Daily Bridge Club

Louie's hasty play

By FRANK STEWART Tribune Content Agency

Unlucky Louie shows up at my club daily for his penny game, so every morning is the dawn of a new error. Louie invariably plays too

quickly — and is usually punished. Louie was declarer at today's 3NT. (Six diamonds would have had a chance on another day.) West led the jack of spades, and Louie took dummy's ace and swiftly cashed the king of diamonds, expecting to run six diamond tricks.

When West discarded a heart on the next diamond, Louie was in trouble. He took the A-Q, finessed with the queen of clubs and led the ace and a low heart. West won and led another spade, and Louie could only take the ace of clubs for his eighth trick and give up.

ONE CHANCE

Louie gave himself one chance when he had two. He must finesse in clubs at Trick Two, then cash the ace and lead a third club. Since East has the doubleton K-10, dummy's nine furnishes Louie's ninth trick. If the clubs didn't lie well, Louie could fall back on a 3-2 diamond break.

This week: more than one chance.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K 8 5 ♥ A 10 5 3 2 ♦ K 5 ♣ A Q 4. You are the dealer. What is your opening call?

ANSWER: Many experts perhaps most — would open 1NT. To describe the hand's strength and approximate shape in a single bid will often be advantageous. Some experts would open one heart. They might have to cope with rebid problems but would not suppress the five-card major suit. I cannot say that either call is correct. Choose as the spirit moves you.

South dealer N-S vulnerable

> **NORTH ♠** A $\heartsuit 64$ **♦ A O 8 6 3 2 ***9632

♦ J 10 9 7 4 ♥K87

EAST ♠ Q 6 3 2 ♥QJ9 ♦ J 10 9 4 ♣ K 10

East

All Pass

SOUTH ∧ K 8 5 ♥ A 10 5 3 2 ♣ A Q 4

1 NT **Pass** Opening lead — ♠ J

South

West

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North

SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Vehicles on snow-covered
- 6 Watering place
- for a camel
- 11 Indoor animal 14 "The Fox and the Grapes"
- storyteller 15 Trick-taking card game
- 16 Messenger
- 17 Large bird of prey with a brownish-yellow
- 19 Suffix with cynic
- or skeptic 20 Pleased
- 21 Hombre
- 22 Pool stick 23 Make excited, as
- a crowd 26 Smooshed into
- compact layers _ carte
- (ordered separately)

29 Blue race in

52 Single, double

diamond

57 Plant bristle

60 Sheep's cry

61 Where you can

perched on an 11-Down

devouring a

construction

25-Down

68 One of the

70 Valuable item

Memorial

DOWN

71 New York's

Center

1 Droop

brief

2 Zodiac sign

before Virgo

3 Course for some

immigrants, in

4 Historic Kansas

fort name

6 Like debts

7 "Bingo!"

5 Explore caves

8 Letter after rho

9 Cuba or Aruba

10 Sign maker's

edible fruit

consequence

12 Follow as a

pattern 11 Cactus with an

69 Envision

66 Noah's

58 Poet's "before"

- "Avatar" 31 Kind of pickle
- 32 for tat 33 Actor Kevin
- whose last name shares four letters with his
- 35 Eric Clapton hit that's over seven minutes long
- 38 Light bulb unit 40 Butchers' offerings
- 42 Like tops and
- 43 Speak
- extemporaneously
- 45 Boringly proper 47 Conclude
 - 48 Greek god of
 - 50 Away from the wind, nautically
 - 51 It's just a number, they say

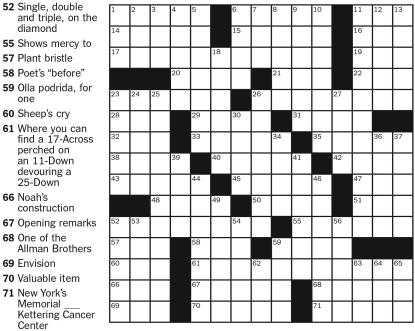
HERMAN

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Α	S	Т	Π	N		Α	М	Ε	N			С	Α	В
Р	L	Α	Т	0	S	С	Α	٧	Ε		٦	Α	N	Ε
S	0	В	S	Т	0	R	I	Ε	S		٦	R	G	Ε
Ε	Р	s		_	М	Ε	Α	N	С	0	М	Ε	0	Ν
			Α	F	В	S		Т	Α	Р	Р	Ε	R	
	В	0	М	В	Ε		W	Τ	F	Ε		R	Α	W
D	Ε	٧	0	U	R		Ε	D	Ε	N		В	С	E
_	N	Е	R	Т		S	Ε	Ε		В	R	Ε	Α	D
М	Т	N		W	R	Α	Р		F	0	_	S	Т	S
S	0	Т		Н	Α	L	S		L	0	F	Т	S	
	В	_	S	Ε	С	T		В	Α	K	Ε			
R	0	М	Α	N	Ε	М	Р	Τ	R	Ε		В	U	В
Α	Х	Ε	L		В	Т	0	T	Ε	Х	Т	Т	L	E
J	Ε	R	K		T	N	Ε	Ε	D	Α	Н	Α	N	D
A	S	S			В	E	T	s		М	Ε	S	Α	S

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0315



PUZZLE BY PHILIP K. CHOW

- 13 No longer feral 18 Incendiary bomb material
- 23 Formal ruling on a point of Islamic law
- 24 Trojan War epic poem
- 25 Venomous predator with a
- vibrating tail 26 They get
- smashed at parties
- 27 "Sadly ..." 30 Strives for victory

- 34 And others: Abbr. 36 Sudden forward thrust

39 Lose stamina

41 Afternoon nap

region that lent

nonconforming

its name to a

44 European

lifestyle

49 Ambulance

sounds

46 "Could be ..."

- 53 In the loop 37 World's longest 54 Messages that continental sometimes mountain range
 - contain emojis

52 Rum-soaked

desserts

- 56 Really, really bad
- 59 Get off ___-free
- 62 Fury
- 63 Philosopher
- **64** Get ___ on (ace)
- 65 Four-star officer:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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.



DENNIS THE MENACE



"Dennis is now available in Five Delicious Flavors...He's Allyours, DADDY."



"This'll take about 20 minutes."

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek Unscramble these Jumbles one letter to each square to form four ordinary words RVAYG **USODE NIPSGR** YUOJLF Now arrange the circled letters

Saturday's

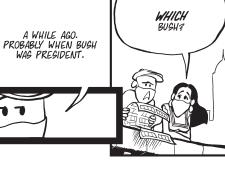
(Answers tomorrow) SURVEY

The average speed of the Gulf Stream is about

4 miles per hour, - CURRENTLY

CANDORVILLE





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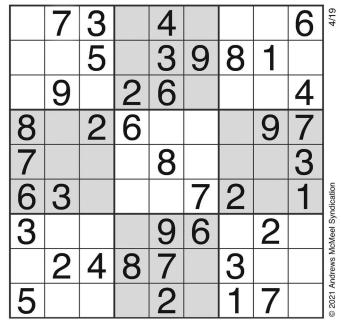


SUDOKU Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9

inclusively.

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLL	ITION	:						
6	5	1	8	4	9	3	2	7
9	3	7	6	2	5	8	1	4
4	2	8	3	7	1	5	9	6
1	9	5	7	8	4	2	6	3
2	8	6	1	5	3	7	4	9
7	4	3	9	6	2	1	5	8
8	6	2	5	9	7	4	3	1
5	1	9	4	3	8	6	7	2
3	7	4	2	1	6	9	8	5



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

DOWN ACROSS

- 1 Pats down in a weapons searcl
- 7 Gather, as crops 11 Theater ticket
- word Beach:
- Southern
- California city 15 Memorable
- lioness 16 Imprecise suffix
- 17 Well-suited to a person's abilities 19 Pontiac muscle
- car 20 One-named "Tik
- Tok" singer
- 21 College-level HS
- science course 23 Bundle of hay
- 26 Kid's riddle: "Why is six afraid of seven?"
- _nine!' 28 Range above 41-Down

Because seven

- 29 Gift giver's eager
- urging 32 Hire

34 Like Beethoven's

- "Pastoral Symphony"
- 35 Arrow controlled by a mouse
- 37 Little piggies 40 Salad green 42 LinkedĬn user's
- quest 44 Of sound mind
- 48 Punctual
- _ of honor: wedding party
- 53 Late-night NYC show
- 56 Like bouquets of roses
- 58 Dining room piece 61 Former soccer
- 62 Unpretentious 67 Pen tip
- 68 Reverberate 69 Science journal since 1869
- not be "in the house" during a

tearjerker

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- target 2 Knock (on) 3 "Here __ again!" 4 Submerged
- 5 Joint above the ankle
- 6 Cheeky talk 7 Tells, as a story
- 8 Building wing 9 On the ocean
- 10 Online remittance app
- 11 "Correctamundo!" 12 Bone: Pref.
- 13 "To __ it may
- concern" 18 "Figured it out!" 22 Fabric
- 23 Reaches 212 degrees
- 24 Sleep disorder 25 Made certain
- 31 Stanley of
- Games'
- tournament kickoff
- "The Hunger
- 33 Golf
- Fahrenheit
- 27 Expressive online image 30 RN's workplace
- 36 Paper
- purchases
- 45 Fancy fish eggs 47 Shapiro of NPR
- 52 Smell
- 55 Tenant's payment
- phenom Freddy
- 70 Obtain 71 Lion's warning 72 What there may

38 Disgraced 1 Annual shot energy firm

- Period of wo 41 Range below 28-Across 43 Half a bikini
- 46 Only "V" Monopoly
- avenue not named for a state
- 49 51 Peace
- _ Joe's
- briefly 56 Vampire tooth 57 Not of sound mind

past

52 Song from the

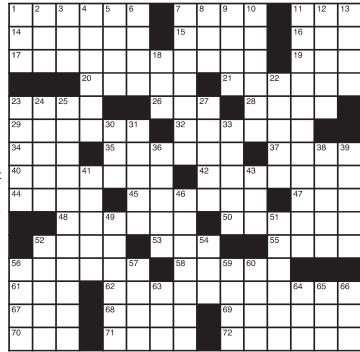
54 Chin-up muscle

- 59 "007" James 60 Kind of jet 63 "Huh!?
- 64 Regret 65 The old

college 66 Giggle sound agreement ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

L A P B A S TT I C E D L A HOTTAMALE SMELT YALEHOOPLA P E A L S L O W E E|S|T|A|D|O |O|||L||T||O||W||N M|I|L|L|E|N|N|I|A|L|S|CEREALAISLE FANTASYTEAM SLUDGE DENTYNE NSFW EDENS ARMADA R A P S J A I M E MODELHOME ORSON EYEPIECES

> GODSENDS 04/19/21



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