

IT'S A START

By Mike Peluso

ACROSS

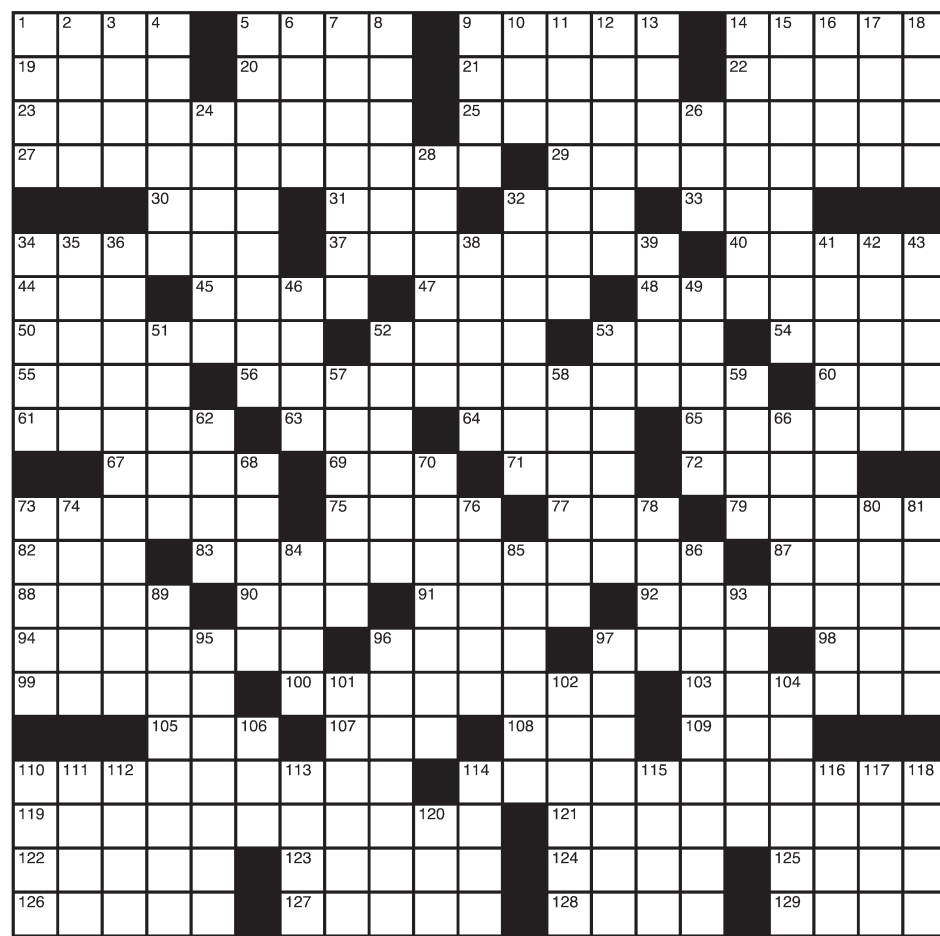
- 1 Anjou relative
 5 Sleeveless garment
 9 Chimú conquerors
 14 Give credit for
 19 Russian city near the Ukraine border
 20 Will-wisp connector
 21 Fed. security
 22 Preferences
 23 Black Sea region
 25 Speech at a revival?
 27 Variety of stars on a clear night?
 29 Indulged
 30 1969 Three Dog Night hit
 31 Alley prowler
 32 Protected whale
 33 Scand. kingdom
 34 Neaten again, as a mustache
 37 Putting up
 40 "Sorry to hear that"
 44 Essen exclamation
 45 Primary
 47 Metz milk
 48 Grand venue
 50 Tag announcement
 52 Transp. to the Hamp-tons
 53 Like Vivaldi's "Spring"
 54 First name in spydom
 55 "My treat"
 56 Only matchmaker in town?
 60 Angling tool
 61 Ora pro __
 63 Gershwin's "Rialto Ripples," e.g.
 64 Gobi abode
 65 Missouri NFL team
 67 "... some kind of __?"
 69 Rum __ Tugger: "Cats" character
 71 More, on a score
 72 Prefix with decimal

- 73 Send with an email
 75 Mosque leader
 77 Hush-hush maritime org.
 79 Bit of mischief
 82 Word with bird or call
 83 Approval from above?
 87 Aleutian island
 88 Financial pros
 90 Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.: Abbr.
 91 Buck ending
 92 Like trees in the wind
 94 Badminton item
 96 Query indicating betrayal
 97 Mil. addresses
 98 Sturgeon delicacy
 99 Invite to one's pent-house, say
 100 Club for a short par-3, perhaps
 103 Cunning
 105 I problem?
 107 Frau, across the Rhine: Abbr.
 108 That, in Tampico
 109 Eastern path
 110 Bart Simpson catch-phrase
 114 St. Louis tourist?
 119 Rap sheet listing?
 121 Heathrow lander
 122 Raise
 123 No-brainer course
 124 Milieu for Sharks and Penguins
 125 Nevada city on I-80
 126 Literature Nobelist Gide
 127 Expensive
 128 Barrie baddie
 129 School official

DOWN

- 1 Former Heathrow lander

- 2 About
 3 Ocho menos dos
 4 Din
 5 Message medium
 6 View from Catania
 7 Edit, in a way
 8 Intense fear
 9 __-bitty
 10 Shreveport-to-Little Rock dir.
 11 Vanity
 12 Reach
 13 It may be saved
 14 Grayish-pink color
 15 Teletype machine area
 16 Barely managed, with "out"
 17 Try out
 18 Bologna bone
 24 Villainous "Austin Powers" alter ego
 26 Wide-screen TV spot
 28 Florida's __ Island
 32 Saddle attachment
 34 Synthetic silk
 35 Budget prefix
 36 Ambush during a "wrestling" match?
 38 Have in stock
 39 Old game show prop that contestants didn't want to hear
 41 Extra clothes?
 42 Fromm's "The __ Loving"
 43 Twosomes
 46 "Use __ lose ..."
 49 Freeloader
 51 Isabella, por ejemplo
 52 Pea, e.g.
 53 Pitched properly
 57 Indigenous
 58 Melodious piece
 59 Ostrich's cousin
 62 Similar items
 66 Slangy veto
 68 More than just this



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- 70 Dugong relative
 73 Gulf of Guinea capital
 74 __ bar
 76 Cuban patriot José Javert's rank: Abbr.
 80 "You don't have to tell me"
 81 Behind bars
 84 Business letter abbr.
 85 More like a lemon
 86 Like some golf penalties
 89 Narrow victory
 93 B-flat equivalent
 95 Go from coach to business, say
 96 As one
 97 Angels' home
 101 "What a long day!"
 102 Glitzy winter event, with "the"
 104 Muddled
 106 Crew member
 110 "The Winner Takes It All" singers
 111 It may be spun, in more ways than one
 112 Kept in the loop, briefly
 113 Mil. rations
 114 Ominous letters after "See me"
 115 Secretary of Education Duncan
 116 Low-lying area
 117 "My Way" lyricist
 118 Spanish province or its capital
 120 Nautical rope

Boggle®

BrainBusters!



INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

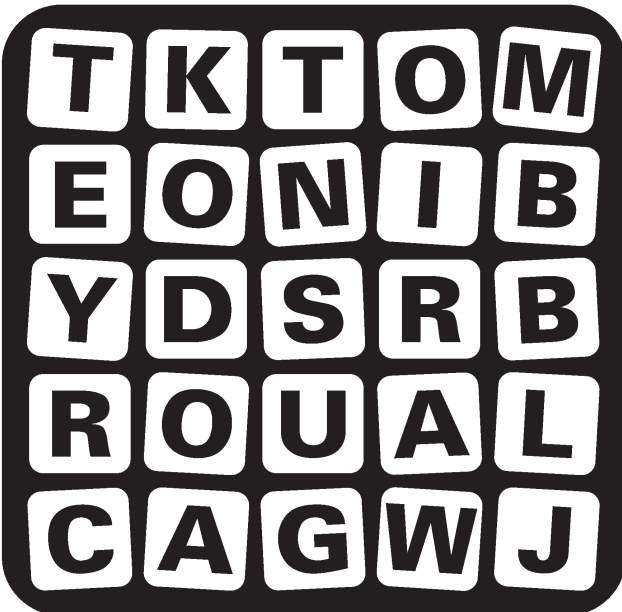
BOGGLE®
POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE®
RATING

- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find SIX SIX-LETTER MAMMALS in the grid of letters. Write your answers below.

Answers to Last Sunday's Boggle® BrainBusters:
TAN RED BLUE GOLD PINK BEIGE WHITE ORANGE

12-21-14

SUDOKU

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

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



BRIDGE

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

winning the jack as East discarded a diamond. West played another diamond, ruffed by South. Next came a club to the ace followed by dummy's last spade. It would not have helped East to ruff, so he discarded another diamond while South ruffed, leaving this position:

NORTH
 ♠ 10 7 5 4
 ♥ A 10 6
 ♦ A 9 7
 ♣ A 7 4

WEST
 ♠ Q J 9 8
 ♥ Q J 7
 ♦ 10 6 5 3
 ♣ Q 2

EAST
 ♠ 6 2
 ♥ 8 2
 ♦ K J 8 4 2
 ♣ K 10 9 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 3
 ♥ K 9 5 4 3
 ♦ Q
 ♣ J 8 6 5

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	1♦	1♥	3♦*
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All pass

*Pre-emptive

NORTH
 ♠ Void
 ♥ A 10 6
 ♦ Void
 ♣ 7 4

WEST
 ♠ Void
 ♥ Q J 7
 ♦ 10
 ♣ Q

EAST
 ♠ Void
 ♥ 8 2
 ♦ Void
 ♣ K 10 9

SOUTH
 ♠ Void
 ♥ K 9
 ♦ Void
 ♣ J 8 6

Opening lead: Three of ♦

Jack Zhao won the World Open Pairs playing for China more than a decade ago. He moved to Florida a few years ago and he recently won the World Mixed Pairs in China, playing with American, Kerri Sanborn. Zhao was South, in today's deal.

Zhao won the opening diamond lead in dummy and immediately ruffed a diamond. There were four seemingly certain losers, but Zhao didn't give up. He played the ace, king and another spade, West

Zhao exited with a low club. West won his queen, but had no winning continuation. A diamond would allow South to ruff in hand while discarding dummy's last club, while a trump play would give away his trump winner. Well done!

Note that East could have defeated the contract with a terrific play. He could have ruffed partner's jack of spades and shifted to either a trump or the 10 of clubs. South's ending would have been destroyed!

(tcaeditors@tribune.com.)

AnnistonStar.com

JUMBLE

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

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

TORFUH

○							
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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OZABEG

			○				
--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

CUBASA

			○				
--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

KAYWLE

○			○				
---	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

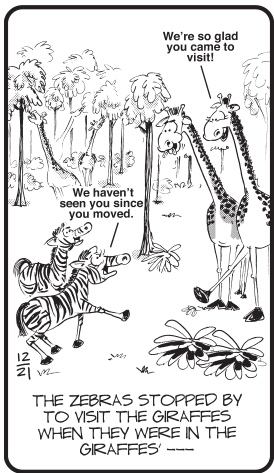
NURADO

		○		○		○	
--	--	---	--	---	--	---	--

CEXTIO

○		○	○				
---	--	---	---	--	--	--	--

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app



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

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SCRABBLE BRAND



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--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E ₁	E ₁	E ₁	I ₁	S ₁	N ₁	M ₃	
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	--

--

RACK 1

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E ₁	I ₁	O ₁	U ₁	N ₁	R ₁	T ₁	
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	--

--

RACK 2

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E ₁	E ₁	I ₁	S ₁	R ₁	M ₃	M ₃	
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	--

3rd Letter
Double

--

RACK 3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E ₁	U ₁	H ₄	R ₁	N ₁	T ₁	D ₂	
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	--

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RACK 4

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	F ₄	C ₃	P ₃	S ₁	
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	--

Triple
Word Score

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RACK 5

PAR SCORE 250-260
BEST SCORE 342

FIVE RACK TOTAL _____
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com.

DEC. 20, SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

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Last Sunday's Puzzle Solved

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

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TODAY'S JUMBLE SOLUTION

TODAY'S SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

JUMBLE

Answer :

FOURTH AROUND
ABACUS WEAKLY EXOTIC
GAZEBO

The zebras stopped by to visit the
giraffes when they were in the

giraffes' —

NECK OF THE
WOODS

PAR SCORE 250-260		TOTAL	
RACK 1 =	E ₁ N ₁ E ₁ M ₃ I ₁ E ₁ S ₁	RACK 1 =	59
RACK 2 =	R ₁ O ₁ U ₁ T ₁ I ₁ N ₁ E ₁	RACK 2 =	57
RACK 3 =	I ₁ M ₃ M ₃ E ₁ R ₁ S ₁ E ₁	RACK 3 =	64
RACK 4 =	T ₁ H ₄ U ₁ N ₁ D ₂ E ₁ R ₁	RACK 4 =	61
RACK 5 =	S ₁ P ₃ E ₁ C ₃ I ₁ F ₄ Y ₄	RACK 5 =	101
		TOTAL	342

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