Horoscope

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Intelligent reasoning when dealing with no-win situations will help you put your energy where it counts. If you want to help others, be ready to offer honesty, tough love and wise suggestions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Use charm, not force. Be willing to make allowances if they will help you get what you want. A change of plans will lead to an unexpected opportunity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Live and learn. Don't rely on someone to take care of your responsibilities. Put greater emphasis on home, family and better health. Fix whatever is troubling you and move on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Be realistic regarding what you can accomplish. Not everyone will agree with a decision you make, but that doesn't mean you should deep-six your plans. Romance is on the rise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Consider how you handle and earn your money. Make adjustments to ensure you are getting the biggest bang for your buck. Physical fitness will help you overcome a frustrating situation.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Change the way you live, and it will improve your relationship with a loved one. Distance yourself from anyone trying to manipulate you or interfere in your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Push negativity aside. Make a to-do list, and don't stop until you have finished every item. Your accomplishments will lift your spirit and soothe your soul. Celebrate what you achieve.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Refuse to let sentimentality stand in the way of doing what's best for yourself. A change of attitude will influence a partnership. Assess what's important and focus on your goals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Carry out changes at home that make you feel safe and secure. How you handle outside interference will dictate what happens to you professionally, financially and physically. Don't follow the crowd.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Opportunity is within reach. Discipline mixed with innovative ideas will separate you from the pack. Last-minute changes will keep others guessing. Romance is in the stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You'll face opposition if you share your intentions. Preparation will be vital if you want to gain support. Time and patience will pay off; being impulsive will lead to a loss.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) -- Make adjustments as you gain information. A change of attitude will surface when dealing with a friend, relative or colleague. Make partnerships priorities.

Crossword

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

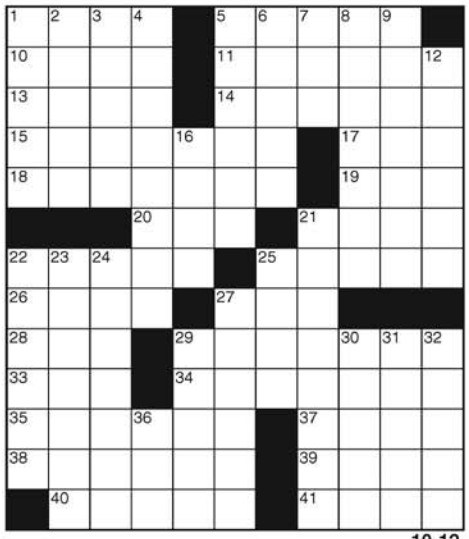
1 FBI agent, informally
5 Allure
10 Nonpayment result, for short
11 Enjoy a favorite book, say
13 Smell
14 Gaming center
15 London theater area
17 Director Spike
18 Hale and Lane
19 Singer McGraw
20 Pig's pen
21 In need of a massage
22 Is furious
25 Org. that tracks Santa
26 Notion
27 Baseball's Gehrig
28 Poker prize
29 Kodak founder
33 Paid player
34 Mouth, in slang
35 Green-eyed person
37 Warsaw native
38 Staggered
39 Yankee great, familiarly
40 Attire
41 Moistens

DOWN

1 Gotten bigger
2 Sorceress of Greek myth
3 As deaf as —
4 Outlet for the Thames
5 Nook's partner
6 Grazing groups
7 Rainbow shape
8 House tour giver
9 Amber dessert wine
12 Judged
16 Has dinner
21 Lefty
22 Terror of 1888 London
23 Decorated
24 Recover from
25 Face feature
27 Scottish landowners
29 Fencing swords
30 Demi or Julianne
31 Parcel out
32 Must have
36 — de France

A	T	E	A	S	E	■	C	O	G	S
S	E	A	M	E	N	■	L	U	R	E
W	A	R	N	E	D	■	A	R	E	A
A	S	N	E	R	■	C	I	T	E	R
N	E	S	S	■	D	E	M	O	T	E
■	■	■	I	D	O	L	■	W	E	D
■	H	E	A	R	T	L	A	N	D	■
B	O	Y	■	A	T	O	M	■	■	■
E	N	E	R	G	Y	■	N	O	A	H
R	O	S	E	S	■	B	E	A	N	Y
I	R	O	N	■	G	O	S	S	I	P
N	E	R	D	■	I	N	T	I	M	E
G	E	E	S	■	G	E	Y	S	E	R

Saturday's answer



10-12

Cryptoquote

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.

10-12 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

I T Y B T X Z J T Z I J D E T C R

N T T S Y L V E N Y L J F V E K Y J Y L J

T Y L J O X J I I T C B J J B V Y X V O B Y.

— Q.J. LJSNJB

Saturday's Cryptoquote: TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION, BUT IT IS BECAUSE FICTION IS OBLIGED TO STICK TO THE POSSIBILITIES; TRUTH ISN'T. — MARK TWAIN

Jumble

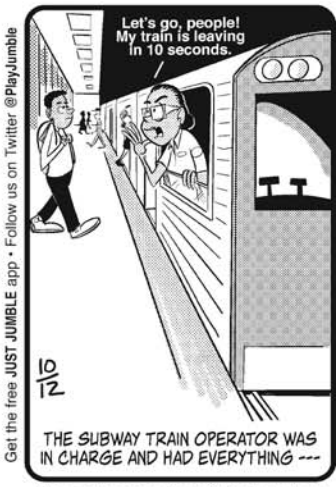
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RACYR

SUDEO

TUNIOG

NOLLEY



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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

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(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: BLURT KITTY FINALE HIDDEN
Answer: When Microsoft co-founder Mr. Gates bought a new suit, he chose one that — FIT THE BILL

Alder on Bridge: Is length or strength better?

By Phillip Alder

William Shakespeare wrote, "Truth will come to light ... at the length, the truth will out."

In bridge bidding, which is more important: length or strength?

Look at the North hand in the diagram. After partner opens one no-trump, showing 15-17 points of course, what should North do?

First, North should judge whether he wishes to stop in a partscore, or invite game, or force to game.

If he deems his hand as weak, he should respond two hearts, a transfer bid, and pass over South's two-spade rebid.

However, that seems a tad pessimistic. The hand is worth a game-invitation. Then North might transfer and rebid two no-trump, but it is better to respond two clubs. If opener replies two diamonds, denying a four-card major, a two-spade rebid by responder shows five spades, four hearts and game-invitational values. Here, though, South rebids two hearts. Now North raises to three hearts to invite game. The length of the suit is usually more important than the strength. (Remember that a 4-4 fit often plays better than a 5-3.)

On this deal, South will pass out three hearts. West will lead the club ace and shift to a diamond. Declarer will take the trick and duck a round of trumps. East wins that and returns a club, but when West ruffs South's jack or king, it costs a trump trick. With the spade finesse working, declarer takes 10 tricks.

10-12-20

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

West
♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 10 2
♦ J 9 8 5 4 2
♣ A

East
♠ 9 2
♥ Q J
♦ Q 6
♣ Q 10 9 7 6 5 4

South
♠ 7 6 4
♥ A 7 6 5
♦ A K 10
♣ K J 3

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
		Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	??	

Opening lead: ♦ 5