Middle of the Road  
by Trick

Solidarity is our goal here, so stick to the middle of the road—no extremism! The rows of this grid have two or more answers clued in order, while columns have one answer each. Certain grid squares will need to be left blank; these squares can occur anywhere in an answer. Any square not used by a row will also not be used by the crossing column. Additionally, some entries in row G contain hidden letters not used in a column answer. Hidden letters must be placed between squares, on one of the grid’s vertical lines. Answer lengths are not shown—sorry! When you’re finished, follow the central cluster of letters to a new starting point, where you’ll be able to fill in more of the grid’s blank squares.
Your additions will reveal a decidedly moderate position on the issues.

|   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| B |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| C |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| D |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| E |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| F |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| G |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**ROWS**

A  Laugh at the end of a record album: “Leader of the Pack”
Whistle-blower in venture suffering a loss
Grandma Moses describes prophet from the Bible

B  Bit of poached egg engulfed in dispute—warning (Hyph.)
Man-at-arms trimming the edges off standard
Turn globe to southeast, just passing explorer (2 wds.)

C  Dark beer laced with pepper I disgorge (2 wds.)
Bad breath freshener working for court activity

D  Operator Don out of London wearing actor Gregory’s sweaters (2 wds.)
Studio without Hollywood connections hosting jazzman’s show

E  Wreck we hail for some time
Walked aimlessly with me in middle of street
Officiator is holding Aaron’s daughter

F  Joint company with peculiar role
Positions shelters around far edge of campfire
One type of blood bank’s mixing devices

G  Sleep as convertible goes by
People in audience with flat bottoms?
Frozen dessert gel contains natural flavoring

**COLUMNS**

1  Elevated ceilings above empty room
2  Viewed from behind base, Oakland ballplayer’s not on base
3  Inside info going in both directions
4  Uses a plow for all that, beginning to end
5  Under the influence, he’s loose-limbed
6  Feeble attempts to promote goodwill, including hugs
7  Join you before evening broadcast
8  Office seeker with excellent staff
9  Group that broods at deserting Greek city
10 Improved rate keeps foundry’s leader succeeding
11 Repel endless group of fighters standing opposite
12 Spotted mammal, bee, and head of cattle in tub toy
13 Train Kansas animals
14 Stallone pic set in Burma hit box office
15 Leeds redesigned auto with a horse-collar grille
16 Day after day, going through line with monkey
17 Issues of subscriber’s Premiere magazine returned
18 Consume a meal with noise and energy
19 Nurse attached small sinews
20 On the move, rat is careening
21 Having struck the head, smack bum
22 New idea to get dogsbody on Capitol Hill
23 Sleek swimmer more handsome heading away
24 Irate letters from Westeners or Eastenders
25 Shilling tucked into earnings fit snugly