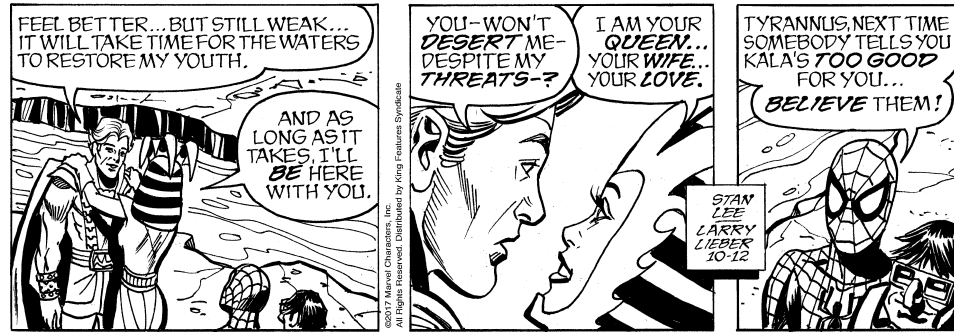


ENTERTAINMENT

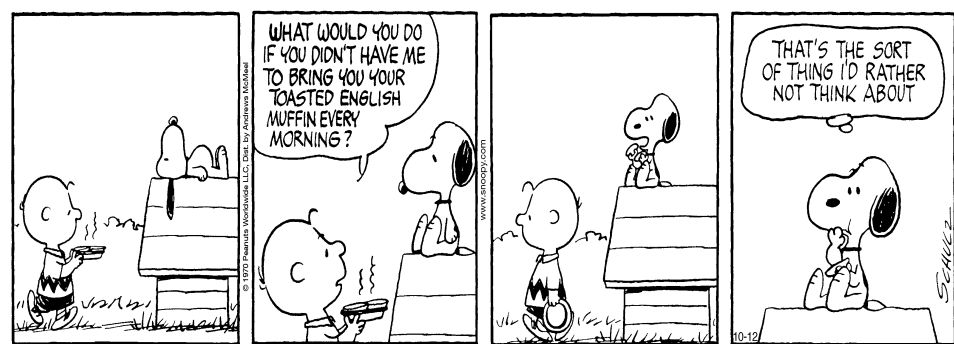
SPIDER-MAN



ANDY CAPP



PEANUTS



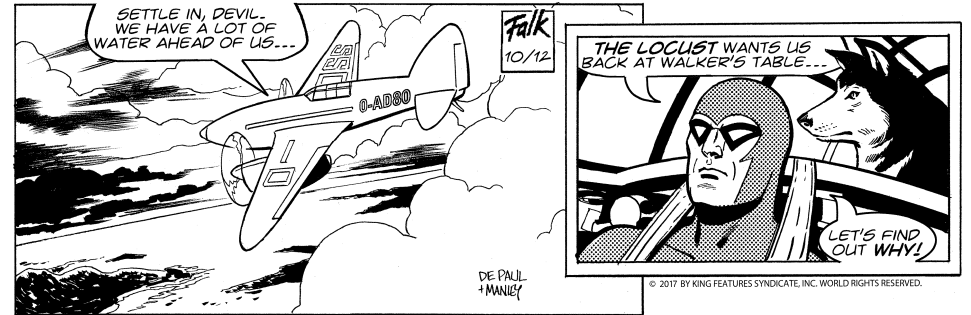
HAGAR



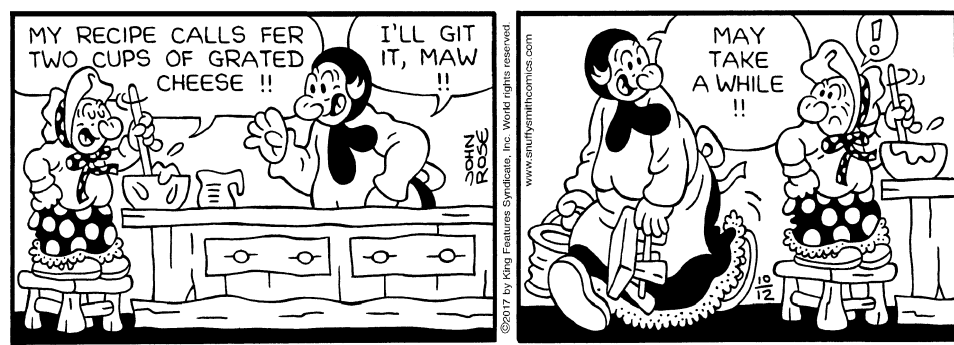
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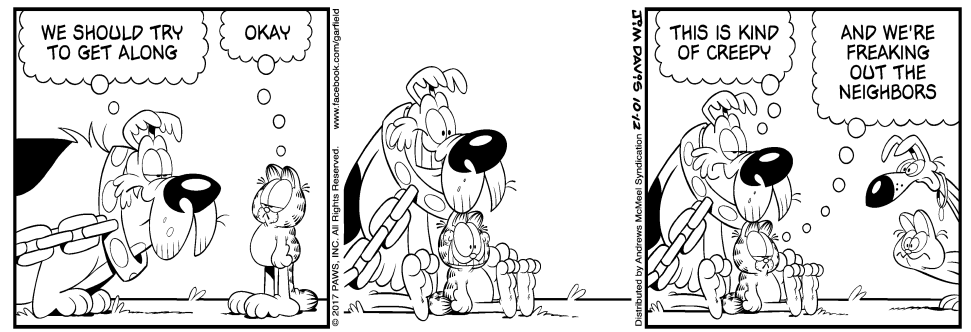
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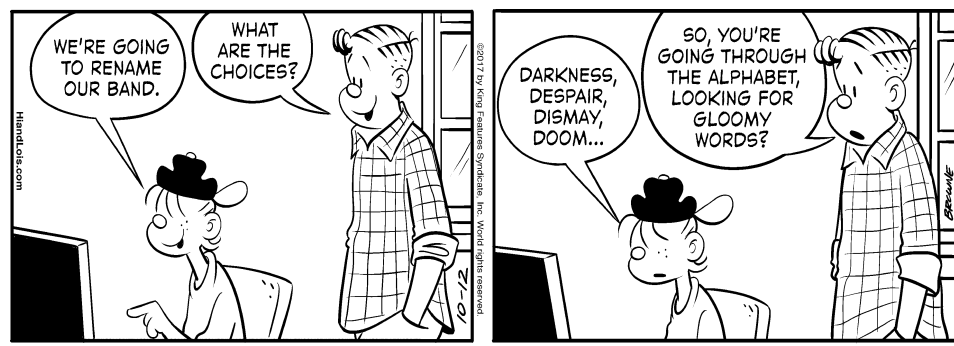
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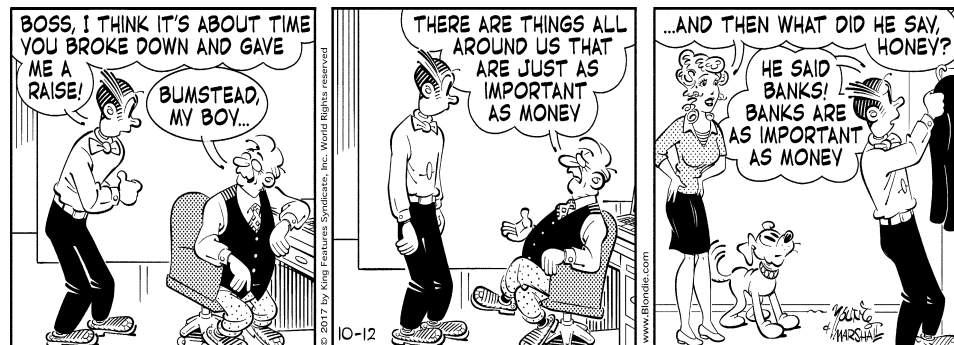
GARFIELD



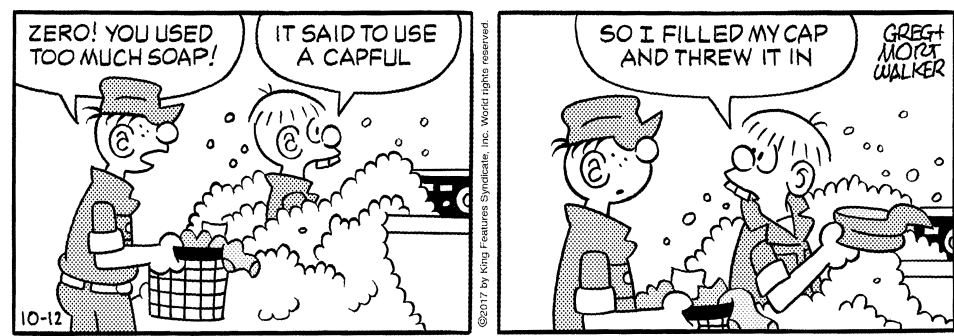
HI & LOIS



BLONDIE



PVT. BEETLE BAILEY



Meat-And-Potatoes Man Pans His Friend's Vegan Cooking

DEAR ABBY: I retired after a 40-year career. A friend from work, "Bernie," is the same age I am (62) but is still working. Six years ago, I had a serious health crisis. Three years ago, Bernie survived a heart attack. Since then, Bernie worries incessantly about dying. He exercises rigorously and eats a strictly vegan diet. I like to spend time with him, but I'm more casual about diet and exercise.



DEAR ABBY: Today he invited me out to supper. Instead of going to a restaurant, he said he was cooking another of his (not-too-tasty) vegan meals. I don't want to offend or discourage Bernie, but I hate his cooking. What should I do? Would a steak and a baked potato kill him? -- PAUNCHY BUT HAPPY IN KENTUCKY

DEAR PAUNCHY: Because you enjoy Bernie's company, call him and tell him you would love to come to supper, but because you are a carnivore you will be bringing your own steak and potato with you, so fire up the broiler.

DEAR ABBY: My mother died from a heroin overdose when I was 8. As a mother with children of my own, I often find myself getting upset when people say nice things about her -- things that would normally make people feel good, such as, "Oh, she would have been so proud of you," or, "She was such a great woman." I feel that if she was

such a great woman, she wouldn't have chosen drugs over her (or our) well-being. How can I let go of the anger I feel toward her when everyone else sees her only in a good light? -- MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT MOM

DEAR MIXED FEELINGS: I'm sorry for the loss of your mother at such a tender age and under such tragic circumstances. Far more is understood about drug addiction today than was known when you were a child. We now know that addiction can be less about a lack of character than a medical problem.

I seriously doubt that when your mother gave herself her final fix she realized it would be her last. While I sympathize with your anger at being cheated out of her presence in your life, it would be better for your own quality of life if you could accept that she was a human being and fallible. A licensed mental health professional can help you work through your anger, and I hope you will talk to one soon.

DEAR ABBY: We host many gatherings in our home during the year, including picnics. We have a downstairs bathroom that is intended for guests. But twice now, I have encountered guests using my upstairs bathroom. I have never offered it, and I'm offended that they take it upon themselves to go uninvited into private territory. I would never do that in someone else's house. Am I wrong, or are they overstepping the boundaries here? -- WONDERING IN THE EAST

DEAR WONDERING: To use your upstairs bathroom without asking your permission is overstepping. The exception might be if the downstairs bathroom was in use, and the need to get into one was urgent.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

35 "Norma —" 54 Anonymus Jane 11 French article 19 Author Deighton 21 Have bills 23 "Bolero" composer 24 Nest setting 25 Eventful periods 26 A deadly sin 27 "Got it" 28 Close call 32 Took on 33 Desertlike 35 Reuben bread 36 School org. 38 Finch, say 39 Having a lot to lose? 42 — Raton 43 Slightly 44 Europe's neighbor 45 "Scandal" network 46 Kanga's kid 48 Punk-rock subgenre

DOWN

1 Skewer 2 Winged material 3 Boo's mentor 4 Plug 5 Beer type 6 Jurist 7 Light breezes 8 "Nothing but net" sound 9 Hermetically sealed 10 Numerical prefix

Solution time: 24 mins.

B	R	R	S	O	T							
E	L	I	E	L	A	U	R	A				
I	M	A	M	S	A	U	G	U	S	T		
Q	U	I	E	T	O	N	T	H	E	S	E	T
S	S	R	F	A	C	E	T	O	X	O		
C	U	K	E	D	R	A	W					
M	A	I	L	S	W	A	I	T	S			
B	A	B	A	M	O	W	S					
E	V	A	S	U	A	V	E	S	A	O		
G	E	T	O	N	T	H	E	S	T	I	C	K
N	E	G	A	T	E	O	A	T	H	S		
D	E	F	E	R	M	O	U	E				
E	U	R	E	S	P							

Yesterday's answer 10-12

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
26	27	28				29			30		
31					32			33			
34					35			36			
37			38				39				
		40					41		42	43	44
45	46				47	48			49		
50					51			52			
53					54			55			

10-12 CRYPTOQUIP

LR KJT FXGBIQ G RDTLS
XLOI G FIGBM JD BMIDDK
LZSJ G FGLX, SMGS'Q YI
G QDTFI LZ SMI YTBOIS.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN PEOPLE ALL WRITE GOOD THINGS ABOUT A LIGHT BULB BRAND, HAS IT BEEN GIVEN GLOWING REVIEWS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals L

HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Oh my! For the next 12 months, your ability to get a mortgage or raise money from other people or banking institutions will be excellent. Your partner might earn more money as well.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
Good news! For the next 12 months, you will be able to improve your partnerships and closest friendships. How fortunate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
This week, lucky Jupiter changes signs, which means you are headed into a year of wonderful job opportunities. You can get a better job or improve your existing job.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Plan on taking a vacation during the next 12 months, because it's party city for Cancans! Romance and the arts also will be favored.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)
During the next 12 months, you can build your dream home. Anything that has to do with home, family and real estate will benefit you. Yippee!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Throughout the next 12 months, you will be more optimistic and hopeful about your everyday life, and also about your future. This will be a fortunate time for you - and a happy one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Good news! You will have wonderful opportunities during the next 12 months to boost your income by getting a better-paying job or making money on the side. Ka-ching!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Glory hallelujah! For the first time since 2006, lucky Jupiter is back in your sign, where it will stay for a year. This will make you feel content, happy and definitely fortunate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
You are a truth-seeker. During the next 12 months, you will explore spiritual disciplines and new methods that enrich your life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
You can expect to be more popular in the next 12 months - there's no question. Everyone will want to see your face. Join clubs, groups and associations, because they will benefit you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
During the next 12 months, you can put your name up in lights! Expect promotions, kudos and praise from everyone.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
You will have wonderful opportunities to travel in the next 12 months. You also can explore new avenues in publishing, the media, medicine, the law and any aspect of higher education or training.

Note: This column is published only as an entertainment feature for interested readers.
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CRYPTOQUIP BOOK 2! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to CryptoClassic Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.
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