Monday, April 19, 2021

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
♡ 6 4
◇ A Q 8 6 3 2
♣ 9 6 3 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9 7 4
♡ K 8 7
◇ 7
♣ J 8 7 5

EAST
♠ Q 6 3 2
♡ Q J 9
◇ J 10 9 4
♣ K 10

SOUTH
♠ K 8 5
♡ A 10 5 3 2
◇ K 5
♣ A Q 4

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ J

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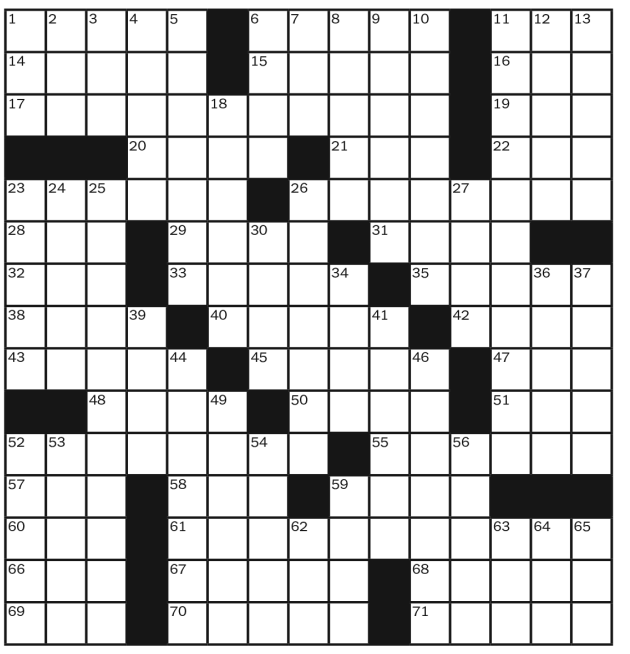
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0315



PUZZLE BY PHILIP K. CHOW

ACROSS
1 Vehicles on snow-covered hills
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 neck
19 Suffix with cynic or skeptic
20 Pleased
21 Hombre
22 Pool stick
23 Make excited, as a crowd
26 Smooshed into compact layers
28 ___ carte (ordered separately)
29 Blue race in "Avatar"
31 Kind of pickle
32 ___ for tat
33 Actor Kevin whose last name shares four letters with his first
35 Eric Clapton hit that's over seven minutes long
38 Light bulb unit
40 Butchers' offerings
42 Like tops and tales
43 Speak extemporaneously
45 Boringly proper
47 Conclude
48 Greek god of love
50 Away from the wind, nautically
51 It's just a number, they say
52 Single, double and triple, on the diamond
55 Shows mercy to
57 Plant bristle
58 Poet's "before"
59 Olla podrida, for one
60 Sheep's cry
61 Where you can find a 17-Across perched on an 11-Down devouring a 25-Down
66 Noah's construction
67 Opening remarks
68 One of the Allman Brothers
69 Envision
70 Valuable item
71 New York's Memorial ___ Kettering Cancer Center

DOWN
1 Droop
2 Zodiac sign before Virgo
3 Course for some immigrants, in brief
4 Historic Kansas fort name
5 Explore caves
6 Like debts
7 "Bingo!"
8 Letter after rho
9 Cuba or Aruba
10 Sign maker's pattern
11 Cactus with an edible fruit
12 Follow as a consequence
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
37 World's longest continental mountain range
39 Lose stamina
41 Afternoon nap
44 European region that lent its name to a nonconforming lifestyle
46 "Could be ..."
49 Ambulance sounds
52 Rum-soaked desserts
53 In the loop
54 Messages that sometimes contain emojis
56 Really, really bad
59 Get off ___-free
62 Fury
63 Philosopher ___-tzu
64 Get ___ on (ace)
65 Four-star officer: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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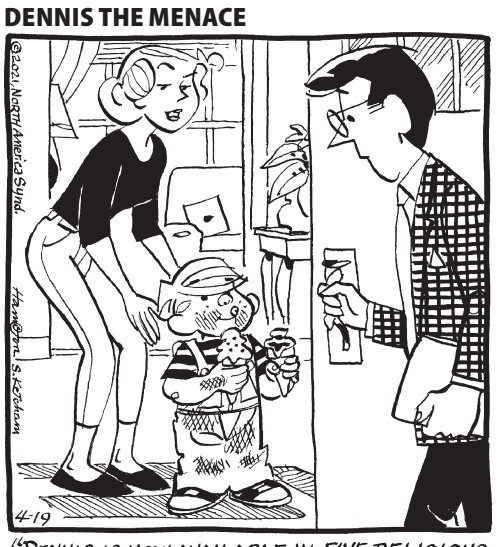
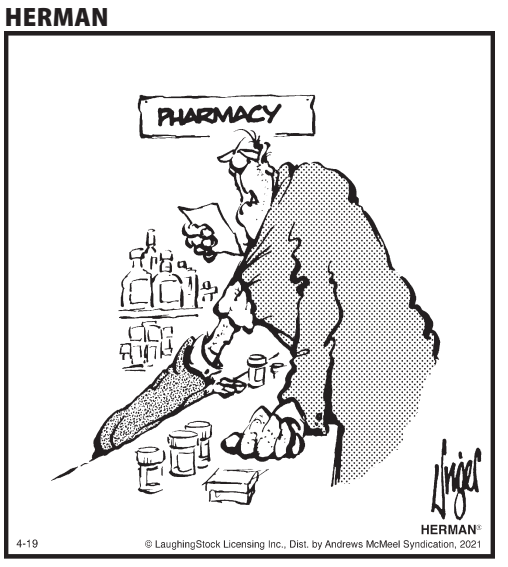
BIZARRO

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DENNIS IS NOW AVAILABLE IN *FIVE DELICIOUS FLAVORS*...HE'S ALL YOURS, DADDY."

HERMAN



"This'll take about 20 minutes."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
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 to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: DUNCE LINER SURVEY WARMTH
Answer: The average speed of the Gulf Stream is about 4 miles per hour, — CURRENTLY

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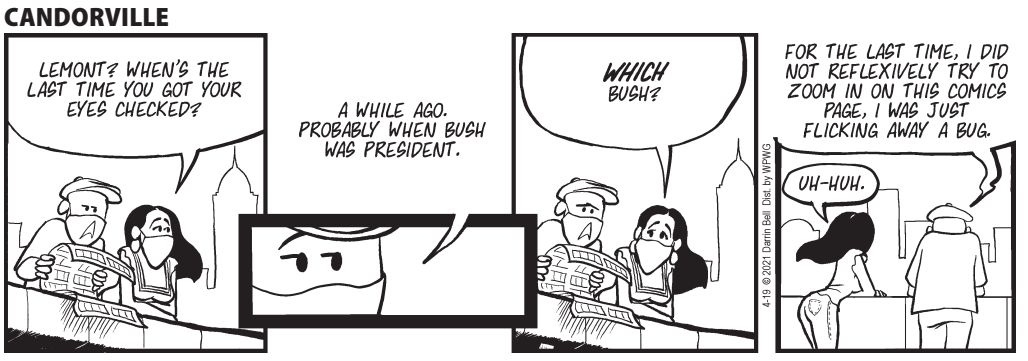
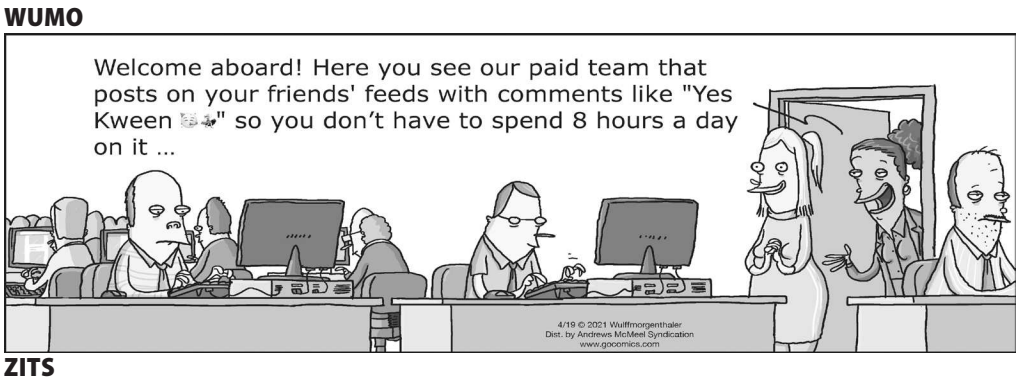
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS

SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLUTION:

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Pats down in a weapons search
7 Gather, as crops
11 Theater ticket word
14 __ 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?" "Because seven __ nine!"
28 Range above 41-Down
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 LinkedIn user's quest
44 Of sound mind
45 Fancy fish eggs
47 Shapiro of NPR
48 Punctual
50 __ of honor: wedding party VIP
52 Smell
53 Late-night NYC show
55 Tenant's payment
56 Like bouquets of roses
58 Dining room piece
61 Former soccer phenom Freddy
62 Unpretentious
67 Pen tip
68 Reverberate
69 Science journal since 1869
70 Obtain
71 Lion's warning
72 What there may not be "in the house" during a tearjerker

DOWN
1 Annual shot 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 Fahrenheit
24 Sleep disorder
25 Made certain
27 Expressive online image
30 RN's workplace
31 Stanley of "The Hunger Games"
33 Golf tournament kickoff
36 Paper purchases
38 Disgraced energy firm
39 Period of work
41 Range below 28-Across
43 Half a bikini
46 Only "V" Monopoly avenue not named for a state
49 __ Joe's
51 Peace agreement
52 Song from the past
54 Chin-up muscle, briefly
56 Vampire tooth
57 Not of sound mind
59 "007" James
60 Kind of jet
63 "Huh!?"
64 Regret
65 The old college __
66 Giggle sound

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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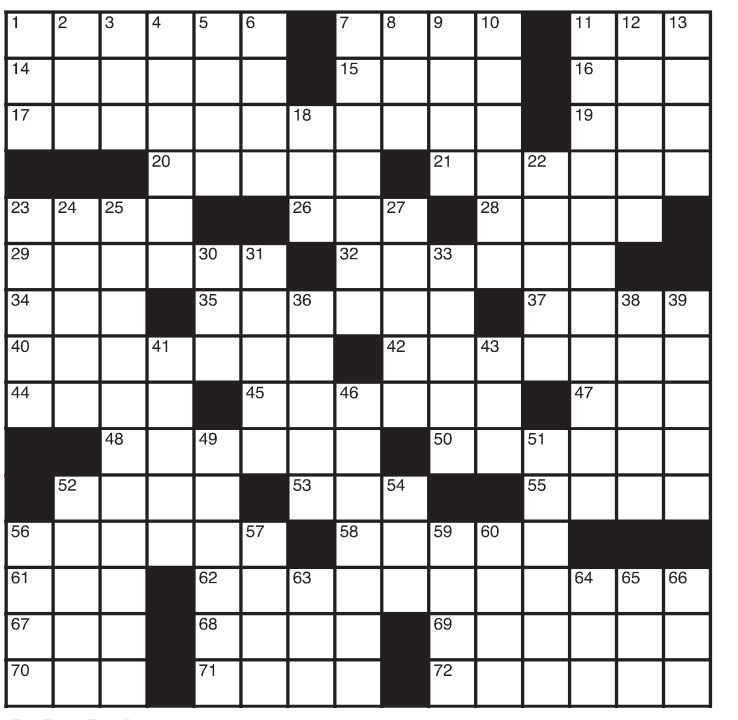

By Jana Persky
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