The answer to the puzzle is FIRESTONE. The component words, with occasional comment added, are as follows:

1. 12.0 3. RE (but not do, ml, fa, la or it) 4. TO (but not at, in, on, up, etc.) 5. ON (the first fair clue, as 6-7-8 must be either ton or ato) 6. NO (this leaves 6-7-8 as ton, for ato would require 8-7 to be ot) 7. IF (a cinch for Kipling addicts) 8. FIR (a cinch for botanists) 9. IRE (if even if fir had been guessed, this might be ire or irk) 10. RES (a cinch for lawyers--hence some might now have FIRESTON- and the answer)

11. TON (confirming step 6) 12. ONE (but not two or six) 13. NOT (this word was given in disguise--some might guess ten) 14. RIF (a Berber of El Rif in Morocco, often in the news) 15. FIRE (the ancient Greek elements were earth, water, air and fire) 16. IRES (anger is one cause of high blood pressure) 17. REST (is often prescribed for it) 18. TONE (will probably just confirm step 12) 19. FIRES (of Hell, with Dante) 20. STONE (in England, 14 pounds; 8 stone = 1 cwt; 20 cwt = 1 ton) 21. SERIF (also at bottom of some letters) 22. pyrite, flint or chert was used by primitive man to strike sparks for fire

23. pyrite is from pyr, meaning fire, and ite, a suffix for mineralized stones 24. best-known today as an automobile tire company 25. one of the best-known arterial roads in Los Angeles, it goes to Disneyland 26. the Edison-Ford-Firestone close friendship was well-known 27. his first name was Harvey.

A CLUELESS CROSSWORD Darryl Francis

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

Isomorphs: rapparee, reappear; gonococcic


Minicrypt: Cassandras are seeresses.

Reddick's Triumph: Woman here has given birth to sextuplets.


CURIOUS MONIKERS Leonard R. N. Ashley


INSTRUCT:

Word Wonders: fiction or poetry. Be sure to send typewritten materials, puzzles, investigations, etc., in a form which they have been unabridged, commercialized, or reduced from a form in which their meaning has been compromised.

It is or should be sent to the editors in New Jersey: David Silverman.