TODAY’S CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Group, disparagingly
4 Places a call on an old phone
9 Use a pair of scissors
12 Pad
14 Usher in
16 "Call us ..."
17 Andes ruminant
18 She, in Seville
19 Fleck
21 Rough-and-tumble fighter
22 Artichoke morsel
25 Very cold
26 Thinks the same
29 Parting word
31 Zorba portrayed
32 Tones
33 Ore hauler
37 Cafeteria coffee dispenser
38 Incomplete
39 Mouths, in biology
42 Volkswagenkin
44 Onion relative
45 Metropolitan
47 Humors
49 Like kaiser rolls
50 Contribute (2 wds.)
51 Is slightly out of alignment
55 Proclamations
57 Team lists
61 Stein fillers
62 Wee bits
64 Louvre’s “Mona —”
65 Spyglass part
66 Rockne of Notre Dame
67 Jealousy
68 — jerk reaction

DOWN
1 Flapjack franchise
2 Highway division
3 Chef’s domain
4 Cowboys’ home
5 Lazy one
6 Doctors’ org.
7 Nesting place
8 It has five arms
9 Scold (2 wds.)
10 Reclines lazily
11 Archipelago dot
12 Polar explorer
13 NFL events
20 Wails
22 Still exist
24 With least slack
26 Turquoise relative
27 Hindu teacher
28 Lemon peel
30 Pack of cards
32 Listen carefully
34 Holds up a bank
35 Trapped like
36 Several
39 Gold rush site
40 Round dwellings
43 Dead end
45 Cattle thief
48 Friction easier
49 Out of business
50 White mineral
51 Ms. Hunt of film
52 Papas or Cara
53 Miffed, plus
54 Tunes
58 German article
59 Invitation
60 State an opinion
62 Pull gently
63 Pull gently

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED
VISACABS YOKED
IVAN EMMAMINO
BELTLAWN METAL
ESTATES DISTRICT
CUBS CHEST
AVAIL SWEAT
VERDIIHAHASOAR
INK PRETEXT SUE
DISHAMEN OGLE
ABYS SPLOLS
REPRO QTIP
CARPET U.RCHINS
OWNED ALAI EDIE
SEINE BOCK ROLE
TREASURE SLEED

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CONTRACT BRIDGE | Steve Becker

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
📍 9 5 2
📍 7 6 3
📍 A Q 7 3

WEST
📍 10 9 5 3
📍 J
📍 Q 10 9 4 3
📍 J 4

SOUTH
📍 K Q 7 4
📍 S 5 2
📍 K 6 5

The bidding:
North
East
South
West
1 ♦
Pass
1 ♠
Pass
2 ♦
Pass
4 ♣

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

This hand was played many years ago by British star Adam Meredith. The bidding was far from perfect, but that’s how it went. Meredith then proceeded to make four spades by an ingenious method of play.

West led the diamond king and, when Meredith ducked, continued with the queen. East discarded a heart, and Meredith won the queen with the ace. He then cashe the A-K-Q of spades, leaving that West, who had already shown up with six diamonds, also had four spades.

Meredith seemingly had four sure losers at this point — a spade, a heart and two diamonds — and had to find a way to eliminate one of them. This would have been easy to accomplish had the trick been divided 3-3, but Meredith realized that this was unlikely to be the case.

After long thought, he concluded that his best chance was to try to convert his remaining spade into his 10th trick by ruffing a diamond!

Accordingly, he led a heart to the king at trick six. Had West shown out, it would have meant that he had three clubs, assuring the contract. But West followed suit, and Meredith then played the A-K of clubs.

When West followed to both clubs, Meredith knew he had the contract in the bag. He led another club toward dummy’s Q-7. It would not have helped West to ruff, so he discarded a diamond. Dummy won with the queen and continued with the seven of clubs. When East played the ten, Meredith discarded his last diamond.

East was now forced to return a heart. Again, West could not gain by ruffing, so he discarded another diamond. Meredith won the heart with dummy’s ace and ruffed a diamond as West helplessly followed suit, and the game was home.

It might appear that if East ruffs the second diamond lead, the contract cannot be made. In that case, however, South can still come to 10 tricks by eventually squeezing East in hearts and clubs.

WONDERWORD | David Ouellet

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PARKING LOTS

Solution: 8 letters

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

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Barrier, Buses, Camera, Cards, Cars, Charging, Church, Complex, Corral, Crosswalks, Dent, Disabled, Door, Garage, Gate, Handicapped, Impervious, Lane, Levels, Lots, Marking, Move, Neon, Online, Paid, Patrol, Paved, Permit, Plan, Pooling, Rate, Rooftop, Rules, Runoff, Sign, Solar, Space, Spots, Stadium, Stone, Street, Swipe, Taxi, Ticket, Trash, Zone

Last Saturday’s Answer: Attachments