

Saturday, March 13, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

“Simple Saturday” columns focus on improving basic technique and logical thinking.

My friend Cy the Cynic is as lazy as a deep old river. If Cy must choose between setting up a long suit and taking a finesse, he prefers the finesse, which requires less effort. Many players are just as lazy.

Today’s West led the ten of spades against six hearts, and East took the ace and led the jack of diamonds: queen, king, ace. Declarer took the A-K of trumps, cashed his queen of spades, led a trump to dummy and threw his last diamond on the king of spades.

FINESSE

South next led a club to his king and a club to dummy’s jack. Down he went.

South’s play was lazy — and wrong. He had a 50-50 chance of winning the club finesse but can do better. After he unblocks his queen of spades, he takes the K-A of clubs. When East-West follow low, South discards his last club on the king of spades and ruffs a club. He can return a trump to dummy and pitch his diamond loser on a good club.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠K 5 3 ♥Q 3 2 ♦A 6 ♣A J 6 4 3. You open one club, your partner responds one diamond, you

bid 1NT and he tries two hearts. The opponents pass. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your partner “reversed” as responder and so promises a strong hand; the auction will not stop below game. You are unable to support either of partner’s suits. To bid 2NT would be acceptable. My preference would be to try three clubs to suggest a fair five-card suit.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠K 5 3
♥Q 3 2
♦A 6
♣A J 6 4 3

WEST
♠10 9 8 6
♥9 8 5
♦K 8 5 2
♣10 5

EAST
♠A 7 4 2
♥7
♦J 10 9 4 3
♣Q 9 8

SOUTH
♠Q J
♥A K J 10 6 4
♦Q 7
♣K 7 2

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 10

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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. 0206

BLACK PUZZLEMAKERS' WEEK

Every daily crossword this week, Monday to Saturday, is made by an African-American contributor. Kameron Austin Collins is a writer in Brooklyn. This is his 15th crossword for The Times. To read more about the puzzle, see nytimes.com/wordplay.

ACROSS

- 1 First name in Russian literature
- 4 Big jackpot, for short
- 7 “What do you think you’re doing?!”
- 10 Requiring
- 13 Give an edge
- 14 Princess of Monaco
- 16 ___ Hufflepuff, one of the co-founders of Hogwarts
- 17 Nice pair of boxers?
- 18 Chronicles from a feminist perspective

- 20 Long-proposed constitutional inits.
- 21 Once-popular resort area in the Catskills, informally
- 22 Sad song
- 24 A real cinematic tour de force?
- 25 Fault-finds to a fault
- 27 Share, as a plot?
- 28 Informal address at school
- 30 Kind of tone
- 32 Charles ___, how Angelo Siciliano is better known

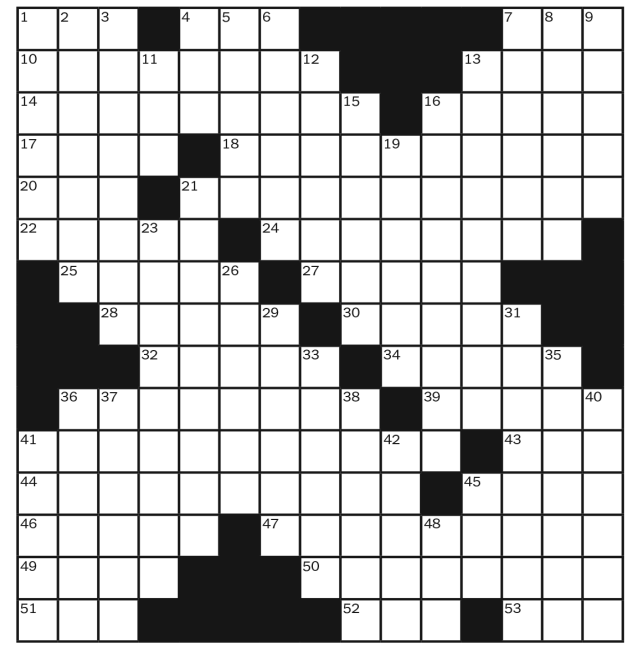
- 34 Marketing ploy
- 36 Stuffed
- 39 Onetime Apple Store stock
- 41 Government program?
- 43 ___ process
- 44 Just-the-facts-please
- 45 Young amphibians
- 46 Plain as day
- 47 Not hold back on criticism
- 49 Hardwood option
- 50 Music genre that includes “geeksta rap”
- 51 Many characters in “Kill Bill”
- 52 Twain
- 53 “Inside the N.B.A.” aier

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



DOWN

- 1 Did a Daffy Duck impression, say
- 2 Intestine-related
- 3 Like many engagement stones
- 4 [Shrug]
- 5 Home of the Nez Perce Indian Reservation



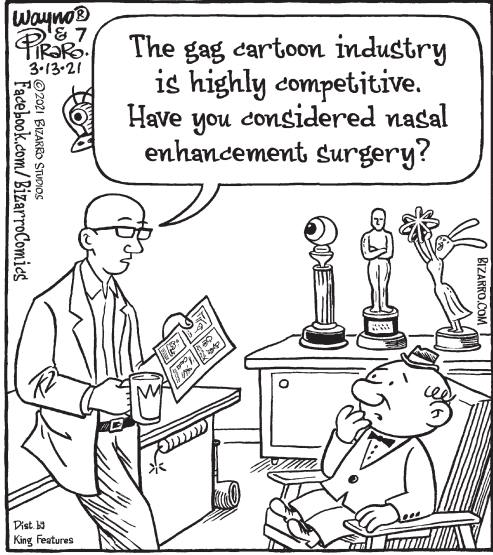
PUZZLE BY KAMERON AUSTIN COLLINS

- 6 Ones practicing social distancing
- 7 More venerated ... or ventilated?
- 8 Author of 1884’s “The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State”
- 9 You might get a rise out of this
- 11 Some records, for short
- 12 Some records
- 13 Traditional 19-Down soother

- 15 Get out
- 16 Getting started the wrong way?
- 19 See 13-Down
- 21 “Give it time”
- 23 “Nice job!”
- 26 Mercedes-Benz sedan type
- 29 High-___ (looked down on)
- 31 What a mule kicks with
- 33 Like jacket lining, typically
- 35 Intersection sign
- 36 Big scoop

- 37 Hero of Virgil
- 38 Attacked, in a way
- 40 Octave’s follower in a Petrarchan sonnet
- 41 Certain gov. security
- 42 World leader with a role in 1961’s annexation of Goa
- 45 Abbr. sometimes written three times in a row
- 48 Affirmation of commitment

BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

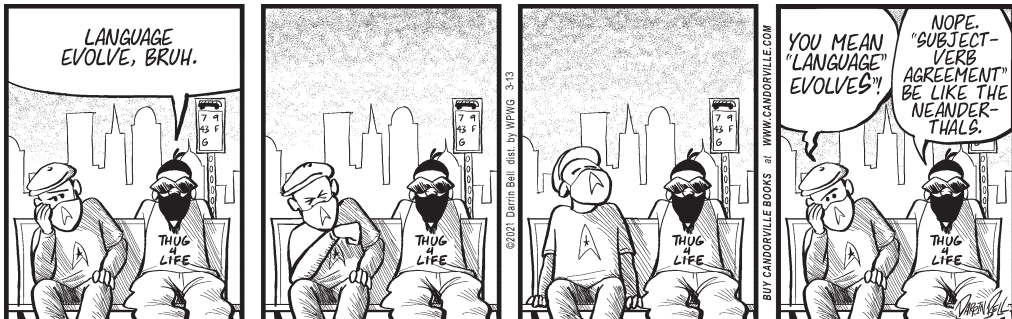
NRIMO
BORUT
DENHLA
SVLEIW

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

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday’s Jumbles: MOUND SWORN SWEATY WILLOW
Answer: They predicted a very strong winter storm, so the total accumulation — WAS “SNOW” WONDER

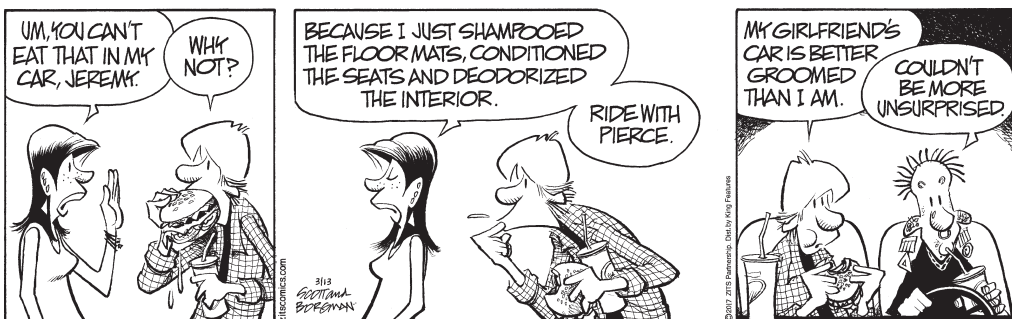
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wrap up
 - 7 Game-watching, maybe
 - 15 “Y is for Yesterday” sleuth Millhone
 - 16 One skilled at spelling
 - 17 ___ of: address words
 - 18 Rocky time?
 - 19 Slow-witted Bergen puppet
 - 20 8-Down, e.g.
 - 21 Impish
 - 22 Boo follower
 - 23 Key contraction
 - 24 “Likewise”
 - 25 Elect
 - 26 Attributive term
 - 28 One presented for payment
 - 31 Driver’s aid
 - 32 Legal show for 40 years, with “The”
 - 36 Youngest-ever “Time” Person of the Year
 - 39 Formal seizure
 - 41 Tyke
 - 44 Early Beatle Sutcliffe
 - 45 “The Last Jedi” villain Kylo
 - 46 Sticky substance
 - 47 Pique
 - 49 Tennis strategy
 - 51 Brits’ luxury cars
 - 52 Singer who founded a sewing company
 - 54 Seasonal drink
 - 55 “Romeo Must Die” star
 - 56 Riviera resort, briefly
 - 58 President, at times
 - 59 “___ Wins By a Hare”: Bugs Bunny cartoon
 - 60 Dog on a bun
 - 61 Throw that anticipates the receiver’s timely arrival
 - 62 Puck

- DOWN**
- 1 Business concerned with going downhill
 - 2 Jets’ home
 - 3 Great-grandmother, say
 - 4 Nicholas II et al.
 - 5 Round up
 - 6 Word with chart or color
 - 7 Actor Davis
 - 8 2015 best-selling 20-Across
 - 9 Full house sign
 - 10 Bad marks
 - 11 Touches
 - 12 Co-Nobel with Rabin and Peres
 - 13 Ruling period
 - 14 The “I” in “E.I. du Pont”
 - 20 Hot air
 - 26 Some saxes
 - 27 Listed in Liverpool?
 - 29 Cup fraction
 - 30 NFL coach Meyer
 - 33 Chest muscle, briefly

- 34 Phi follower
- 35 Vietnamese festival
- 37 Pasta order
- 38 Modern-day checking suggestion
- 40 “Nuh-uh!”
- 41 Citrus garnishes
- 42 “C’m on, I’m not that good!”
- 43 Italian playhouse
- 44 Pulitzer-winning “The Goldfinch” novelist Donna
- 50 Inches
- 51 Yankee whose #2 was retired in 2017
- 53 Fowl area
- 55 Cherokee on wheels
- 57 ___ mater
- 58 Golfs on wheels, briefly

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

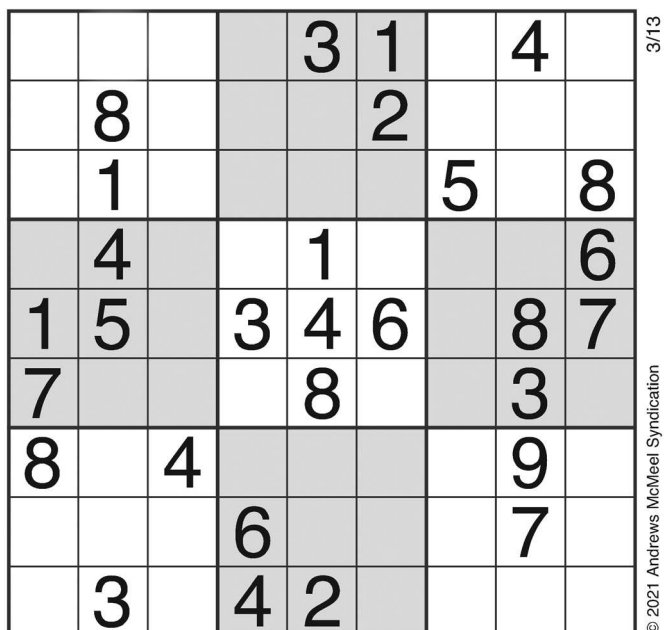
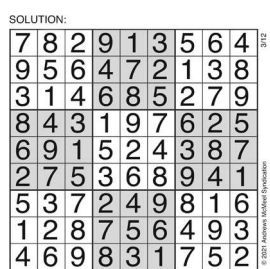


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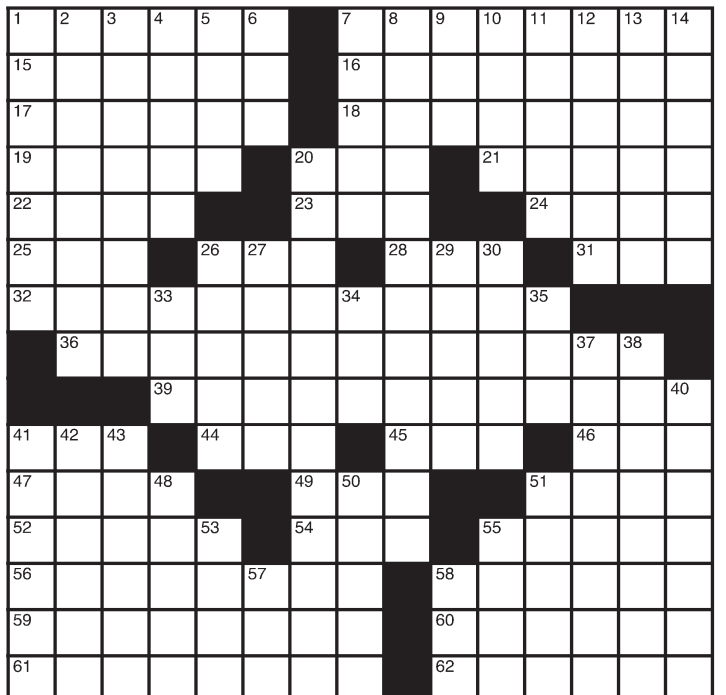
SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



By Mary Lou Guizzo
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