



Crossword — By Thomas Joseph

ACROSS

1 Barber-shop sound

5 Crazy talk

9 Make amends

10 Attests

12 Hunter's weapon

13 San —, California

14 Moves furtively

16 McKellen of "X-Men"

17 Approve

18 Bad doctors

21 Neither follower

22 Ward workers

23 Property claims

24 Brawl

26 Long sandwich

29 Alex of "Jeopardy!" fame

30 List of choices

31 Tie the knot

32 Orates

34 Joined the crew

37 Let in

38 Use the rink

DOWN

39 Goddess of the hunt

40 Graceful bird

41 Hourglass fill

1 Plastered

2 "Don't worry!"

3 Mosaic work

4 Subtle look

5 Flock father

6 Director DuVernay

7 Catch sight of

8 Fine-tunes

9 Fiery crime

11 Some babies

15 Mouse sounds

19 Coffee dispensers

20 Cart puller

22 Pleasant

23 Chemist's place

24 Anomalies

25 Change, as boundaries

26 Mariner

27 Nasty

28 Rapper Rhymes

29 Noah count?

30 TV, radio, etc.

33 Knee protectors

35 Greek H

36 Fox hole

Saturday's answer

HURT BRUSH
ENERO RUSTY
ALDER ANORA
POE INN POT
SAYSNO DENT
DETOURING
ACTED
DEVOURING
WISE RENOIR
AMP DNA ONE
SWAMI DODGE
PINES SOLED
STALK HERS

Bridge — By Steven Becker

Famous Hand

Shaltz was now at the crossroads. If she guessed the club position correctly, she could discard a diamond on the fourth club and lose at most two hearts and a diamond. Relying on the principle of "restricted choice," as well as her knowledge from the bidding that East started with at least five diamonds, Shaltz elected to play East for the doubleton J-10 of clubs. Accordingly, she led a club to the seven, whereupon Levin won with the nine and cashed two diamonds and the ace of hearts for down one. At the other table, East-West were silent throughout the auction, and Mike Becker and Ron Rubin reached three notrump with Rubin, North, as declarer. East led the diamond queen, ducked all around, and continued a diamond to West's king, which also held. West returned a low heart to East's queen, and East reverted to diamonds, driving out the ace. Rubin cashed four spades, East discarding a diamond and a heart, and then had to confront the clubs. He cashed the club ace, also taking care to unblock the eight, and led a club to the king, noting the fall of East's clubs. After much thought, Rubin led the club four and when West followed low, also finessed the seven! East won and cashed his remaining diamond and the heart ace for a two-trick set and a 2-IMP gain for Denmark.

Tomorrow: Insurance to the Nth degree.
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Word Sleuth

WORD SLEUTH "I" BEFORE "E" EVEN AFTER "C"

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

Saturday's unlisted clue: LINGUAL

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Monday's unlisted clue hint: UNOCCUPIED MOTEL ROOMS

Ancient	Glacier	Proficient	Spicier
Deficiency	Juicier	Science	Sufficient
Deficient	Omniscient	Society	Tendencies
Efficient	Policies	Species	

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Horoscope
— By Georgia Nichols

Happy Birthday for Monday, Sept. 21, 2026:

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You're high-viz as this day begins. People notice you. It's a high-energy day and excellent for communication with partners, spouses and your kids. Discussions about the arts, vacations and fun outings will be interesting and imaginative. Tonight: Be friendly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Although this is a positive day with lots of upbeat energy to get things done, be aware of the fact that bosses, parents, VIPs and the police might throw you a curveball. They might say or do something you least expect. ("Busted!") Tonight: You're admired.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Unexpected opportunities to travel as well as explore avenues in publishing, the media, medicine, the law and higher education

could be a blessing today. You're full of creative ideas! The arts, sports and activities with children hold promising adventures. Tonight: Explore and learn!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Be ready to compromise today, because this might be a factor you have to deal with. Double-check banking details and anything to do with shared property and inheritances, because something might surprise you. Fortunately, family discussions are positive and encouraging! Tonight: Check your finances.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your communication skills are excellent today. You're a walking example of the power of positive thinking. Don't hesitate to entertain big plans that might include shopping for beautiful things for your home and entertaining. Meanwhile, a spouse, partner or close friend might surprise you. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Ka-ching! This is an excellent day for financial negotiations. Trust your moneymaking ideas. However, if shopping, you might be tempted to spend big. (Keep your receipts.) Meanwhile, something to do with your job, your health or your

pet might surprise you. Stay tuned. Tonight: Get better organized.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Today Mercury is in your sign dancing with lucky Jupiter, which makes you feel happy and friendly. Group activities will appeal. You might be concerned for the welfare of others. Parents should be vigilant because this is a mildly accident-prone day for your kids. Expect social plans to change. Tonight: Relax at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might be caught off guard by a family discussion or a family member (probably a female) who has strong feelings about something. Tread carefully. Meanwhile, hidden news that pleases you might be revealed. You might see ways to improve your reputation in the eyes of others. Tonight: Interesting conversations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Pay attention to everything you say and do today because this is a mildly accident-prone day. Nevertheless, your dealings with friends, groups and organizations will be positive and successful. Young people will respond to your inspirational ideas. (You're impressive.) Tonight: Check your belongings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Keep an eye on your money and possessions today because something unexpected could impact them. Guard against loss, theft or damage. Meanwhile, you will impress bosses, parents and VIPs with your visionary ideas today. Your mind is clear, sharp and quick to see the big picture. Tonight: You win!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Today your feelings are intense. Your routine might be interrupted by something unexpected. But you might be encouraged by something related to politics, the news, medicine, the law or higher education. Or perhaps you'll have a chance to travel. Something definitely lifts your spirits! Tonight: Enjoy solitude and pleasant surroundings.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ This is an excellent day for financial discussions, especially regarding shared property, inheritances, taxes, debt and insurance issues. Whatever happens, you'll come out smelling like a rose. Work-related travel is likely for some of you. Whatever happens will probably improve your job or your chances to get a better job. Yippee! Tonight: Be friendly.

Jumble

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

SBSLE
GITHT
YNPASP
HRVTEI

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Print your answer here:

Jumbles: HOIST LOFTY FUMBLE BEYOND
Answer: All the restaurants in South Korea's capital serve — "SEOUL" FOOD

(Answers tomorrow)

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

I can't wait to hit the Oregon Trail!

I'm so glad other settlers gave us a path to follow.

AMERICA'S WESTWARD EXPANSION THROUGHOUT THE 1800S TOOK PLACE ---

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

(Answers tomorrow)