

Thursday, January 7, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Partnership issues

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"I read somewhere," Cy the Cynic told me, "that a whale can attract a partner in 15 minutes. I've been trying to find one for five years."

Cy has gone through a host of partnerships. Like many players, all he wants is a partner who does everything right. Cy was East in today's deal in a penny game, and against 3NT, West led the jack of clubs, won by dummy's ace. Declarer next led a diamond; deuce from the Cynic, jack from South ... and West took the ace.

he jumps to three diamonds. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner's jump-rebid suggests about 16 high-card points with a good six-card suit. If he has a hand such as A 2, 6 5 2, K Q 9 8 5 3, A K, you will be a big favorite to make 3NT. If he has 2, A 3 2, K Q J 9 5 3, A Q 5, you need to play at five diamonds. Bid three hearts, suggesting a heart stopper and game interest, and await his reaction.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

13TH DIAMOND

South won the next club and led a second diamond to his ten. He cashed the king, led a club to dummy and took the 13th diamond for his sixth trick. He still had the A-K of spades and ace of hearts, so he made 3NT.

Cy was upset with his partner — not for the first time.

"Duck the first diamond," Cy complained, "and he goes down."

Cy was right, and the winning defense was not difficult. Still, I wish Cy had to sit across from himself for a few afternoons. He might be more tolerant of his partner's errors.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 10 9 3 ♥ K 8 7
♦ A 7 4 ♣ J 10 9 4. Your partner opens one diamond, you bid 1NT and

NORTH
♠ 7 6 2
♥ 6 5 2
♦ 8 6 5 3
♣ A K Q

WEST
♠ 10 9 3
♥ K 8 7
♦ A 7 4
♣ J 10 9 4

EAST
♠ Q J 8 5
♥ Q 10 9 4
♦ Q 9 2
♣ 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 4
♥ A J 3
♦ K J 10
♣ 8 7 5 3

South 1NT West Pass North 3NT East All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ J

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SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

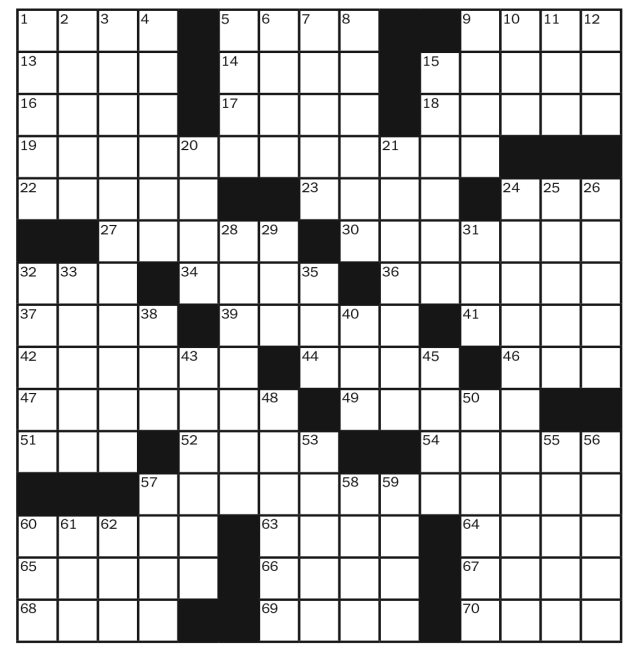
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1203

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fools
 - 5 Huger than huge
 - 9 Weed killer's target
 - 13 Size in a lingerie shop
 - 14 Modest skirt
 - 15 Softly
 - 16 College named after a Scottish island
 - 17 Word before "Streets" and "Girls" in film titles
 - 18 Certain chamber ensemble
 - 19 This occurs at least once — and never more than three times — in a year
 - 22 ___ workings
 - 23 Cut out
 - 24 Where frozen concentrated orange juice and Gatorade were invented: Abbr.
 - 27 Something to teach a dog
 - 30 Memorable launch of April 11, 1970
 - 32 Go ___
 - 34 Modern lead-in to scrolling
 - 36 It's a downer
 - 37 Championship memento
 - 39 Like some suspects
 - 41 Alternative to an elbow poke
 - 42 Part of a parkway
 - 44 Bygone TV part
 - 46 Experiences
 - 47 2007 heist film sequel
 - 49 "To weep is to make less the depth of ___": Shak.
 - 51 Texas' ___ River, formerly part of the U.S./Mexico border
 - 52 Grocery section
 - 54 Convenience stores
 - 57 Bad fortune ... as suggested by 19-, 30- and 47-Across?
 - 60 Emphatic affirmation
 - 63 Pop-pop's partner
 - 64 Object of a search in an animated 2003 film
 - 65 Preppy clothing brand
 - 66 Booking.com booking
 - 67 Weizman who once headed the Israeli Air Force
 - 68 Bracket position
 - 69 TVs
 - 70 Conserve energy
- DOWN**
- 1 "Westworld" genre, informally
 - 2 Hard nut to crack
 - 3 Parenthetical comment after an ambiguous witticism
 - 4 Actor James
 - 5 Part of EGOT
 - 6 Artist Mondrian
 - 7 The U.S. Forest Service owns about 38% of it
 - 8 Films
 - 9 High-G.D.P.
 - 10 Kind of milk
 - 11 2000 Beatles album ... or its peak position on Billboard
 - 12 Add (up)
 - 15 Palindromic kitchen item
 - 20 Droughty
 - 21 Marked by opposite extremes
 - 24 Preserve, in a way
 - 25 Countless, informally
 - 26 Runs interference for the offense?
 - 28 Sixth Amendment right
 - 29 Flattens, in brief
 - 31 Bit of insolence
 - 32 Tanks and such
 - 33 Slice
 - 35 Nasty campaign charges
 - 38 Actress Scala
 - 40 Big co. in the 2008 financial meltdown
 - 43 Emcee's segue
 - 45 Life partner?
 - 48 Big joints
 - 50 Breadwinner
 - 53 Words of empathy
 - 55 Busts
 - 56 Hybrid tennis attire
 - 57 Like items at a Goodwill store
 - 58 Join
 - 59 Talks, talks, talks
 - 60 Some party hires, for short
 - 61 "___ or no ___?" (server's question)
 - 62 Music's Dr. ___



PUZZLE BY JAKE HALPERIN

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Read about and comment on each puzzle: nytimes.com/wordplay.

BIZARRO



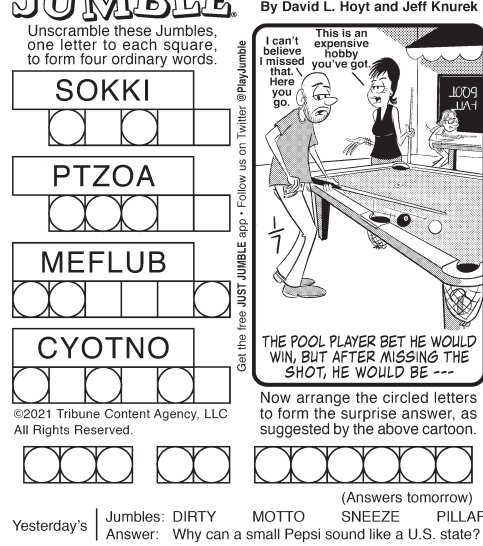
DENNIS THE MENACE



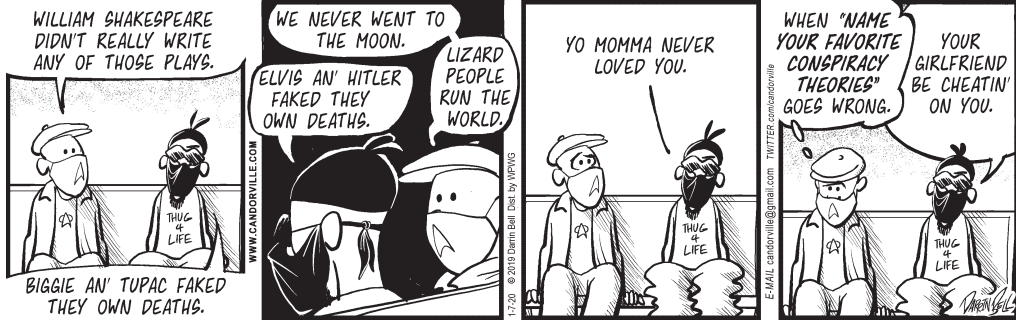
HERMAN



JUMBLE



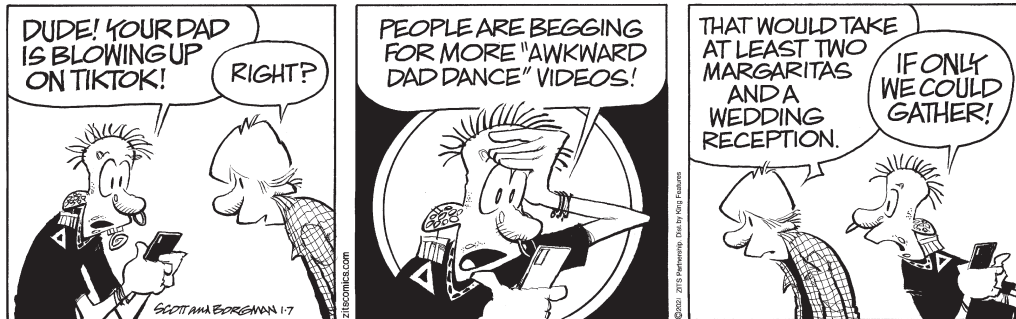
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

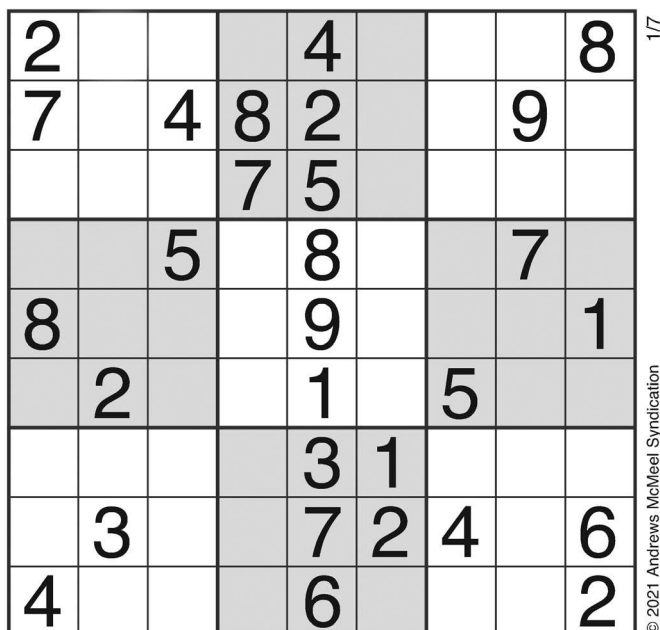
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ancient beverage
 - 46-Across
 - 5 Dinner beverage
 - 27-Across
 - 11 Cooking meas.
 - 14 Part of a pot
 - 15 On a smaller scale
 - 16 Bit in a horse's mouth
 - 17 Air Force Academy city
 - 20 Abbr. between names, perhaps
 - 21 Gulf of ___
 - 22 Starkers, on this side of the pond
 - 23 Not fooled by
 - 25 City blight
 - 27 Driver's aid, once
 - 33 Sneeze syllable
 - 36 It's a wrap
 - 37 Bond was kicked out of it
 - 38 Fireplace shelf
 - 39 Berkeley sch.
 - 40 Effort
 - 41 ESPN MLB analyst
 - 43 Drive
 - 45 Fountain beverage "mixed" in 17-Across
 - 46 "Give me time to collect myself"
 - 49 Animal rights gp.
 - 50 Make more powerful
 - 54 Gut feeling?
 - 57 Simon Says player
 - 59 That, in Oaxaca
 - 60 Balancing act
 - 64 Artist Yoko
 - 65 Filling out forms, often
 - 66 After-dinner beverage "mixed" in 60-Across
 - 67 Make a dent in
 - 68 Drove off
 - 69 Costner role
 - 5 Demands loudly, with "for"
 - 6 Helen of Troy's mother
 - 7 John Irving's "___ of the Circus"
 - 8 ___ feed: online news aggregator
 - 9 Medium gift
 - 10 Ripped to shreds
 - 11 Honky-___
 - 12 Wise one
 - 13 Condition once called "shell shock," for short
 - 18 Membership list
 - 19 "You found the right guy," formally
 - 24 Novelist Umberto
 - 25 Go this way and that
 - 26 Actor Cariou
 - 28 City near Seattle
 - 29 Muse for Shelley
 - 30 "The Simpsons" bus driver
 - 31 North of Paris
 - 32 One-named New Ager
 - 33 Spiced tea
 - 34 Cornucopia shape
 - 35 Bassoon kin
 - 42 Profundity
 - 43 Welcome ___
 - 44 Mended, in a way
 - 45 "Rugrats" dad
 - 47 ___-head: Hell's Angels insignia
 - 48 Romance novelist Roberts who writes mysteries as J.D. Robb
 - 51 Tea variety
 - 52 Computer operators
 - 53 Labor go-with
 - 54 Tiny bit
 - 55 Carano of "Deadpool"
 - 56 Horror movie assistant
 - 57 Lhasa ___
 - 58 Soccer great
 - 61 "Go team!"
 - 62 Spanish bear
 - 63 Hosp. staffer
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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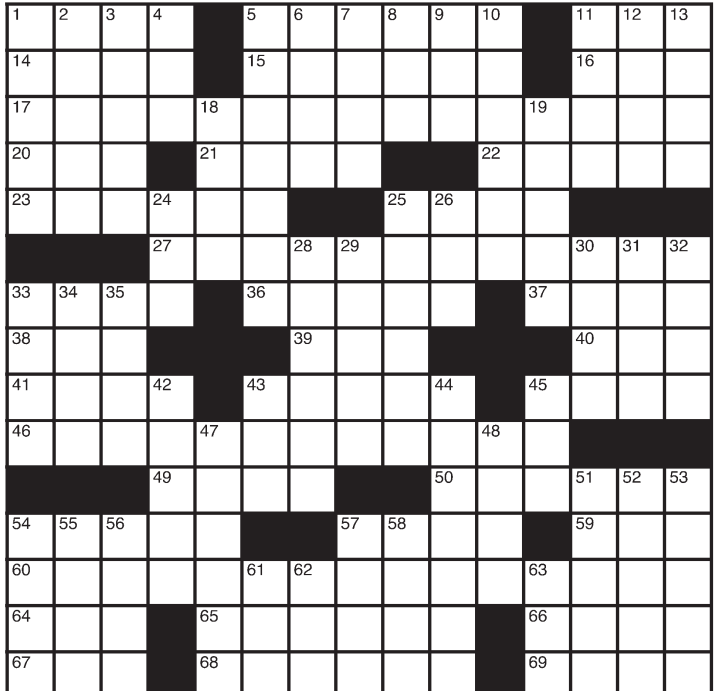
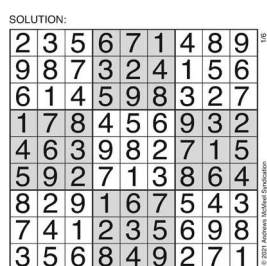
SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU



By Paul Coulter
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