

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Procrastination pays

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"You must be the world's worst procrastinator," I said to Cy the Cynic.

"I'm dealing with those issues," Cy told me with a touch of indignation. "Really?" I asked doubtfully.

"Sure," Cy said. "Just wait and see." I must admit that Cy's habit of putting things off can work well for him as declarer: He knows when to wait to draw trumps. When Cy was declarer at today's four hearts, West led the jack of spades, and the Cynic took the ace and seemed to have four losers: a spade, a diamond and two high trumps.

spade. What do you say? ANSWER: This problem is awkward in "Standard" methods. A jump-shift to three clubs would force to game, and partner may have only six points. Bid two clubs, hoping he will find another bid. If you absolutely can't accept bidding two clubs (not forcing) with this much strength, you might try 2NT, showing 18 or 19 points, balanced.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 6 5
♥ J 8 7 4 3
♦ J 10 4
♣ K 10 6

WEST
♠ K J 10 8 2
♥ A
♦ 9 8 7 3
♣ 7 3 2

EAST
♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ K 6
♦ A 6 5 2
♣ 8 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A 3
♥ Q 10 9 5 2
♦ K Q
♣ A Q J 9

South 1♥ West 1♠ North 2♥ East 2♠
All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ J

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DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 3 ♥ Q 10 9 5 2
♦ K Q ♣ A Q J 9. You open one heart, and your partner bids one

SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1230

ACROSS

- 1 Discovery
- 5 First courses, for short
- 9 SAG- (media labor union)
- 14 It might cost extra at a beach resort
- 16 Apple tool
- 17 Ocher-like hue
- 18 Put up
- 19 "Who do you think you ___?"
- 20 Clairvoyant's accessory
- 22 Chubby mouse in Disney's "Cinderella"
- 23 That: Sp.
- 24 ___ Dobbs, title detective in Jacqueline Winspear books
- 25 Direction in which el sol rises

- 27 Taboo
- 30 Demands for payment
- 31 When doubled, enthusiastic
- 34 Ticked off
- 36 Lo-___ image
- 37 Key lime pie crust ingredient
- 41 Do with a pick, maybe
- 42 Zone
- 43 Habitat for some moss and mushrooms
- 44 Biblical sister of Rachel
- 46 Good name for someone with a sharp tongue?
- 48 Twitter logo
- 52 Deep blue
- 54 Borrower's fig.
- 57 Adjective in a U.S. Marines ad
- 58 Cut above the rest?

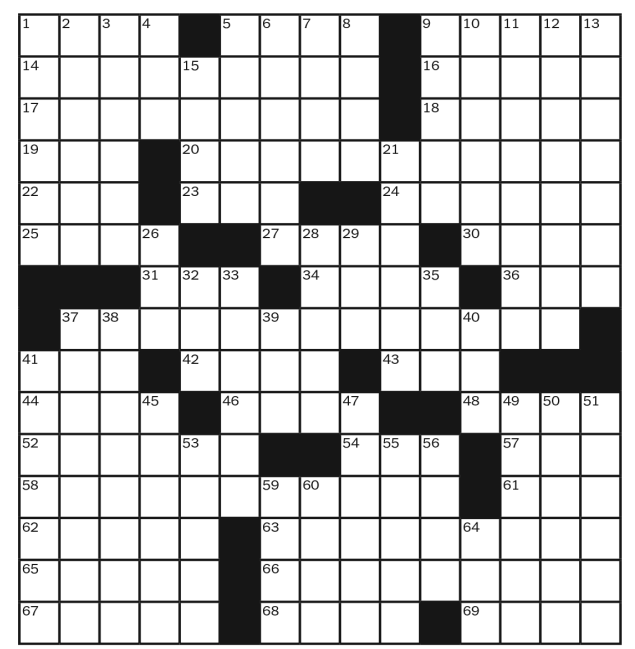
- 61 Suffix with lact-
- 62 "A Promised Land" memoirist
- 63 Tip
- 65 Stomach woe
- 66 Nightstick ... or what might form if the beginnings of 14-, 20-, 37- and 58-Across started paying dues?
- 67 A lot of TikTok's audience
- 68 Root/blossom connector
- 69 Watches

DOWN

- 1 Search for food
- 2 Mythological figure who's a symbol of hubris
- 3 Like the topmost emails in an inbox
- 4 Govt. prosecutors
- 5 Declares
- 6 Southwestern evergreen
- 7 Corrals
- 8 Give a "Whap!"
- 9 ___ corridor, Northeast transportation route
- 10 Ban
- 11 "X" marks its spot
- 12 La-Z-Boy product
- 13 Clumsy

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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



PUZZLE BY KATE HAWKINS

- 15 "Well played!"
- 21 Lacking scruples, say
- 26 Modern ___
- 28 Envelope information in "May I have the envelope, please?"
- 29 Country that's partially in the Arctic: Abbr.
- 32 "Eureka!"
- 33 Keep, as doubts
- 35 Green prefix
- 37 1968 Winter Olympics site
- 38 Formula One event
- 39 ___ culpa
- 40 Illya Kuryakin's org. in the film "The Man From U.N.C.L.E."
- 41 Lose it
- 45 Contract killers
- 47 Shiny trinket
- 49 "I wish ..."
- 50 Search's partner
- 51 Uncool sorts
- 53 Reverse and others
- 55 "The Lord is my shepherd ...," for one
- 56 Count (on)
- 59 Nexuses
- 60 "Will do"
- 64 Alternative to Lowe's

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
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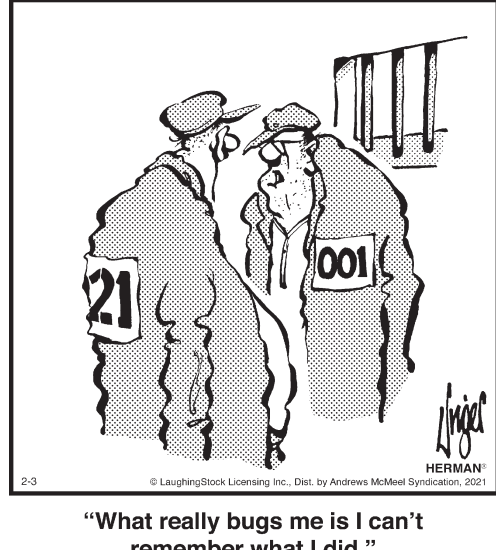
BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

SABHR
LOFDO
SWERHD
PANEPH

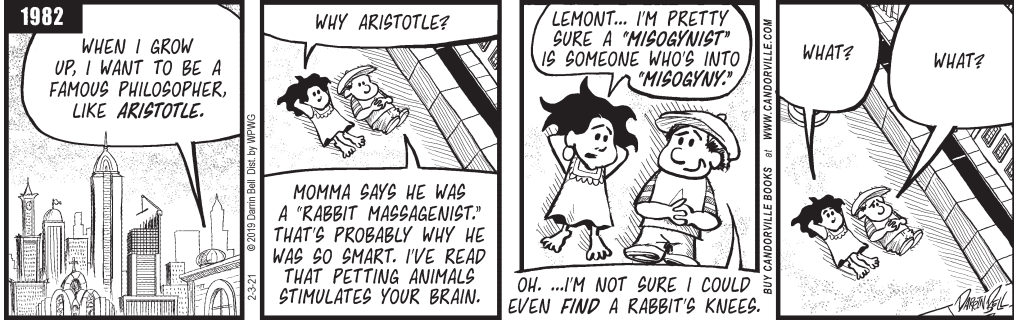
TO FIND OUT IF THE KIDS LIKED THEIR ACT, THE SHADOW PUPPETEERS ASKED FOR ...

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHISK KNOCK BUCKET COLDER
Answer: The groundhog's wife asked him to take out the garbage, and he said he — "WOODCHUCK" IT

CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS
- 1 Playground game
- 4 Theatrical backdrops
- 10 Academic pds.
- 14 4-Down may be added to it
- 15 Tour
- 16 Prose-fixing job
- 17 Expert
- 18 Settlement for prisoners
- 20 Iberian river
- 22 Countless years
- 23 One with cinco dedos
- 24 Place to display tchotchkes
- 29 Die down, as a storm
- 30 Type
- 31 "What was ___ think?"
- 32 High-level H.S. classes
- 34 Prefix with cycle
- 35 Linseed oil source
- 36 She voices Elsa in "Frozen" films
- 39 PC connections
- 41 Little rascal
- 42 "MASH" milieu: Abbr.
- 43 Slippery swimmer
- 44 Pre-1868 Tokyo
- 45 Like Stout's Nero Wolfe
- 49 Approximately 247 acres
- 54 Govt. agency with an Informed Delivery service
- 55 Cry from a crib
- 56 Distant relative of the emu
- 57 Pocket money ... and what's in the puzzle's circles?
- 61 Supergirl's symbol
- 62 Wheel cover
- 63 "That's unnecessary"
- 64 GPS indication
- 65 Soap since 1965, familiarly
- 66 Like plans yet to be finalized
- 67 Grass in a roll
- DOWN
- 1 Capital east of Denver
- 2 Site with many home pages?
- 3 Name spelled out in a Van Morrison song
- 4 "The Racer's Edge"
- 5 Golf course hazard
- 6 Used as fuel
- 7 Donald Jr.'s mom
- 8 Many-voiced Blanc
- 9 Capital WNW of Denver
- 10 Psalm instruction
- 11 Three-time "Modern Family" Emmy nominee
- 12 Company that merged with Konica
- 13 Oinker's digs
- 19 Siberian city
- 21 Eightsomes
- 25 French military cap
- 26 French film
- 27 "Hogan's Heroes" colonel
- 28 Sly critter
- 33 Derogatory
- 34 Decision maker at home
- 35 "Show Boat" author
- 36 Apparent
- 37 Wild way to run
- 38 New way for many to meet
- 39 "Woo-__!"
- 40 Giant redwood
- 44 Scots Gaelic
- 46 Old anesthetics
- 47 Makes sure of
- 48 Took off the board
- 50 Altar areas
- 51 Start of a demand
- 52 Bowling sites
- 53 "Well, shucks!"
- 57 Bygone Ford TV channel
- 59 "Woo-__!"
- 60 Savannah summer hrs.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

D	A	S	H	H	I	T	M	A	N	D	J	S	
I	S	L	A	S	C	H	E	M	A	R	O	C	
S	E	I	Z	E	T	H	E	D	A	Y	A	K	A
C	A	N	I	T	S	I	N	A	M	E	N		
G	E	T	A	H	E	A	D	S	T	A	R	T	
E	M	B	R	A	C	E	N	A	N	A			
L	O	A	C	E	R	A	A	D	F	E	E		
B	B	C	G	R	A	B	B	A	G	U	R	N	
A	S	K	T	O	S	U	M	L	I	D			
O	U	T	S	N	O	O	D	L	E	S			
G	R	A	S	P	A	T	S	T	R	A	W	S	
R	O	D	S	M	A	E	T	T	A	C	I	T	
A	X	E	C	A	T	C	H	P	H	R	A	S	E
V	I	P	F	L	U	T	E	S	F	L	E	A	
Y	E	T	C	E	S	S	N	A	S	E	E	K	

02/03/21

SUDOKU

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

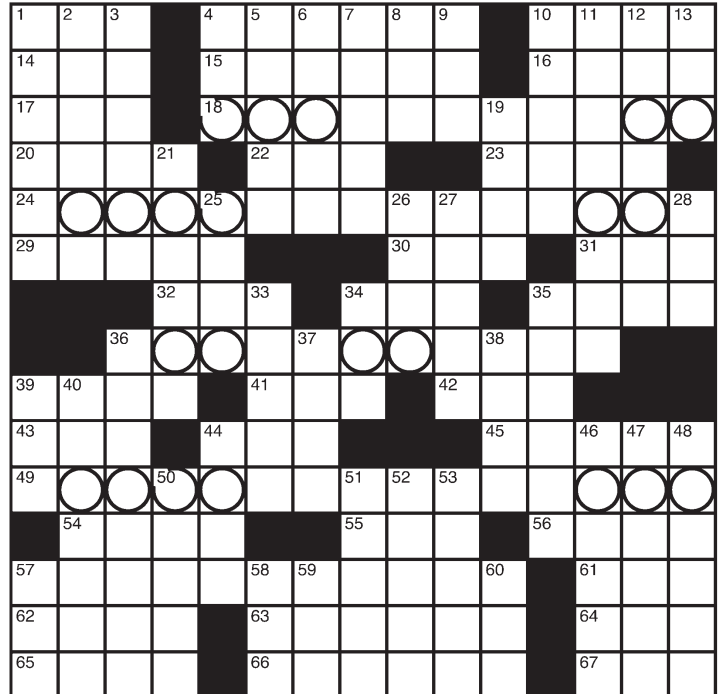
SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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By Fred Ohles
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