

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Incompleteness theory

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

An “incomplete strip” may sound like an exotic dancer leaving an audience wanting more (or, more accurately, less). But the term denotes a useful dummy-play technique.

At four spades, South took the ace of hearts, drew trumps and led dummy’s deuce of diamonds: four, ten, queen. West cashed his queen of hearts and led the ten.

Declarer ruffed and led the ace and a third diamond, but East won with the nine and led the king. South ruffed, led to the ace of clubs and returned a club. East showed out, and South had to go down.

EXITS

South succeeds in several ways; his best approach is to impersonate Gypsy Rose Lee. After South takes the ace of hearts, he cashes only the K-Q of trumps (the “partial” strip), then exits with a heart.

When West wins, any lead gives South a 10th trick. If West leads a club, South gets a free finesse. If a heart, South ruffs in dummy and discards from his hand. If West leads a diamond, South plays low from dummy and loses only one diamond.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 5 2 ♥ 9 6 ♦ J 6 5 2 ♣ A 7 3 2. Your partner opens one heart, you bid 1NT and he jumps to

three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner’s jump in his own suit invites game. You certainly should bid again; your hand is a maximum for a 1NT response, and you have two aces. Bid 3NT, which will be best if partner has K 3, A K J 7 5 3, Q 3, K 6 4. I would not criticize a raise to four hearts, but partner can return to four hearts over 3NT if he wishes.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ A 5 2
♥ 9 6
♦ J 6 5 2
♣ A 7 3 2

WEST
♠ 9 4
♥ K Q 10 5
♦ Q 7
♣ Q 10 8 6 4

EAST
♠ 8 7 3
♥ 8 7 4 3 2
♦ K 9 8 4
♣ 9

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 10 6
♥ A J
♦ A 10 3
♣ K J 5

South 1 ♠ West Pass North 2 ♠ East Pass
4 ♠ All Pass

Opening lead — ♥ K

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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

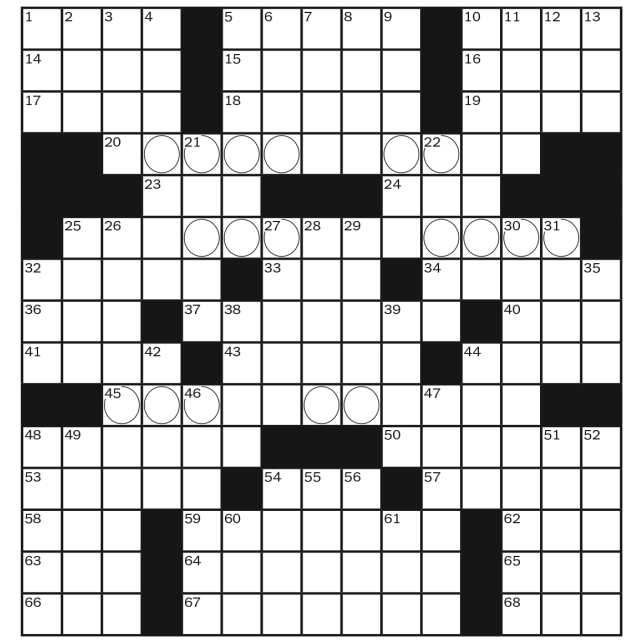
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ACROSS

- 1 Czech, e.g.
- 5 Big spender, in gambling lingo
- 10 Indian musical pattern
- 14 Its state seal shows a steamboat on the Mississippi
- 15 “Easy, now!”
- 16 Suit
- 17 Part of a wikiHow article
- 18 Emergency notification
- 19 Plug-in Chevy model
- 20 “Satanic” nickname for the number 13
- 23 Pan’s partner
- 24 Howard of Hollywood
- 25 What a witness is sworn to tell
- 32 What’s answered but never asks a question, in a riddle

- 33 Fish with an elongated jaw
- 34 Got married again
- 36 Sticky wicket
- 37 Chipotle competitor
- 40 “Livin’ Thing” rock band, for short
- 41 Fret
- 43 Effectiveness of a law, metaphorically
- 44 Give up
- 45 W.W. I-era battleship
- 48 “Mourning Becomes Electra” playwright, 1931
- 50 Performer wearing a powder foundation known as oshiroi
- 53 Elbows and such
- 54 What Venus is sometimes mistaken for, due to its brightness

- 57 Birth-related
- 58 Part of TNT
- 59 Logical contradiction ... or an aural hint to what are found in 20-, 25- and 45-Across
- 62 Fly-by-night sort?
- 63 Heartbeat recording: Abbr.
- 64 ___ Chapel (Vatican City attraction)
- 65 Old Hollywood’s ___ Pictures
- 66 Put on
- 67 Much-awarded actor whose name is an anagram of ENDEARS
- 68 Was introduced to



PUZZLE BY ANDREW J. RIES

- #### DOWN
- 1 Family nickname
 - 2 Dealership area
 - 3 Left speechless
 - 4 E-cig alternative
 - 5 Spooky specter
 - 6 Word spelled with “double hockey sticks”
 - 7 Taproom array
 - 8 Ingredient in some pie crusts
 - 9 Get via threat
 - 10 Cash in?
 - 11 Part of a nerve cell
 - 12 Material for nail extensions
 - 13 Broadway division
 - 21 Swore

- 22 Swordsman of book and film
- 25 Pointer’s word
- 26 Subject for House Beautiful magazine
- 27 Looked rudely
- 28 Get dark, say
- 29 Lyre player of myth
- 30 Social media tirade
- 31 Kept a grip on
- 32 Togs for sawing logs?
- 35 Anonymous surname
- 38 Abbr. after the third co-author, perhaps
- 39 Down quickly
- 42 Habeas corpus, e.g.
- 44 ___ Pet
- 46 Pass, as time
- 47 Kid born in the ‘70s, say
- 48 Made a decision
- 49 D.E.A. agent, slangily

- 51 Ethan of “First Reformed”
- 52 Distribute, as funds
- 54 ___ Major
- 55 Nutrition Facts listings
- 56 Husband of Frigg, in Norse mythology
- 60 Give a hand
- 61 Number of seasons played by baseball’s Seattle Pilots

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

DE L A L
J N N A I
Z A A D R H
T B M O O T

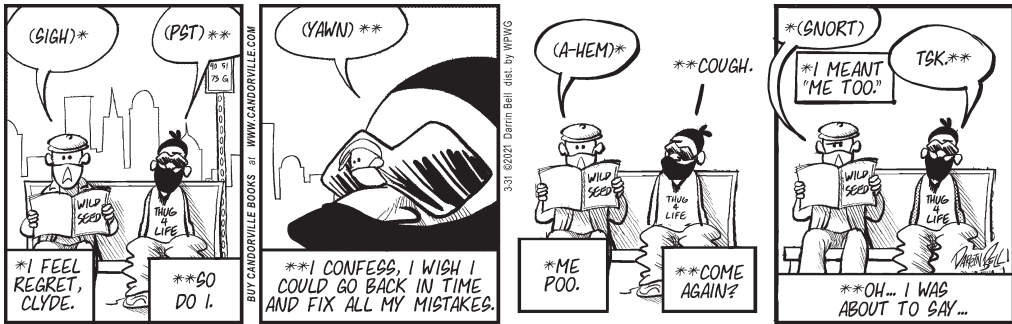
Get the first JUMBLE and follow us on Twitter @nytimes
Now Grandma will make mittens for you. You're a great knitter, Grammy. I've had a lot of practice.

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

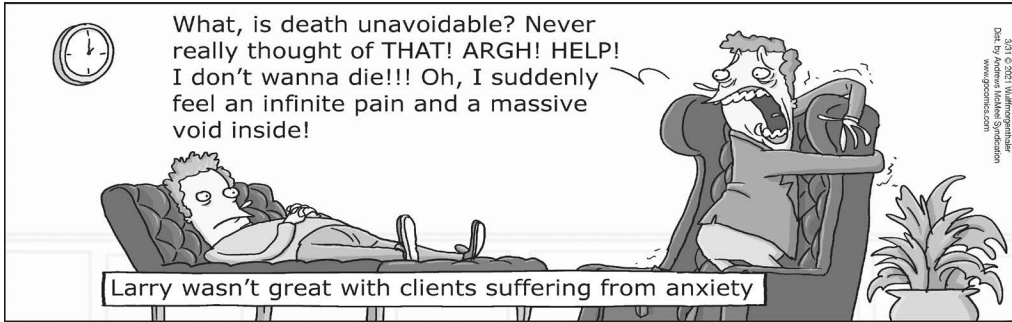
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOVIE AMAZE FINISH ABRUPT
Answer: They left the vampire's Transylvanian restaurant because they didn't like the — "ATMOS-FEAR"

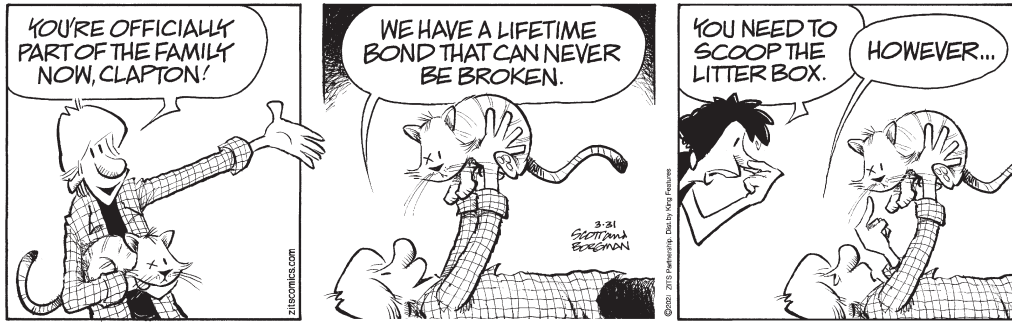
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Toronto Raptors president of basketball operations ___ Ujiri
- 6 “Ditto!”
- 11 Qatar’s capital
- 15 Largest members of the dolphin family
- 16 B’s equivalent
- 17 Iridescent gem
- 18 2010s sci-fi crime drama starring Michael Emerson
- 21 Two after epsilon
- 22 Full Sail offering
- 23 “Rats!”
- 24 Completed in haste
- 30 Bill collection?
- 32 Diva’s numbers
- 33 Stalls
- 35 NBA official
- 37 “I’ll skip it”
- 38 Noodle output?
- 39 Equine sprinter
- 42 Leave speechless
- 44 “Silly me!”
- 45 Discouraging words
- 46 NBC drama with two pronouns in its title
- 48 Brass parades
- 52 Name that’s also a Roman numeral
- 53 Pull-and-peel food item
- 57 Dresden denial
- 59 Castle queenside, in chess notation
- 60 “Atonement” author McEwan
- 61 “Start at the beginning,” and a hint to the four other longest Across answers
- 67 Smoothie berry
- 68 Traffic cop?
- 69 More loyal
- 70 Ping-Pong supplies
- 71 Kids
- 72 Showing one’s claws, so to speak

- 3 Prescription, to a layperson?
- 4 Remote batteries
- 5 Prefix with metric
- 6 Take to task
- 7 Did in
- 8 Whom Clay became
- 9 Fellow
- 10 Wednesday kin
- 11 TV explorer with a monkey named Boots
- 12 Hygienist’s request
- 13 Can really play
- 14 Ctrl-___-Del
- 19 Photographer Goldin
- 20 Freezer aisle brand
- 25 Shutout feature
- 26 Crossing the pond, say
- 27 Pronoun-shaped girders
- 28 Hurry
- 29 Emmy winner Cicely
- 31 Anti-traffic org.
- 34 Crying need
- 36 Cold coat
- 37 ___ Challenge: soft drink promotion

- 39 Shake in fear over
- 40 Series of dates
- 41 With 66-Down, nest egg option
- 42 Cardinal letters
- 43 Metaphor for a treacherous situation
- 47 Ain’t right?
- 49 Lebanon’s capital
- 50 How flatware is usually sold

- 51 Guard at the gate
- 54 Time being
- 55 “We Got the Beat” group
- 56 Trig. ratio
- 58 Goddess with cow’s horns
- 61 Ceiling fixture
- 62 Big bang letters?
- 63 Mare’s meal
- 64 Really bug
- 65 Consumer protection org.
- 66 See 41-Down

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

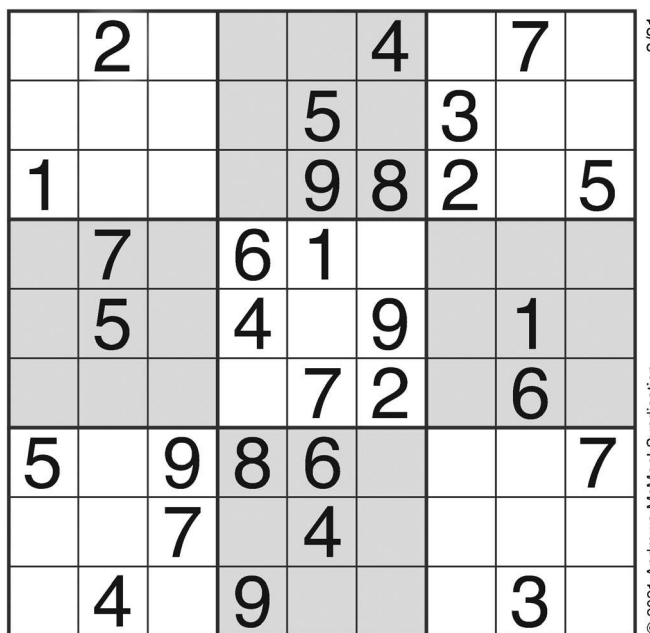
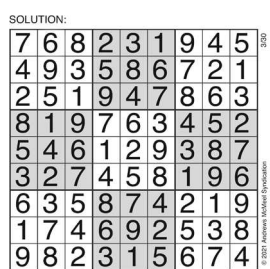


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SUDOKU

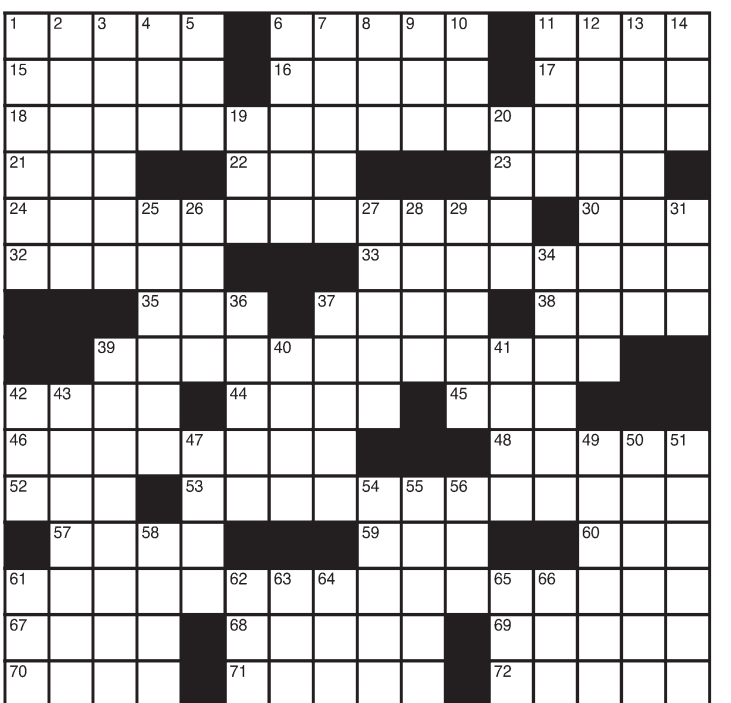
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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