

Tough as Nails Mini Cryptic #1—Explanations

ACROSS

1. PETER—the definition is “Mr. Dinklage,” i.e., the actor who played Tyrion Lannister on *Game of Thrones*. PET (“favorite”) plus ER (“emergency room”) gets you there.
4. AREPA—the definition is “cornmeal cake,” from AREP (“mashed pear,” or an anagram of PEAR) plus A (given directly in the clue).
5. SEEDY—the definition is “like a dump,” and the word is hidden in, or “owned by,” the phrase “Tennessee **dynasty**.”

DOWN

1. PRAMS—the definition is “baby carriages,” from P (a common abbreviation on signs for “Parking”) plus RAMS (“Dodge trucks”).
2. THEME—the definition is “subject,” from THE (“article,” as in the definite article) plus ME (“yours truly”).
3. READY—the definition is “All set,” and the wordplay is a bit tongue-in-cheek, hence the question mark. “Like emails you’ve looked at” is READ-Y, get it?