

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Spectacular play

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"I'm done with trying to beat her," Cy the Cynic told me. "It's less nerve-wracking — and more cost-effective — to back her in the penny game."

Minnie Bottoms, my club's senior member, wears old bifocals that make her mix up kings and jacks, often to her opponents' dismay. Cy has been Minnie's chief victim.

"She beat this 3NT," Cy said, displaying today's deal. "Minnie was East, and West led the seven of spades. Dummy played low, and Minnie won with the ACE and returned the jack."

left, opens one heart. Your partner doubles, and the next player jumps to three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your opponent's jump-raise is weak and preemptive; he wants to get in your way. Your partner suggests opening values or more with support for the unbid suits, especially the other major. Since you have half of the high-card strength and a good trump fit, bid three spades.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ K 5 3
♥ Q J 7 2
♦ 10 8 3
♣ Q J 5

WEST
♠ Q 10 8 7 2
♥ 9 8 4
♦ 9 7 4
♣ A 3

EAST
♠ A J
♥ 10 5 3
♦ Q J 6 2
♣ 9 7 6 4

SOUTH
♠ 9 6 4
♥ A K 6
♦ A K 5
♣ K 10 8 2

South 1 NT
West Pass
North 2 NT
East Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 7

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ Q 10 8 7 2 ♥ 9 8 4
♦ 9 7 4 ♣ A 3. The dealer, at your

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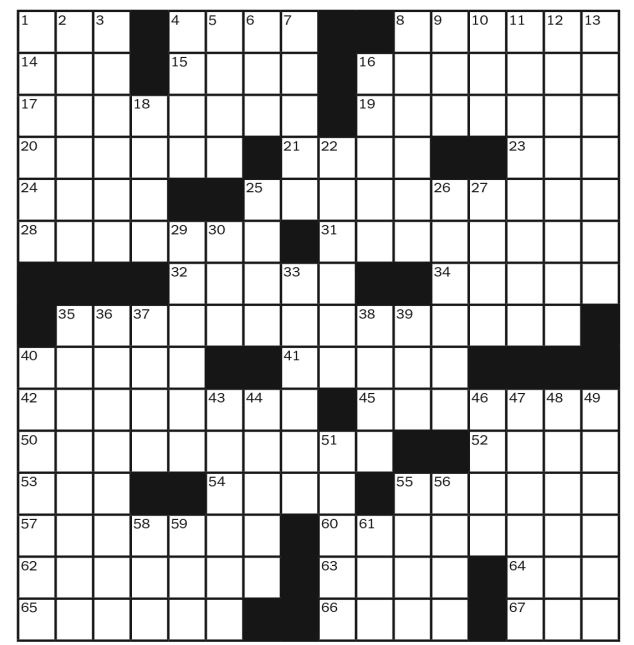
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0126

- ACROSS**
- 1 Part of a relay race
 - 4 Book after the Gospels
 - 8 Blows one's top
 - 14 Some of its members wear P.P.E.
 - 15 Lava, e.g.
 - 16 Be in favor of
 - 17 *Having panache
 - 19 Computer accessory
 - 20 Feeling ready for bed
 - 21 Neighbor of an Arkansawyer
 - 23 Eastern "way"
 - 24 Dublin's land, to natives
 - 25 *Trinket
 - 28 File of documents
 - 31 Fish-eating bird
 - 32 Awards for ad agencies
 - 34 Equipment for pentathletes
 - 35 *State that many people want to get to on vacation?
 - 40 Unadventurous
 - 41 Hang
 - 42 Hundredths of a peso
 - 45 Tusked marine creature of the Arctic
 - 50 *Gaudy display
 - 52 Move like molasses
 - 53 "Hometown proud" supermarket chain
 - 54 Rob of "St. Elmo's Fire"
 - 55 Carrier of sweatpants and sneakers
 - 57 Everglades mammal
 - 60 Game in which the answers to the starred clues are legal plays but cannot be formed even if you have both blanks
 - 62 Difficult situations
 - 63 Cake layer
 - 64 Poet's nightfall
 - 65 Puts on the schedule
 - 66 Action that may be "contagious"
 - 67 Dejected
- DOWN**
- 1 Ran out, as a subscription
 - 2 Estevez of "St. Elmo's Fire"
 - 3 Crystal ____ (some prognosticators)
 - 4 Letters of urgency
 - 5 Warm and snug
 - 6 Looney Tunes nickname
 - 7 Watch surreptitiously
 - 8 California's motto
 - 9 Tech school in Troy, N.Y.
 - 10 Aired of TV's "Moehsa" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
 - 11 Thick soups
 - 12 Thick syrups
 - 13 Four, on a par 4 hole
 - 16 Paprika or pepper
 - 18 Snoring symbols



PUZZLE BY PETER GORDON

- 22 Face, in slang
- 25 ____ Jenner, Kardashian family matriarch
- 26 More eager
- 27 Back of the neck
- 29 Cold weather roofing problem
- 30 Golfer Ernie
- 33 Adage
- 35 Glass-____ (1933 banking legislation, informally)
- 36 Home of Dar es Salaam
- 37 Cracker name since 1934
- 38 "S.N.L." alum Horatio
- 39 Place for a mud bath
- 40 Economizes
- 43 Drivers who rarely have passengers
- 44 Some Siouan speakers
- 46 Gestation station?
- 47 Paper tiger?
- 48 Georgia's state wildflower
- 49 Bigfoot or yeti
- 51 Having some kick
- 55 Got bigger
- 56 Kitten's plaything
- 58 T.S.A. employee, e.g.: Abbr.
- 59 & 61 Org. once headed by George H. W. Bush

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.

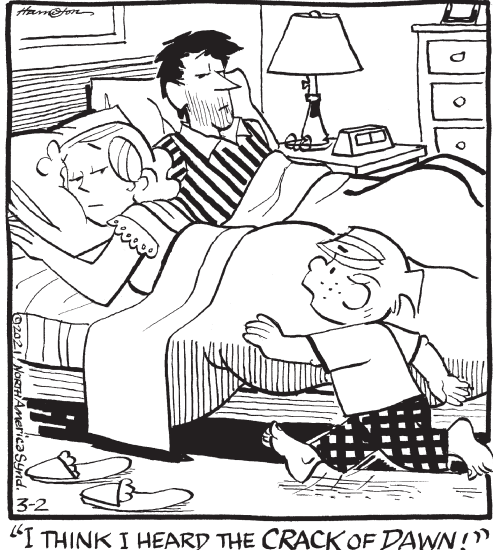
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



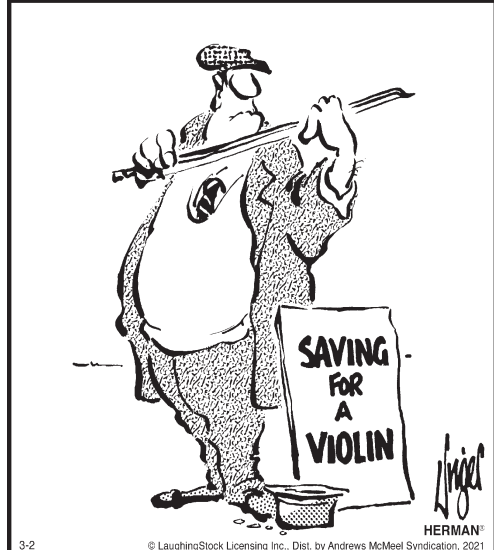
BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE

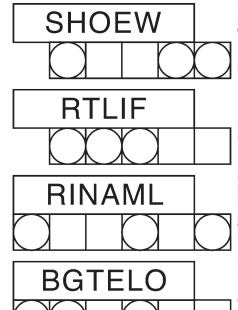


HERMAN



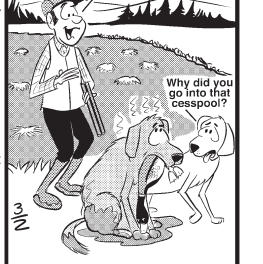
JUMBLE

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



THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Who's Great Job, Buster? Let's get you a bath. Why did you go into that cesspool?



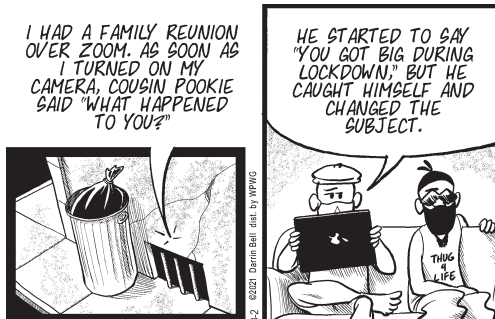
AFTER THE HUNTING DOG WANDERED INTO THE BOG IN SEARCH OF BIRDS, HE WAS ---

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

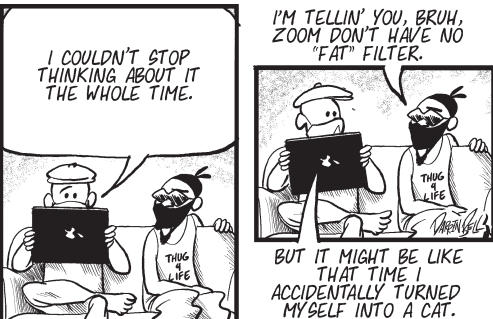
FOCAL NUJGE FLAUNT GRITTY

Yesterday's Jumbles: FOCAL NUJGE FLAUNT GRITTY
Answer: The traffic congestion on the highway was a — TURNOFF

CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Arthur with Emmys
 - 4 DVR copying button
 - 7 Futuristic TV family
 - 14 Reply to "Excuse me, you're in my seat"
 - 16 Modified to fit
 - 17 Reacted to shearing
 - 18 Fitness regimen
 - 19 *Tour de France participant
 - 21 Manage moguls
 - 22 Rhinitis docs
 - 23 Thumb drive port
 - 26 Pinochle combos
 - 30 Meticulous to a fault
 - 31 ____ vez: Rosa's "once"
 - 34 *Lo-cal tea brand
 - 38 Islamic holy month
 - 40 Scam targets
 - 41 *Singer who's the namesake of the high school in "Grease"
 - 43 Rapper Lil ____ X
 - 44 Poirot's pals
 - 45 "To recap ..."
 - 47 Small point
 - 48 Pedestal or plinth
 - 51 Wedding vow
 - 54 One who might use one of the ends of the answers to starred clues
 - 59 SeaWorld tanks
 - 62 Collectibles from afar
 - 63 Happening now
 - 64 Med. imaging procedure
 - 65 Bob and weave
 - 66 Medical ins. plan
 - 67 Denver-to-Wichita dir.
 - 6 Formally transfer
 - 7 "Shogun" setting
 - 8 Decree
 - 9 Stories
 - 10 Practice boxing
 - 11 Giants legend
 - 12 Bridal bio word
 - 13 '60s antiwar gp.
 - 15 "The Big Bang Theory" actress ____ Bialik who is also a scheduled 2021 "Jeopardy!" guest host
 - 20 Remainder
 - 23 Remove, as a brooch
 - 24 Actress Hayek
 - 25 Grace verb
 - 27 Stream swirl
 - 28 "You made that up!"
 - 29 Claim to be untrue
 - 30 Well-suited
 - 31 Not at all bucolic
 - 32 Judd of country
 - 33 Scope
 - 35 "Frozen" reindeer
 - 36 Guitarist Lofgren
 - 37 Org. in many civil rights cases
 - 39 Short muscles?
 - 42 God, in Grenoble
 - 46 Tic Tacs, e.g.
 - 48 Yawning, perhaps
 - 49 Essential acid
 - 50 Minor arguments
 - 52 Prepare for takeoff, as a frosty windshield
 - 53 Aquatic predators
 - 54 "The Alienist" author Caleb
 - 55 Field for this puzzle's theme
 - 56 Possible cause of student nervousness
 - 57 Revolution prefix
 - 58 Hamlet, by birth
 - 59 Allentown: "Alas!" :: Altenburg: "____!"
 - 60 Sine ____ non
 - 61 Ocean State sch.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

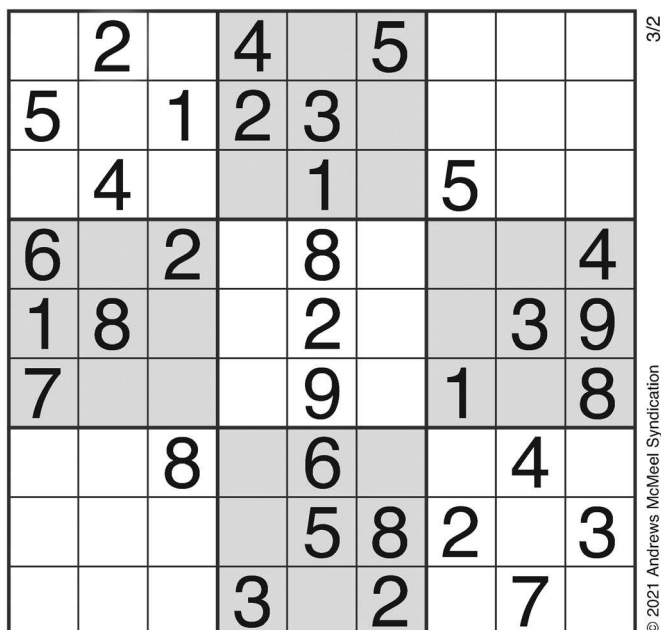
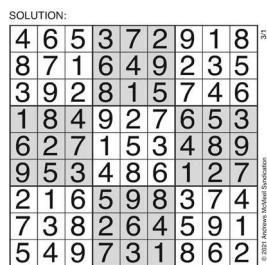


03/02/21

SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



By Jeffrey Wechsler
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03/02/21