VARIATION ON A THEME OF FRANCIS

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In the February, 1970 *Word Ways* Darryl Francis had an article “A Reconstructable Crossword Puzzle”. The 15x15 puzzle had fixed pieces (polyomino style) that could be moved around in the grid to form a second crossword with new definitions. Sometime later he sent to *Word Ways* a six-solution puzzle of a similar nature. This puzzle has not yet run in print because of space considerations but we hope to use this tour-de-force in the near future.

Meanwhile we offer this four-solution puzzle as a tribute to Darryl. The four “Donuts” of three letter words are to be placed on the grid so that all newly formed four and five letter words are bona fide words. The three letter words used are from the following list.

ASS, ATE, AYE, EGO, ELY, ICE, MAY, OAR, ORE, PEA, PLY, PSI, RAP, RHO, RAM, SHY

All the words in the completed puzzle will be so familiar that no definitions are required. One of the four answers is given in Answers and Solutions and the others can be had by interchanging the North-South Donuts and/or the East-West Donuts.