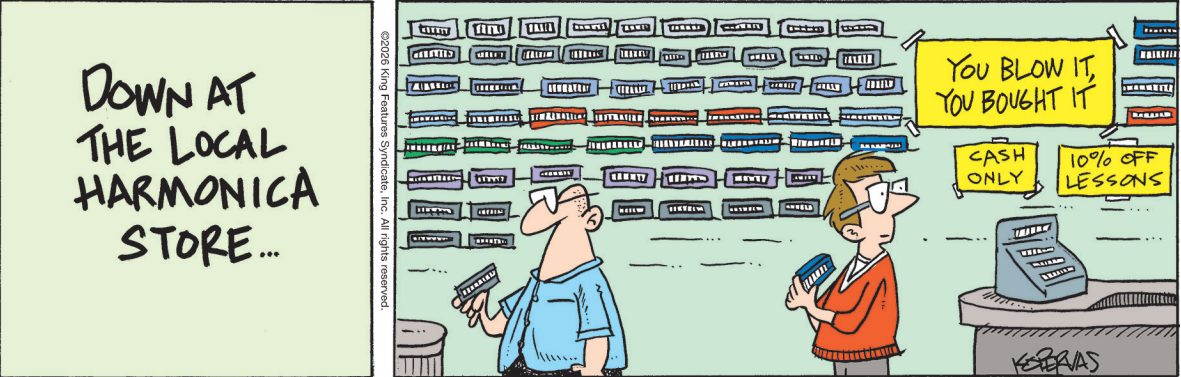
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



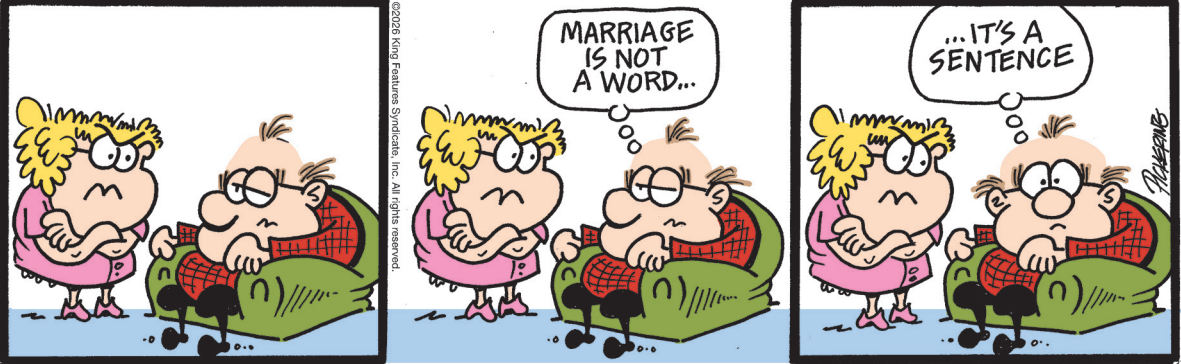
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



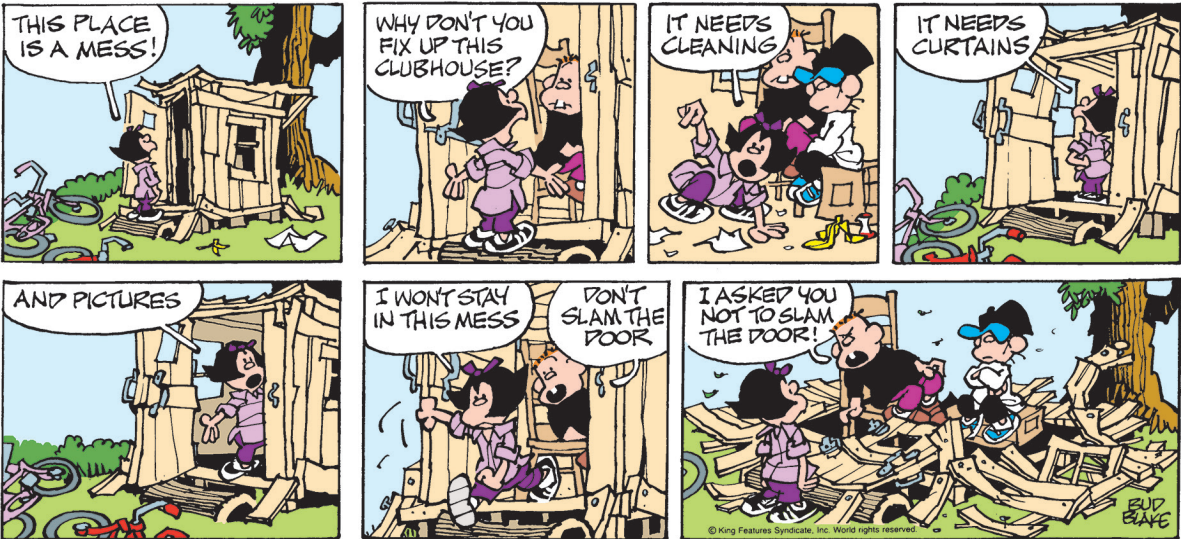
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



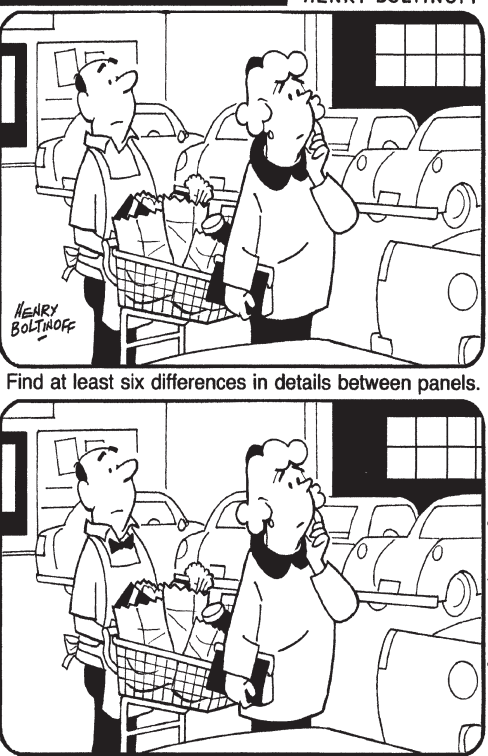
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTHOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: U equals V

V ITJWW QRK QUVQR UQAVJXX
XMQX QZZJQEW XD IDY VR
MJQUJR HDTEY OJ
HEQWWVNJVY QW Q OVAY
DN ZAQK.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Shield MARRO
Laud XELOT
Mug NITES
Tower PIER S

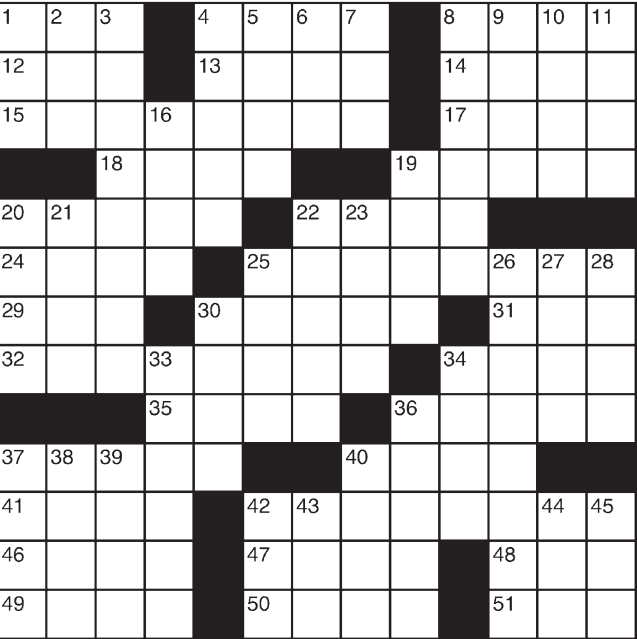
TODAY'S WORD

June 29, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Chocolat" actor
5 Audio giant
9 Prune
12 Antioxidant berry
13 Egg
14 — budget
15 Plumbing problem
16 Firsties
17 TiVo precursor
18 Foolproof
19 Sch. URL ender
20 Borscht base
21 Sailing hazard
23 — Victor
25 Daughter of Muhammad
28 Lynx
32 "West Side Story" role
33 Prefix meaning "water"
34 Ocean bottoms
36 Grapevine talk
37 Chow down
38 "— was saying ..."
39 Scoff
42 Half of bi-
44 Sod
48 Napoleon's title (Abbr.)
49 Mideast gulf
50 Verifiable
51 Brit. record label

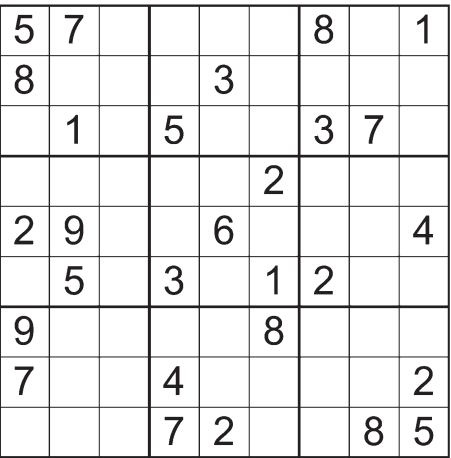


- 7 Outlying area
8 Ambulance letters
9 Zero, in tennis
10 Formerly
11 Section
20 Date night hire
22 D-Day beach
24 Some Pacific salmon
25 Passing craze
26 Chemical suffix
27 Gratuity
29 LP successors
30 NPR's Shapiro
31 Pinnacle
35 Recording site
36 Olympic swimmer
39 "M*A*S*H" vehicle
40 Tennis star
41 Grand tale
43 Legendary loch
45 Language of Pakistan
46 Carpets
47 Shoe fillers
49 Illustrations

DOWN

- 1 June honorees
2 Beige
3 Two of a kind
4 Specialist in the heating/cooling industry
5 Grocery store
6 Roman poet

Weekly SUDOKU



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

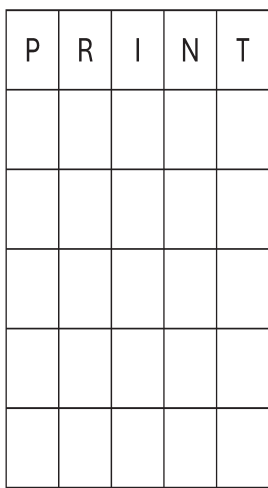
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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FiveSpot™

Artistic expression

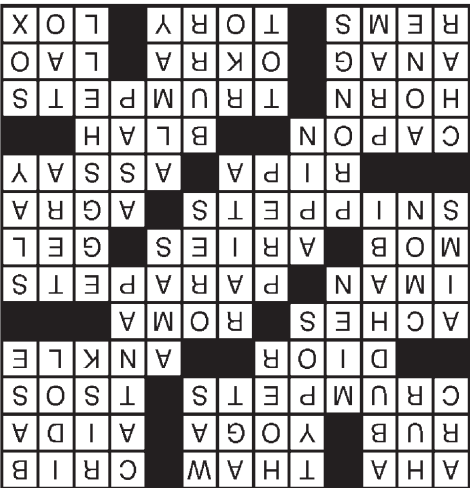


- PC command
Prepare for competition
Low point
Repairs a sock
Gets info from a newspaper
Lamp accessory

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

FiveSpot is a trademark of Michael McLinden
See more at www.sproutspuzzle.com

02646



Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Who was the only actress to appear in the 1961 and 2021 film versions of "West Side Story"?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which month of the year has the most letters in its name?
3. SCIENCE: What protects the Earth from solar winds?
4. TELEVISION: What is the name of the bar in "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the first Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop?
6. LITERATURE: What are the names of the two brothers in the "Hardy Boys" novel series?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a polyglot?
8. FOOD & DRINK: Which herb is most often used in traditional pesto?
9. ANATOMY: Membranes called pleurae cover the surface of which human organs?
10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of South Korea?

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ESTIMATES

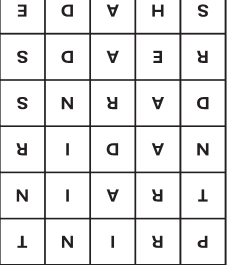
Today's Word

3. Steep; 4. Spire

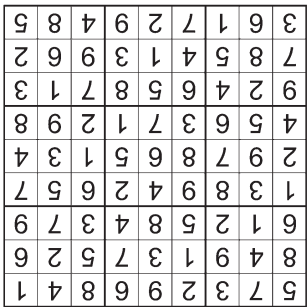
1. Armor; 2. Extol

solution

SCRAMBLERS



FiveSpot™ Solution



Weekly SUDOKU

of pray.

classified as a bird

heaven could be

that appears to God in

I guess any avian variety

answer

CryptoQuip

10. Seoul

9. The lungs

8. Basil

7. A person who speaks several languages

6. Frank and Joe

5. Vermont

4. Paddy's Pub

3. The magnetic bubble generated inside the Earth

2. September

1. Rita Moreno