

Friday, July 30, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Louie's rare ability

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"Louie has that rare ability to bring out the best in a partnership," Rose told me in the club lounge. "Unfortunately, it's usually his opponents."

Rose has taken on Unlucky Louie as a project, insisting that he is better than his results show.

"Look at this deal," Rose said. "I was North. We got to four hearts after West overcalled on a four-card suit and I made a negative double. West took two spades and led a club."

one spade. The opponents pass. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your options are limited. A rebid of two diamonds would suggest a six-card suit, and a bid of two hearts would be a "reverse" that would promise at least a king more strength. Bid 1NT to show a minimum, balanced opening bid. Your pattern isn't precisely balanced, but semibalanced will have to do.

South dealer
Neither side vulnerable

SPADES

"Louie was South. He won with the ace and led a trump — and West played the queen! Louie took dummy's king but thought he couldn't draw all the trumps, leaving him with none. If he then lost a diamond finesse, the defense would cash spades. So Louie led a diamond to his queen next."

West took his king and led another club. East ruffed and led a diamond, and West ruffed. Down two.

"Remarkable defense," I said. "But it seems Louie could have afforded a second round of trumps."

Rose nodded sadly. She may be getting discouraged with Louie.

NORTH

♠ Q 6
♥ K J 7 3
♦ J 6 4
♣ K Q J 10

WEST

♠ A K 3 2
♥ Q 8
♦ K
♣ 9 8 7 5 3 2

EAST

♠ J 10 9 5 4
♥ 6 4 2
♦ 10 5 3 2
♣ 6

SOUTH

♠ 8 7
♥ A 10 9 5
♦ A Q 9 8 7
♣ A 4

South 1♦ West 1♠(!) North Dbl East 3♠
4♥ All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ K

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DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 8 7 ♥ A 10 9 5
♦ A Q 9 8 7 ♣ A 4. You open one diamond, and your partner responds

SEEKING A FRIENDLY DUPLICATE BRIDGE?

Find five games weekly online at bendbridge.org

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0625

ACROSS

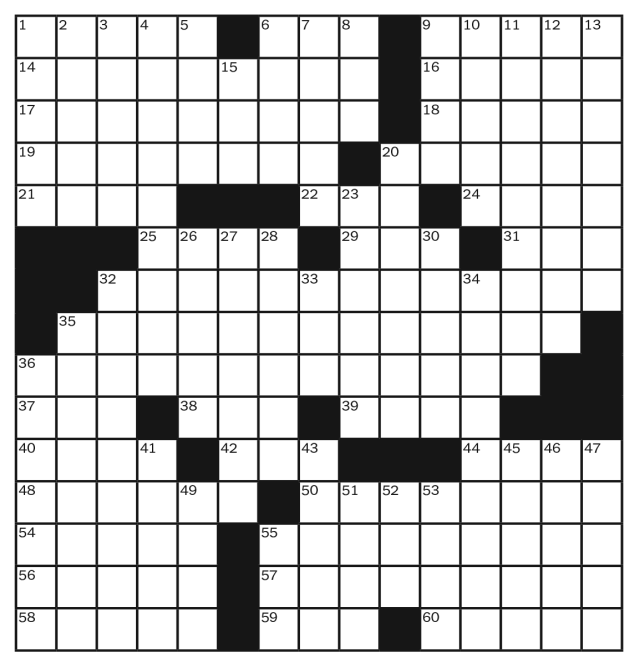
- 1 Presses (down)
- 6 Org. for the Houston Dynamo and Austin F.C.
- 9 Along for the ride, say
- 14 "Yeah, lunch now works for me"
- 16 Taurasi who leads the W.N.B.A. in career scoring
- 17 Showing promise
- 18 Tag
- 19 What you'd love to own and drive
- 20 Acknowledgment with a shrug
- 21 "This ___ here!"
- 22 Partner of day
- 24 2014 Television Hall of Fame inductee
- 25 Spirals out over the winter holidays?

- 29 Endorsement, for short
- 31 Gymnast Mary ___ Retton
- 32 Its members were collectively awarded Time magazine's 2017 Person of the Year
- 35 Unearned advantage based on sex
- 36 Hit HBO series based on a Liane Moriarty novel
- 37 What "minuscule" is often misspelled with
- 38 Stub hub?
- 39 Prep class subject, for short
- 40 Costa ___
- 42 Activity common in nightclubs, in brief
- 44 Italian for "so"

- 48 Tab on a Google search
- 50 Band together against
- 54 Lite
- 55 Question that's rarely a sign of good news
- 56 Buncha
- 57 Get overly personal, perhaps
- 58 Environmentalist Adams
- 59 They're good to know
- 60 Compound with a fruity smell

DOWN

- 1 Key symbol near "I"
- 2 Tough nut to crack
- 3 Sang part of "Old MacDonald"
- 4 Beadlike bit on a surfer's necklace
- 5 Improbable
- 6 Ginormous
- 7 ___ Bassi, first woman to earn a doctorate in science (University of Bologna, 1732)
- 8 Garage brand
- 9 Like some threats
- 10 "Slow Hands" singer ___ Horan
- 11 Four on the floor?
- 12 Like tutoring, typically
- 13 Peaceful protest



PUZZLE BY SCOTT EARL

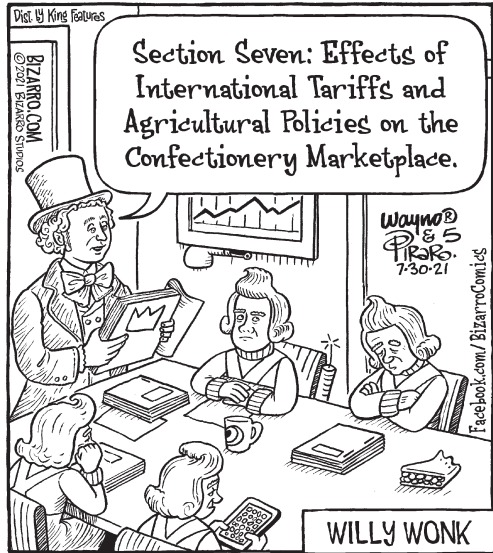
- 15 Party org.
- 20 Pests for a grain farmer
- 23 Be sycophantic
- 26 Had quite a trip?
- 27 Styles associated with the Beatles
- 28 Taken care of, with "out"
- 30 ___ Cruz, so-called "Queen of Salsa"
- 32 Hat tricks are seen in them
- 33 "Thanks a ___!"
- 34 Parts of many rom-coms
- 35 Quick post-wedding getaway
- 36 World's largest pasta producer
- 41 Fire ___ (gemstone)
- 43 "Wasn't the first time enough?!"
- 45 Genre for Bridget Riley's "Shadow Play"
- 46 Crack
- 47 Aide for a cartoonist
- 49 It doesn't offer flights on Saturday mornings
- 51 Workers you wouldn't want to see in the office?
- 52 Group co-founded by Eazy-E
- 53 Splicing target
- 55 X

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
Read about and comment on each puzzle: nytimes.com/wordplay.

BIZARRO



DENNIS THE MENACE



HERMAN



JUMBLE

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

XTREE
SUPEA
MRENSEO
SAECRC

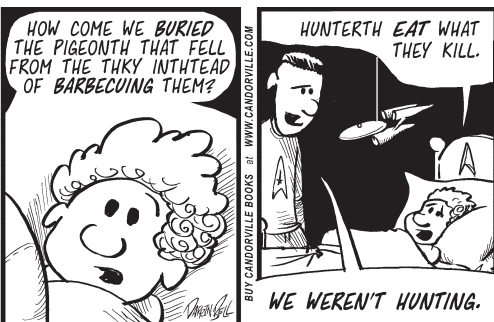
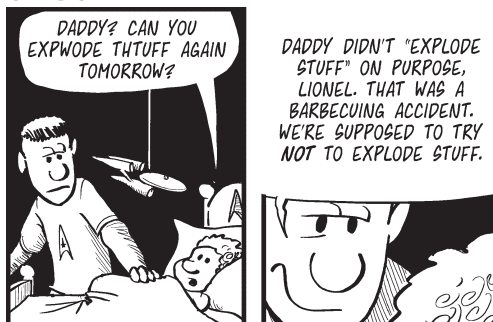
THE 1794 TREATY OF PARIS, SIGNED BY THE U.S. AND GREAT BRITAIN, WAS A ___

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CYCLE VALET VANITY FLORAL
Answer: The siblings had amassed an amazing assortment of rare coins — COLLECTIVELY

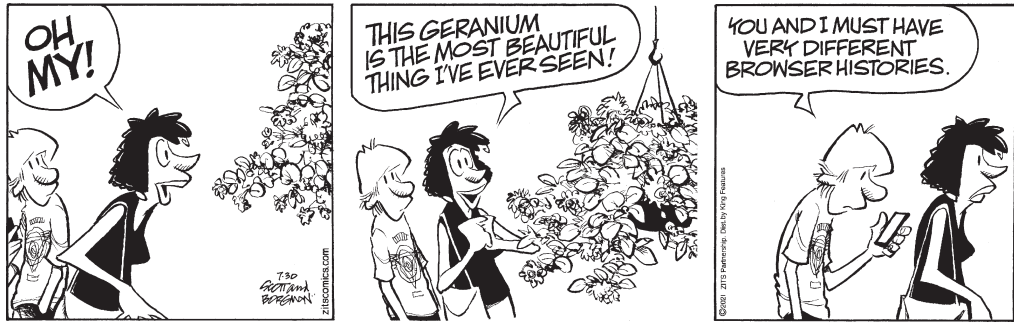
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

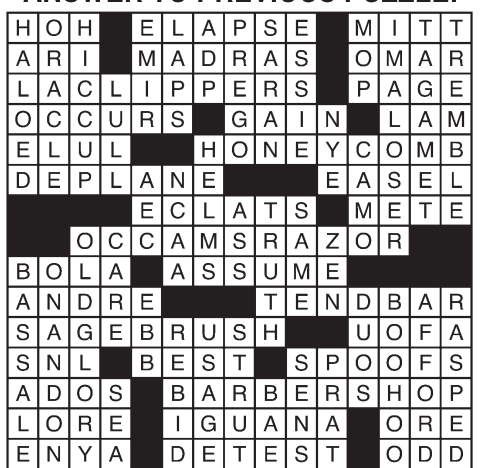
ACROSS

- 1 Surfing venue
- 4 Tapered off
- 10 Yankees' foes
- 14 Nautical pronoun
- 15 Chowder chunk
- 16 Wind in the reeds
- 17 Ring star
- 18 Item served at 52-Down
- 20 1988 self-titled country album
- 22 Three, in Bari
- 23 One of the "Emerging 7" nations
- 24 Item served at 52-Down
- 28 Word associated with Denver
- 29 Govt. health org.
- 30 Flight
- 33 Kitchen draw
- 35 Mum of Charlotte, George and Louis
- 37 Queen's home
- 38 Item served at 52-Down
- 41 Stuntman Knievel
- 42 Like Vassar since 1969
- 43 Lift providers
- 44 Mystery writer Josephine
- 45 "Can I help you?"
- 46 Orange County city
- 47 Item served at 52-Down
- 52 More unfriendly
- 55 Heckle
- 56 One-horse ride
- 57 Item served at 52-Down
- 61 Non-verbal syst.
- 62 Tony kin
- 63 Begin to associate (with)
- 64 2016 Olympics host
- 65 Prepare for a pic
- 66 Dumpster fire
- 67 ISP option

- 5 "The Women" playwright Clare ___ Luce
- 6 Millipede maker
- 7 Musical "don't play"
- 8 E. African land
- 9 Buck's mate
- 10 Combined
- 11 In the sack
- 12 Hindu ascetic
- 13 6-Down rival
- 19 Clay pigeon, e.g.
- 21 ___ kingdom
- 25 Scottish family
- 26 Group of eight
- 27 Port on its own gulf
- 30 Best way for something to work
- 31 Declare
- 32 Untidy situation
- 33 Help, as a hood
- 34 Wild, all-night party
- 35 Newspaper stand, e.g.
- 36 Imitate
- 37 Writ of ___ corpus
- 39 Taiwanese laptop brand
- 40 Street border

- 45 ___ Gagarin, first human in outer space
- 46 Jaime Sommers, TV's "___ Woman"
- 47 Chuckle
- 48 Congo River tributary
- 49 Feline complaints
- 50 Refuge from the heat
- 51 Early seat belt material
- 52 Chain with an alternate 28-letter name ... and what you need to write five puzzle answers?
- 53 Mexican resort, for short
- 54 Sister of Osiris
- 58 Lifelong bud, initially
- 59 Italian counterpart of the BBC
- 60 ___-cone

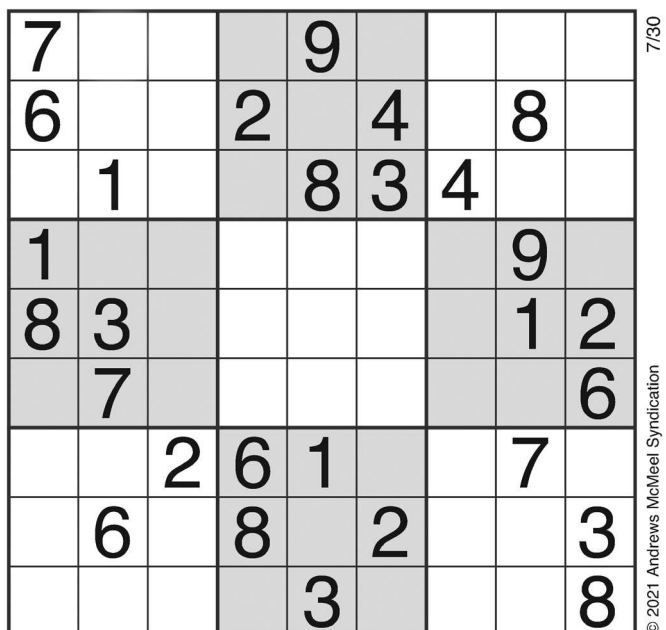
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



07/30/21

SUDOKU

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



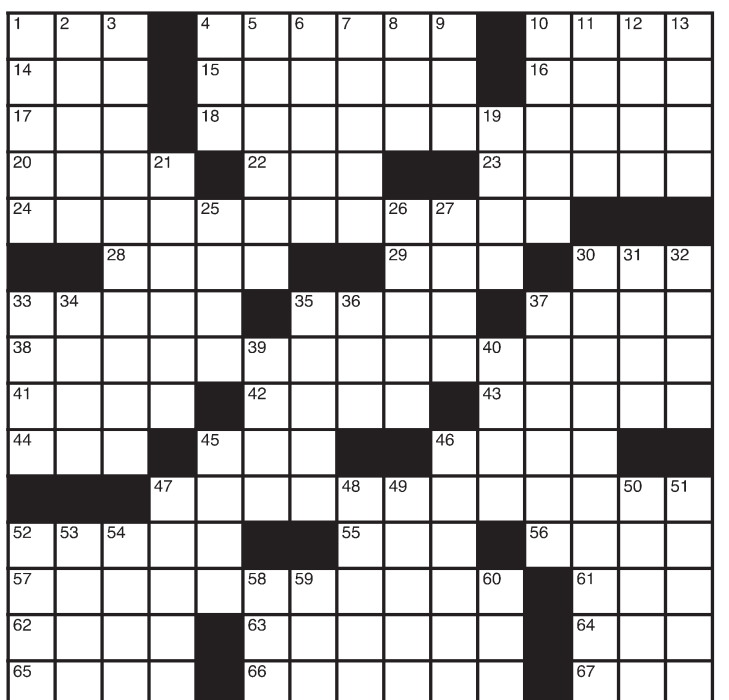
7/30

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

DOWN

- 1 Landing
- 2 Conger chaser
- 3 Loot to keep mute?
- 4 Smartphone software



By Michael Dewey and Kevin Christian
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