

Monday, April 12, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Instant demise

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

A friend of mine who runs a mortuary says it's a serious undertaking. After all, death is always just around the corner. Many contracts meet an early demise: at the first trick.

In today's deal, West led the eight of spades against four hearts. Declarer shrugged and played the nine from dummy, and that was the living end. East took the king and shifted promptly to the queen of clubs, and the defense took three clubs. Down one.

How would you play as South to avoid four losers?

UNBLOCK

South can take the ace of spades, unblock his A-K of diamonds, lead a trump to dummy and return the jack of diamonds. When East plays low, South discards his last spade — a loser on a loser.

West takes the queen and does best to lead his last diamond. East ruffs dummy's ten, but South overruffs, leads a trump to dummy and returns the ten of spades, ruffing East's king. South gets back to dummy with a trump to pitch a club on the high nine of spades, losing two clubs and one diamond.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 10 9 ♥ Q J 8
♦ J 10 7 2 ♣ 5 3 2. The dealer, at

your left, opens one diamond. Your partner doubles, you bid INT and he raises to 2NT. What do you say?

ANSWER: This is a judgment call. Your INT suggested six to 10 points, and the hand lies in the middle of that range. Since the diamond stopper is "slow," I would bid 3NT, especially if vulnerable. With a hand such as Q 10 9, Q 8 2, A 4 3 2, 5 3 2, containing a "primary" stopper, I would pass.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH

♠ A 10 9
♥ Q J 8
♦ J 10 7 2
♣ 5 3 2

WEST

♠ 8 7 6 3
♥ 4
♦ Q 8 6 5
♣ A 8 7 6

EAST

♠ K 5 4 2
♥ 6 5 2
♦ 9 4 3
♣ Q J 10

SOUTH

♠ Q J
♥ A K 10 9 7 3
♦ A K
♣ K 9 4

South 1♥
West Pass
North 2♥
East Pass

Opening lead — ♠ 8

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SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

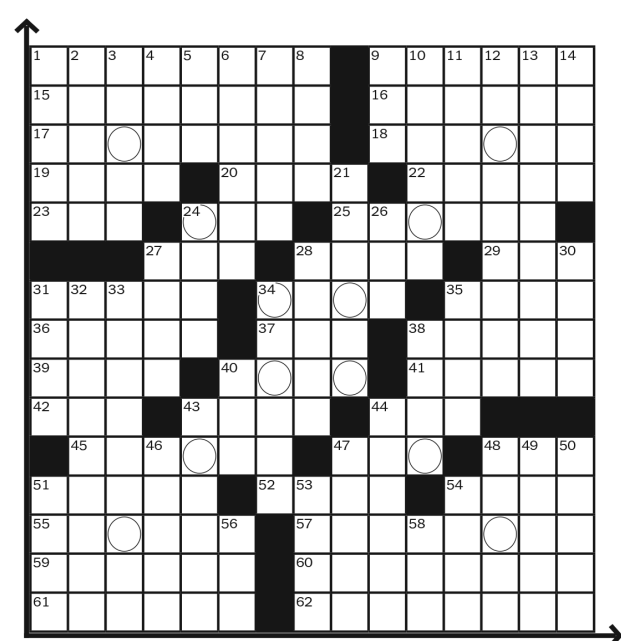
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0308

- ACROSS**
- 1 Schoolyard friend
 - 9 Strolled
 - 15 Abandon
 - 16 Percussion item that's shaken
 - 17 Manufacturing of factory goods, e.g.
 - 18 Victimize
 - 19 Ace of spades or queen of hearts
 - 20 Biblical twin of Jacob
 - 22 Existence
 - 23 Before, poetically
 - 24 "___ Beso" (1962 Paul Anka hit)
 - 25 Shared with, as a story
 - 27 Sandwich often served with mayo
 - 28 Connector between levels of a fire station
 - 29 "I'm shocked!" in a text
 - 31 Religion based in Haifa, Israel
 - 34 Sulk
 - 35 Bothered state
 - 36 "What goes up must come down," e.g.
 - 37 NPR host Shapiro
 - 38 Big name in transmission repair
 - 39 Young lady
 - 40 U.S. sports org. with many prominent Korean champions
 - 41 Gown
 - 42 The Monkees' "___ Believer"
 - 43 Catch sight of
 - 44 Org. in "Zero Dark Thirty"
 - 45 Noted children's research hospital
 - 47 Actor Philip with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame
 - 48 Uncle ___ (patriotic figure)
 - 51 Dragon in "The Hobbit"
 - 52 Legendary queen and founder of Carthage
 - 54 Change domiciles
 - 55 Tasket's partner in a nursery rhyme
 - 57 Hazards for offshore swimmers
 - 59 Go to
 - 60 Faucet attachments
 - 61 Writings of Ph.D. candidates
 - 62 X-axis



PUZZLE BY ERIC BORNSTEIN

DOWN

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

D	A	H	L	B	R	O	W	C	A	R	B	S			
A	L	I	E	N	R	A	C	E	A	D	O	R	N		
T	A	G	H	E	A	M	E	D	R	O	D	E	O		
A	S	H	R	I	P	A	R	O	B	I	N	G			
				H	I	D	D	E	N	T	A	L	E	N	T
G	L	O	M	S	D	I	S	B	A	R					
O	A	R	S		C	A	B	L	E	C	A	R			
A	S	S	U	R	E	S		R	I	T	A	O	R	A	
T	H	E	C	O	L	T	S		D	R	I	P			
				H	U	M	A	N	S		M	E	N	D	S
P	O	T	A	T	O	B	A	T	T	E	R	Y			
E	M	O	J	I	S		P	E	A	T	J	A	B		
T	A	K	E	N		O	P	E	R	A	S	O	L	O	
T	H	E	R	E		D	E	L	E	T	E	K	E	Y	
Y	A	N	K	S		D	A	Y	S		T	E	S		

BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

MLUPP
BEIAD
CCNALE
RDAPAE

Get the first JUMBLE. Post it on Twitter @nytimes. Get the first JUMBLE. Post it on Twitter @nytimes.

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

Answers tomorrow:
Saturday's Jumbles: SLOSH USHER BUSILY THINLY
Answer: Their grandparents left them a fortune in gold. They were thankful to be — "BULLION-HEIRS"

CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Soothing ointment
 - 5 Criticize harshly
 - 9 Deep-voiced singer
 - 14 Great Lake that stretches from New York to Michigan
 - 15 Every 12 mos.
 - 16 Significant ___ partner
 - 17 Place for junk
 - 19 Genetic twin
 - 20 "Honey, I'm Home" singer
 - 21 Wagons at midday socials
 - 23 B and B's, e.g.
 - 25 Home of twigs
 - 26 Did a marathon, say
 - 28 Relaxation of govt. rules
 - 31 Skip, with "out"
 - 34 Turn loose
 - 36 Annoys
 - 38 Off-stubbed digit
 - 39 In time gone by
 - 40 U.S. Congress, informally
 - 42 Enjoyed a meal
 - 43 Web or nanny follower
 - 44 Reef makeup
 - 45 Some youth ctrs.
 - 47 Cotton gin inventor Whitney
 - 48 Defy authority
 - 50 Approves
 - 51 Dimpled facial feature, perhaps
 - 54 Game room missile
 - 56 From Tokyo, say
 - 60 Overly large
 - 64 Still in the game
 - 65 Increasing, and a hint to 17- and 40-Across and 11- and 27-Down
 - 67 Distance runner
 - 68 Prescription amount
 - 69 "Enchanted" movie girl played by Anne Hathaway
 - 70 Arterial implant
 - 71 Seeks answers
 - 72 Doe or stag
 - 33 Golfer's pegs
 - 34 Doily trim
 - 35 Needing no Rx
 - 37 Like a fox, it's said
 - 41 Lena who sang "Stormy Weather"
 - 46 Took a drive
 - 49 Wood-shaping machines
 - 52 Place of refuge
 - 53 Chemically nonreactive
 - 55 Fish eggs
 - 56 Traffic tie-ups
 - 57 Touched down
 - 58 Ginger ale or root beer
 - 59 "The Catch" actress
 - 61 Liver secretion
 - 62 Shipwreck site
 - 63 Stick shift choice
 - 66 "Shame on you!"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

D	I	A	V	O	C	A	B	S	I	T	A	R				
E	N	D	O	M	A	H	A	I	N	A	W	E				
M	U	D	L	I	M	O	S	P	I	T	A	S				
E	N	S	S	T	A	R	E	S	T	A	K	E				
D	I	S	S	R	A	C	E	T	M	E	N					
I	S	A	I	D	S	O	O	N	P	O	I	N	T			
C	O	L	L	I	E	M	A	C	A	W						
I	N	T	H	E	A	I	R	T	O	N	I	G	H	T		
				O	T	T	O	I	R	E	N	O	I	R		
S	P	O	U	S	A	L	B	E	L	I	N	D	A			
C	O	N	E	C	A	B	O	T	E	E	N					
R	U	S	T	S	N	O	N	C	E	W	A	S				
I	R	A	T	E	T	O	N	A	L	I	B	M				
M	E	L	E	E	H	Y	E	N	A	L	E	I				
P	R	E	S	S	E	A	T	E	N	D	D	T				

04/12/21

SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

8	2	4	9	5	1	6	3	7
7	6	5	4	3	8	9	1	2
3	9	1	6	7	2	4	8	5
1	7	9	3	8	6	2	5	4
5	4	8	7	2	9	1	6	3
2	3	6	1	4	5	7	9	8
9	5	7	8	6	4	3	2	1
6	8	3	2	1	7	5	4	9
4	1	2	5	9	3	8	7	6

4				9	2	3		
		9	7	6	5			
7	6			4		9		
5	3	6		7	9	8		
		7	6		9	5		
4	1	2			7	6	3	
	5		9				3	4
			8	4	6	2		
		4	5	2				9

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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