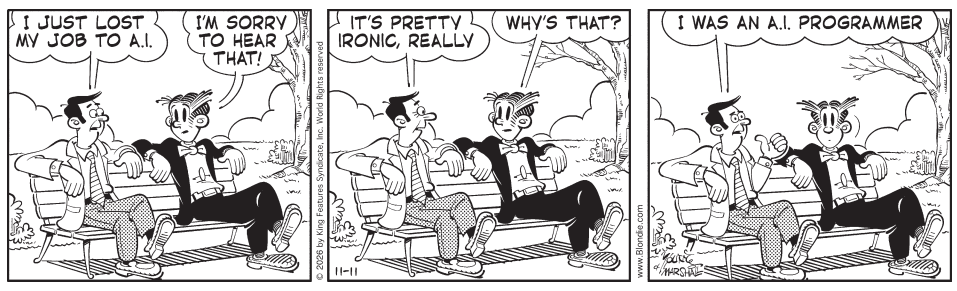
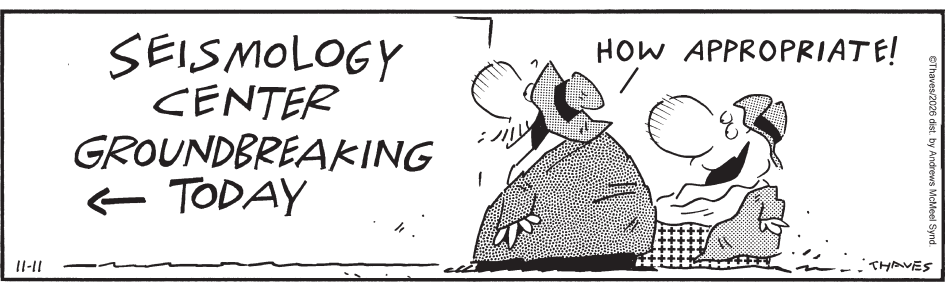
Garfield



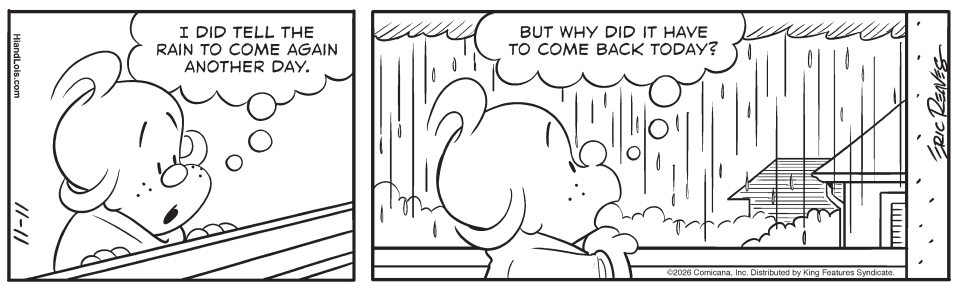
Blondie



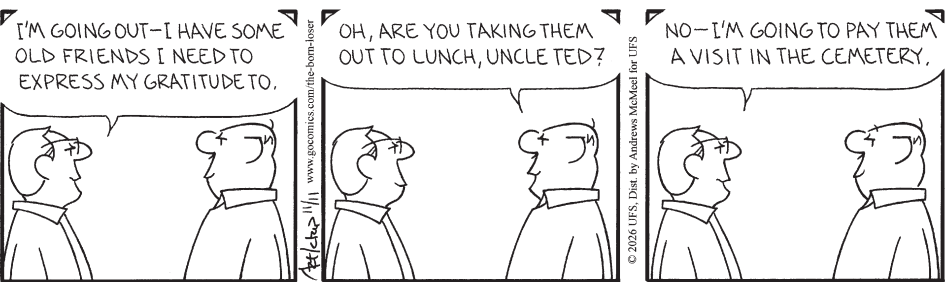
Frank & Ernest



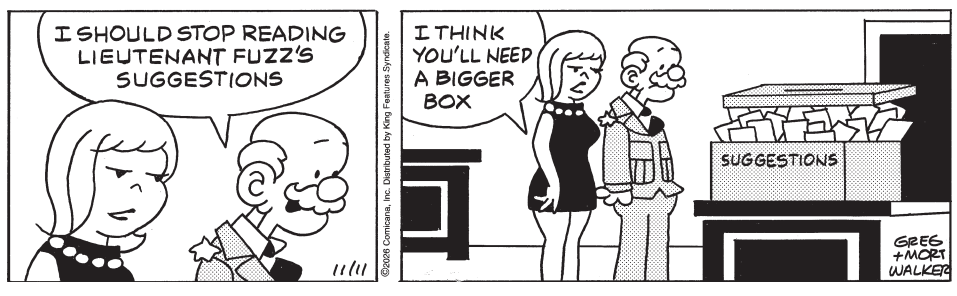
Hi & Lois



Born Loser



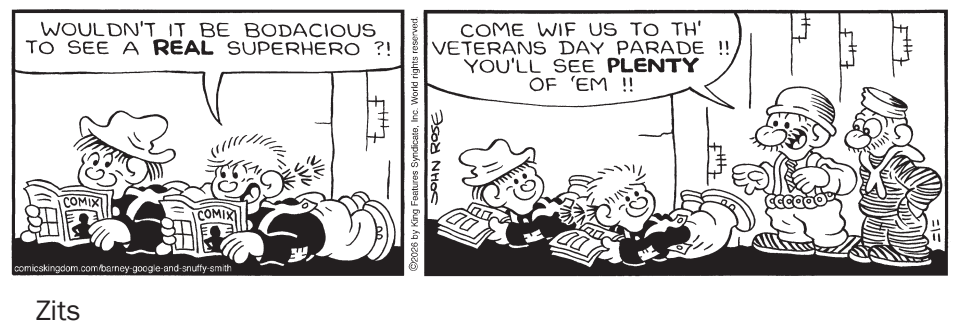
Beetle Bailey



Baby Blues



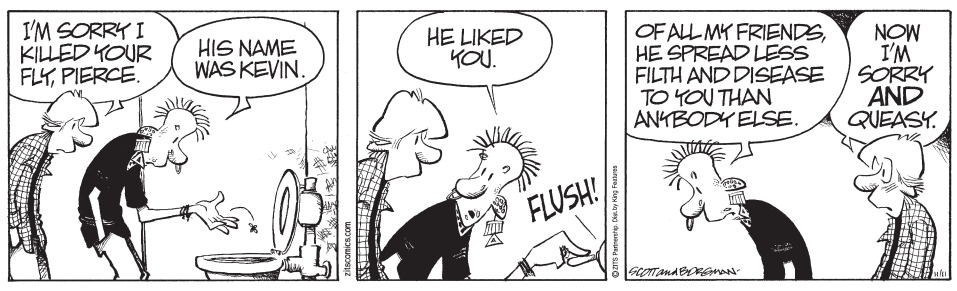
Snuffy Smith



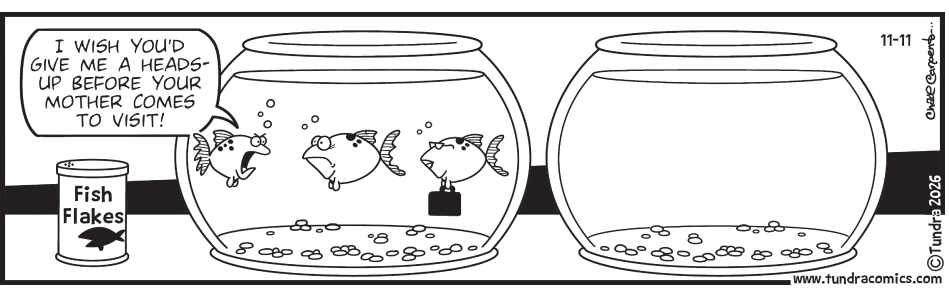
Mallard Fillmore



Zits



Tundra





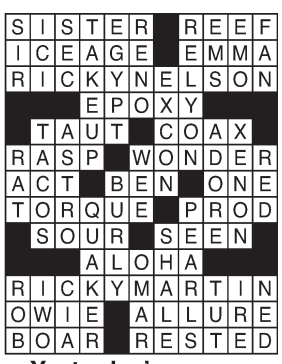
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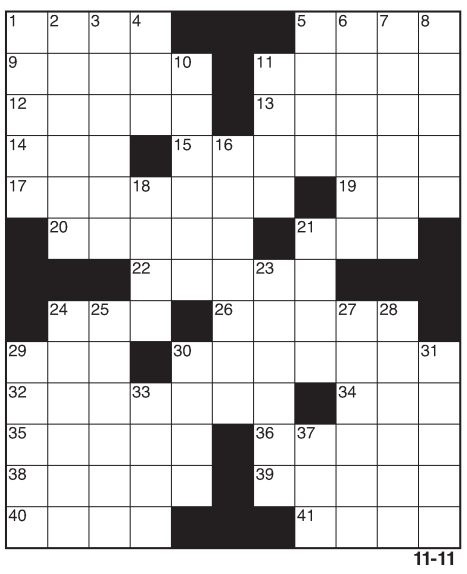
Crossword – By Thomas Joseph



Yesterday's answer

ACROSS
1 Rx info
5 Research settings
9 Some swords
11 Thoroughly disgusted
12 Singed
13 Battery end
14 Purpose
15 Blow up (anagram of 17-Across)
17 Military rank (anagram of 30-Across)
19 Homer's neighbor
20 Witch trial town
21 Braying beast
22 Castle surrounders
24 Argon or xenon
26 Short
29 Team supporter
30 Field worker (anagram of 32-Across)
32 "Let's Stay Together" singer (anagram of 15-Across)
34 Expected
35 Two-dot character
36 Unrefined
38 Put up
39 Engaged
40 Editor's spot
41 Garden areas

DOWN
1 Work on code
2 Masterworks
3 Venus's sister
4 Poet's contraction
5 Musical Horne
6 Decorates
7 Gives a little ground
8 Velocity
10 Sound system
11 Plummet
16 Worthy of mention
18 Shade trees
21 China setting
23 Big ditch
24 In abundance
25 What protractors measure
27 Bear
28 Engaged in a vendetta
29 Stood up to
30 Nice guy
31 Oboe parts
33 Music genre
37 Vault part



11-11

Bridge – By Steven Becker

Strike while the iron is hot

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 10 3
♥ A 8 2
♦ K Q 4
♣ A 9 7 2

WEST
♠ A 6
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ A 7 2
♣ 10 6 4 3

EAST
♠ 8 7 5
♥ 9 6 5 3
♦ J 10 9 6 5
♣ 8

SOUTH
♠ K Q 9 4 2
♥ K 7
♦ 8 3
♣ K Q J 5

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	

Opening lead — three of clubs.

Eavesdropping is ordinarily regarded in everyday life as an unacceptable form of behavior. In bridge, though, not only is it considered acceptable, but it is regarded as indispensable to good play.

Listening in on the opponents' bidding and taking advantage of what they say is one of the best weapons available to the defense. In this deal, for example, West intercepted messages exchanged by North and South and capitalized on what he heard by finding the only way to defeat the contract.

West had heard both opponents bid clubs before winding up in four spades, so it seemed reasonable to assume that North-South held at least eight clubs between them. Since West had four clubs, it was not difficult for him to judge that East probably had at most one club.

Furthermore, the bidding suggested that North held precisely three spades, as with four of them he would have raised South's spades immediately. South therefore had to have five spades since he bid a game in that suit knowing North had only three-card support. West, who had only two spades, consequently credited his partner with three spades.

Putting all of this together, West was able to visualize a defense that was almost certain to defeat the contract. Accordingly, he led the club three, taken by South with the king.

Declarer then played a low spade toward dummy, but West was ready. He rose with the ace and returned the four of clubs, trumped by East. A diamond to West's ace and another club, ruffed by East, quickly put the contract down one.

Note that if West had not "eavesdropped" on the bidding and had instead made the more normal lead of the queen of hearts, declarer would have made the contract with an overtrick.

Tomorrow: Good management pays off.

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Word Sleuth

WORD SLEUTH • FORT —: MILITARY BASES

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

Tuesday's unlisted clue: CIGAR

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: ALAMO LEGEND

Belvoir	Carson	Jackson	Novosel
Bliss	Drum	Knox	Riley
Bragg	Eisenhower	Leavenworth	Sill
Campbell	Irwin	Lewis	

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11/11

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES – HERE'S HOW TO WORK IT:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

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.

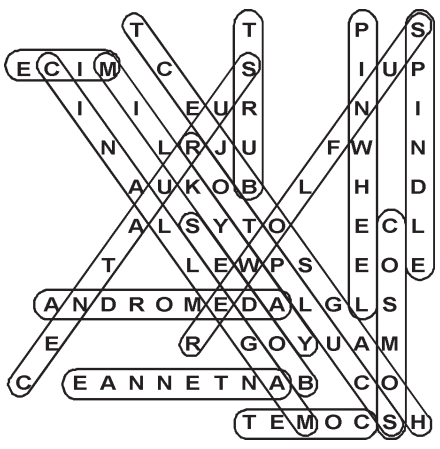
11-11 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

P N C F T H X T U H T Q Y P L M E B B T P V X Z U H U D D P G B L P E P D U T L C G B U V D D W U D P J C F T H D U L D B G Q H B L L B Y D. — H U D U, "L D U Y D Y B M: D W B V B O D X B V B Y U D P C V"

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WHEN I'M SINGING THE BLUES, I'M SINGING LIFE. — ETTA JAMES

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

NAMED GALAXIES



Horoscope

– By Georgia Nichols

Happy Birthday for Friday, Nov. 13, 2026:

You are an insightful influencer. You're clear-sighted, well-meaning and intuitive. This is a year of teaching and learning. Take time to renew your spiritual or religious beliefs. Explore philosophies that give you a better self-awareness and get you closer to the true meaning of your life.

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)
★★★★ Good news! Venus is opposite your sign. Today, both Venus and Mercury stop their retrograde motion, which will help clarify your dealings with partners and other people, as well as discussions about inheritances and shared property. Increased clarity will shine. Tonight: You're admired.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Mercury has been opposite your sign since Oct. 24, confusing matters and attracting ex-partners and people from your past back into your world. Starting today, you'll feel more confident when dealing with others because issues will be more straightforward. Tonight: Do something different.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Glory hallelujah! Mercury is your ruler, and it has been retrograding for the last three weeks, creating goofy errors, delays and misplaced items. In particular, it hit you hardest in your job. As of today, all of this nonsense will return to "normal." (Everybody's "normal" can be different.) Tonight: Check your finances.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Life will flow more smoothly now because today both Mercury and Venus stop being retrograde. Not only will your home life run more efficiently, you'll be more confident in arranging social situations and going out to schmooze with others. Everything will be easier. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ For the last several weeks, home repairs and dealing with family matters made demands on your time. As of today, both Mercury and Venus will start to move forward, and you will feel this shift of energy as well. It's all good. Tonight: Work to get better organized.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your ruler Mercury is no longer retrograde as of today, which is extremely good news, because in the last three weeks, transportation delays and confused communications plus silly errors in writing and negotiating have been irritating. This erratic influence is over! Enjoy your day. Tonight: Socialize!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Your ruler Venus has been retrograding since the beginning of October, which indirectly created delays and difficulties in keeping track of everything. Too many loose ends started to fall off the sides of the table, and you didn't care. You had to survive! This stress is over. Give yourself a treat. Tonight: Relax at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Good news for you today! Mercury has been retrograding in your sign for the last three weeks (and slowing down even before that). Today this stops. This means you can move forward with your plans with more confidence. You'll also feel more like you're on top of your scene. Yay! Tonight: An interesting discussion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Starting today, your confidence will be more restored because both Mercury and Venus will stop being retrograde, which will benefit your dealings with friends, groups and organizations. You won't feel like things are "off." Things will more easily settle in place. Tonight: Maintain your belongings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Although it's been interesting hearing from old friends and people from organizations in your past, as of today, this influence is over, which means you can feel more confident about moving ahead to achieve your goals. In particular, helpful bosses and authority figures will be more forthcoming. Tonight: You win!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Both Mercury and Venus have been retrograding at the top of your chart, which is why you have felt like you've been taking one step forward and two steps back. The universe was not flowing with you. As of today, this stops, and you can feel more confident about what you do. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ In the past six weeks, money delays and financial issues might have been a crunch. Even travel and issues related to publishing, the media, medicine and the law suffered from goofy mistakes and last-minute changes. Starting today, all of these areas will run more smoothly. Bonus! Tonight: Be friendly.

Jumble

JUMBLE®

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

IDBEA

AWTKE

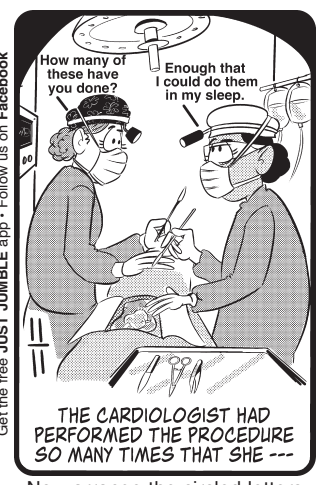
TNIYTE

WOTHNR

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



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HOVER FRISK JACKET THOUGH
Answer: To the child, the time needed to finally become an adult seemed like — IT TOOK AGES