

Monday, March 22, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Choosing a suit

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

If at first you don't succeed, find out if second place wins anything. A dummy-play principle: When you can succeed by setting up either of two long suits, retain the option of trying both.

Today's West led the ace and a second trump against six spades, a start that looked good for the defense. In fact, it wasn't, but South went down anyway. He next led the king and another diamond.

West discarded, and South took dummy's ace and tried the hearts: A-K and a third heart. This time East showed out, and declarer was short one entry to dummy to set up and cash the fifth heart. He ruffed one club in dummy and threw one on the queen of diamonds but lost a club at the end.

NOT EASY

South must try the hearts first: A-K, heart ruff, club ruff, heart ruff. Then he can take three diamonds to discard a club and pitch his last club on the good fifth heart. If hearts broke 5-1, South could still try the diamonds, succeeding if that suit broke 4-2 or 3-3.

This week: which suit?

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K Q 10 ♥ A K 7 3 2
♦ A Q 7 6 3 ♣ None. You open one heart, your partner bids one spade,

you jump to three diamonds and he returns to three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Don't get carried away. Your jump-shift was forcing to game and promised great strength, so you need only bid three spades now. If you have a slam, your partner can get you there, but if his hand is weak — which is quite possible — you need to rest no higher than game.

East dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ K Q 10
♥ A K 7 3 2
♦ A Q 7 6 3
♣ None

WEST
♠ A 4
♥ Q 10 9 5
♦ 4
♣ K J 10 9 4 2

EAST
♠ 5 3
♥ 8 4
♦ J 10 9 8 5
♣ A 7 6 3

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

East Pass South 3♣ West North
Pass Pass 4♠ Dbl
4♣ 4♠ Pass 6♠
All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 5

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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. 0215

ACROSS

- 1 Dance at a Jewish wedding
- 5 Chemical that burns
- 9 Chevrolet muscle car
- 15 Home of Waikiki Beach
- 16 Capital of Italia
- 17 Brought (in), as a fish
- 18 Vittles
- 19 "What ___ goes!" (parent's pronunciation)
- 20 Task to "run"
- 21 "Rush Hour" and "21 Jump Street" [Clinton]
- 24 Handle with ___
- 25 Friends' opposite
- 26 TV deputy of Mayberry [Bush 43]
- 30 Leave out
- 34 Kind of port on a computer, in brief

DOWN

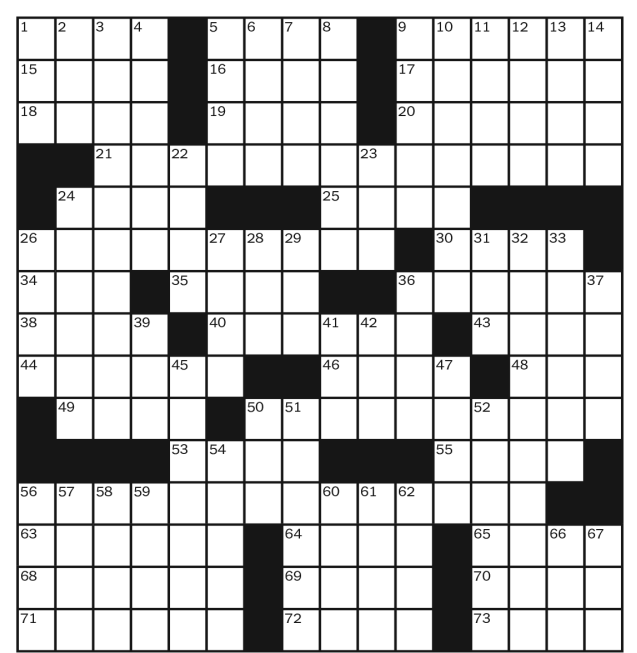
- 1 Go ___-wild
- 2 Means of propelling a boat
- 3 Baked dessert made with tart red stalks (and loads of sugar)
- 4 University that's also a color
- 5 Really dry
- 6 Cloth used to cover a teapot, to Brits
- 7 Apple on a desktop
- 8 Respite from work
- 9 ___ brûlée (French custard)
- 10 Spray can mist
- 11 ___ Griffin Enterprises
- 12 Jai ___
- 13 Actress Russo
- 14 Probability
- 22 Mosquito repellent ingredient
- 23 Author Edgar Allan ___
- 24 Like Friday attire in some offices

ACROSS

- 35 Zig or zag
- 36 Anticipate
- 38 Dines
- 40 The Buddha is often depicted meditating under it [Obama]
- 43 Numerical information
- 44 Windsurfing locale NE of Honolulu
- 46 "Superfruit" berry
- 48 Cousin of "Kapow!"
- 49 Boxer Spinks who upset Muhammad Ali
- 50 C-D-E-F-G-A-B-C, e.g. [Biden]
- 53 Linguist Chomsky
- 55 Small amounts
- 56 What the starts of 21-, 26-, 40- and 50-Across are, for the presidents in their clues

DOWN

- 65 More than magnificent
- 68 Smitten
- 69 ___ of Arendelle (Disney queen)
- 70 Device that makes a TV "smart"
- 71 Combs to add volume, as a stylist might
- 72 Not the passive sort
- 73 Part of a stairway



PUZZLE BY MECONYA ALFORD

- 26 Play music in the subway, perhaps
- 27 Rhyming title character who plays the tuba in Cuba, in a Rudy Vallee song
- 28 Curly hairstyle, for short
- 29 1099-___ (bank-issued tax form)
- 31 Plenty steamed
- 32 Stuck, with no way out
- 33 Sums
- 36 Orchard fruit

- 37 Identify
- 39 ___-mo
- 41 Howard's best friend on "The Big Bang Theory"
- 42 "Green" prefix
- 45 Rattle
- 47 "What ___ be done?"
- 50 Founder of Communist China
- 51 Made smile
- 52 Basketball players, quaintly
- 54 "You got that right!"

- 56 Legal order
- 57 Sharpen
- 58 ___ Verde (locale of San Juan's airport)
- 59 Tourist town in northern New Mexico
- 60 By oneself
- 61 "If all ___ fails ..."
- 62 Letter starter
- 66 Prez with the pooch Heidi
- 67 Saucer go-with

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

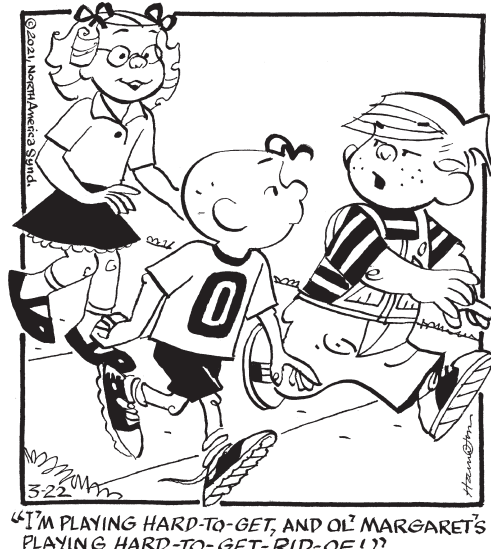


BIZARRO



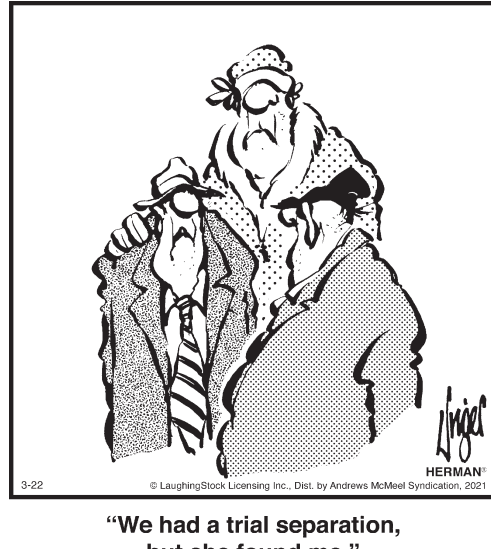
GENERIC MUTATION

DENNIS THE MENACE



I'M PLAYING HARD-TO-GET, AND OL' MARGARET'S PLAYING HARD-TO-GET-RID-OF-!

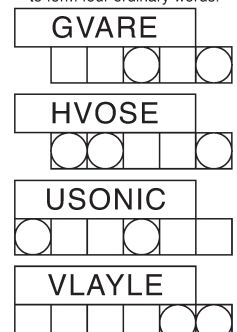
HERMAN



"We had a trial separation, but she found me."

JUMBLE

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

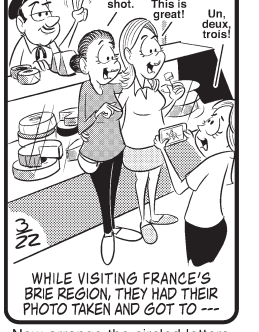


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

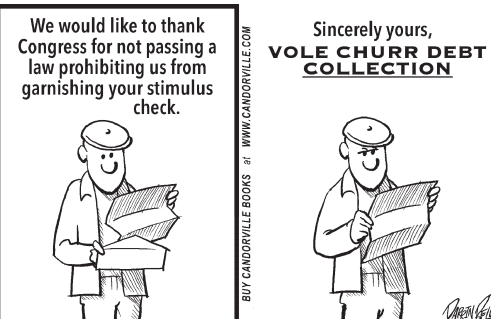
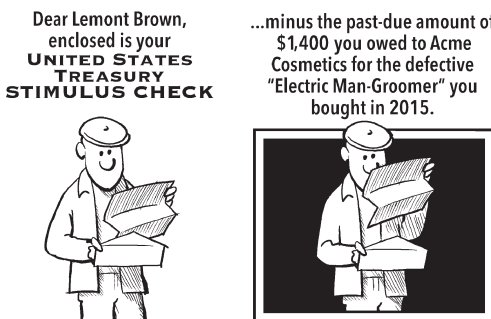
Make sure to get the bits in the shot. This is great!



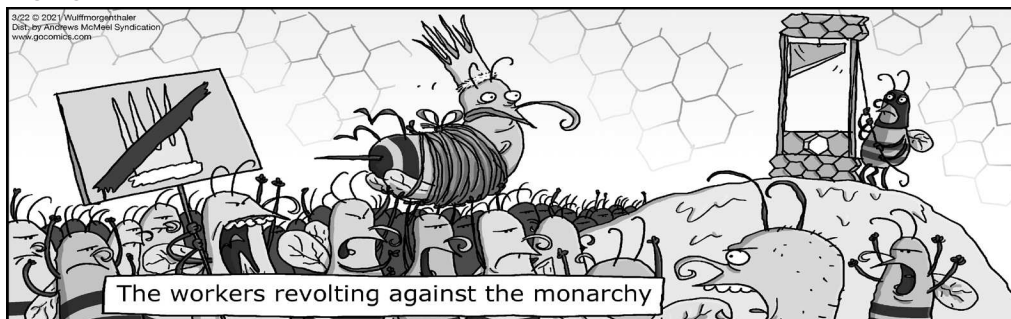
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer:

CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS
- 1 Bear's home
- 5 Actress Winslet or Hudson
- 9 Clever tactic
- 13 Pig Latin negative
- 15 Spoken
- 16 Levitate
- 17 Accompanying dishes, like
- 56-Across
- 19 "Kapow!"
- 20 Air pressure meas.
- 21 College level
- 22 Actress Lively of "Green Lantern"
- 23 Athenian now a citizen in Athens, Georgia, say
- 27 Hillock
- 28 J, F or K, in "JFK": Abbr.
- 29 Fancy farewells
- 30 Spraying gently, as plants
- 35 Crush consistently in competition
- 36 Did a stable job
- 37 Long of "Boiler Room"
- 38 Expecting a baby, quaintly
- 41 Capture
- 43 Mayberry youngster
- 44 Secret stash
- 45 "... nothing more"
- 50 Tablets with preloaded FaceTime
- 51 Skin care additive
- 52 Decisive boxing victories
- 55 Bonkers
- 56 Circular fried food ... and what's in the circled letters
- 59 Again
- 60 Tea and coffee servers
- 61 Treat with disdain
- 62 Fronded office greenery
- 63 Assign stars to
- 64 Sheepish animals?
- DOWN
- 1 Issue for a speech coach, perhaps
- 2 x, y or z, in geometry
- 3 Like one saying "Well, I never!"
- 4 Singer Carly ___ Jepsen
- 5 George Eastman's camera
- 6 Bowl game venue
- 7 Gravel driveway alternative
- 8 Golf great Ernie
- 9 Massive awareness campaign, for short
- 10 Lavender cousin
- 11 Japanese financial hub
- 12 Country south of Saudi Arabia
- 14 Alpine songs
- 18 React to a shock
- 22 "Old chap" speaker
- 24 Kanga's kid
- 25 Stuck (in)
- 26 Oklahoma city that, when reversed, is a synonym for "eat"
- 27 New Zealander
- 29 Dairy farm animal
- 30 Recoiled
- 31 D.C. dealmaker
- 32 Having exclusive information
- 33 "Cool!"
- 34 "Dilbert" cry
- 36 Leg part guarded in soccer
- 39 Square dance milieu
- 40 TurboTax pros
- 41 Chicken piccata toppers
- 42 Knee injury initials
- 44 "Get moving!"
- 45 Savory rice dish
- 46 Barely ahead
- 47 Indy competitor
- 48 New Orleans NFLer
- 49 "Uncle!"
- 53 "Puss in Boots" monster
- 54 Nine-digit IDs
- 56 "Give us this day ___ daily bread": Matthew
- 57 Gun lobby org.
- 58 Rocks in a bar

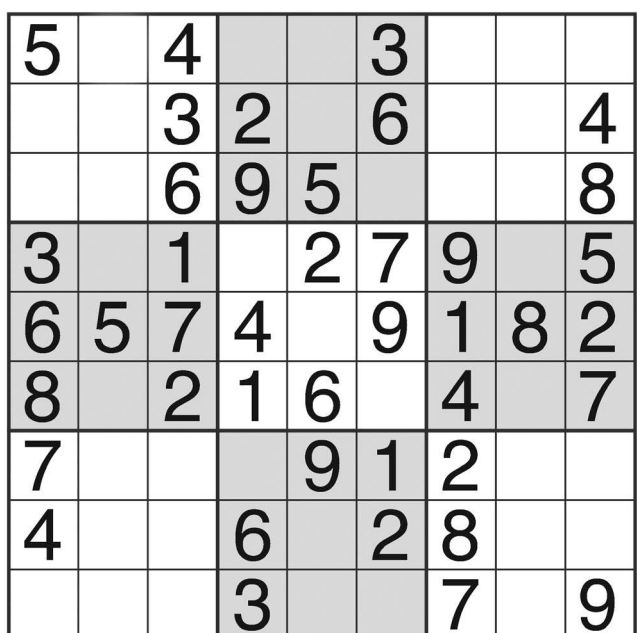
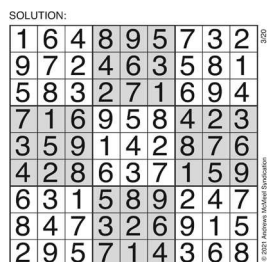
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



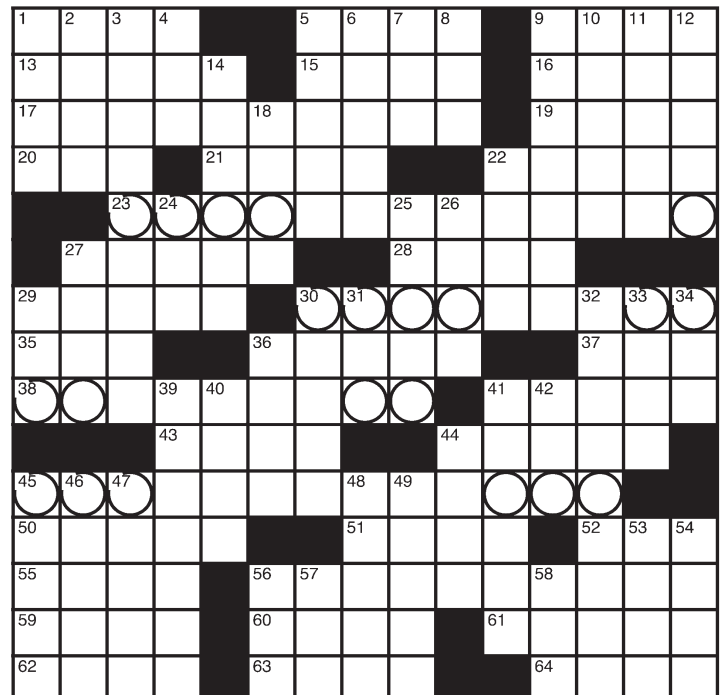
SUDOKU

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: ★☆☆☆☆



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