

- 71 Organ (mutation) stop
 72 "Nick ____"
 73 Kind of tree or nut
 74 ____ Big Pond, Kentucky
 78 Lake, Everett, or sometimes hanging thing
 79 Prefix with dynamic
 80 What The Postman did, twice
 81 It's past *due*
 83 Kind of meal or bran
 85 Self-pitying utterance
 88 Beginning of a Faulkner title
 90 "...she'll not rise ____, neither in estate, years, nor wit..." (Sir Toby Belch line, in *Twelfth Night*)
 93 "Oh, ____" (dismissive utterance)
 97 Really ____ (gets into something)
- 98 Kind of corner or resting place
 99 Theatre sign
 100 Ellington vehicle
 102 Lout
 104 Suffix with bus, mess, or sex
 105 Common penguin
 106 It might hang, thereby
 108 Operetta composer Franz
 109 One of the piano peds.
 110 Relieved utterance
 111 One-time Hungarian Prime Minister Nagy
 112 Rhyme scheme
 113 Bore
 114 Name with Bopp or Nathan
 115 Madrid invalid
 116 Thalia's sister
 117 Long time
 118 Retain, to a copy editor

A man said to the universe: "Sir, I exist." "However," replied the universe, "the fact has not created in me a sense of obligation."

—Stephen Crane

As far as the meaning of life in general... as far as I can see, there is none. If all of life were suddenly to disappear from earth and anywhere else it may exist... I think the universe would continue to exist without perceptible change. However, it is always possible for an individual to invest his own life with meaning that he can find significant. He can so order his life that he may find as much beauty and wisdom in it as he can, and spread as much of that to others as possible.

—Isaac Asimov

A dignified and potent officer/Whose functions are particularly vital!

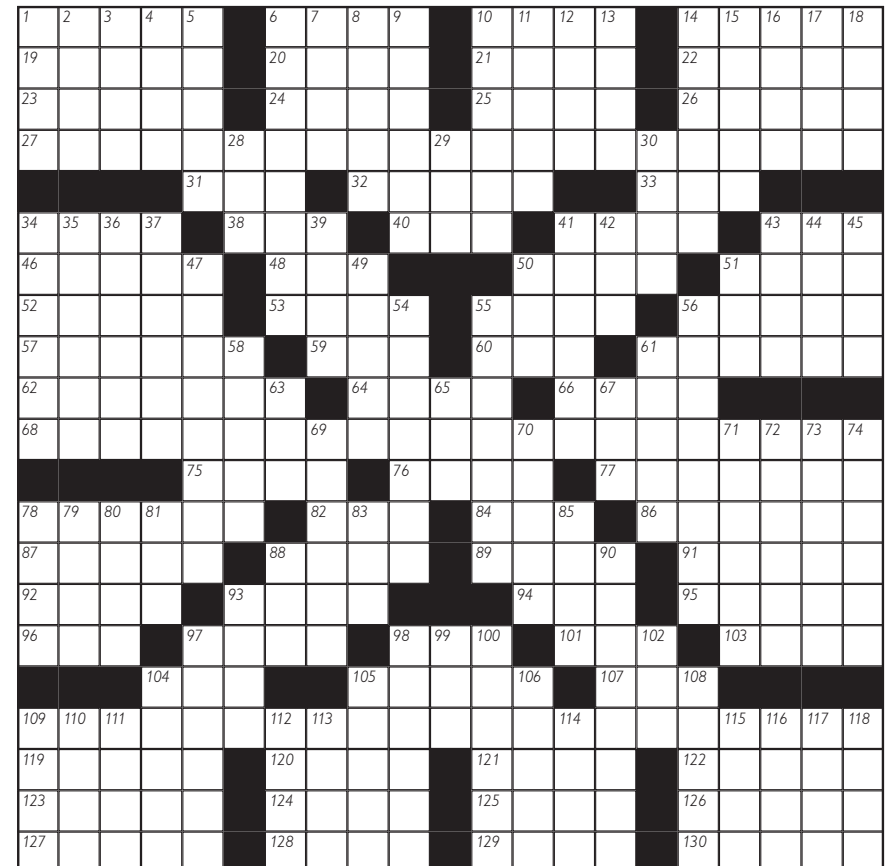
—William S. Gilbert (*The Mikado*)

It ain't over till it's over.

—Attributed to Yogi Berra

Gallows Humor

Yeah, well, sure: Politically, socio-economically, ecologically...it's all FUBAR. Yes, the glaciers are retreating, hurricanes are nastier than ever; we're running out of oil, vaccines, and neighborly forbearance; species are going extinct right and left while there are too many human mouths to feed (and most of them preach the wrong religion). Remember the old Kingston Trio line? "What nature doesn't do to us will be done by our fellow man." "Right," says Mother Nature, "and, you carbonic clowns, *vice versa*, I assure you." So, we're *all* in a handbasket and hanging by a thread. No argument there. Howbeit, I ask, why the angst? Hey, the Four Horsemen have been saddled up forever; ice ages are *old* news; and we've known, well, since birth about the hearse, yes? Anyway, we *are* the *big-brained, problem-solving* hominids; why not take the challenge, and even have some fun? And—who knows—maybe *something* good, besides a well-mixed metaphor, just might turn up...



Albert G. Swanson 12/2004

Across

- 1 Hit the slopes or a pop-up
 6 Jan's Cloud, whence cometh much ice
 10 Chime
 14 Parts of a pianist's name
 19 Kind of row or fund
 20 Tore
 21 Morbid rattle
 22 "The master of ____" (spoken by LaPlace, of Euler)
 23 Allegorical creation of C. S. Lewis
 24 Baja spot, for short
 25 Words with put, pour, try, or lay
 26 Sinatra's spritzer coin total
 27 Start of thematic quip
 31 Kind of sister
 32 Certain furniture worker
 33 Comparative ending
 34 Baseball-like game played on the fairways
 38 Lie a bit
 40 Famed Bushranger Kelly
 41 Mover; shaker
 43 It bit off more than it could chew, perhaps, with Time-Warner
 46 Synthetic grass company
 48 ____ it up (finish)
 50 Name with Epstein
 51 He's on your side, for now
 52 Famed Cretan monastery
 53 *Gai phat* ____..., of Thai cuisine
 55 He made operatic progress
 56 Done in
 57 Fictional Iowa home of James Engler (in *The Christmas List*)
 59 It comes before Esth.
 60 Long, long ____
 61 Betrayed, in a way
 62 Dian Fosse research associate
 64 One way out for ill-fated lovers
 66 Cat's paw or rip saw
 68 Quip, part two
 75 Jack and Jill carrier
 76 Comic mutants
 77 *A vertuis* ____ (motet by Johannes Cesaris)
 78 Dickens hero (in the end) Sydney
 82 Reluctant groom's first stab at commitment, perhaps?
 84 Nutrition letters
 86 Instrumentality
 87 Golfer David
 88 Latin IOI verb
 89 Actress Ward
 91 Big Wheel, for one, for short
 92 He composed *The Masque of Althred*
 93 Important HS test
 94 In old ads, "A little ____ will do ya"
 95 Number system based on 8
 96 Alsatian, Sparky, or loser
 97 "What's ____?"
 98 Jeff Davis' org.
 IOI With "Line", an important name in American railroad history
 IO3 Musket or profit suffix
 IO4 43.3°C, in °F
 IO5 Major artery
 IO7 Kilmer of *Batman Forever*
 IO9 End of quip
 I19 Alternatives to 85D
 I20 Spat
 I21 Physical utterance, often
 I22 Classic Tati protagonist
 I23 Marvel Eternal
 I24 "____ Hai"
 I25 *Winnie* ____ *Pu*
 I26 True or adjust (var.)
 I27 Checker specialty
 I28 Kind of corner
 I29 Dutch painter Eglon van der ____
 I30 Chanticleer domain
 I5 Potok protagonist Lev
 I6 Nostril
 I7 Mad River, Canyon, Moray, or Campbell
 I8 Musher transport
 I28 One of the grunts
 I29 Pre-prime number
 I30 Level or shoe-lacer, eventually
 I34 Big name in wood block toys
 I35 "... ____ bricks"
 I36 Moonwort
 I37 3rd mode in Spanish music, much used in Flamenco
 I39 Word with has, there, or real
 I41 Dodge product
 I42 Iron ____, or ____-Ida
 I43 "When I was ____", from *H.M.S. Pinafore*
 I44 Hodge-podge
 I45 Loretta or Redgrave
 I47 ... ____ hard times
 I49 Give birth to
 I50 Word with boy, his, or old
 I51 Word with our, over, or gone
 I54 What to find under a (commonly) green sign, perhaps
 I55 Two-edged swords
 I56 Said ____ (dismissed or wished godspeed)
 I58 Furniture brand
 I61 Polynesian Kingdom
 I63 He was big in Maria Callas' life
 I65 It provides after-hrs. cash
 I67 Big name in printers
 I69 Hemingway title character
 I70 Over

Down

- 1 One of the San Juan Islands
 2 Ursula K. LeGuin people (in SF gender-bender *Always Coming Home*)
 3 Monty Python regular Eric
 4 First Alaskan governor
 5 Common English Parish name, Saint ____
 6 To know all about Picasso and Braque requires, in major part, a study ____
 7 Saint whose bones supposedly repose in Nidaros Cathedral
 8 Medieval fiddle
 9 "____ play this game!"
 IO Prepared, in a way
 IOI Peter, of pumpkins, e.g.
 IO2 Much or many
 IO3 Letterman rival
 IO4 He of many theses