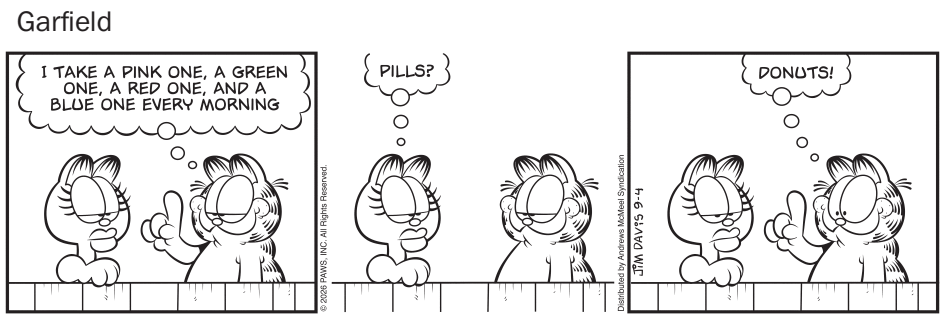
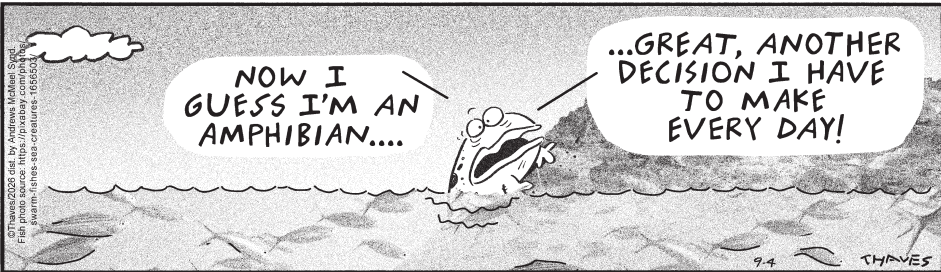




Frank & Ernest



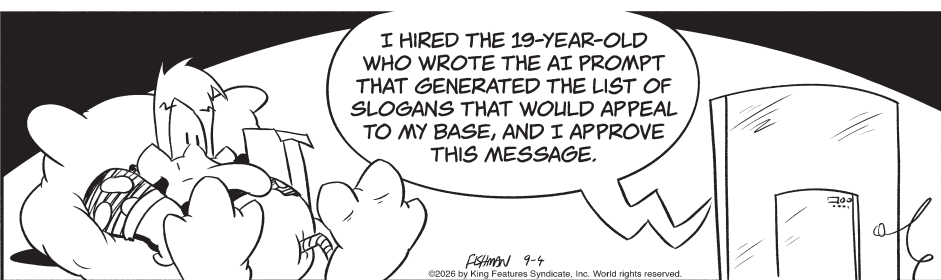
Born Loser



Baby Blues



Mallard Fillmore



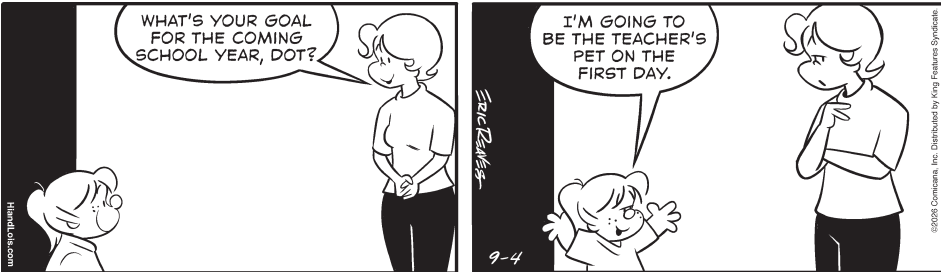
Tundra



Hi & Lois



Beetle Bailey



Snuffy Smith



Zits



## Crossword – By Thomas Joseph

ACROSS

1 Really feels the heat

5 Au naturel

11 Bothered

12 Peace goddess

13 On that spot

14 Irritate

15 Little spring

16 Vigor

18 Card spot

19 Print measures

20 Fork over

21 Salt, to

22 Game dog

24 Tiny

25 Cannabis extract

27 Pitcher Maddux

29 Certify

32 Workout unit

33 Day pts.

34 Clinic cost

35 Wisdom bringer

36 Court worker: Abbr.

37 Curry on TV

38 Personal log

40 Homer work

42 Game host

43 Dull finish

44 Watermelon

45 Old waste

46 Old anesthetic

DOWN

1 Soaks

2 Relaxed

3 Maintains

4 public order

5 Stirrup setting

6 Treeless plains

7 A bit cold

8 Verb for you

9 Stays confident

10 Feels jealous of

11 To the core

12 Noted aviator

13 Price setting

14 Follower's suffix

15 "We've waited long enough"

16 Marks

17 Ruling group

18 Capitol group

19 Sore

20 Grant's follower

21 Cardinal

22 Back muscle

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

SEDAN MEMES  
ORONO OVERT  
WANTS NEWSY  
TEETER  
RAP JOY DIM  
INAROW DOVE  
DONTBETONIT  
EDIE LUSTER  
SEC JET ADO  
TUDORS  
PAPAL ROKER  
EXILE ELMAN  
WEEKS DEETS

## Bridge – By Steven Becker

**Bidding quiz**

You are South in each of the following three hands. What would you bid at the point where the question mark appears?

1. ♠742 ♥KJ94 ♦KQ1092 ♣6

|       |      |       |      |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| South | West | North | East |
| Pass  | Pass | 1 ♥   | Pass |
| 3 ♥   | Pass | 4 NT  | Pass |
| 5 ♣   | Pass | 5 NT  | Pass |
| ?     |      |       |      |

2. ♠AJ4 ♥AJ2 ♦AJ6 ♣A985

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| South | North |
| 1 ♣   | 1 ♥   |
| 2 NT  | 3 ♣   |
| ?     |       |

3. ♠AQJ4 ♥K83 ♦762 ♣985

|       |      |       |      |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| North | East | South | West |
| 1 ♠   | Pass | 1 ♣   | Pass |
| 2 ♣   | Pass | ?     | Pass |

\*\*\*

1. Seven hearts. Partner is trying for a grand slam even though he knows from your five-club response to Blackwood that you have no aces. The fact that he is now asking for kings implies that he has all four aces; otherwise, his five-notrump bid would make no sense.

You are not required to bid six hearts mechanically at this point to tell partner you have two kings; if you did that, you'd be disregarding the real issue, which is whether you think you can make seven hearts now that you know your side has all four aces. You should feel very bullish about the grand slam

Tomorrow: 13 — the magic number.  
©2026 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES – HERE'S HOW TO WORK IT:**

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

LADXSVDXL MATQ IAQLS JVSL

VZ OVRX XZB TU EXVZW

MATQ EXLS YBNYZSYWX.

— OYVOY YOY

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: EACH DAY OF OUR LIVES, WE MAKE DEPOSITS IN THE MEMORY BANKS OF OUR CHILDREN. — CHARLES R. SWINDOLL

# Name your Game!

Over 70 titles to choose from.

•Word Games •Puzzles •Sudoku •Crosswords •Mahjongg  
•Card Games •Casino Games and MUCH MORE!  
bdtonline.com/games

## Word Sleuth

**WORD SLEUTH**

●HEMATOLOGY

PRPMNDJHECZXSQ

REDBLOODCELLNLJ

GEP CZNIXVTMNSRR

PNLYIOJSHEUETOC

AYRETRAYUWRGETV

TRVPEDNTLFEILCK

IGETCBOZXWSTEAU

SNIBOLGOMEHNTFR

PHOMCLJILGEAAHD

WBAYYSPOIBXWLRU

TSAIMENAMSALPQT

Thursday's unlisted clue: SERENA

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue hint: — BLOOD CELLS

|         |            |                |             |
|---------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Anemia  | Blood type | Plasma         | Serum       |
| Antigen | Clot       | Platelets      | Transfusion |
| Artery  | Donor      | Red blood cell | Vein        |
| Biopsy  | Hemoglobin | Rh factor      |             |

©2026 King Features, Inc.

9/4

## Horoscope

– By Georgia Nichols

Happy Birthday for Friday, Sept. 4, 2026:

You're quick-witted, perceptive and energetic. You're also a gifted problem-solver who loves a challenge. This year holds exciting changes and increased personal freedom for you. Let go of whatever holds you back. Seek out new opportunities and be ready to act fast. Expect to travel and expand your horizons.

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)

★★★★ Because your communication skills are so excellent today, it's a great day for those of you who teach, write, sell, market or act, because your words will be like gold. You'll have practical, doable ideas. And at the same time, you'll be creative and optimistic about the future! Tonight: Discussions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ This is a strong money day for you. You have practical ideas and you're willing to work hard to make money. Meanwhile, a family

connection or something related to real estate might boost your income. This is a work hard/party hard day. Tonight: Check your money.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign dancing with both Saturn and Jupiter, which gives a lovely balance to your energy. Someone older or more experienced might have wise advice for you. Meanwhile, your enthusiasm and big ideas will carry the day! Tonight: You're strong.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ This is a busy time for you. You might be redecorating at home and entertaining. Physical exercise is important while fiery Mars is in your sign. Use up some of that pent-up energy building within you. Research will go very well today. Listen to hidden ideas that might boost your income. Tonight: Privacy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Your interaction with a friend could be meaningful for you today. This person might be someone older or more experienced. They also might be a member of a group, because whatever happens, they will likely benefit you and encourage you. Why not share your moneymaking ideas? Tonight: Friendships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ The Sun and Mercury are in your sign, and today the Moon is at the top of your chart, which means someone might help you today. If so, this will be obvious to others, because whatever you do today is high-viz. Accept the help of someone older or more experienced. It might be beneficial financially. Tonight: You're noticed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ In one way, you want to be low-key today. But another part of you wants to do something different so you can have an adventure. Go someplace you've never been before -- a new coffee shop or restaurant. Check out a different neighborhood. It will make you feel good! Tonight: Explore and learn.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ The wealth and resources of your partner or someone else might benefit you today. Listen to advice that comes your way, especially if it's work-related. Someone might want to help you because you're creating such a good impression on your world. Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Be cooperative with others today. Someone might have advice about raising or educating kids, performing a sport or honing an

artistic technique. They might have advice about socializing and where to go on a vacation. After all, you are the traveler of the zodiac. Tonight: Be cooperative.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You're in a practical frame of mind today, which is why you'll be productive at work. You also might research information related to your health or a pet. Or perhaps you will help an older family member? Wealth and resources from others might come to you. Tonight: Be productive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ This is a playful day! It's also the perfect day to use your creative talents. You're willing to practice and hone your skills, which is necessary if you want to improve your ability to do something creatively. You're also keen to socialize with a group. (You love your friends.) Tonight: Socialize!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Whatever happens at home today or perhaps within your family will probably benefit you. Someone might have advice for you. They might help you. Someone might even show you how to expand where you live. Tonight: Relax.

## JUMBLE

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

UJSOT

PTSYI

EFCELE

ATXMRI

©2026 Tribune Content Agency, LLC  
All Rights Reserved.

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

I think you'll really like this leaf blend.

You've never steered me wrong.

She's the best.

This was steeped perfectly!

9/4

SHE BREWED AMAZING EARL GREY, CHAMOMILE AND CHAI BECAUSE OF HER ---

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CANAL SENSE MODEST SUBMIT  
Answer: The ping-pong-playing horses were enjoying their game of — "STABLE" TENNIS