

SUNDAY PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS ON C8

THE NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0523

AS HOT IN THE DARK
BY JOE DIPIETRO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Joe DiPietro, of Brooklyn, owns a bar called One Star in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan. He previously owned a bar called No Idea, which made a confusing answer to the question "Where do you want to go tonight?"

- ACROSS
1 Dude, slangily
5 Toaster Swirlz brand
9 Country singer Haggard
14 Lhasa (dog breed)
18 Metallic fabric
19 "___: Legacy" (sci-fi sequel)
20 Hymn of joy
21 Loud thudding sound
23 Shot in the dark
26 Get to the point?
27 Steps up?
28 Court plea, in brief
29 Winner's sign
30 Alternative to a blitz
31 False start?
33 Improved version of an existing product
37 ___
38 Skipping syllables?
40 Reward for a big hit, say
41 Two-legged stand
43 Fix for a bald spot
46 ___
48 Shock
51 Oscar-winning Hanks role of 1994
54 Tiny bits
56 Byway connection
58 Voice-mail prompt
59 Hasbro game requiring increasingly quick reflexes
60 Tiny bit

- 61 Mensch
63 Meals with Haggadah readings
64 Award to wear
65 Real deal
66 ___
68 Like cabernet sauvignon
69 Go over
71 Start of many Portuguese place names
73 Be angry
75 Suffix with age
78 Highly resistant elastomer
81 ___
84 Skyscraper support
88 Like some ballots
90 Breakfast drink sans creamer
92 Ill-advised move
93 Intangible qualities
94 Do
95 Anonymous surname
96 Causes of pocket buzzes
97 Loud, sharp sound
98 Like Golden Raspberry-"winning" films
100 Detectives
103 ___
104 Whispered sweet nothings
106 It's a sign
108 Unsmiling
110 Like some roller chains and ball bearings
112 ___
116 Leaves zip for a tip
119 One given orders around the house
121 Tract of land

- 122 Nickname for the Wildcats of the Pac-12
124 Smut
126 Collection on Facebook
127 Shot in the dark
131 Three-time American League M.V.P. of the 1950s
132 Varsity
133 Hurt badly
134 Disneyland transport
135 Bill blockers
136 Ta-tas
137 Polishes off
138 Fore-and-aft-rigged sailboat with two masts
DOWN
1 Photo mishap
2 Amassed
3 Congregational chorus
4 Tools for landscapers
5 "You get the idea": Abbr.
6 Food found in some bars
7 Most-often-used
8 Net wt. of many pasta packages
9 Sticker stat
10 It's water under le pont
11 Teller of the third tale in "The Canterbury Tales"
12 Surgical tool
13 Like some casts
14 Makes a scene
15 "Hallelujah!"
16 Marvelous
17 ___-3
22 Slice and dice, say

- 24 Takes over (from)
25 More than just a talker
32 Indian lentil dish
34 "No info yet," on a schedule
35 Carefully avoid
36 Heating option
39 Composer Bruckner
42 ___
43 Unlikely Oscar winners
44 Fighting
45 Tiny bit
47 G
49 Opening for a computer technician?
50 Pro fighter?
52 Swampy stretch
53 V.A. concern, for short
55 ___
57 Phenomenon by which electrons radiate from a heated filament, so named for a famous observer
59 "You can't be a real country unless you have a ___ and an airline": Frank Zappa
61 Mil. leader
62 Catch
63 Arc on a music score
65 Investment goal
67 Trucker on a radio
70 Pitchfork-shaped letters
72 ___
74 When the first "Peanuts" comic appeared
75 Apple on the teacher's desk?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36 37
38 39 40 41 42
43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53
54 55 56 57 58 59
60 61 62 63
64 65 66 67 68
69 70 71 72 73 74
75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87
88 89 90 91 92
93 94 95 96
97 98 99 100 101 102 103
104 105 106 107 108 109
110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118
119 120 121 122 123 124 125
126 127 128 129 130
131 132 133 134
135 136 137 138

- 76 Literature Nobel list
77 Innovation in push-ups
79 It can represent a folder
80 First offer?
82 "I touched your nose!" sound
83 Coffin frames
85 Squarish
86 A joker might say "And the pot thickens" after one
87 One of the friends on "Friends"
89 Very easy living
91 ___
94 French explorer who founded Detroit
96 Duty
98 According to
99 Bad P.R. for a celeb, maybe
101 Baseball announcer's cry
102 One doing a Spot check?
105 Whom the Secret Service dubbed Renegade and Renaissance
107 Mike who served as a Wyoming senator from 1997 to 2021
109 ___
110 Longtime Swedish automaker
111 ___ Johnson Sirleaf, Africa's first elected female head of state
113 Mammal found in the Andean cloud forest
114 Utterly lost
115 "I'm baffled"
117 Botanist's study
118 A sucker for milkshakes, say
120 ___
123 ESPNU covers its games
125 Web file format, for short
128 The natural order of the universe
129 Chats over Twitter, briefly
130 Grp. mobilized by a 911 call

SUDOKU

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

Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 1, 6, 8, 7, 5, 1, 9, 7, 2, 5, 3, 5, 3, 9, 7, 1, 5, 4, 3, 9, 8, 5, 7.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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

Jumble puzzle with words: RHTMIE, DMARED, AUPQEO, SEKUNN, BMEELM, RBaelH. Includes a cartoon illustration.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

LOS ANGELES TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions. Clues include "WHAT'S MY LINE?" and "Football's Terrell".

Seeking a friendly duplicate bridge? Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

Sunday, May 30, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Chances are

By FRANK STEWART Tribune Content Agency

Here's a math puzzle for you: A fast-food place sells chicken strips in orders of six, nine and 20 strips only.

While you're pondering that, look at today's North-South cards. How good are South's chances of making his contract of 7NT?

North's bids of four clubs and five clubs are the Gerber convention. When North finds that South has one ace and three kings, North can hope for five spade tricks, two hearts, three diamonds and two clubs, and if South has a queen, 13 tricks may be easy.

West leads the ten of clubs, and South wins and counts 12 sure tricks: three in each suit. He may be tempted to test the spades next, his best suit, but then on the third high spade, South would have to discard a diamond or heart that might be his 13th winner.

Declarer can start by taking the top diamonds. When East discards, South continues with the A-K of hearts and a third heart to his queen. When the suit breaks 3-3, South is home.

If the hearts didn't break well either, South would cash his other two high clubs, then try the spades.

The last club might have squeezed a defender who started with length in both spades and a red suit. Failing that, South would succeed if the jack of spades fell. He would have to be quite unlucky to fail.

Puzzle answer: 43 strips. (For an explanation, visit goodriddlesnow.com/riddles/view/749.)

South dealer N-S vulnerable

NORTH
A Q 10 7 3
A K 3
A Q 7
J 5

WEST
6 5
J 9 5
J 9 4 2
10 9 8 6

EAST
J 9 8 2
10 8 4
6 3
7 4 3 2

SOUTH
K 4
Q 7 6 2
K 10 8 5
A K Q

South 1 NT
West Pass
East 4
North Pass
South 5 NT
West Pass
East All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ 10