

Saturday, January 9, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

“Simple Saturday” columns focus on improving technique and developing logical thinking.

A finesse is an attempt to win a trick with an intermediate card by playing it after one opponent has played. Finesses are necessary evils. Don't be eager to rely on them.

At today's 3NT, South may be tempted to finesse with dummy's jack on the first heart; West might have led from Q-10-9-8. When East's queen covers, South ducks, wins the next heart and leads a diamond. West takes the ace and leads another heart to set up his suit. South has only seven tricks. When he leads a club, West wins and takes two hearts. Down one.

he raises to two hearts. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Partner has a minimum opening bid — a hand worth a maximum of 15 points in support of hearts. He will often have four-card heart support but may have raised with three-card support and a suitable hand. Since your hand is worth about 11 points, game is possible. Bid three hearts and let partner judge.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**  
♠ K 6  
♥ K J 3  
♦ Q 10 9 5  
♣ Q 10 9 4

**WEST**  
♠ Q 7 3  
♥ 10 9 8 5 2  
♦ A 4  
♣ A 8 5

**EAST**  
♠ 10 9 8 4 2  
♥ Q 6  
♦ 7 6 3  
♣ 7 6 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A J 5  
♥ A 7 4  
♦ K J 8 2  
♣ K J 3

South 1 NT West Pass North 3 NT East All Pass

Opening lead — ♥ 10

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#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ Q 7 3 ♥ 10 9 8 5 2  
♦ A 4 ♣ A 8 5. Your partner opens one diamond, you bid one heart and

**SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?**  
Find five games weekly online at [bendbridge.org](http://bendbridge.org)

## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1205

#### ACROSS

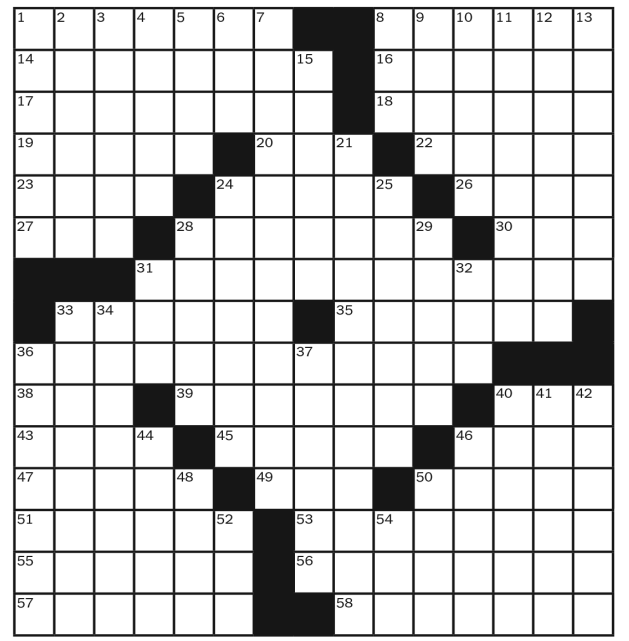
- 1 Snack product once owned by General Mills
- 8 Like many a yoga master
- 14 Words from one preparing to knock back a few
- 16 Just think of something
- 17 FedEx Office alternative
- 18 Four of a kind, say
- 19 The “Black Paintings” and others
- 20 Temple offering: Abbr.
- 22 Checkout choice
- 23 Big biceps, slangily
- 24 Very fine example
- 26 Spot for a slicer

- 27 Without a script, briefly
- 28 Get pooped
- 30 Letters for a proof reader
- 31 Woman of the world?
- 33 Cherished by
- 35 Things kept in bottles
- 36 Squiggly musical symbols
- 38 Dr. Jekyll creator's inits.
- 39 Tenor part in Donizetti's “Don Pasquale”
- 40 “There is no higher than truth”: Gandhi
- 43 Nickname for a man whose name means “merciful”
- 45 Ava DuVernay film subject
- 46 Beverage brand with a lizard logo

- 47 Stuff in a den, once
- 49 Skater Babilonia
- 50 Dive
- 51 One getting in on the hustle?
- 53 “That was nice!”
- 55 Choice word
- 56 Diabolical
- 57 Beaks
- 58 “How can I say no?!”

#### DOWN

- 1 Comics character with a pug nose
- 2 Golfer's near miss
- 3 Together
- 4 Features of Hopi lands in Arizona
- 5 Dashes (off)
- 6 Start of some thoughts shared on social media
- 7 Informal name for Vespa mandarinia
- 8 Blasted
- 9 Tagged, for short
- 10 Handed (out)
- 11 Occasion for smoking
- 12 Amazon and others
- 13 Reason not to go swimming in the ocean
- 15 Itsy-bitsy



PUZZLE BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

- 21 Long-running fictional hero who made his debut in “Call for the Dead”
- 24 Heebie-jeebies
- 25 Anti-insomnia drug
- 28 Dessert you might be “liable” to eat?
- 29 Relative of molto, in music
- 31 Calendar abbr.
- 32 Quaint agreement
- 33 Slight headache, maybe
- 34 Gradually become familiar with
- 36 Things scanned nowadays
- 37 Put down again, as tiles
- 40 It's a treat
- 41 One found among the reeds
- 42 Bathymetry measurements
- 44 A lot
- 46 Peachy
- 48 Cross
- 50 Makes tracks, in a way
- 52 \$200 Monopoly properties, for short
- 54 “\_\_\_ known rivers” (start of a Langston Hughes poem)

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

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

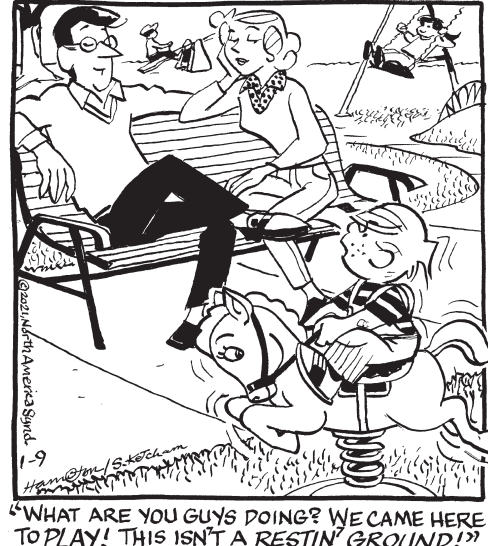


#### BIZARRO



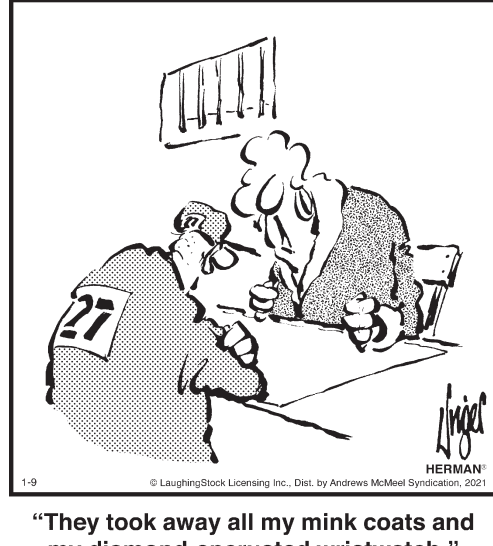
SELECTIVE MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS

#### DENNIS THE MENACE



“WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING? WE CAME HERE TO PLAY! THIS ISN'T A RESTIN' GROUND!”

#### HERMAN



“They took away all my mink coats and my diamond-encrusted wristwatch.”

#### JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LOVE TRAPS BODY REPAIR

My wife will kill me if she sees her car like this.

She'll never know. I'll have this as good as new.

HE HAD THE SMALL DENT IN HIS WIFE'S CAR REPAIRED TO KEEP HER FROM

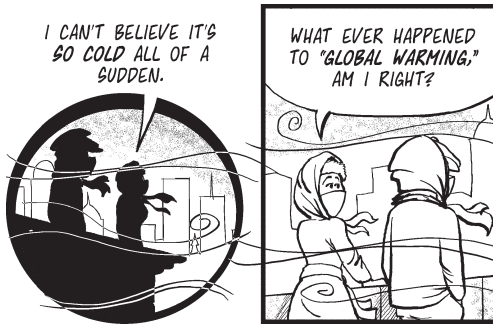
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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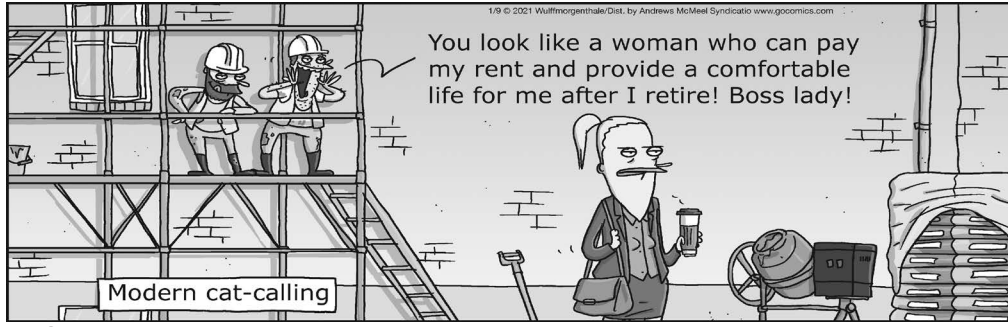
(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SCOUT INEPT ENSIGN REGRET  
Answer: When they looked at the available lots in the new development, they were — “SITE-SEEING”

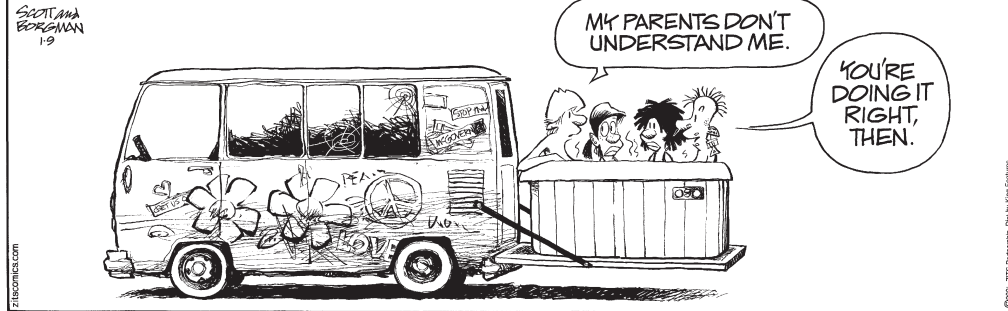
#### CANDORVILLE



#### WUMO



#### ZITS



## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS
- 1 “Friends” catchphrase
- 11 Auctioned wheels
- 15 Far from perfect
- 16 European capital with more than 340 lakes
- 17 Newspaper audience
- 18 Convertible option
- 19 City downriver from Las Cruces
- 20 Temporary fixes
- 22 Ctrl + I, in much software: Abbr.
- 24 Draft pick
- 25 Early product promotion with few details
- 29 Summer hire, perhaps
- 32 Cruise controls
- 33 Piece maker?
- 35 Vietnamese soup
- 36 Hawkish god
- 37 Light refractor
- 38 Coagulate
- 39 Show passes, informally
- 40 Secret meeting
- 41 Vocation
- 42 Living room piece
- 44 Factory equipment
- 46 19th-century English novelist Charles
- 48 \_\_\_ Jim
- 49 Like a “pony” with limited skills
- 52 Dyson alternatives
- 56 Beginning to call?
- 57 One may be part of a fresh start
- 59 Knotted up, scorewise
- 60 Campaign focus
- 61 Sources of furniture wood
- 62 Relative of a fidget spinner
- DOWN
- 1 Present
- 2 Only unanimous Cy Young Award winner between Dwight and Randy
- 3 Finish (up)
- 4 “Always in motion is the future” and others
- 5 Electra's brother
- 6 Hubblebaloo
- 7 Oz and Howser: Abbr.
- 8 Sounds heard at an unveiling
- 9 JFK and LBJ, e.g.
- 10 Relative priority in hiring
- 11 Some moonshine
- 12 One may include large gifts
- 13 Ripple preceder
- 14 Cry over spilt milk
- 21 Corn bread
- 23 Jerry's “Seinfeld” co-creator
- 25 “\_\_\_ So Raven”: 2000s sitcom
- 26 Like meeting one's doppelgänger, probably
- 27 “I'm curious about everything—even things that don't interest me” speaker
- 28 Belief in a hands-off god
- 30 \_\_\_ island
- 31 Observes
- 34 “¿Cómo \_\_\_?”
- 37 Forecasts
- 38 Forensic analysis site
- 40 Berlin Wall Speech word
- 41 Ardent desires
- 43 Wyoming range
- 45 “Jurassic Park” dinosaurs, e.g.
- 47 Brilliance
- 49 Snack manufactured in 18 countries
- 50 Super star
- 51 Broadway's Walter \_\_\_ Theatre
- 53 “Flashdance... What a Feeling” singer
- 54 “Hooked on Classics” co.
- 55 Navy \_\_\_
- 58 Mature

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

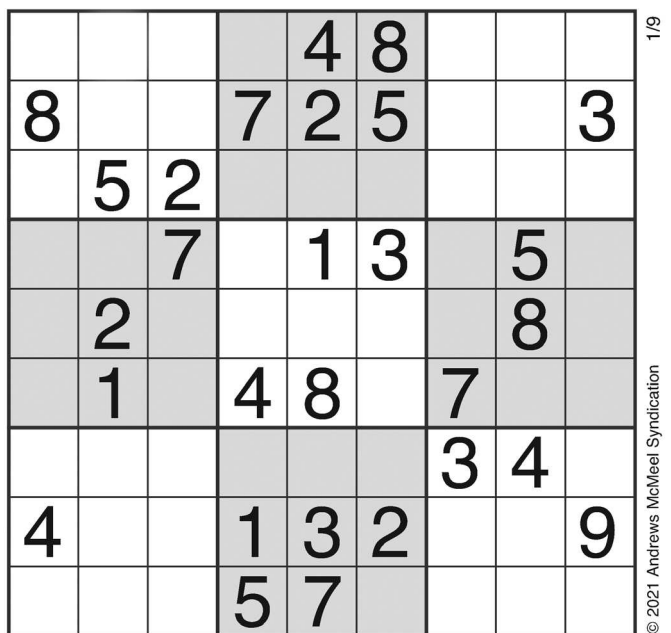
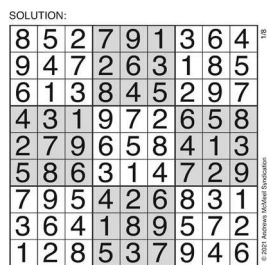


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## SUDOKU

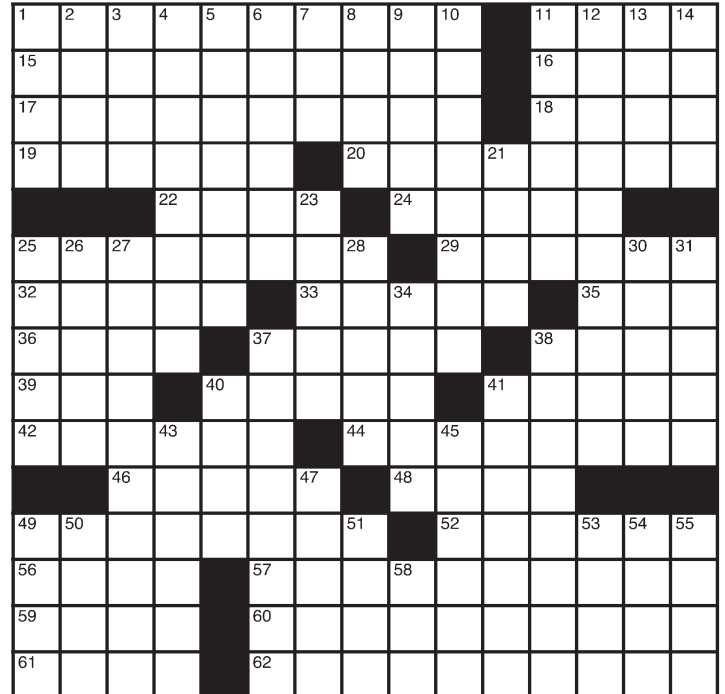
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

#### SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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