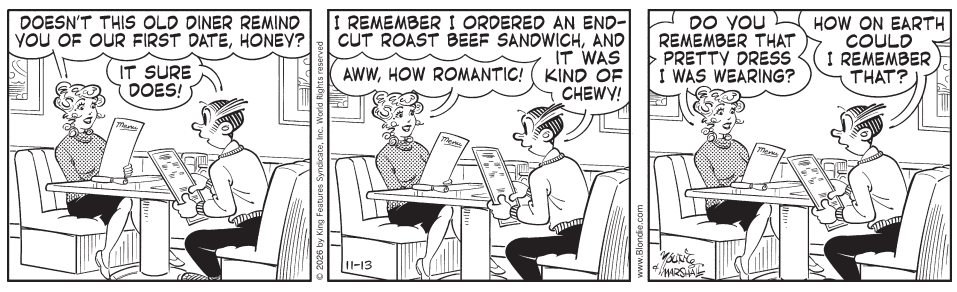
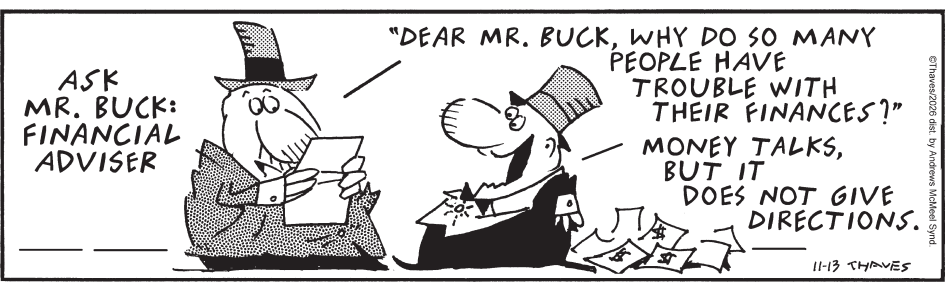
Garfield



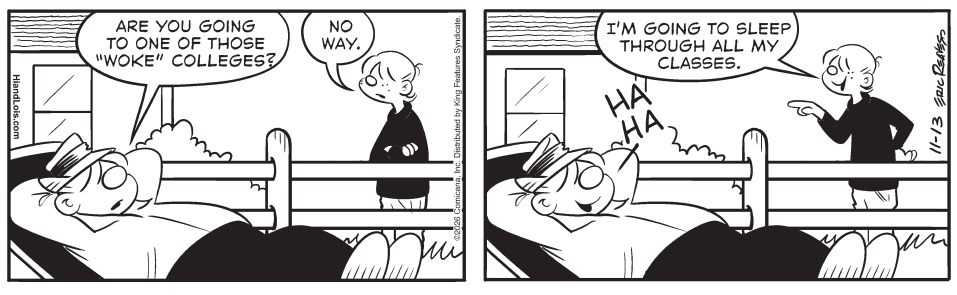

Blondie




Frank & Ernest



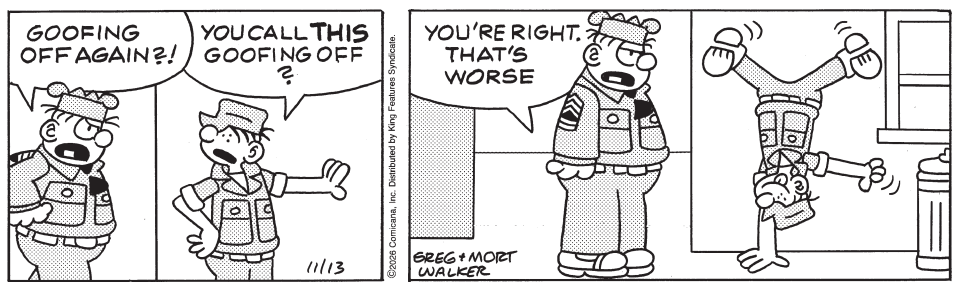

Hi & Lois




Born Loser



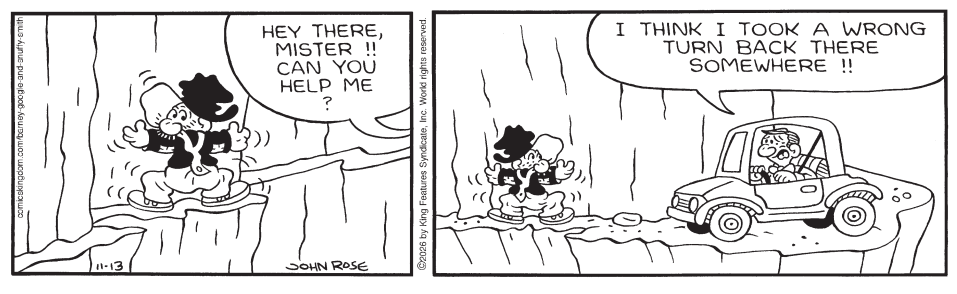

Beetle Bailey




Baby Blues




Snuffy Smith



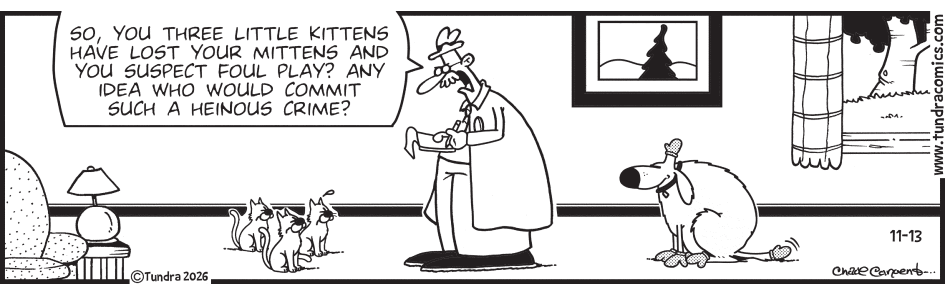

Mallard Fillmore




Zits




Tundra







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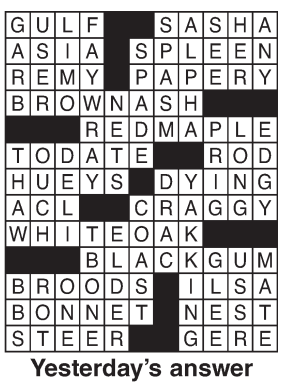
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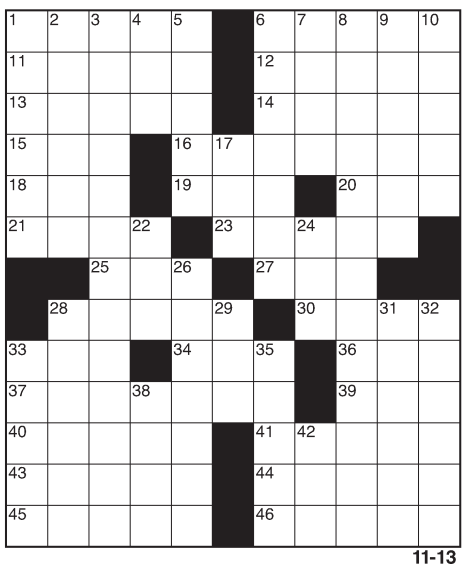

## Crossword – By Thomas Joseph

**ACROSS**
**1** Pan, for one
**6** Crosses creeks
**11** Higher than
**12** Justice Kagan
**13** Bowler's button
**14** Main roles
**15** Museum focus
**16** Wanes
**18** Game cube
**19** Music's Yoko
**20** Spring month
**21** Tombstone name
**23** Lipstick slip
**25** Tennis need
**27** Direction suffix
**28** Cruller's kin
**30** Concerning
**33** Field judge
**34** Crater part
**36** Team backer
**37** Friendly
**39** Sphere
**40** Sparkly crown
**41** Dip for a chip
**43** Rocker John
**44** Heavens supporter
**45** Title documents
**46** Panache

**DOWN**
**1** Holiday event
**2** Portugal's place
**3** Agatha Christie mystery
**4** Holiday lead-in
**5** Nostalgically trendy
**6** Mat word
**7** Out of the wind
**8** Agatha Christie mystery
**9** Make beloved
**10** Fresh
**17** Print units
**22** Stock holder
**24** Bit of history
**26** Wrapped headdresses
**28** Sully
**29** Before, briefly
**31** Ankle bone
**32** Ready to come home
**33** Appraised
**35** Buttes' kin
**38** Yankee great, familiarly
**42** Court worker: Abbr.



Yesterday's answer



## Bridge – By Steven Becker

### *Bidding Quiz*

**You are South** in each of the following five bidding sequences. How many spades are you likely to have in each case?

| | SOUTH | NORTH |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | 1 ♠ | 1 NT |
| | 2 ♠ | |
| 2. | 1 ♠ | 1 NT |
| | 3 ♠ | 3 NT |
| | Pass | |
| 3. | 1 ♠ | 2 ♣ |
| | 2 ♦ | 2 NT |
| | 3 ♣ | 3 NT |
| | Pass | |
| 4. | 1 ♠ | 2 ♦ |
| | 2 NT | 3 ♠ |
| | 4 ♠ | |
| 5. | 1 ♣ | 1 ♠ |
| | 2 ♠ | 2 NT |
| | 3 ♣ | |

* * *

**1. Six.** Rarely would you have only five spades. You would probably pass with 5-3-3-2 distribution and bid your second suit with 5-4-2-2 or 5-4-3-1 distribution. A typical hand might look something like ♠AQ7632 ♥8 ♦AQ5 ♣J93.

**2. Six.** The jump to three spades indicates six or more spades, and you would be unlikely to pass three notrump if you had seven spades. Your hand could be ♠KQJ952 ♥AJ ♦Q84 ♣A7.

**3. Five.** Your most likely distribution is 5-1-4-3, since you passed three notrump and would probably not do so with 6-0-4-3, 5-0-5-3, or 5-0-4-4 distribution. Your hand might be ♠QJ972 ♥J ♦AK85 ♣KQ4.

**4. Five.** Partner's delayed support of your opening spade bid is likely to be based on only three spades, but as you almost surely have five spades, it would be normal to accept that suit as trump. Also, you can't have six spades, since you would have rebid the suit rather than bid two notrump at your second turn. A typical hand would be ♠KJ843 ♥K5 ♦ K96 ♣A92.

**5. Three.** Partner has only four spades, judging from his two-notrump bid. If you had four also, you would indicate this by bidding three (or four) spades at this point instead of three clubs. You probably have a hand such as ♠KJ6 ♥72 ♦A5 ♣KQ9764.

**Tomorrow:** Killing defense.

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## Word Sleuth

**WORD SLEUTH** ● ITALIAN —

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

Thursday's unlisted clue: MADDEN

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alps | Ice | Restaurant | Stallion |
| Bread | Leather | Riviera | Suit |
| Dressing | Marble | Sausage | Wedding |
| Flag | Renaissance | Sonnet | |

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11/13

## Bridge – By Steven Becker

### *Bidding Quiz*

**You are South** in each of the following five bidding sequences. How many spades are you likely to have in each case?

| | SOUTH | NORTH |
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| 1. | 1 ♠ | 1 NT |
| | 2 ♠ | |
| 2. | 1 ♠ | 1 NT |
| | 3 ♠ | 3 NT |
| | Pass | |
| 3. | 1 ♠ | 2 ♣ |
| | 2 ♦ | 2 NT |
| | 3 ♣ | 3 NT |
| | Pass | |
| 4. | 1 ♠ | 2 ♦ |
| | 2 NT | 3 ♠ |
| | 4 ♠ | |
| 5. | 1 ♣ | 1 ♠ |
| | 2 ♠ | 2 NT |
| | 3 ♣ | |

* * *

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**Tomorrow:** Killing defense.

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**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.

**11-13** **CRYPTOQUOTE**

G C Z A L Q L Y X Q F W J D F X Q P E J U

Q P Z G J Z E J B R J J O P J L Z

E J L O C K ' P R Z V O . — S J A Z

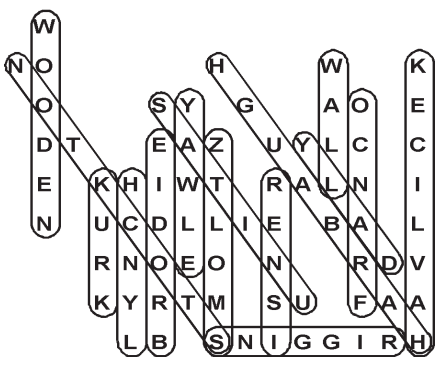
L C Z G C W D A P F J L

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** EXPERIENCE: THAT MOST BRUTAL OF TEACHERS. BUT YOU LEARN, MY GOD, DO YOU LEARN. — C.S. LEWIS

## Word Sleuth

***YESTERDAY'S ANSWER***

**JOHN —: SPORTS FIGURES**




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

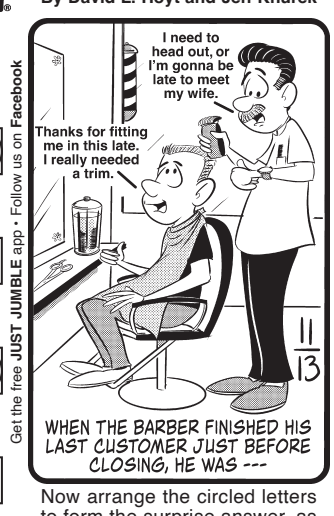
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ELTMA

IGNSE

ANQTUI

CCTOSH




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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WOMAN VIGIL SOFTEN HOLLOW
Answer: After chasing birds into the stinky bog, the hunting dog was — SMELLING "FOWL"

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