Friday, May 28, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Firing on all cylinders

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"I know you won't talk about your former job," I said to Cy the Cynic in the club lounge. "At least tell me why you left."

"I couldn't work there after the way my boss spoke to me," Cy shrugged.

"What did he say?"

"'You're fired.'"

Cy has trouble maintaining partnerships at bridge: Either he fires his partners or they fire him. Cy was today's North, and West led the queen of clubs against five diamonds. South took dummy's ace and led the jack of hearts. East rose with his ace and led the ace and a second trump.

BEST CHANCE

South had only 10 tricks. He took his best chance for one more by leading a spade from dummy to his jack, but West took the queen. Down two.

"Thus endeth this partnership," Cy growled.

After South wins Trick One, he must take the K-A of spades and ruff a spade. He then leads a heart. If East wins and leads the ace and a low trump, South wins in dummy and ruffs a spade. He ruffs a heart and discards his last heart on the good fifth spade.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 7 6 5 3 ♡ J ◇ K 5 4 ♣ A 10 7 3. Your partner opens one heart, you respond one spade and he bids two clubs. What do you say?

ANSWER: A raise to three clubs would invite game, and your hand has more potential than that. A raise to four clubs would bypass 3NT, which might be the best game. With primary values and a shaky diamond stopper, I would not be eager to bid 3NT. Bid two diamonds, the "fourth suit," to get more information from partner.

North dealer
Both sides vulnerable

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

WEST
♠ Q 10 8 2
♡ K 10 8 7 4 3
◇ 8
♣ Q 4

EAST
♠ 9 4
♡ A Q 6
◇ A 6
♣ K J 9 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ K J
♡ 9 5 2
◇ Q J 10 9 7 3 2
♣ 6

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	2 ♣	2 ◇(!)	2 ♡
3 ◇	3 ♡	5 ◇	All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ Q

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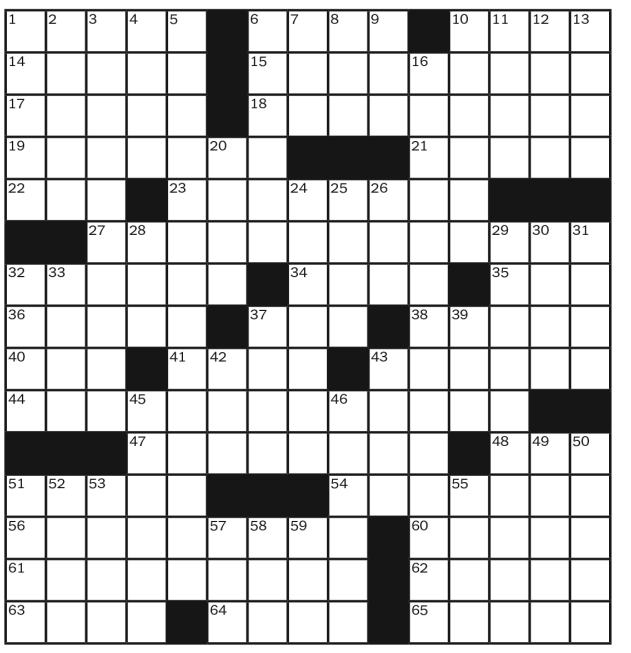
SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?
Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0423



PUZZLE BY ROBYN WEINTRAUB

ACROSS
1 Gives some badly needed help?
6 Kind of card
10 Laughfest
14 Sound of the South
15 Garnish for a Moscow mule
17 High home
18 Scrubland danger
19 Little white toy
21 Who wrote "In Memory of W. B. Yeats"
22 Star's place
23 Roof-edge defenses
27 Ones best in show?
32 Endeavor
34 Bone to pick
35 Not to
36 Wear
37 Turn down
38 Mammal that can hold its breath up to eight minutes
40 "___ destiny unshunnable, like death": "Othello"
41 Original cause
43 Father figure
44 Good beverage for a blustery fall day
47 GranTurismo maker
48 ___ the Enchanter, role in "Monty Python and the Holy Grail"
51 What meat and dairy both lack
54 Dad's hangout, maybe
56 "You pick"
60 Decline in military activity?
61 Person who's really sweet and soft
62 Log
63 "Who ___?"
64 Quinceañera celebrant: Abbr.
65 Like the sound of a clarinet

DOWN
1 Oleta of soul
2 Snap, crack or pop, maybe
3 Fall farming headache
4 Turkey
5 Event that goes all night
6 Real name of George VI
7 Plunger into the Pacific Ocean in 2001
8 Creature that can fill the blank in L___R to make another creature
9 Check alternatives
10 Worthless stuff
11 Brief confession
12 Oni, in Japanese folklore
13 Quinceañera celebrant, e.g.
16 Query that might follow some grumbling
20 Sound
24 One involved in a dispute
25 It's measured in both feet and meters
26 She sounds just like you!
28 Relieve (of)
29 Finish, to an oenophile
30 101 word in both Spanish and French
31 Put in an order
32 Actor Green
33 Three for the show?
37 First and only president of the Republic of Hawaii
39 Make fast
42 Corporate workplace division, for short
43 Something often served with shakshuka
45 Make ___
46 Snap out of it?
49 Like the walls of an old church, maybe
50 Gay
51 Conforms
52 "The right" thing
53 Word with shop or shot
55 Cup alternative, at times
57 Network with shows on Paramount+
58 ___ Lingus
59 Singer in the family?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

M	A	P	L	E		O	N	T	O	P		S	C	I
I	G	L	00	S		H	00	H	A	S		C	00	L
S	E	A	N	C	O	N	N	E	R	Y		I	K	E
U	N	C			P	O	E	M		C	H	A	I	
S	C	E	N	T	S				S	H	00	T	E	R
E	Y	D	I	E		S	E	C	T		P	I	T	A
			C	A	S	H	B	A	R			C	I	G
	P	I	E	R	C	E	B	R	O	S	N	A	N	
R	O	N			U	B	E	R	P	00	L			
E	W	A	N		L	A	D	Y		T	E	N	O	R
P	E	T	R	E	L				T	Y	R	O	N	E
	R	I	A	N		S	H	M	00			N	S	A
T	A	Z		D	A	N	I	E	L	C	R	A	I	G
A	D	Z		I	D	O	N	T		A	O	R	T	A
B	E	Y		T	A	T	T	00		D	C	T	E	N

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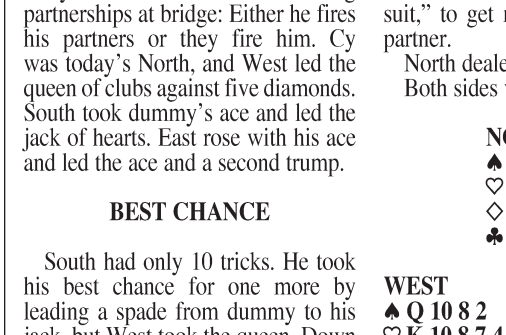
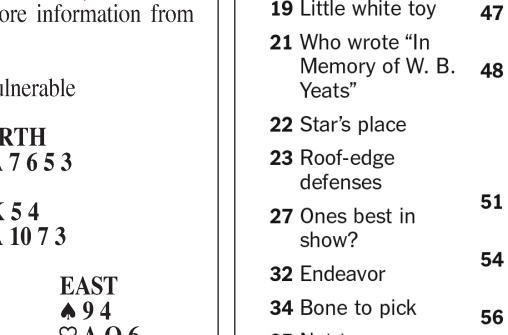
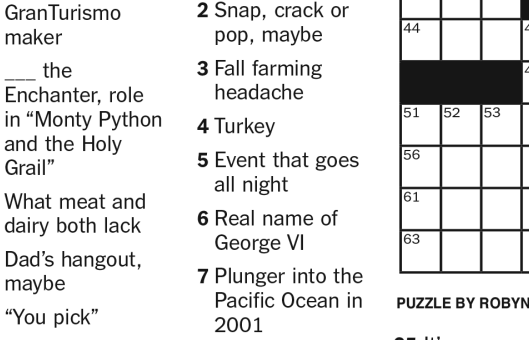
BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



"Chest, 68."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

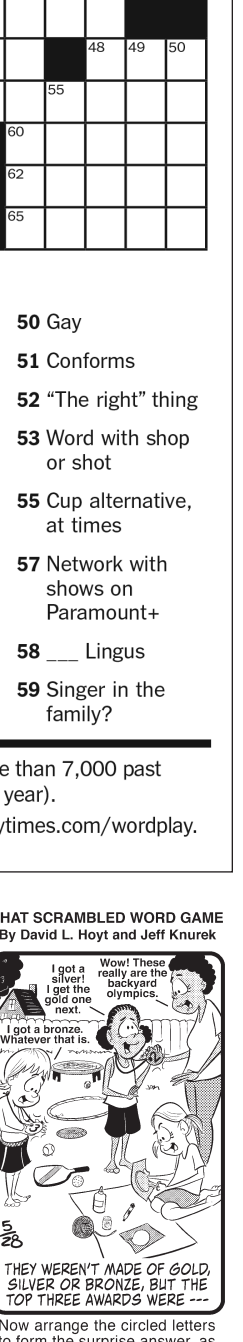
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

AVEEL

EGMIA

VLYTIE

DCLDOE



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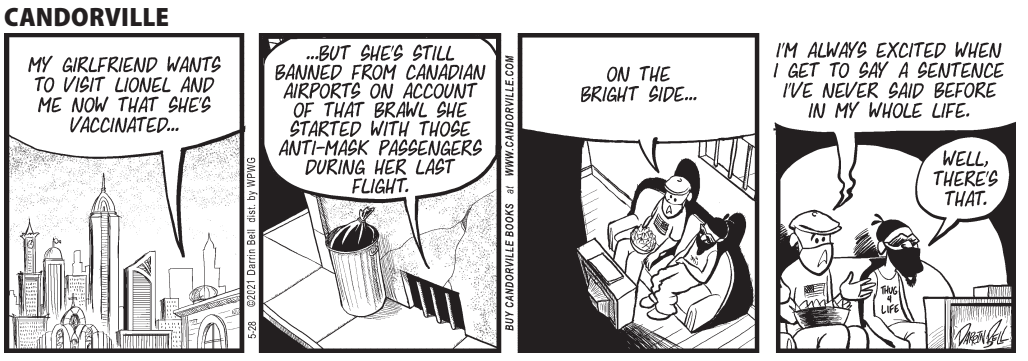
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here: " _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ "

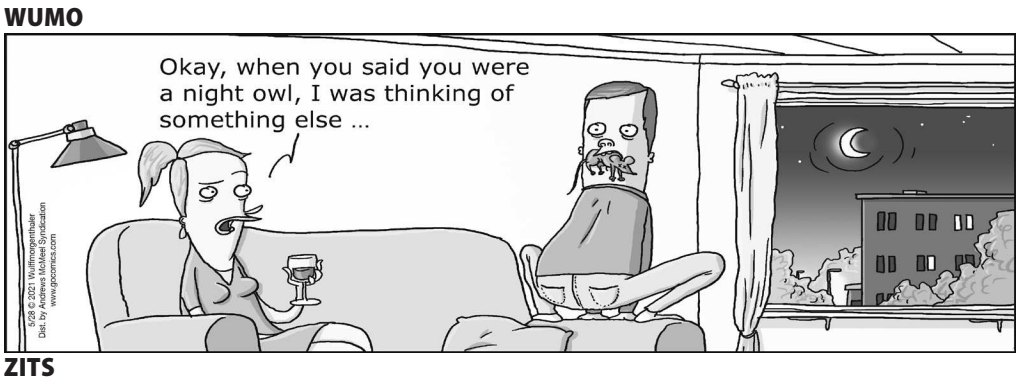
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PAUSE BUGGY SONATA EMBODY
Answer: The superhero was out of bed early with plenty of — "GETUP" AND GO

CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS

SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

SOLUTION:

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Hardly inept
5 Informal get-together
11 UFO occupants
14 Law enforcement tactic
15 Midsize Kia
16 Howard who directed "Willow" (1988)
17 YENOH
19 Pretend to be
20 Slangy denial
21 __ Plaines
22 Eponym for a Queens stadium
23 Support wear
26 GOC
29 Engine leak-preventing device
31 Arranges meaningfully
32 Storied bear name
33 Q neighbor
35 Greek T
36 TAR
41 McKellen knighted in 1991
42 Formerly held the position of
43 E-reader option
45 Basket willow
48 "You can come out now"
50 CBA
54 Spot for burners and beakers
55 GPS displays
56 Dating initials
57 "__ Is Rage 2": Lil Uzi Vert album
59 Needy cry from the playroom
60 NEMO
65 Altar constellation
66 Goes along
67 Approve
68 Case, for example: Abbr.
69 Crows
70 Hall of Famer known as "O Rei do Futebol"

DOWN
1 NFL's Cardinals, on scoreboards
2 Prohibit
3 Actress Tyler
4 Paradise
5 Full of holes
6 Short mus. releases
7 Piece for practicing technique
8 National animal of Malaysia
9 It has a med school in Worcester
10 Expected result
11 Writing tool
12 Accessory for Mr. Monopoly
13 Nasty looks
18 Not seen much
22 Rabbitlike rodents
23 Rap on the head
24 Real hoot
25 Baseball family name
27 Guerrero or Guerrero Jr. of baseball
28 Morales of "Criminal Minds"
30 High-pitched cries
34 "Incidentally," in texts
35 Unseasoned, maybe
37 Undercover figure
38 Pour, say
39 Milky white kind of glass
40 "The King of Clay," familiarly
44 Ball honoree, perhaps
45 2000s first family
46 Food Network adjective
47 Nickname for a clutch player
49 Speak indistinctly
51 Former U.S. streaming option
52 Upscale auto
53 Tijuana tots
58 Cognac designation
60 Lyft alternative
61 Hanoi holiday
62 34th prez
63 "Wonder Woman" actress Gadot
64 Emmy-winning scientist

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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By Zachary David Levy
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