

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Millard's overtake

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"Declare this contract," Cy the Cynic said, showing me today's North-South cards. "You're at four spades. West leads the queen of hearts."

I said I would play low from dummy, ruff the third heart and take the K-Q of trumps. If trumps broke 3-2, I would draw the last trump and play a low club from both hands in case of a 4-1 break. If East won and led a diamond, I could take the ace and run the clubs to discard diamonds.

"What if trumps split 4-1?" the Cynic asked.

"Then I start the clubs at Trick Six, hoping they break 3-2," I said. "When a defender ruffs, I win any return and go to the ace of trumps to finish the clubs."

SAME PLAN

"My plan was the same," Cy said. He filled in the East-West cards. "But East was Millard."

Millard Pringle is a quiet little man who often gets lost in the maze of defensive rules.

"When dummy played low on the second heart," Cy said, "Millard played the ace! I hope I never find out why. He then led a diamond. Make four spades now."

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠A85 ♥K42 ♦62 ♣AQ732. You open one club, and

your partner bids one spade. North in today's deal raised to two spades with this hand. Do you agree with that call?

ANSWER: I agree. In my experience, raising a major-suit response with decent three-card support in a suitable hand is a winning action. Anyway, no other bid is attractive. A rebid of two clubs would promise a six-card suit. A bid of 1NT with two low diamonds doesn't appeal.

North dealer
Neither side vulnerable

NORTH
♠A85
♥K42
♦62
♣AQ732

WEST

♠6
♥QJ109
♦KJ1087
♣J105

EAST

♠J1094
♥A865
♦953
♣96

SOUTH
♠KQ732
♥73
♦AQ4
♣K84

North 1♣ East Pass South 1♠ West Pass
2♣ Pass 4♠ All Pass

Opening lead — ♥Q

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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. 1217

ACROSS

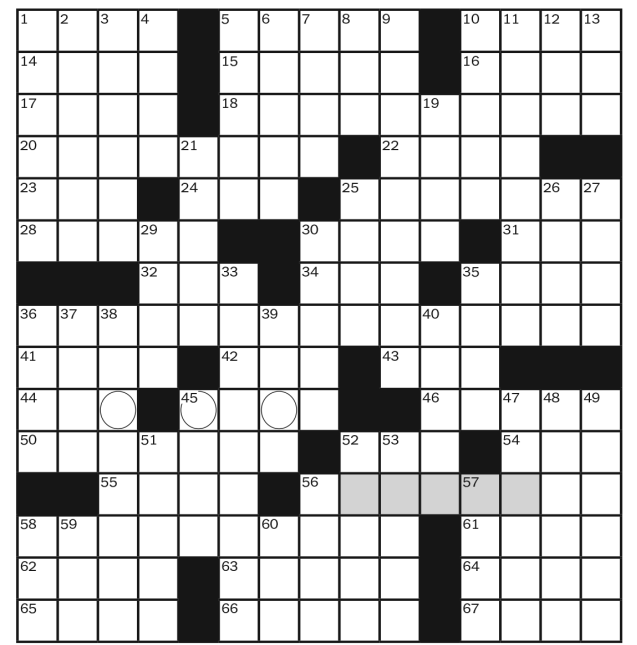
- 1 Needing some kneading, say
- 5 Language in which a nutty person might be told "Yer bum's oot the windae"
- 10 Hunting store purchase
- 14 Hook's henchman
- 15 Stamp holder
- 16 Birthday ____
- 17 Basic idea
- 18 Items that are hard to throw away?
- 20 Remedy
- 22 Troublemaker of 1-Down
- 23 Important piece in échecs
- 24 Money-collecting org.
- 25 Word included to prevent libel, say
- 28 Rough write-up
- 30 Ballet basic

- 31 Losing tic-tac-toe row
- 32 Cry of dismay in 5-Across
- 34 Singer/songwriter Corinne Bailey ____
- 35 Landed
- 36 Work suggested by this puzzle's circled and shaded squares
- 41 Strongly advocate
- 42 -: Abbr.
- 43 One of the Kennedys
- 44 Pudding flavor
- 45 Big name in in-flight internet
- 46 ____ Nadu (Indian state)
- 50 America ____ star of TV's "Ugly Betty"
- 52 Extinct flightless bird
- 54 Lead-in to puncture
- 55 Actress Chaplin
- 56 Like an unused air mattress

- 58 That's gnus to me!
- 61 Shortcoming
- 62 Word before rich or talk
- 63 Rent
- 64 Swiss Alp next to Lake Lucerne
- 65 Just OK
- 66 Small and pointy-eared, perhaps
- 67 What "exaggerated" is sometimes misspelled with

DOWN

- 1 Mythical realm accessible only by the rainbow bridge Bifrost
- 2 Key to this puzzle's theme?
- 3 Greek goddess of the hearth
- 4 Sight on Disney World's Expedition Everest ride
- 5 Flavor: Sp.
- 6 Sticks together
- 7 Instrument featured in 36-Across
- 8 Rum ____ Tugger ("Cats" cat)
- 9 Most foul
- 10 Up
- 11 Puttering around?
- 12 Flavor enhancer
- 13 Exclamations of surprise
- 19 Credit line?
- 21 Leave behind
- 25 ____ Freed, early radio personality who coined the term "rock 'n' roll"



PUZZLE BY KATHRYN LADNER

- 26 It takes people out
- 27 Biblical verb
- 29 What the opening motif of 36-Across is said to represent
- 30 Response to "Graziel!"
- 33 Epithet for a judge
- 35 Lover of Radames, in opera
- 36 Muscly

- 37 Tribe that fought the Iroquois
- 38 Servings with sweet-and-sour sauce
- 39 Summer Triangle star
- 40 ____ position
- 45 Something editable using CRISPR technology
- 47 Oscar winner Marlee
- 48 Cooling-off period?

- 49 First name of this puzzle's dedicatee, born December 1770
- 51 Copland ballet with a hoedown
- 52 Longtime star of F.C. Barcelona
- 53 A lot
- 56 What 49-Down became in later life
- 57 Prefix with Cuban
- 58 Ill. neighbor
- 59 Formal "yes"
- 60 Reef predator

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.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

ELHVA
GNSIE
PRUTIN
TBINTE

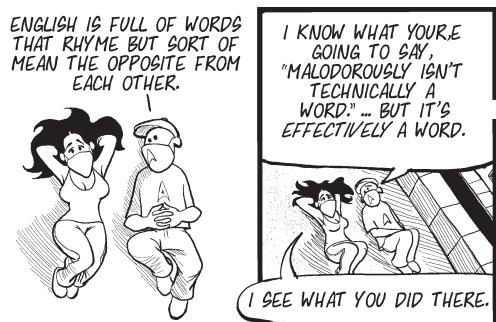
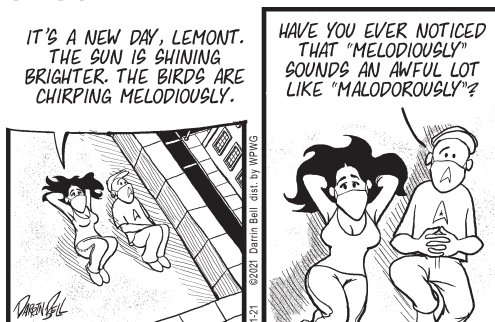
THE MOBILE LIVING QUARTERS SEEN ON THE TV SHOW "M*A*S*H" WERE HOME TO _____

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

Answers tomorrow!

Yesterday's Jumbles: SUITE COUPE ABSORB PURITY
Answer: With more than 100 billion stars all light-years apart, the Milky Way Galaxy is — OUTER SPACIOUS

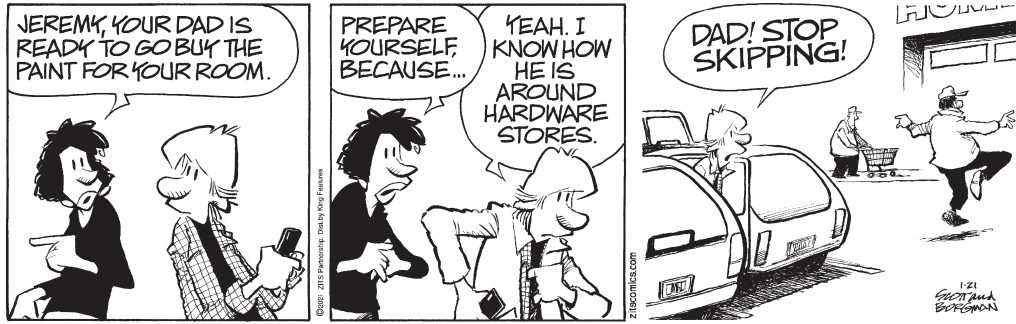
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

6	4	1	5	2	3	7	8	9
5	8	9	1	7	4	3	2	6
2	7	3	9	8	6	5	1	4
9	3	4	8	5	1	2	6	7
7	2	5	6	3	9	1	4	8
8	1	6	2	4	7	9	3	5
4	5	8	3	9	2	6	7	1
3	6	7	4	1	5	8	9	2
1	9	2	7	6	8	4	5	3

3			8	4	7	2	5	
			6					
			9			8	1	7
6	4	7						
	8		3			7		
						6	8	1
9	3	6			8			
					4			
	7	5	3	6	1			8

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 MS-____
- 4 He's Santa in "Elf"
- 9 Fish-and-chips fish
- 12 Andean stew tubers
- 14 Geoffrey of fashion
- 15 "You have a point"
- 16 Hanukkah moolah
- 17 Cut with sharp teeth
- 18 Greasy spoon sign
- 19 Board game endings
- 21 Dudes
- 22 Sonora flora
- 23 Jungian inner self
- 24 Anti-apartheid org.
- 25 Actor Werner of "Fahrenheit 451"
- 26 Element #50
- 27 More squalid
- 30 Scrape (out)
- 31 Crackerjack
- 32 Restricted road area
- 33 High-____ image
- 34 Red variety of this puzzle's circles
- 36 Larry ____, former Phillies All-Star shortstop who was 2001 N.L. Manager of the Year
- 39 Meat-eating aids
- 40 River in the Baltic
- 44 "Invisible Cities" author Calvino
- 46 Copper orgs.?
- 47 Happy, but not cheerful or upbeat?
- 48 Spoonful, say
- 50 Was in the cards
- 51 Group with rackets
- 53 Long ____
- 54 Slightly cracked
- 56 Glass-half-empty sort
- 58 Computer giant
- 61 "Amen!"
- 62 Memorable mission
- 63 Director Kazan
- 64 "I'm up for it!"
- 65 Sashimi selection
- 66 Initial request for an answer?

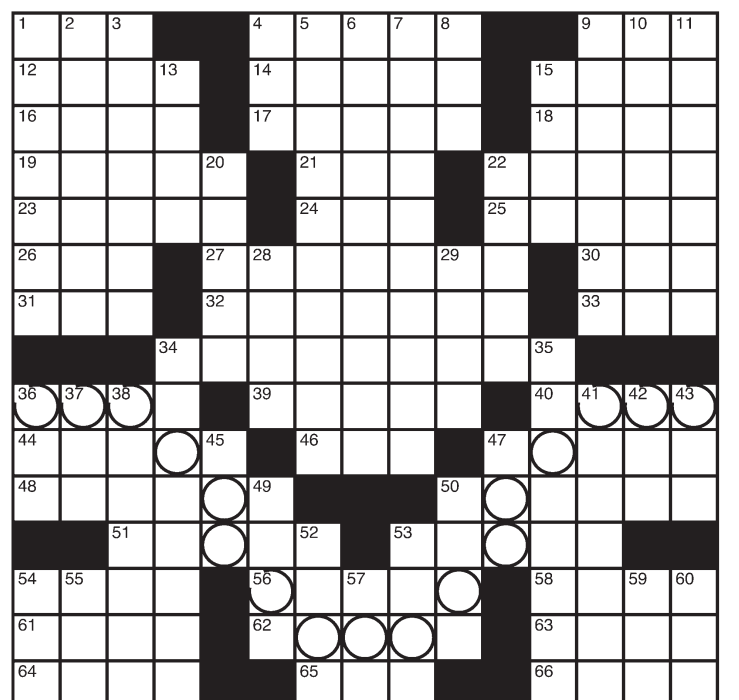
- 3 With 9-Down, crispy go-with for this puzzle's circles
- 4 Washboard ____
- 5 Sailor's skill
- 6 White variety of this puzzle's circles
- 7 Doesn't mumble
- 8 Press in a gym, say
- 9 See 3-Down
- 10 Scene not meant to be seen
- 11 Wish list items, e.g.
- 13 Stern's opposite
- 15 They're often in hot water
- 20 Bossa nova ancestor
- 22 Chick of jazz
- 28 Family member
- 29 Tolkien's Quickbeam et al.
- 34 Adaptable ducks
- 35 "I get it now"
- 36 Two diamonds, possibly
- 37 lowly relative
- 38 Store whose first three letters come from its founder's name

- 41 Ones "in distress"
- 42 Before, before
- 43 "Mayberry ____": '60s sitcom
- 45 Body blow reaction
- 47 Simpson outburst
- 49 12-point type
- 50 El Pollo ____, chain in the U.S. and Mexico
- 52 "The Clan of the Cave Bear" heroine
- 53 Hendrix at Woodstock
- 54 Leatherwork tool
- 55 Film noir coffee
- 57 "I'll pass"
- 59 Tyler who played Arwen in the "Lord of the Rings" films
- 60 Catcher behind the plate?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

K	O	T	B		I	P	A	D		O	K	R	A	
I	N	A	L	L	M	I	N	E		R	I	A	L	
M	E	T	O	O	F	E	T	A		G	O	N	E	
	A	C	Q	U	I	R	E	D		T	A	S	T	E
A	T	M		U	R	N				H	O	N	K	S
T	R	I	B	A	L	E	L	D	E	R	S			
L	I	M	I	T		E	B	A	Y		C	P	A	
A	T	A	D		S	T	O	A	T		B	R	E	D
S	E	T		N	O	O	N			F	I	O	N	A
P	A	P	E	R	C	A	R	R	I	E	R	S		
O	B	I	T											
S	E	C	T											
E	L	S	E											

01/21/21



DOWN

- 1 Church doctrines
- 2 Airline on "Lost"

By Bryant White
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