



Shmuel kicked off February 2021 with a fun one last week that many of you solved without a single nudge! The theme entries were your friends, and if you looked closely, you could find a different national currency in each of the 6 longest across entries. They were, in order from top to bottom: RAND (South Africa), EURO (European Union), REAL (Brazil), SOL (Peru), LIRA (Turkey), and DINAR (Iraq, Serbia, and several others). Taking the last letter of each of those currencies (as instructed by the title "Closing Rates") spells out **DOLLAR**, which is indeed a currency and the answer to last week's meta.