### **LOCAL SHOWCASE**



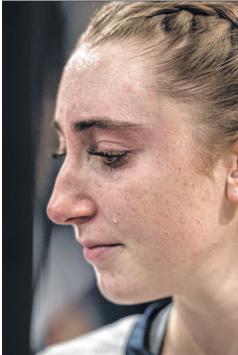
Sioux Center players run through the tunnel during team introductions before the girls' state volleyball Class 3A championship game Thursday at Xtream Arena in Coralville. (Savannah Blake/The Gazette)

RIGHT: Players battle at the net during a Class 1A girls' state volleyball tournament quarterfinal match between Springville and Riverside of Oakland on Tuesday at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Springville won in straight sets. (Nick Rohlman/The Gazette)

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Ankeny Christian head coach Michele Quick (right) and Ankeny Christian's Katie Quick share a moment after coming back to defeat Gladbrook-Reinbeck during the girls' state volleyball Class 1A championship game Thursday at Xtream Arena. (Savannah Blake/The Gazette)







A tear rolls down the cheek of Heelan's Lawren Volz after the Crusaders' state volleyball tournament quarterfinal loss Monday to Cedar Rapids Xavier at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Xavier won in straight sets, 25-16, 25-13, 25-11. (Nick Rohlman/The Gazette)

**DEAR ABBY** 

# Couple in group are constant complainers

ear Abby: We have a group of friends who get together most Friday nights. We go out to eat, meet for drinks or gather at one of the group member's homes for dinner and drinks. One person in particular constantly complains about everything every week.

They don't like the restaurant that was chosen, or the food the host prepared or the place the pizza was ordered from. Once, they kept telling the host they wanted to punch the host's son in the face because he was rude to the host on his way out for the evening. This guest's spouse also nitpicks relentlessly. It makes everybody uncomfortable.

It has reached the point that the group doesn't want to get together anymore because of the damper this couple puts on the evening. Is there a polite way to tell this couple their negativity is a drag on the group, and maybe they should seek professional help or learn to keep their mouths shut? — Down With the Downer

**Dear Down:** No, there isn't. But you could stop inviting this particular couple. If you are asked about it, all you have to say is that you grew tired of their constant criticism, which put a damper on the events.

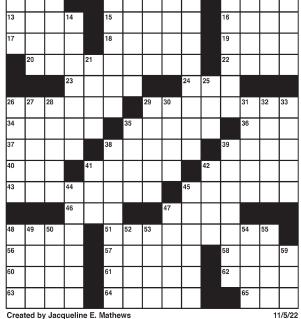
Dear Readers: Time flies! Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour at bedtime tonight. While you're at it, be sure to put fresh batteries in your fire alarms and smoke detectors. -Love, Abby

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby. com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

### Answers: www.thegazette.com/puzzles

### **ACROSS**

- 1 "Come . come all!"
- 4 Marsh 9 Close noisily
- 13 No longer here 15 Accelerator or
- brake
- 16 Comic actress Imogene
- 17 Lucie's dad
- 18 Row of shrubs
- 19 Consumer
- 20 Indigestion 22 Not as much
- 23 Cooper or Busey
- 24 Maple tree secretion
- 26 Resistant to infection
- 29 Punishes 34 Sleep disturber
- 35 Ostracizes 36 \_\_ Van Winkle 37 Clueless
- 38 Nursery purchase 39 Music's Lady
- 40 Pub pint 41 Winter coating
- 42 Walk leisurely 43 Clothes closet
- 45 Baffling questions 46 Rip off
- 47 \_\_ on; visit 48 "\_\_ Heartac \_ Heartache";
- Bonnie Tyler song 51 Auditorium's
- sound quality
- 56 Part of a house 57 \_\_ out; utter
- impulsively 58 Musical symbol
- 60 As easy as falling \_ log
- 61 Lariat 62 Chew like a
- beaver
- 63 "Phooey!"
- 64 Word of welcome 65 Place for an iris
  - **DOWN**
- 1 Weird 2 ln \_\_ of; lacking



P R Y

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3 As \_\_ as pie 4 Globe's shape 5 Emotional 6 Inserts

7 Biblical wise men 8 Agreeable 9 Carve

10 Suffer defeat 11 Large spades 12 One of the

planets 14 Repugnance

21 Window piece 25 Pack animal 26 Husband's sibling

27 Cash 28 Scrooge, for one 29 Run after

30 Seek prey 31 Remove errors 32 African nation 33 Follows ASPCA

advice 35 Neat freak's opposite

38 Likely 39 Baby waterbird

42 Shed feathers

41 To and \_

S K I M P T E N O R THEE RENO AIIMS RETROSPECT ELIPILOTTHREE NOOKS BRA OPIATE

Friday's Puzzle Solved

0 D 0 R

P E A N U T MASTS BRAY NAB ITCHSAJAKCITE TIEBBOSSYHOVEL ODIOUS DIVERT RULER MAL SHOPSSHIRTSEA CAPITULATE K I A S I T S A MULES ARTS MESHPRESS

44 "NCIS" & "Blue Bloods" 45 Parish leader

47 Use foul language

bottom

48 Common metal 49 Bean curd 50 \_\_ as a baby's

©2022 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved. 52 Hatfields or McCovs

DYE

53 Remove from power 54 Dunce cap's

shape 55 Command to Fido 59 Lamb's mother

**CONCEPTIS SUDOKU** 

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME one letter to each square to form four ordinary words CEEEM CANTE TNGORS **DRSUIA** MALE BOVINE COULD DRIVE A CAR, YOU'D SEE A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon FORCE FLEET WEAKEN SLEIGH The con man's favorite article of clothing was his — FLEECE SWEATER

## **CRYPTO-QUOTE**

**UVC BERJGZVVR** 

Crypto-Quote is a coded quotation, with each letter in the quotation represented by a code letter. To break the code, begin with single letter words, short words, and words with an apostrophe. As many clues as are needed may be found in Tom Underwood's coded name above.

ZYJE ZJ NIFTJR XVDUHFII, XUJFI XJSVER HFXJ, DJJI ABPIUT FER AV HFSL.

— ZVVRT FIIJE

Yesterday's Answer

"The world wants to be deceived." © 2022/ 11-5 By Tom Underwood

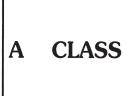
Sebastian Brant



Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name R place, saying, etc. For example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS "The Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.00), "More of the Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.50), and "Wuzzles for Kids" (\$4.25) are available, postpaid, from Wuzzles, Box 1141, Cedar Rapids, 1A 52406





Print Your Answers Here:

Today's Answers:

2. A class apart

I. Forays Created by Tom Underwood

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