Tuesday, May 4, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Carefree attitude

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

One player at my club embraces the game but doesn't much care about his results. He enjoys the social interaction.

"I know you've written that winning bridge is a matter of avoiding silly errors," he said to me. "But if you don't do dumb things now, you won't have funny stories to tell later."

My friend was declarer at four spades, and West led the A-Q of clubs. Declarer put up dummy's king, and East ruffed and led the jack of hearts. South won in dummy and led the nine of trumps to ... his jack.

OVERRUFF

West took the king and led a low club, and when East ruffed with the eight, South had to overruff with an honor and lose to West's ten of trumps. Down one.

South's play in trumps was wrong. West's opening bid marked him with the king, so South should take the ace and lead the jack, avoiding the defensive "uppercut."

Not many competitive bridge players have the same attitude as my friend. I envy him in a way, but playing well and winning are gratifying also.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 9 ♡ A K 7 5 2 ◇ A J 10 ♣ K 8 7 4. You open one heart, your partner responds 1NT, you bid two clubs and he tries two spades. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner doesn't have spades; he didn't respond one spade. His odd second bid shows a hand your two clubs greatly improved. He has a big club fit and maybe strength in spades. Bid five clubs. Partner's hand may be A 8 3, 3, Q 7 6, Q 10 6 5 3 2. If his hand is a bit stronger, he can bid slam.

West dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 9
♡ A K 7 5 2
◇ A J 10
♣ K 8 7 4

WEST
♠ K 10 4
♡ Q 4
◇ 5 3
♣ A Q J 9 5 2

EAST
♠ 8 3 2
♡ J 10 9 8
◇ 9 8 7 6 2
♣ 6

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 7 6 5
♡ 6 3
◇ K Q 4
♣ 10 3

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	1 ♡	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	Pass	4 ♠
All Pass			

Opening lead — ♣ A

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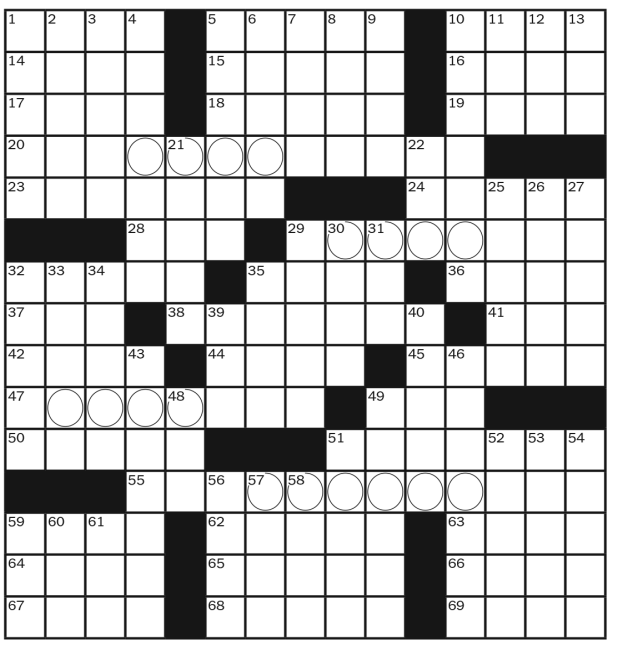
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0330



PUZZLE BY ALEX ROSEN AND BRAD WILBER

ACROSS
1 Workers with taxing schedules, for short?
5 Japanese brewery
10 Who's the Boss?
14 Prefix with pad
15 Big name in vacuum cleaners and fans
16 Cell with 23 unpaired DNA strands
17 Longtime co-star of Mariska Hargitay on "Law & Order: SVU"
18 Big Mac ingredient
19 Taste with a little zip
20 Compensating reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
23 Stomach soother
24 Bedouin stopping points
28 Loops in, in a way
29 360° martial arts maneuver
32 Willy of children's literature
35 Abbr. on a scenic overlook sign
36 Slippery
37 Fourth word of the "Star Wars" prologue
38 Person known by a single name, as found in 20-, 29-, 47- and 55-Across
41 Little shut-eye
42 Swivel on an axis
44 Some barbecue fare
45 Subside
47 Distance for a first down
49 Leading female role in "Pulp Fiction"
50 Collectible car of the late '50s
51 Sleep inducer of folklore
55 Greedy person's cry
59 Tennis's Nadal, to fans
62 In the midst of
63 One of the sisters in Chekhov's "Three Sisters"
64 Obligation to do something
65 Color slightly
66 Swerve (into)
67 Where one might go through withdrawal?
68 "Animal House" character named for an animal
69 Blunders

DOWN
1 Girl, in Guadalajara
2 Pie nut
3 "___ the media!"
4 Partner of "relax"
5 Mortal lover of Aphrodite
6 Gathering of bishops
7 "You wish!"
8 Body part where a shoe goes
9 Some establishments next to airports
10 Provocative, quickly produced opinion piece
11 Campus designed by Thos. Jefferson
12 Word with ray or tommy
13 "Srsly?!"
21 Philosopher who lent his name to a "razor"
22 Seemingly forever
25 Tuscan city
26 Stroke of brilliance
27 Modern kind of call
29 Opposites of picker-uppers?
30 Calligraphy tools
31 Climber in academia?
32 It may be hazardous
33 Looked at lustfully
34 Majority of Mad Libs entries
35 Mystery writer Blyton
39 Only defenseman to have won the N.H.L. scoring title (1970, 1975)
40 Down East, to a New Englander
43 Flight sleeping aid
46 "Uh-oh, you shouldn't have done that!"
48 Mahershala with two Oscars
49 Makeshift crib, once
51 Burn slightly
52 Distance runner
53 ___ management
54 Looms, say
56 Kind of alphabet
57 Send out
58 French peak
59 Hold up
60 Japan's largest carrier
61 When tripled, 1964 Beach Boys hit

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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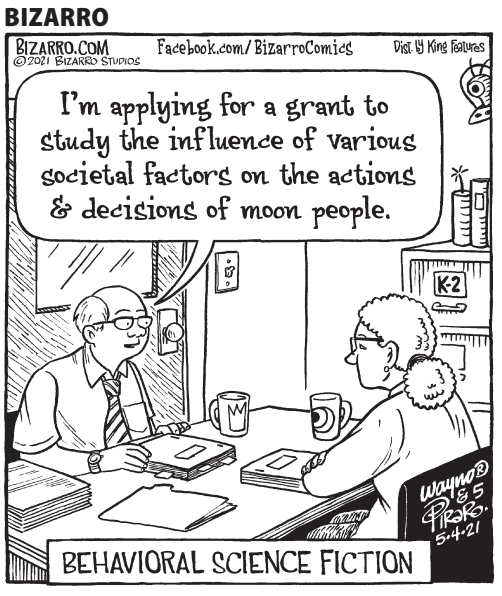
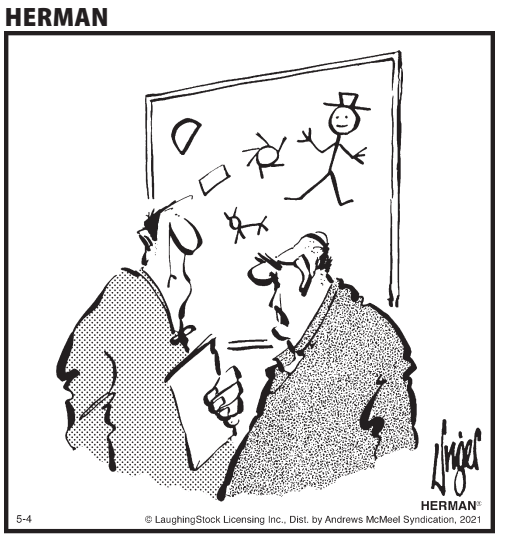
BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE

HERMAN



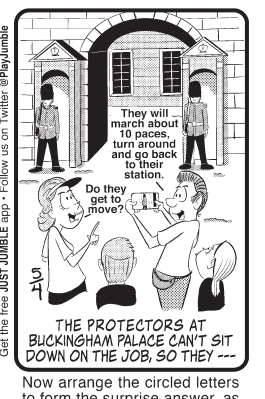
"He was only 35 years old when he did that one."

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.

NARDG
NRASL
VTIRED
BSCAAU



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

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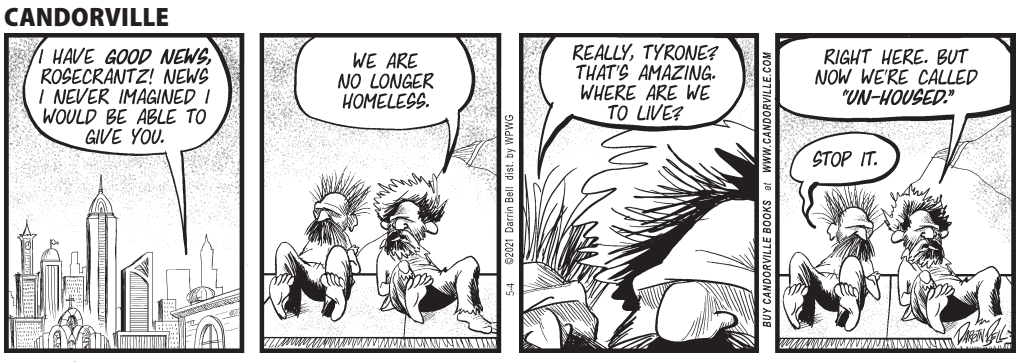
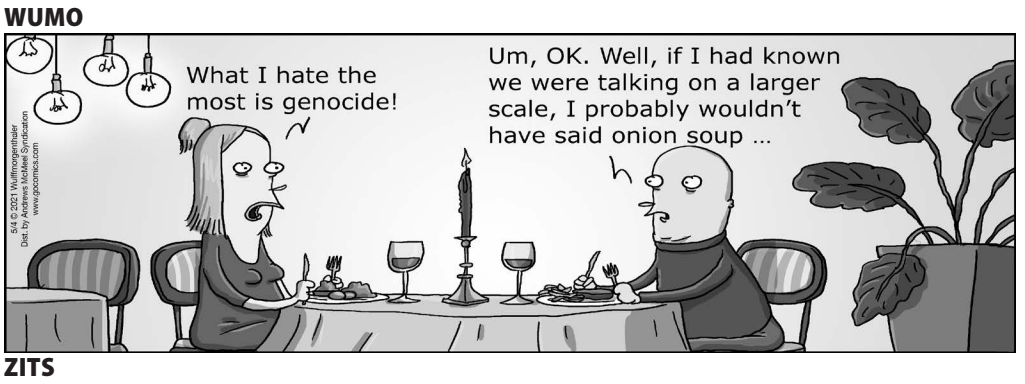
Answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DEPTH INPUT PIGEON SEESAW
Answer: He'd been in charge at the staircase company for years until he decided to — STEP DOWN

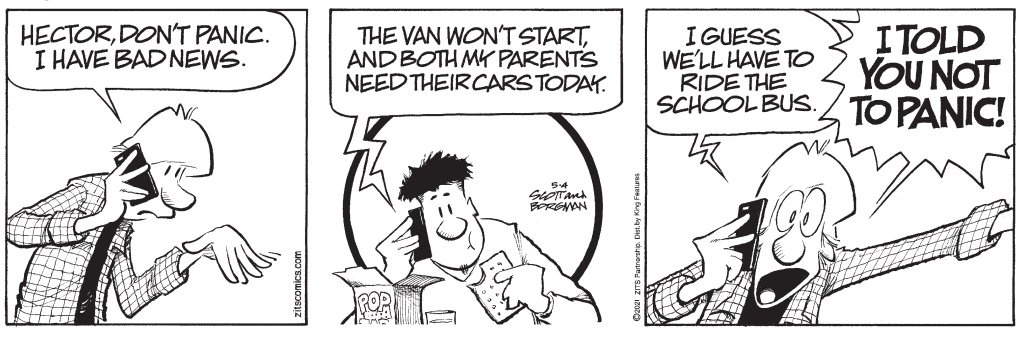
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLUTION:

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Hit the jackpot
8 One with faulty "I" sight?
15 Deficiency of red blood cells, across the pond
16 Pasta specification
17 Symbol on the "5" key
18 Handyman's carryall
19 Aid for shade at the shore
21 Abdomen neighbor
23 Parisian article
24 Pool sticks
25 Chain with links
26 Nine-digit ID
28 Rivals
29 Award first won by Naughty by Nature
33 Scrooge's cry
34 Norwegian pop band that sounds like a revelation
35 "http" often begins one
36 Judoka's belt
39 "Breaking news!" teaser
42 Washer cycle
44 Rx item
45 Pool hall triangle
46 Jefferson's vice president
47 News agcy.
49 Obstinate
50 Facebook invite ... to which the circled letters respond
54 Area sheltered from the wind
55 Former weekly with home viewing listings
58 Most of Google's revenue
59 Had a hankering
60 Wobbles
61 Glossy cottons

DOWN
1 Generation divide
2 LA-to-Denver dir.
3 Hat similar to a fez
4 Proof of purchase
5 "Let me explain ... "
6 Prez's title
7 Biblical word of possession
8 Cake's instruction to Alice
9 Chunks
10 Prominent garlic feature
11 Verizon's biz
12 Dressed like many Union soldiers
13 Mink wraps
14 Laredo's state
20 Forearm bone
21 Barry, Robin or Maurice of pop music
22 Seehorn of "Better Call Saul"
26 Humorist Mort
27 Email filter target
28 __ moon
30 Word before check or forest
31 Minstrel's strings
32 Raised, as cattle
36 Malt drink since 1904
37 At one's __ and call
38 Pac-Man ghost
39 Tries to hit, as a rifle range target
40 Friendly femme
41 Evidence of an error
42 "You bet!"
43 Mass leader
46 Note above A
47 Farm milk "dispenser"
48 Newspaper media
49 Sired, biblically
51 Giza's river
52 Col. headings on many spreadsheets
53 Iris layer
56 Lair
57 Newsroom staff members, for short

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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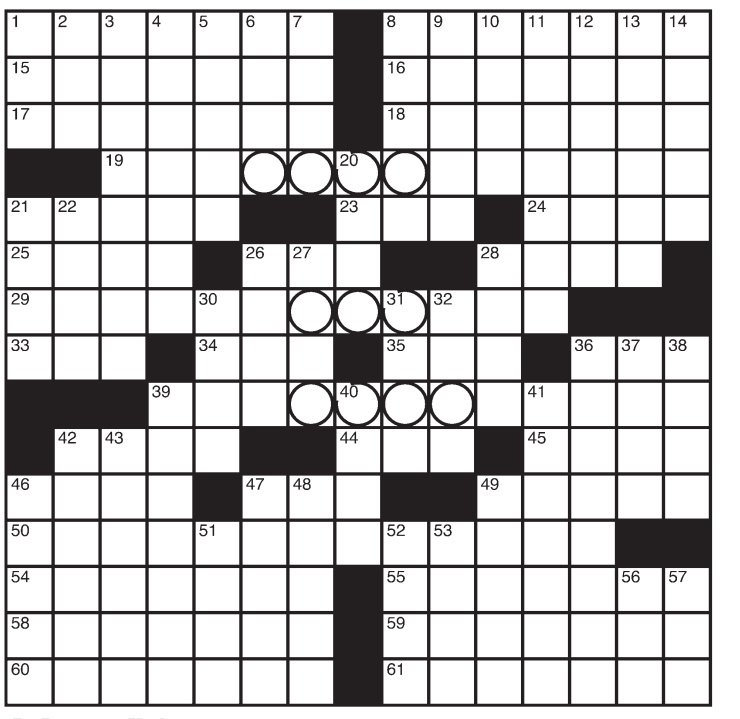

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