

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## No hurry to finesse

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

The road to success isn't always paved; you can't expect all your finesses to win. But a finesse that will win now will win later. A missing honor won't magically switch hands.

Against today's five clubs, West led a spade, and East took the queen and led the ace. South ruffed, drew trumps and led a heart to dummy's jack. East won and led another high spade, and South ruffed and ran his winners. At the end, he took the A-K of diamonds, but East's queen won the 13th trick. Down one.

"I feared the heart finesse would lose when the man had bid," South shrugged.

#### THIRD DIAMOND

South should not rush to finesse in hearts. After he ruffs the second spade, he can take the A-Q of trumps, ruff dummy's last spade, cash the A-K of diamonds and lead a third diamond.

When East wins, he is end-played. If he leads a heart, South wins in dummy and discards a heart on the 13th diamond. If East leads a spade, South pitches a heart, ruffs in dummy and pitches another heart on the 13th diamond.

#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A K Q 6 5 ♥ K 8 2  
♦ Q 9 8 ♣ 4 3. You open one spade, and your partner responds two hearts.

The opponents pass. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Your partner's response promises five or more hearts (more strictly, a suit that can play opposite three-card support). If he had only four hearts, he would always have an option — even a temporizing response in a three-card minor. Your correct call is a raise to three hearts.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

#### NORTH

♠ 9 7 2  
♥ A Q J  
♦ J 7 5 4  
♣ Q 9 7

#### WEST

♠ 10 8 4 3  
♥ 7 6 4 3  
♦ 10 6 2  
♣ 6 2

#### EAST

♠ A K Q 6 5  
♥ K 8 2  
♦ Q 9 8  
♣ 4 3

#### SOUTH

♠ J  
♥ 10 9 5  
♦ A K 3  
♣ A K J 10 8 5

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	1 ♠
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
5 ♣	All Pass		

Opening lead — ♠ 3

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#### 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. 1222

#### ACROSS

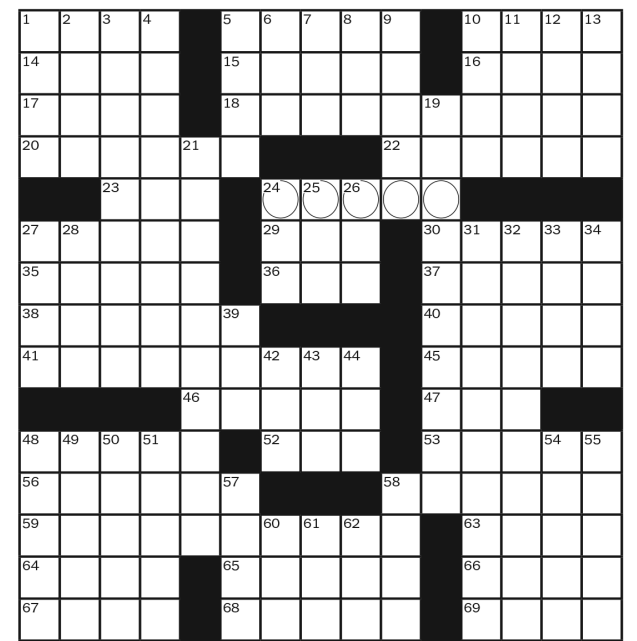
- 1 Equine animal, in rural dialect
- 5 Caper
- 10 Take steps (into)
- 14 One of two in the McDonald's logo
- 15 Italian name of six popes
- 16 Ice skating maneuver
- 17 Dr. Zhivago's love
- 18 Rapture
- 20 Projecting rim of a metal beam
- 22 Fake eyelash, in slang
- 23 Org. whose members may be fore-warned?
- 24 With this puzzle's central black squares, ecstasy
- 27 Heating unit
- 29 Heating fuel
- 30 Hogs

- 35 Perez whose film debut was in "Do the Right Thing"
- 36 Join at the altar
- 37 \_\_\_ Island (part of Brooklyn that isn't an island)
- 38 "Let's be \_\_\_ about this"
- 40 Mindless
- 41 Affectionate nickname for the "Father of the Symphony"
- 45 Beats by a whisker
- 46 Face With Tears of Joy, for one
- 47 Keanu Reeves's role in "The Matrix"
- 48 Houston ballplayer
- 52 Kind of computer port, in brief
- 53 Protection for vampire hunters

- 56 Bar "where everybody knows your name"
- 58 Steadfastly maintained, as one's beliefs
- 59 Comforting mental state
- 63 Like a soldier who might be court-martialed
- 64 Dunkable cookie
- 65 Sign up for more
- 66 Nickname for Grandma
- 67 Volume from Horace
- 68 Dingbats
- 69 Colorist

#### DOWN

- 1 Either part of a yin-yang symbol, e.g.
- 2 Unwritten exam
- 3 Manages to gather, as cash
- 4 Heaven
- 5 Church recess
- 6 "I'll pass"
- 7 Something a wedge often leaves exposed
- 8 Paris's \_\_\_ de la Cité
- 9 Greek tourist destination
- 10 Part of a squash court
- 11 Center of rotation
- 12 Arnaz of "I Love Lucy"
- 13 Part of a coding conditional



PUZZLE BY AMY YANNI AND JEFF CHEN

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



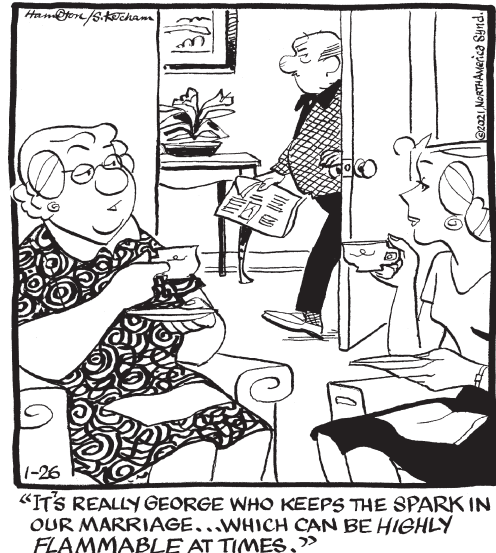
- 19 Research findings that can't be reproduced, say
- 21 Field of mathematics pioneered by John von Neumann
- 24 Word with cash or holy
- 25 Take a risk when taking a polygraph test
- 26 Aged
- 27 Golfer's challenge
- 28 Kothb of "Today"
- 31 Realm of marvels
- 32 Pleasantly
- 33 Hawaii's state bird
- 34 Peepers
- 39 Uncle \_\_\_
- 42 Whom 39-Down wants, in a classic poster
- 43 Some SiriusXM workers, for short
- 44 Pen tip
- 48 Cause for a blessing
- 49 Pottery fragment
- 50 Plains dwelling
- 51 Auto takebacks, for short
- 54 A flat one is best to skip
- 55 Kind of energy
- 57 Lively for one's age
- 58 Chops down
- 60 Sign before Virgo
- 61 Unspecified quantity
- 62 Corporate V.I.P.

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).

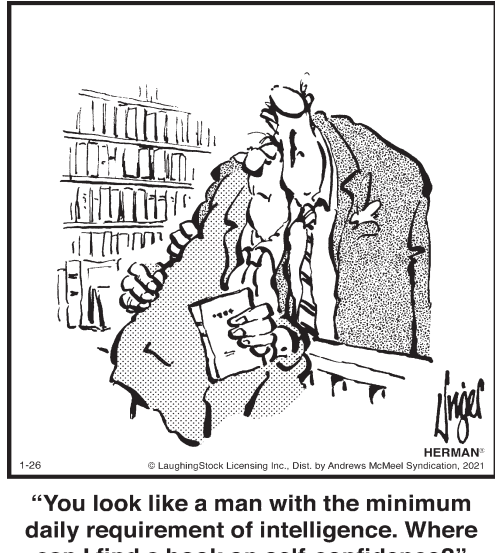
#### BIZARRO



#### DENNIS THE MENACE



#### HERMAN



#### JUMBLE

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

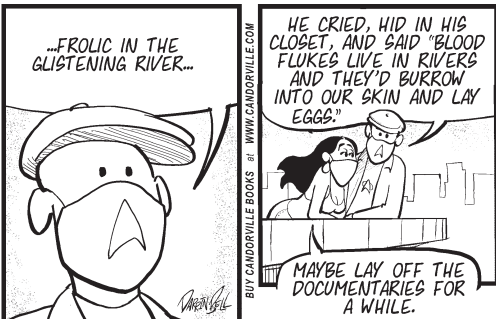
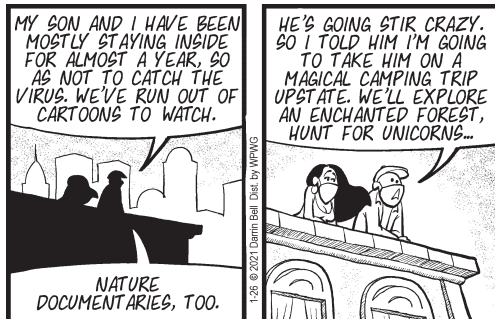
GIWHE  
NILVY  
CATEKJ  
ENGAAD

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GUESS DRANK TRIPLE SQUASH  
Answer: Their new mattress came with a money-back guarantee, so they could — REST ASSURED

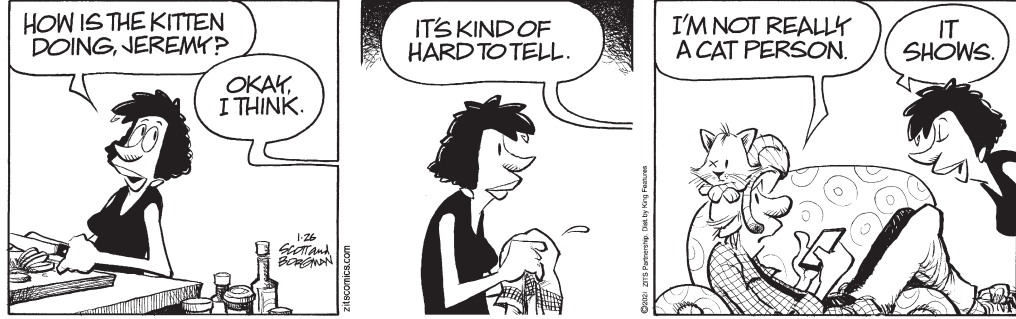
#### CANDORVILLE



#### WUMO



#### ZITS

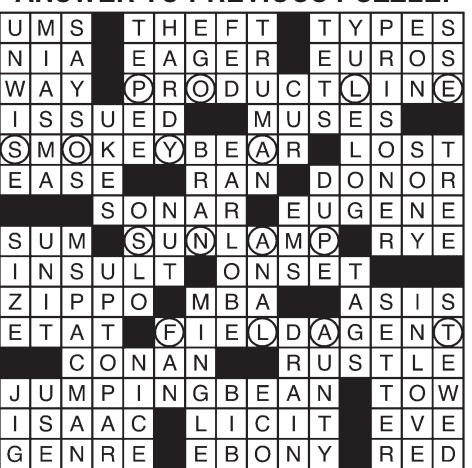


## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS
- 1 Smacked into
- 7 Window framework
- 11 Cabernet, e.g.
- 14 1998 PGA Player of the Year Mark
- 15 Snowman's smoke
- 16 Pitching stat
- 17 French national observance
- 19 Objective
- 20 Davis of "Dr. Dolittle"
- 21 Pitcher sans arms
- 22 MLB semifinal
- 23 Army NCO
- 25 Harold's "Ghostbusters" role
- 27 Humanities degs.
- 29 Disastrous path
- 34 PC take-out key
- 36 McCarthy lawyer Roy
- 37 Longtime label for Elton
- 38 Georgia airport code
- 39 Kind of lamp
- 41 Sitcom co-star of Betty and Estelle
- 42 Plan (out), as a route
- 43 Computer operator
- 44 Collect copiously
- 46 Start without hesitation
- 49 West end?
- 50 Coarse file
- 51 Burgundy brainstorm
- 53 Future junior
- 55 Bit attachment
- 58 Surrey town known for salts
- 62 Moody genre
- 63 Roughhouse, and a hint to each set of circles
- 65 "Fill 'er up" fluid
- 66 Knock about
- 67 Rummages (through)
- 68 Cal.'s northern neighbor
- 69 New newts
- 70 Turn down
- DOWN
- 1 "\_\_\_ Cop"
- 2 Reddit Q&A sessions
- 3 Handle carelessly, with "with"
- 4 "La Danse" painter Henri
- 5 Natives for whom a Great Lake is named
- 6 NFL's Cowboys, on scoreboards
- 7 Gush forth
- 8 Adjutant
- 9 Eschew punishment, in an old saw
- 10 "Listen up!"
- 11 Integer, e.g.
- 12 Clapton who sang "Layla"
- 13 River blockers
- 18 Jared of "Dallas Buyers Club"
- 22 "\_\_\_ any drop to drink": Coleridge
- 24 Like fat-repellent cooking paper
- 26 Fixin' to
- 27 Copper or nickel
- 28 Useful in many ways, as flour
- 30 Some kind of a nut
- 31 Collie or cocker spaniel
- 32 Strand at a ski lodge, say
- 33 Indian bread
- 34 Like many cellars
- 35 Tough guys
- 40 Floral necklace
- 45 Lawn warning
- 47 "Don't think so"
- 48 Utensil sticker
- 52 À la King?
- 53 Utah lily
- 54 "A Jug of Wine ..." poet
- 56 Q.E.D. word
- 57 Doctrines
- 59 "Star Trek" helmsman
- 60 Change for a five
- 61 Gds.
- 63 Charlemagne's domain: Abbr.
- 64 LAX listing

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



01/26/21

### SUDOKU

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

#### SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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