

Friday, February 12, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## Test your non-finessing

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

This week's deals have treated finesses — and avoiding the pain of losing one you need to win. Cover today's East-West cards. Plan your play at four spades when West leads the queen of hearts. (Needless to say, don't rely on any finesses.)

The actual declarer was a finesser: He won the first heart and led a trump to his queen. West took the king, cashed a heart and led a diamond.

South won and led a second trump to his ace. He next took the A-K of clubs. When no queen appeared, South desperately finessed with dummy's jack of diamonds. He went down two, losing a diamond, a club, a heart and two trumps.

#### SURE THING

South had an almost sure thing. He takes the ace of trumps at Trick Two, cashes the A-K of diamonds and ruffs dummy's jack. South then exits with a heart.

The defender who wins is stuck. If he leads a club, he guesses the queen for South; if a diamond, South gets a helpful ruff-sluff; if a trump, declarer loses only one trump no matter how the suit lies.

#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 6 4 3 ♥ A 4 ♦ A K J ♣ A J 5 4 2. Neither side vulnerable. The dealer, at your left, opens three

hearts. Two passes follow. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Your opponent's preempt has taken away your bidding room and forces you to guess. To avoid being stolen from, you must assume your partner has a decent share of the missing strength. Bid 3NT and hope he won't disappoint you. He must assume that you are relying on him for some points.

North dealer  
N-S vulnerable

#### NORTH

♠ 6 4 3  
♥ A 4  
♦ A K J  
♣ A J 5 4 2

#### WEST

♠ K J 9  
♥ Q J 10 5  
♦ 9 6 5 2  
♣ 8 7

#### EAST

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

#### SOUTH

♠ A Q 8 7 5 2  
♥ 8 6  
♦ 7 3  
♣ K 10 3

North 1NT East Pass South 4♠ West All Pass

Opening lead — ♥ Q

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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

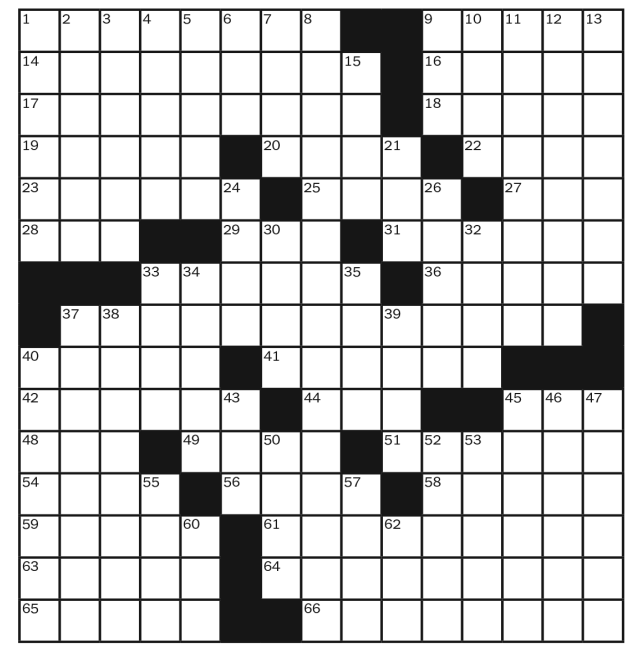
No. 0108

#### ACROSS

- 1 Longtime soft drink slogan
- 9 Cosmetics brand owned by Revlon
- 14 Simply not done
- 16 Make one's hair stand on end?
- 17 Welcome abroad
- 18 Rage
- 19 Tours can be found on it
- 20 Like una montaña
- 22 Drop a line, say
- 23 Brook no refusal
- 25 Locale in a children's song title
- 27 Lead-in to brain or body
- 28 "The Gray Lady": Abbr.
- 29 Curry on TV
- 31 Fabric choice for a gown
- 33 Signal
- 36 Award-winning architect Zaha —
- 37 "See, someone understands what I'm saying!"
- 40 Blackens
- 41 A real head-scratcher?
- 42 Void, in a way
- 44 Team —
- 45 Pro in Ohio, in brief
- 48 Saharan menace
- 49 Whom Grogg resembles on "The Mandalorian"
- 51 Actress Kidman
- 54 "\_\_\_ that?"
- 56 Weighs (down)
- 58 Cozy spots
- 59 Algerian currency

#### DOWN

- 1 Home to the so-called "Silicon Docks," a European equivalent to Silicon Valley
- 2 Like the taste of a bialy
- 3 Muslim or Christian, e.g.
- 4 Milliner Bendel with a bygone chain of women's accessories stores
- 5 Rain gutter locales
- 6 Dr. \_\_\_
- 7 Chef Lewis who wrote "The Taste of Country Cooking"
- 8 "Right?"
- 9 This can help you find your balance
- 10 Part of some tables
- 11 Digital filing service?
- 12 Lead-in to an opinion
- 13 "Your point being ...?"
- 15 Bash
- 21 Ice Bucket Challenge cause, for short
- 24 Sharp quality
- 26 "Chicago Hope" actress Christine
- 30 Friend or foe
- 32 Stun, in a way
- 33 Pressing
- 34 Assignment that sounds like its third and fourth letters
- 35 Headaches for talent agents
- 37 Setting with hobbit-holes
- 38 "See what you've started?"
- 39 Pulitzer-winning author Jennifer
- 40 Cajun cuisine catch
- 43 Really easy question
- 45 Order to stop
- 46 Certain hydrocarbon
- 47 Evening prayer
- 50 Columnist Maureen
- 52 First class
- 53 Pink drink, for short
- 55 Uniform
- 57 Doesn't go anywhere
- 60 Good name for a marine biologist?
- 62 Jiffy



PUZZLE BY EVAN KALISH

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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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.

GSTIH  
EHDA  
WORHT  
ANBTET

John, George! We were just nominated for more Emmys than any other comedy ever! Thirteen!

It's a little-known fact that 13 is considered a lucky number in some cultures. I'll drink to that!

WHEN "CHEERS" WAS NOMINATED FOR 13 EMMYS IN ITS FIRST SEASON, IT ...

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IRONY WAIVE PURSUE HUMANE  
Answer: When the rider slowed down the galloping horse, the horse thought — "WHOA" IS ME

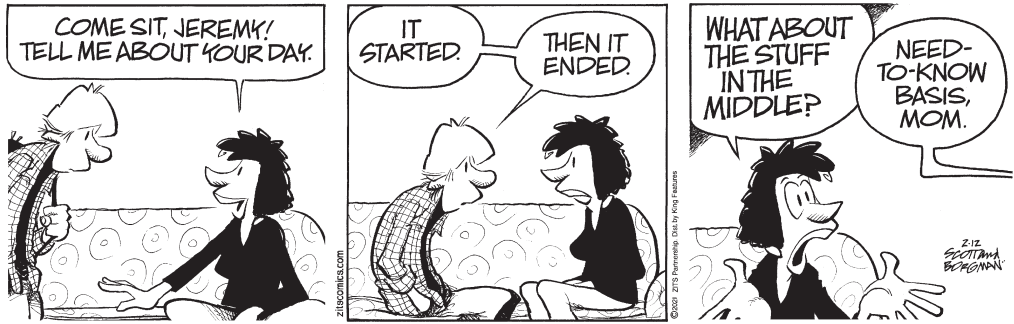
#### CANDORVILLE



#### WUMO



#### ZITS



## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

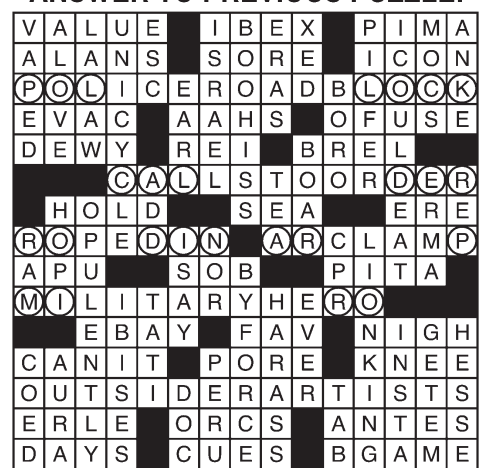
#### ACROSS

- 1 Batting practice structures
- 6 Golfer Jon \_\_, 2020 BMW Championship winner
- 10 Target
- 14 Historic mission
- 15 One saying "Don't do it!"
- 16 Say "Do it!"
- 17 Morning beverage for a plumber?
- 20 Everlasting, to a poet
- 21 Tender
- 22 Condor quarters
- 25 Greek celebratory cry
- 26 Plumber's response about connecting hardware?
- 31 High points
- 32 Mists (up)
- 33 Boring
- 35 Ala. neighbor
- 36 5G \_\_: mobile standard
- 37 Asian language
- 38 Corn \_\_
- 40 Undecided
- 41 Crafty
- 43 Like a successful plumber's bank account?
- 46 Job ad abbr.
- 47 Falls hard
- 48 "Finally, good news"
- 52 Studio do-over
- 56 Where a plumber learns new moves?
- 59 Something to think about
- 60 Caspian Sea land
- 61 Doles (out)
- 62 Alluring
- 63 Kate Atkinson's "One Good \_\_\_"
- 64 Medium for Michelangelo

#### DOWN

- 3 Hang open
- 4 Kuwait, for one
- 5 Browning's
- 44 "from the Portuguese"
- 6 Bit of a cheer?
- 7 "Is that \_\_\_?"
- 8 URL letters
- 9 Millionth-of-a-meter measures
- 10 Hearty laughs
- 11 "Carmina Burana" composer
- 12 "The African Queen" screenwriter
- 13 Creepy stare
- 18 "Deadwood" actress Jewell
- 19 "My bad"
- 23 Donations to a fund drive, say
- 24 Me time?
- 26 Bass staff symbol
- 27 "\_\_\_ ears!"
- 28 Emma Thompson role in "Men in Black 3"
- 29 New York Harbor's \_\_ Island
- 30 Raid victim?
- 31 Andrews, e.g.: Abbr.
- 34 Asian pan
- 39 Election time
- 40 2000s TV series inspired by Army Delta Force operations
- 41 Hollers
- 42 Numbers before closing time
- 44 Bubbly quaff
- 45 Launch
- 48 "No kidding"
- 49 13-time NBA All-Star Dwyane
- 50 High point
- 51 Neutral shade
- 53 Concerning
- 54 Excited about, with "on"
- 55 In \_\_: actual
- 57 Kernel holder
- 58 MSNBC rival

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



02/12/21

## SUDOKU

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

#### SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

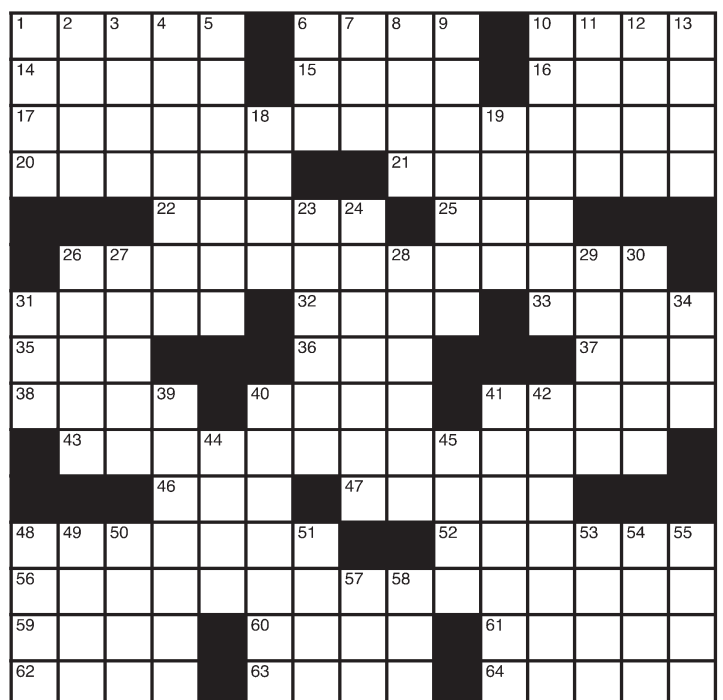
4	7	1	8	2	5	9	6	3
9	6	5	3	7	1	8	4	2
2	8	3	6	9	4	5	1	7
7	3	6	2	5	8	4	9	1
8	4	9	7	1	6	2	3	5
5	1	2	9	4	3	6	7	8
1	2	4	5	6	7	3	8	9
3	9	7	4	8	2	1	5	6
6	5	8	1	3	9	7	2	4

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

#### DOWN

- 1 Loose garment
- 2 Came to rest



By Jeffrey Wechsler  
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02/12/21