

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Daily Bridge Club

Reasonable defense?

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

“Is it true that average things are made at the ‘satis-factory’?” — graffiti.

Most of us would be happy if our partner’s play was merely satisfactory; world-class partners are hard to find. In today’s deal, West led the jack of spades against 3NT: three, eight, ace. South next led a diamond: four, nine from dummy.

East suspected that his partner had the king. If East took his queen, South would win a second diamond finesse later and run the diamonds. So East let the nine hold.

FOURTH CLUB

South couldn’t bring in the diamonds, but he led a club to his jack. He took the A-K, lost the fourth club to East and had nine tricks: four clubs, two diamonds, two hearts and a spade.

East’s defense saved at least one overtrick, but West’s was unsatisfactory. He can lose nothing if he puts up his king on the first diamond. South will have no winning play: If he takes the ace, East can judge to win the second diamond, and South will get only one diamond trick and at most eight in all.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 5 2 ♥ A K 8 ♦ 7 5
♣ A K J 6 4. The dealer, at your right,

opens one diamond. You double, and your partner “advances” one heart. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner was obliged to act. His bid promises nothing: no points, maybe four poor hearts. Still, he may have as many as nine points, and game is possible. A raise to two hearts would not be a terrible action. Bid two clubs, showing at least 17 points. Let partner take it from there

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

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

WEST
♠ J 10 9 4
♥ Q 10 6 2
♦ K 8 4
♣ 8 2

EAST
♠ K 8 7
♥ J 9 5
♦ Q 6 2
♣ Q 10 9 5

SOUTH
♠ A 5 2
♥ A K 8
♦ 7 5
♣ A K J 6 4

South 1 ♣
West Pass
North 1 ♦
East Pass

Opening lead — ♠ J

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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. 0309

ACROSS

- 1 Italian sauce with meat and tomatoes
- 5 Person seeking damages
- 9 Letter that’s only 25% of the way through the Greek alphabet, surprisingly
- 13 Cheers for banderilleros
- 14 Martial artist/actor who played the emperor of China in 2020’s “Mulan”
- 15 Good name for an ophthalmologist
- 16 “You and I should eat that”
- 18 Salmon, e.g.
- 19 Force out
- 20 Flowering plants associated with the Augusta National golf course
- 22 Utter

- 23 Actress Garr
- 25 Dating app description
- 26 Kid at a college bar who seems, to me as a bouncer, too young to allow in
- 32 Palestinian president starting in 2005
- 34 Place
- 35 Calendar box
- 36 Essential point
- 37 Bill worth billions
- 39 When most Geminis are born
- 40 Spoil
- 41 Dog breed whose coat resembles dreadlocks
- 42 Drinks at soda shops
- 43 Easter item that the woman is going to decorate
- 47 More, in Mexico
- 48 Short johns?
- 49 Nowhere to be found, informally

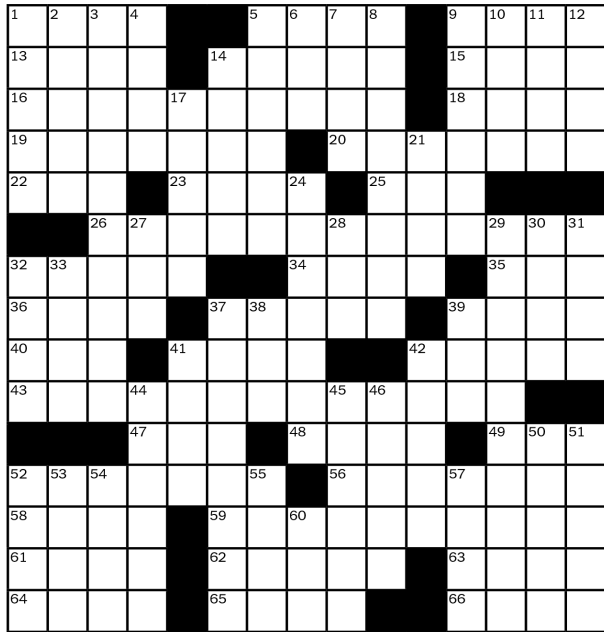
- 52 Risk territory bordering Siberia
- 56 Sponsored boys at baptisms
- 58 Desertlike
- 59 What the couple dressed in lupine costumes said
- 61 It’s worth zero in baccarat
- 62 Gets wind of
- 63 Land whose prime minister is known as the Taoiseach
- 64 “For Pete’s ____!”
- 65 Stops waffling
- 66 Licks, maybe

DOWN

- 1 Hats, so to speak
- 2 Siri : Apple :: ____ : Amazon
- 3 Seat of Pennsylvania’s Adams County
- 4 Losing team in the “Miracle on Ice” hockey game
- 5 Harsh
- 6 Shoshonean language
- 7 Director Kazan
- 8 Little Nabisco crackers
- 9 Bag brand
- 10 Great Lakes port
- 11 Mother of Beyoncé and Solange Knowles
- 12 Requests
- 14 Affected by ennui
- 17 Most Rwandans and Burundians
- 21 Member of a support staff
- 24 Impart, as values

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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



PUZZLE BY PETER GORDON

- 27 Dodgers might not pay it
- 28 “Jeopardy!” impossibility
- 29 XXX film
- 30 Speak hysterically
- 31 Batiking needs
- 32 High point
- 33 Talk big
- 37 “Tell me if you recognize me from just my voice and the feel of my hands over your eyes”

- 38 Last word of the Pledge of Allegiance
- 39 Middle Brady family daughter
- 41 Cool, in old slang
- 42 Botch
- 44 Photocopy flaw
- 45 Waiters at busy restaurants might be handed them
- 46 Declares openly

- 50 Like helium
- 51 Sure-footed pack animals
- 52 Sure-footed pack animals
- 53 Number that’s often in Italian
- 54 Sharp twist, as in a hose
- 55 Remain fresh
- 57 Whole bunch
- 60 Tattletale

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



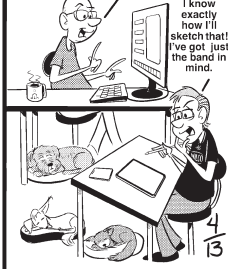
JUMBLE

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

KELBA
SAIAL
CWNERH
ORADUN

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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Ans. here:

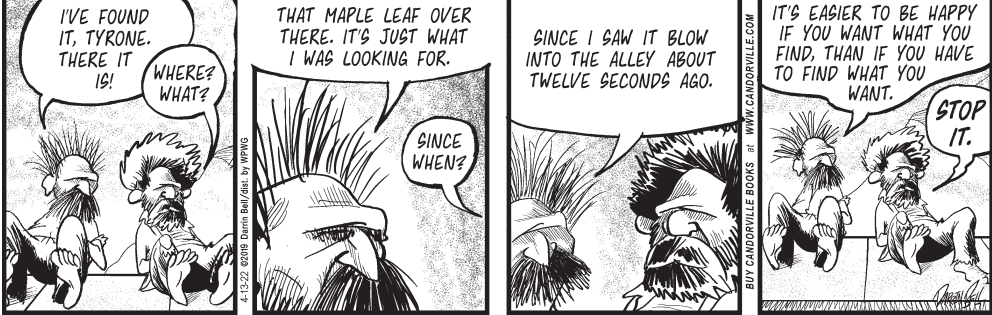
THE SCENE NEEDS TO BE SOMEONE HOPPING ONTO THIS CARRIAGE FULL OF MUSICIANS. IT WILL BE FOR "JUMP ON THE BANDWAGON."

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

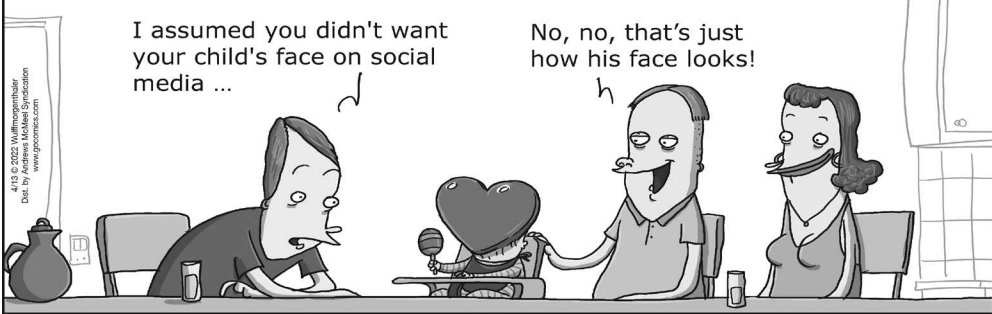
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: YIELD HURRY IGUANA HYPHEN
Answer: The unemployment rate drops when the number of people getting jobs goes — "HIRE" AND "HIRE"

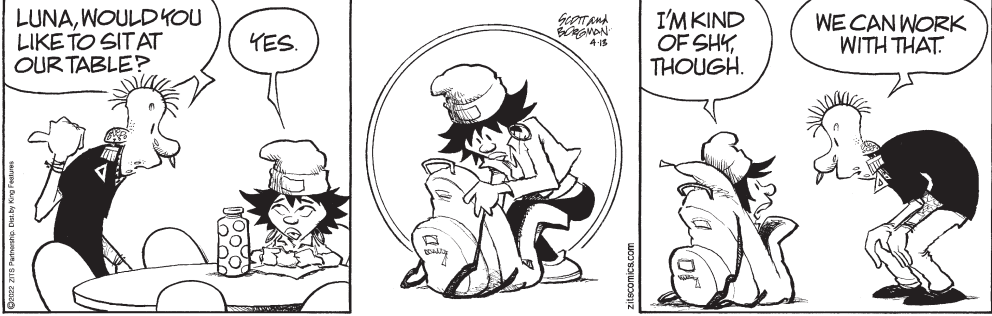
CANDORVILLE



WUMO



ZITS



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 L.A. Rams' ____ McVay, youngest head coach to win the Super Bowl
- 5 Fly high
- 9 Old NCAA football ranking sys.
- 12 Regarding
- 13 Limerick's land
- 14 Coagulate
- 15 Test format with options
- 18 Grassland
- 19 Using pointe shoes
- 20 Didn't stick around
- 21 Dojo move
- 24 Card game requirement, maybe
- 26 ____-pitch
- 27 Farm female
- 28 Roman who defeated Hannibal
- 31 Triage areas: Abbr.
- 33 Bat specialty, and what you need to find in four long answers
- 38 Name in "Kill Bill" credits
- 39 Military jeep successor
- 41 Aid for the lost
- 44 They're not from around here, briefly
- 46 Lowly worker
- 47 Nocturnal bird that woke up Vinny in "My Cousin Vinny"
- 51 Messenger ____
- 52 As is fitting
- 53 41-Across, e.g.
- 55 Cocoa butter confection
- 58 Golfer's pocketful
- 59 Sell on the street
- 60 Series finale: Abbr.
- 61 "____ the ramparts ..."
- 62 Dire March time
- 63 Slithery swimmers

DOWN

- 1 Longtime Agassi rival
- 2 Online GEICO alternative
- 3 Brit's pond
- 4 "It wasn't me"
- 5 Photo tint
- 6 Persian Gulf ships
- 7 Word shortened to its middle letter, in texts
- 8 "Parks and ____"
- 9 Devil-may-care
- 10 Protective covering
- 11 So inclined?
- 14 Large sea snail
- 16 Bug
- 17 Soil-moving implement
- 22 Jack Ryan portrayer before Harrison
- 23 Holy scroll
- 25 Book after Galatians: Abbr.
- 29 Chit
- 30 Ancient Mesoamerican
- 32 Guy found running through the alphabet?

- 34 Court recitation
- 35 Little terror
- 36 Give credit where credit isn't due
- 37 Like early childcare
- 40 Glossy coats
- 41 "Scorpion" co-star Katharine
- 42 More pretentious
- 43 Pummels with snowballs
- 45 "Us, too"
- 47 Handled
- 48 Watch closely
- 49 Candlemaker's supply
- 50 Mekong Valley language
- 54 Musical series set at McKinley High
- 56 City with two MLB teams
- 57 Possessed

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

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SUDOKU

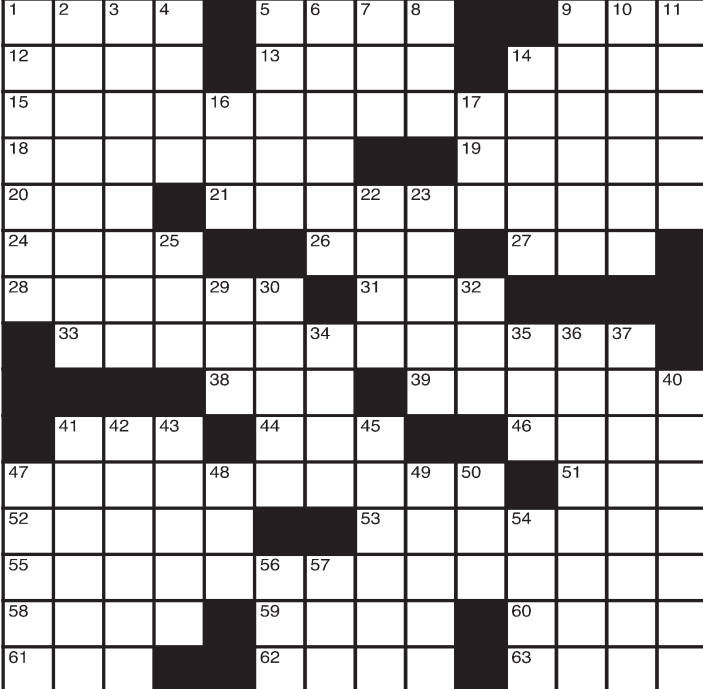
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



By Joe Deeney
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