

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Cy's wrongful defense

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"Wendy is still on your case?" I asked Cy the Cynic. Cy, a chauvinist, and Wendy, my club's feminist, are adversaries even when they are partners.

"After the penny game," Cy bit out, "she asked me what I wanted for lunch. When I told her, she said I was wrong."

The two were today's East-West. Wendy led the jack of diamonds against South's game.

"Dummy played low," the Cynic said, "and I signaled with the seven. South won and led the A-Q of trumps. Wendy won and led another diamond, but South ruffed the third diamond, drew trumps and claimed. Wendy said I was as slow as next-day delivery in a nanosecond world."

player passes. North in today's deal bid 1NT. Do you agree?

ANSWER: To respond was reasonable, both to preserve game chances and to prevent the opponents from coming in cheaply. Some players might have bid two spades, but a psychologically encouraging call with such a weak hand would be questionable. I sympathize with the 1NT response.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 4 3 2
♥ 10 5
♦ K 8 4
♣ Q 10 8 3 2

WEST
♠ K 9 8 5
♥ 8 4
♦ J 10 9 6
♣ A J 5

EAST
♠ 6
♥ 9 7 6 3
♦ A 7 3 2
♣ K 9 7 6

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 7
♥ A K Q J 2
♦ Q 5
♣ 4

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

Opening lead — ♦ J

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BEST CHANCE

Since Wendy probably has four trumps, Cy's best chance is to try for a forcing defense. To duck the first diamond is unlikely to gain. Cy must grab his ace and lead the KING and a low club. To lead low first won't do.

South must ruff, and when Wendy takes the king of trumps, she leads the ace of clubs. South must ruff again and has lost control.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 4 3 2 ♥ 10 5 ♦ K 8 4 ♣ Q 10 8 3 2. Your partner deals and opens one spade. The next

SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

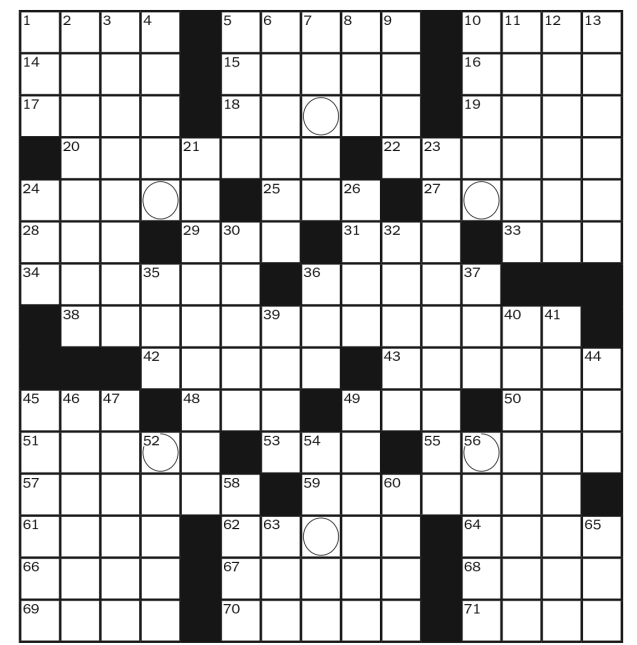
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0114

- ACROSS**
- 1 Missing
 - 5 + and -
 - 10 Common baitfish in North American streams
 - 14 Word with express or through
 - 15 ___ of power (common impeachment charge)
 - 16 Superlative
 - 17 Home of Baikal, the world's deepest lake
 - 18 Relative of a croc
 - 19 Overwhelms, with "down"
 - 20 "You don't like what I did? I don't care"
 - 22 Mythical being, old-style
 - 24 Desires
 - 25 ___ whole
 - 27 Awesome time
 - 28 Secreted
 - 29 Core features
 - 31 General with a dish named after him
 - 33 What a nod may signify
 - 34 Lover of Cesario in "Twelfth Night"
 - 36 Air Force One V.I.P.
 - 38 Classic party game ... or a hint to solving the answers that intersect circles
 - 42 Can't stomach
 - 43 How Beyoncé was "crazy," according to a 2003 #1 hit
 - 45 House member with 11+ million Twitter followers, informally
 - 48 Spanish bear
 - 49 Whiz
 - 50 Posed (for)
 - 51 Have a Pavlovian response
 - 53 "90 Day Fiancé" network
 - 55 Moves like molasses
 - 57 Percussion duos?
 - 59 "You can come out now"
 - 61 Common sources of conflict
 - 62 Ancient unit of length
 - 64 Scale amount
 - 66 What matzo doesn't do
 - 67 Stephen Curry's birthplace
 - 68 Micro or macro class
 - 69 Docs treating vertigo
 - 70 Years before 2020, informally
 - 71 Tear



PUZZLE BY AIMEE LUCIDO AND ELLA DERSHOWITZ

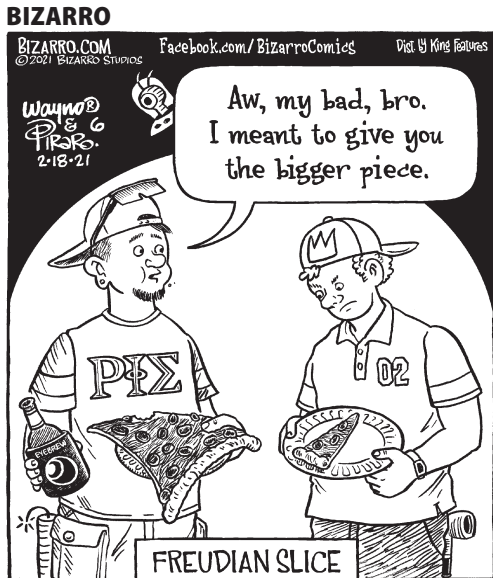
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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JUST TODD CACTI
ETTA EMIR USHER
SAYCHEESE THICK
THEKINGS SPEECH
TIA SEAS
AERATE DENSPAC
STEPH MEDIA RDA
THEPELICANBRIEF
REF WINKS UNCLE
ORS EGOSS TAKES
TIER ACT
THEGREENHORNET
YEEESH DRAINPIPE
EXALT IBIS GLEE
ATLAS NEST SEEM
    
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- DOWN**
- 1 ___ king
 - 2 Goes Christmas caroling
 - 3 Tangy chip accompaniment
 - 4 What a letter needs
 - 5 Summon
 - 6 Power couple from Chicago
 - 7 Garage jobs
 - 8 That: Sp.
 - 9 Manorial worker
 - 10 Brief appearance
 - 11 "We did it!"
 - 12 Foolish
 - 13 Plagues
 - 36 Through
 - 37 Cardinal cap insignia
 - 39 It's a laugh
 - 40 Go down in respect
 - 41 Musical role for Madonna and Patti LuPone
 - 44 Subjects of some conspiracy theories, for short
 - 45 Stick
 - 46 (0,0,0)
 - 47 Not a single person on an awards show?
 - 49 Roll call?
 - 52 Uses a light scalpel on?
 - 54 Petrol unit
 - 56 Spud
 - 58 "Out, you!"
 - 60 Listings on a train sched.
 - 63 Luau strings
 - 65 Appropriate answer for this spot in the puzzle

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.



JUMBLE

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

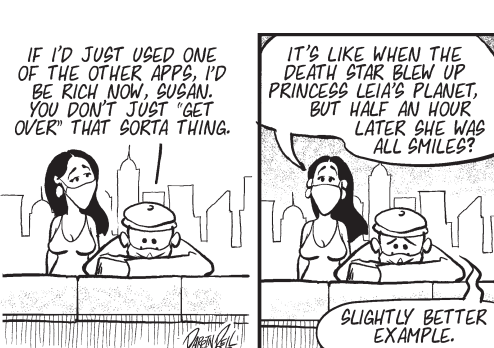
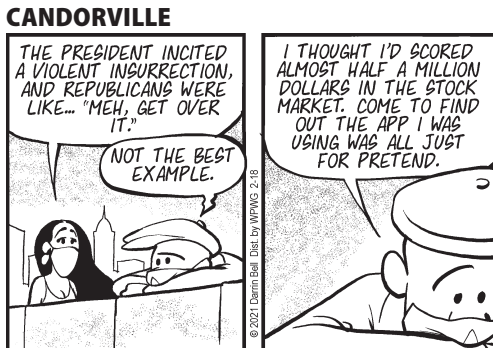
NILTG
SATEE
FNLISU
STURHH

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HONEY DWELL MANAGE THWART
Answer: An instrument's sounds can be written down using lines and symbols to — DENOTE THEM



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 "I ___ out!"
 - 5 Slavic title derived from "Caesar"
 - 9 President born in Hawaii
 - 14 Wrath, in a hymn title
 - 15 Syllables from Santa
 - 16 Egret, for one
 - 17 Highway reading
 - 18 ___ of March
 - 19 "Good Will Hunting" actor
 - 20 "Even dialogue wouldn't have saved that show," e.g.?
 - 23 Stir-fry ingredient
 - 24 Camden Yards player
 - 28 Golden ___
 - 29 Alpo holder?
 - 32 Needlefish
 - 34 Guys
 - 35 Abbr. after Shaker or Brooklyn
 - 36 Misleading gossip?
 - 41 Richard Wright's "Native ___"
 - 42 ___ Center: L.A. skyscraper
 - 43 Urge
 - 44 Face of a petty criminal?
 - 48 Egyptian goddess
 - 51 Anatomical ring
 - 52 Dead Sea Scrolls sect
 - 55 Pilot lighter, and a hint to the four other longest puzzle answers
 - 58 Goes after
 - 61 Do nothing
 - 62 Hot under the collar
 - 63 On top of things
 - 64 Pentagon measure
 - 65 Lacking depth and width
 - 66 Phone messages
 - 67 Exec's benefit
 - 68 Lepidopterists' tools
- DOWN**
- 1 Tiny tufts
 - 2 "God Is a Woman" singer Grande
 - 3 "Stop badgering me!"
 - 4 Camper's supply
 - 5 Wind instrument?
 - 6 Belt with 12 parts
 - 7 "I'm standing right here"
 - 8 Flower with hips
 - 9 "Phooey!"
 - 10 Brimless cap
 - 11 Limb with biceps and triceps
 - 12 Low in the field
 - 13 Martin who wrote many of the "Baby-Sitters Club" novels
 - 21 Winfrey of HBO's "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks"
 - 22 Sharp
 - 25 Folk singer Phil
 - 26 Wood strip
 - 27 Minnesota twins?
 - 30 "May I see ___?": diner's query
 - 31 1980s-'90s game console
 - 33 Find incredibly funny
 - 36 Stern
 - 37 "Bus Stop" dramatist
 - 38 ___ de plume
 - 39 Reason-based faith
 - 40 Available and fresh
 - 41 Like a wee bairn
 - 45 Small racer
 - 46 Select groups
 - 47 Eccentric type
 - 49 Pray aloud, perhaps
 - 50 It's not for everyone
 - 53 ___ preview
 - 54 Tool storage sites
 - 56 Thunder sound
 - 57 Rabbit-like animal
 - 58 Bowler, for one
 - 59 More than impress
 - 60 Jazz instrument

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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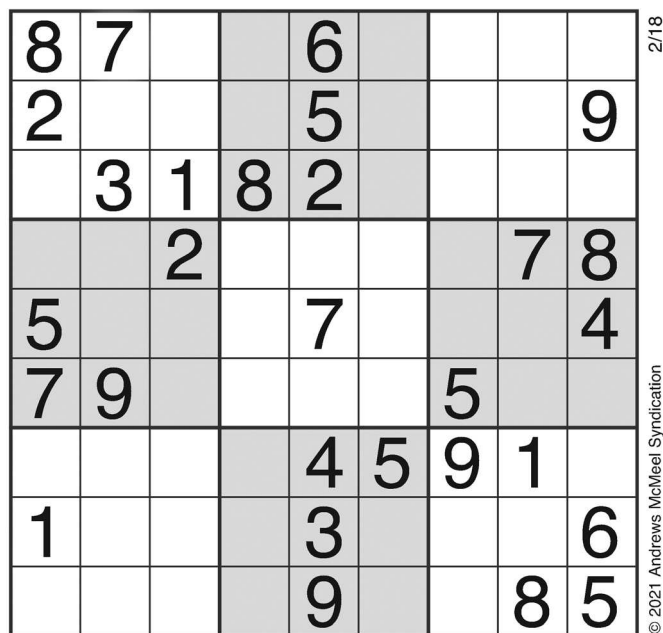
SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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4 1 3 9 6 7 5 8 2
5 2 8 4 3 1 7 6 9
7 6 9 5 2 8 1 3 4
6 4 2 7 5 9 3 1 8
1 9 7 6 8 3 4 2 5
3 8 5 1 4 2 6 9 7
2 3 6 8 7 5 9 4 1
9 5 4 2 1 6 8 7 3
8 7 1 3 9 4 2 5 6
    
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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