

Friday, June 18, 2021

### Daily Bridge Club

## Test your play

By FRANK STEWART  
Tribune Content Agency

This week I've treated the loser-on-loser play, a versatile dummy-play technique. To test yourself, cover today's East-West cards. Plan the play at six spades when West leads the king of hearts. Can you guarantee 12 tricks?

The actual declarer took the ace, drew trumps and tried to play safe for three diamond tricks by cashing the A-K before leading a diamond toward dummy's jack. East took the queen and led the ten. Declarer ruffed and had to try the club finesse. He went down when West had the king.

#### LOSER

Six spades is cold. After South draws trumps, he takes the K-A of diamonds, then leads dummy's jack of hearts and discards his last diamond: a loser on a loser.

When West takes the queen, he must concede the 12th trick. If he leads a club, South gets a free finesse. If a heart, South ruffs in dummy and unloads his queen of clubs. If West had a diamond left and led it, South would be sure of a third diamond trick.

If you found this line of play, well done!

#### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠2 ♥KQ1096 ♦76 ♣K9432. Both sides vulnerable. Your partner opens one heart, and the

next player passes. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Bidding has two purposes: to find a good contract and to prevent your opponents from finding one. Bid four hearts. If everyone passes, partner may make the contract. If he doesn't, your opponents might have made something, even a game, had you left them room to come in easily.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**  
♠ Q 10 9 8  
♥ J 3  
♦ A J 4 3  
♣ 7 6 5

**WEST**  
♠ 2  
♥ K Q 10 9 6  
♦ 7 6  
♣ K 9 4 3 2

**EAST**  
♠ 3  
♥ 8 7 5 4 2  
♦ Q 10 9 8  
♣ J 10 8

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K J 7 6 5 4  
♥ A  
♦ K 5 2  
♣ A Q

South	West	North	East
2 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♠	All Pass		

Opening lead — ♥K

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#### SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

Find five games weekly online at [bendbridge.org](http://bendbridge.org)

## The New York Times Crossword

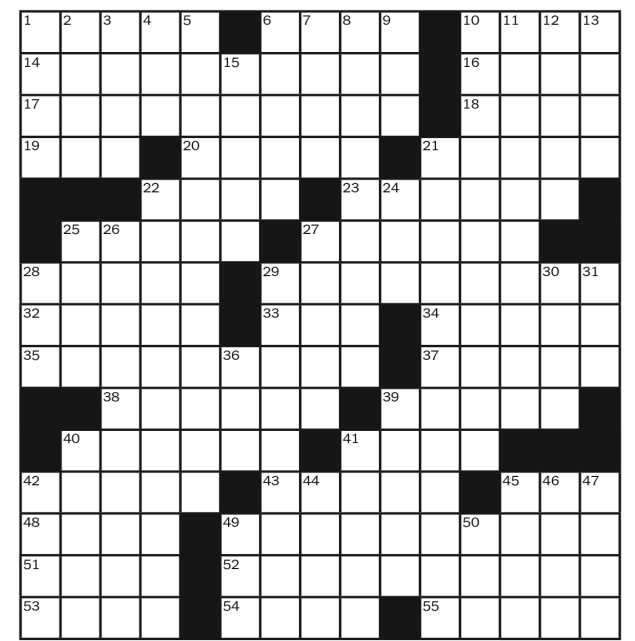
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0514

- ACROSS**
- Gold Coast port
  - Grade
  - Certain hieroglyphs
  - Snacks known as "student fodder" and "scroggin" in Germany and New Zealand, respectively
  - Home of the Starzz, one of the original eight W.N.B.A. teams
  - What few fliers desire
  - Michael of "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World"
  - Bug expert?
  - Winter Olympics equipment
  - See 44-Down
  - Old Forester and Old Overholt offerings
  - Ethereum or Bitcoin, for example
  - Shame
  - Site of an underground pool, maybe
  - Get an 800 on the G.M.A.T., say
  - Animal that comes to shore to lay eggs
  - Bel \_\_\_\_ (Italian cheese)
  - One of the Kennedys
  - Single-\_\_\_\_
  - Leftovers from a doughnut, say
  - Easy two-pointer
  - Deep cuts
  - Bad sorts to be stuck talking to at a gathering
  - Savory Scottish delicacy
  - Go down
  - Drug kingpin on "The Wire"
  - Coffee spot?
  - Comedian Margaret
  - Actor who played Senator Vinick on "The West Wing"
  - Historic Charleston site
  - St. \_\_\_\_, locale in an English nursery rhyme
  - One way to crack a code
  - Studies
  - "Got it"
  - People

#### DOWN

- You can bank on them
- "\_\_ Camp," 2020 Oscar-nominated documentary
- Women's rights pioneer Elizabeth \_\_\_\_ Stanton
- Clear
- Words from Mission Control
- Stops lying
- Cut
- Things that pique your interest on TV
- 14 billion years, for the age of the universe: Abbr.
- "You thought wrong!"
- Judge unfairly, say
- Person in a contract
- They can cause anxiety
- Gifts that are usually scented
- West end?
- Begin the toasting process
- Bigeye tuna
- Zinger
- Kind of berry
- Oktoberfest locale
- Does a deep dive on a topic, with "out"
- Inclined
- One of eight in "The Twelve Days of Christmas"
- With 21-Across, straight up
- 2017 double-platinum debut album for SZA
- "Shucks!"
- Raw materials
- Govt. org. whose director serves a 10-year term
- "How now?," to a cow?

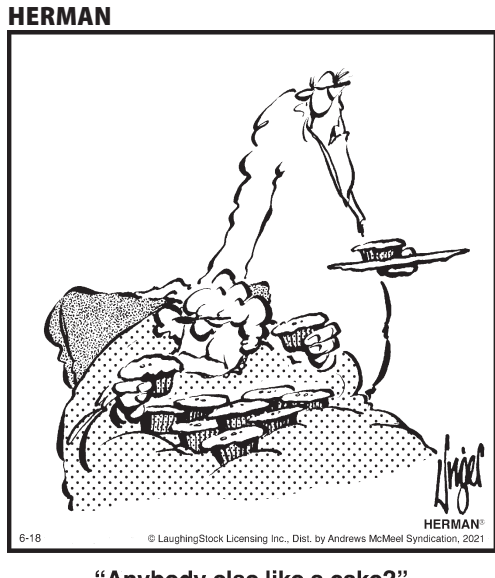
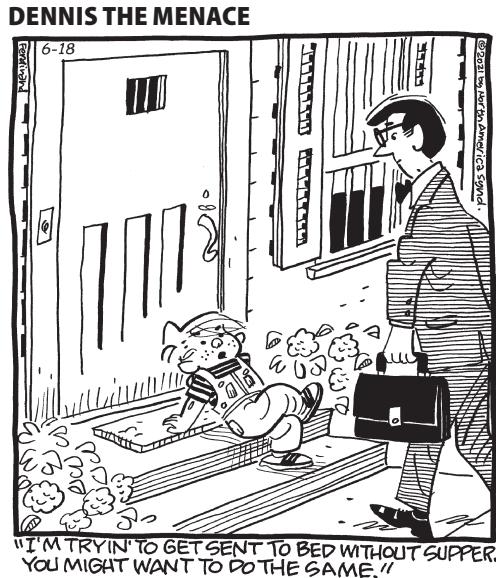
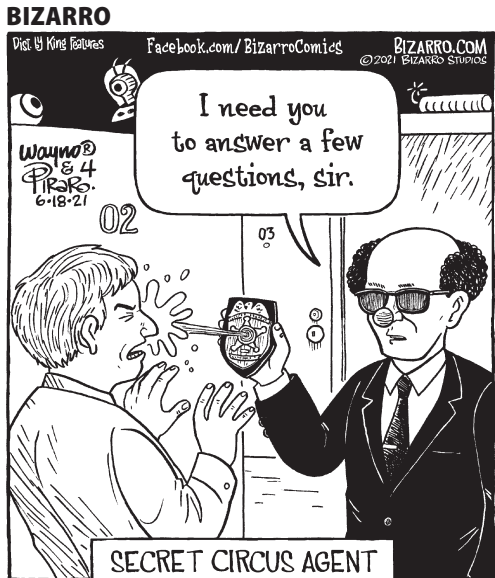


PUZZLE BY YACOB YONAS

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, [nytimes.com/crosswords](http://nytimes.com/crosswords) (\$39.95 a year).  
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### JUMBLE

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

AIHKK  
CYTIH  
NRYTTA  
NARUME

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

That figure is from Fiji. It's about 200 years old.

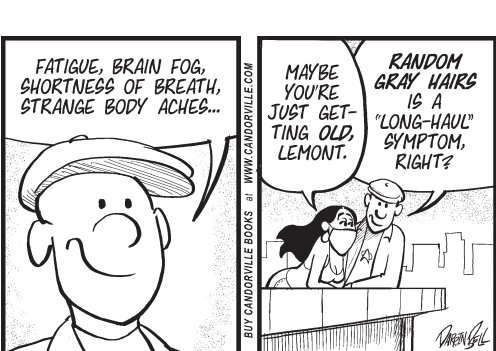
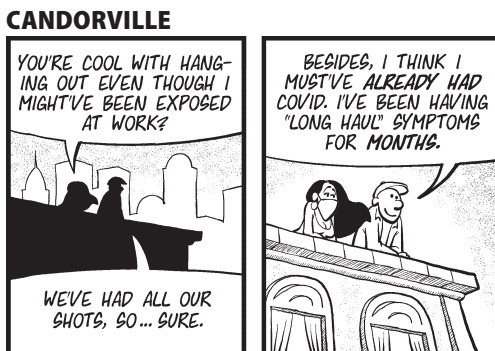
POLYNESIAN ITEMS DATING BACK MANY YEARS WERE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE ---

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

Ans. here: "-----"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RAVEN UNCLE GRIMLY MANTRA  
Answer: The young pitcher struggled to throw a breaking ball because there was a — LEARNING CURVE

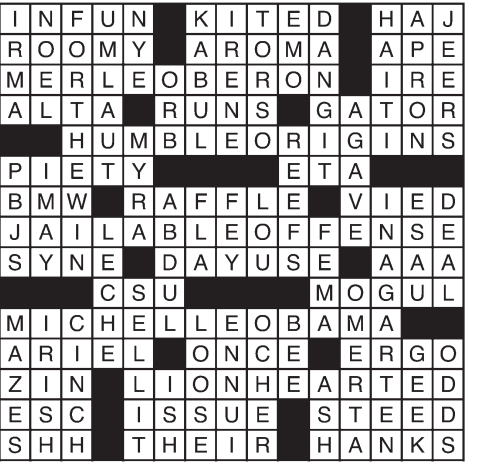


## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Jokers
  - Small ball on a string
  - Emulated
  - Classic Langston Hughes poem
  - Portmanteau metal producer
  - Alley unit
  - Winter wear made from tusks?
  - \_\_\_-FREE: contact lens solution
  - Asian holiday
  - Publishers
  - Onetime Tide competitor
  - Less formal alternative to a toga
  - Like many AARP mems.
  - "A Chorus Line" number
  - Routines for barbecuing?
  - Blows it
  - Mythical monster
  - Airport abbr.
  - Cuts back on one's livestock business?
  - Classified ad abbr.
  - Charged item
  - Respectful group address
  - Carryalls made by Dior?
  - PC linkup
  - Long, long time
  - Loudly laments
  - First signs of smoke
  - Manhattan theater district locale
  - Blame
  - Others, in Latin
  - Useless castle defenses?
  - Advance
  - "Cool!"
  - Google results
  - Not at all cool
  - Midas' undoing
  - What boors lack
  - Off-roader's purchase, for short
  - Muck
  - Varieties
  - Dispute resolution
  - "Do Ya" rock gp.
  - 2010 health law: Abbr.
  - Twisty pasta
  - Classic movie girl played by a boy
  - 1966 N.L. batting champ Matty
  - Hard-copy evidence
  - Main course preceder, in France
  - Jefferson et al., religiously
  - "Ouch!"
  - Scrawny one
  - "The Witches" (1990) director Nicolas
  - Calvary inscription
  - Source of feelings
  - Md. athlete
  - Religious fervor
  - Chit
  - Top medals, in Barcelona
  - Caught in the act
  - Smashing
  - Have the \_\_\_ for
  - Chicago-to-Lansing dir.
  - Trick, in a way
  - IRS IDs
  - Doe, for one
  - Stirred up
  - Wielding an axe
  - One percent of a G
  - Dip
  - Two-way, as a door
  - Like some sums
  - Egg on
  - Dumfries denial
  - Automne preceder
  - Altar in the sky
  - Help for a sad BFF
  - Retired flier

#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



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By Paul Coulter  
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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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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