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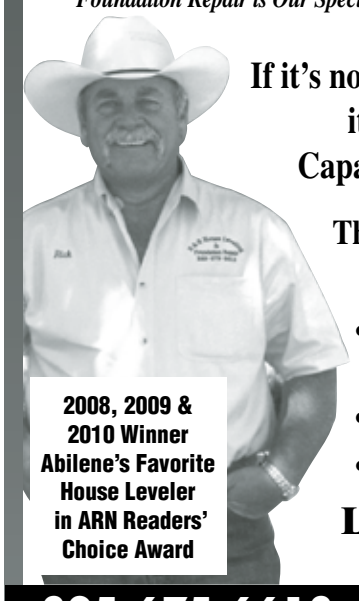

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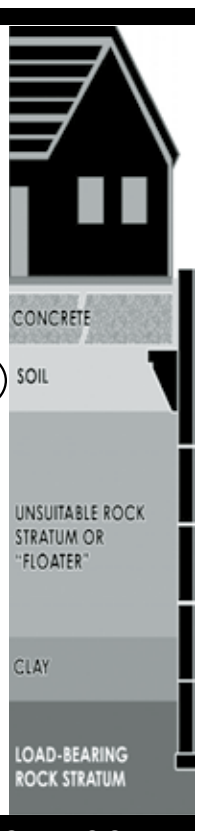

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

By Holiday Mathis

Memorial Day Moon

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Here come the roadblocks, objections and claims that you just can't get there from here. False. "Here" is the starting place to anywhere on earth and beyond.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't have to have the answers to lead the team. You do need the posture and presence of a leader and the willingness to observe carefully so you can ask the questions that will reveal the best destination and route.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You know that what matters to you isn't necessarily what matters to the organization, the family or group. Still, there will be some crossover and a clear way to promote your interests and theirs simultaneously.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Though you need attention (everyone does), you only want it from certain people. This is how the social swirl goes around. Your compassion and an open, friendly attitude will serve you well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Recognizing others takes courage, as there's a kind of presentation involved. It can be nerve-wracking to try and come up with just the right words and gestures to make someone feel acknowledged. It's well worth the effort.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A thing to remember about moods: Life's beautiful highlights live at a certain elevation. For those down in an emotional pit, such elevations will be harder to reach. Getting to an emotional "sea level" will come first.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You start out enacting a typical day in the life of you, and then something happens to make business as usual an impossibility. You'll be rather brilliant at handling whatever comes up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Luck can be a fickle fairy. She doesn't want to be captured or courted. She lands on what's interesting to her; there's nothing you can do to make it more or less so. Ignore her. Do your work. She'll drop in wherever she wants.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The world of your thoughts matters to varying degrees, and usually only to you. It will benefit you to lose a certain amorphous, formless group of thoughts that's holding you back right now. Just drop it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you look back, it will be easy to see the ways in which you have become and remain totally trapped. But if you send your energy forward, the illusion of this problem will disappear completely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A sudden realization will be an experience to remember. You didn't see it coming, and your reaction to it is visceral. You know this is the truth, and it will change the way you view things from here onward.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be excellent at focusing on what will make a difference to your bottom line, ignoring what won't and knowing the difference between those two things, practically at first sight.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 27). You have what people want. You give what they need. You take in a way that's beneficial to all. Your connectedness to the world feels so natural and easy, though you've worked very hard to get to this point. Other highlights include lifting a person or venture like only you can, a major sale and an exciting hobby. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 49, 3, 33, 26 and 15.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Annie's Mailbox ®

How to Stop Unwelcome Visit

Dear Annie: I have three grandchildren from my stepdaughter who live in another city. Their mom has said that she plans to come and visit with the kids this summer. One of the children has a lot of mental health issues. On a previous trip, "Sophie" stole several items worth quite a bit of money. When I mentioned this by phone on their drive back, my stepdaughter said she'd ask my grandchild. Needless to say, the child denied everything.

She also defaced a painting while visiting. I later found out that "Sophie" has stolen large sums of money from her father as well as from others. She has been violent and twice committed to a psych ward. This child is 13, and I have always suspected she could be violent. This was confirmed by the other grandmother.

I really don't want her to visit but don't know what to say to stop the visit. Help! -- Wary Grandmother

Dear Grandmother: If you really want to stop the visit, then be clear and honest: "No, you are not allowed to stay with me." Setting boundaries with loved ones and not wanting to expose yourself to violence or theft is nothing to feel bad about. Just be direct and upfront right away and tell her mother that Sophie is not allowed to stay with you. That does not mean that you don't want to have contact with her. Make it clear that you love your grandchild, as I am sure you do, but that you don't want to expose yourself to so much risk.

I would also have a talk with her parents and make sure that Sophie is getting proper mental health care. It sounds like she is very troubled and that her mother might be in denial.

Dear Annie: I can really relate to "Empathetic Grandma." My daughter also has an unusual dietary disorder that makes it challenging to navigate the snack table. We can offer alternatives, but it still leaves the child feeling deprived if they don't get to eat what the other children are eating. There is nothing like a crying toddler to make you aware of just how many children 's events involve food. Even storytime at the library ends with a snack. Are we afraid our children will starve to death if they are without food for over an hour? Our culture has taken on this notion that we cannot let our children experience hunger -- even for a few moments. Parents become panicked if their child says he is hungry and they have no food to immediately offer. What happened to saying: "Lunch will be in an hour. Save your appetite"? A large factor in the obesity epidemic is constant grazing. We are doing our children no favors by teaching them that an empty belly is a cause for fear, and that no event is worthwhile unless it includes food. -- Not a Snacker

Dear No Snacking Allowed: If you child has dietary restrictions, the most important thing is to be prepared. Bring snacks that your child can enjoy and not feel deprived. While young children are growing, it is recommended that they have three meals along with two healthy snacks. You are correct that constant snacking, especially on food without much nutritional value, can lead to obesity and health problems. The key is to space the snacks out accordingly so that they are not given too close to mealtimes.

Dear Readers: This Memorial Day, I wanted to take the time to thank all the men and women who are serving in the U.S. armed services. You are truly a gift to our country.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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SUDOKU

6								
	8	7	3					
	5				1	9		7
	4							9
8					2	6		
					5		4	3
9				6		2		
4				5	3			
	6		1				5	4

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

ANSWER:

6	2	9	5	8	7	4	3	1
1	8	7	3	4	9	5	6	2
3	5	4	6	2	1	9	8	7
5	4	3	8	7	6	1	2	9
8	9	1	4	3	2	6	7	5
2	7	6	9	1	5	8	4	3
9	3	5	7	6	4	2	1	8
4	1	8	2	5	3	7	9	6
7	6	2	1	9	8	3	5	4

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8
♥ Q 5
♦ K 10 9 8 4 3 2
♣ Q J 5

WEST
♠ K J 10 9 7
♥ 10 8 7
♦ 9
♣ 9 6 4 2

EAST
♠ 5 4 3
♥ K 9 6 4 3
♦ A J 5
♣ 10 7

SOUTH
♠ A Q 6 3
♥ A J 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A K 8 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	1 ♠
2 ♣	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	

Opening lead — seven of hearts.

This deal occurred in a world championship match played by Italy and France.

At the first table, Benito Garozzo and Pietro Forquet, using the Neapolitan Club system, bid the North-South cards as shown. Forquet's opening club bid indicated 17 or more high-card points, not necessarily including clubs, and the two-club response (also artificial) indicated North's high-card values.

From then on, the bidding was natural, and Forquet ended up in three notrump. The French West (Pierre Ghestem) made the inspired lead of the heart seven, and the first trick went Q-K-A.

Declarer then led a low diamond to the king, East taking the ace and returning a low heart. Forquet played low, but had to win West's heart continuation with the jack. He next cashed the queen of diamonds, led a club to the jack and conceded a diamond to East's jack, thus establishing the suit.

East thereupon cashed two heart tricks to set the contract. The opening heart lead had proven to be a killer.

The bidding at the second table was altogether different. The French North (Jose Le Dentu) opened the bidding as dealer with three diamonds, to which South (Claude Deruy) responded six notrump, closing the auction.

The Italian West had a very difficult choice of opening leads. Finally, after long thought, he led the nine of diamonds.

Declarer covered the nine with dummy's ten, and South was now certain to score six diamond tricks, four clubs and his two major-suit aces to come to 12 tricks.

And so, the peculiar result was that at the table where declarer was in three notrump, he went down one, while at the other table, the declarer in six notrump made the slam.

The Italian West didn't sleep too well that night.

Tomorrow: Taking control.

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