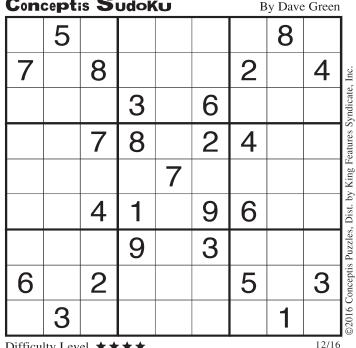
LEDGER DISPATCH 🦈

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2016

FUN & GAMES 2*





Difficulty Level $\star \star \star \star$ See answer on page D7

Dear Annie

Keep It Down Down There!

Dear Annie: I live in a large city with high real estate prices. This has prevented me from buying my own home, so I reside in an apartment. I have done so for the majority of my adult life. All of my previous experiences have been pleasant. However, the most recent apartment complex I moved to has very thin walls, and as a result, I can hear just about everything that goes on in my neighbors' apartments.

A new neighbor recently moved to the apartment below me, and I can hear everything that goes on down there. Our building has a strict rule stating that there should be no loud noise between the hours of 9 p.m. and 9 a.m. Unfortunately, my downstairs neighbor seems to be a hight owl, and I have been woken up on humerous occasions at 2 in the morning by her partying and loud talking. I have spoken to my landlord twice about this, and he has assured me that he has spoken to her. However, this behavior continues to happen. I understand that you have to choose your battles as an apartment dweller; however, this neighbor's complete disregard of the apartment rules has my blood boiling. I have invested in earplugs, and a kind co-worker gave me a white-noise machine that she was not using. Using these tools has helped me, but the fact remains that this woman seems to have no regard for anyone. I feel completely disrespected, and it makes me angry that she is keeping me awake.

PREMIER Crossword **ONE-OFF SONGS OF**

THE SEASON ACROSS

- 1 Wall St. whiz 4 Capote, informally
- 7 Milky gemstones
- 12 "Avatar" actress Zo
- 19 1,760-yard footrac
- **21** Juliet's lover
- 22 Big name in hair c
- 23 Puzzled 24 Shy around all of
- humanity? 26 Adorn big shoppin centers?
- **28** Letters on an ambulance
- **29** Lavish attention (c
- **30** "Bali —"
- 31 Prefix like "equi-"
- **32** More recent
- **33** Transport Kriss Kringle on a small wheeled cart?
- 43 Middle name of Mozart
- 44 Yeats' "The Wild Swans at —"
- **45** Teen's skin woe 46 Brazil's — Paulo
- **49** Bulletproof vest

By Frank A. Longo

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Moving is not an option for me right now, so I believe I am doing the only thing I can do by keeping the landlord aware of this behavior.

Annie, I am not really asking for your advice. I am asking you to please print this letter as a public service and a reminder to all apartment residents to remember that there are others in close range who deserve consideration. I think this will help numerous individuals who are in my situation. Thank you for letting me vent. -- Blood Has Boiled Over

Dear Boiling: Always happy to let people vent if it prevents an explosion, but I am going to make one suggestion here: Talk to your neighbor. It's possible your landlord never actually talked to her in the first place. And even if he did, he may be out of sight, out of mind as far as she's concerned.

Stop by for a neighborly chat, and ask this woman to keep it down. Once she sees the face -- and major under-eye circles -- of the person she's keeping up every night, it ought to be harder for her to party on as if no one outside her four paper-thin walls exists.

Dear Annie: It's been a few days, but I find I just can't let pass how strongly I disagree with your reply to "On Clearance," the girl whose boyfriend got free concert tickets for her birthday. You advised her to let her boyfriend know that she does not consider them a present because he didn't have to pay for them. I would have told her to get over herself -- that if the cost of a gift is most important to her, she should rethink her values. She writes that she is not materialistic, but maybe she needs to check that definition.

Also, she can't know what this "cost" him. He listened to her interests and desires. He actually gave thought to how he could fulfill one of those desires. He put himself out there for her and asked his friend for the favor. He was her knight in shining armor. He plans to escort her and try to see to it that she enjoys herself.

If I could advise him, I'd tell him, "Run!" He would be fortunate to find out her true, only-interested-in-the-almighty-dollar nature before entering into any long-term relationship. There are plenty of young ladies out there who would thank their lucky stars for such a thoughtful beau. -- Florida Reader

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2016 CRE-ATORS.COM

material **50** Fastener holding

- a sleigh tinkler in place?
- **53** Foreman foe
- 54 Moo —
- **56** Address with dots
- in it
- **57** Tomahawks **58** Takes five
- 61 Rides that aren't n
- 67 Debt note
- 69 Rogers or Acuff pl percussion as a ch
- 74 Droid
- 75 Fait accompli
- **76** Blights
- 78 Kin of karate
- 81 Poker player Unga
- 83 Sow, e.g.
- **85** See 10-Down
- 86 Reason you might not buying a china
- 93 Mother of Rajiv G
- 96 Chatter
- 97 Hurry
- **98** False front
- 99 With dignity
- 100 Vacation in Italy's capital?
- **103** In accordance with
- **106** Profs' aides
- 107 Gigi's "yes"
- **108** Voting place
- **109** Fancy carp
- **110** Earliest tune that singer Billy ever wrote?
- 119 Far off driving one's Ford
- pickup?
- **122** Japanese massage

 Certain bolt holder Altitudes: Abbr. Architect Saarinen Drescher of "The Nanny" 114 Lashes (up) 115 Traffic clog Redding of soul Canadian fuel brand Deep desire Company abbr. 121 "— was saying ..."

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13 Hoppy brews

16 Cursor, often

18 Birch cousin

20 Deer cousin

25 Pianist John

17 "Affliction" star

15 Cellphone components

27 Prefix with life or land

31 Big name in frozen drinks

14 Decree

63 Lion lair

64 B-to-F run

66 Wish undone

68 Sun or moon

70 "Yes, that guy!"

71 1,051, to Nero

72 Iroquois tribe

73 Per annum

77 Doesn't exit

65 Suffix with drunk

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See answer on page D7