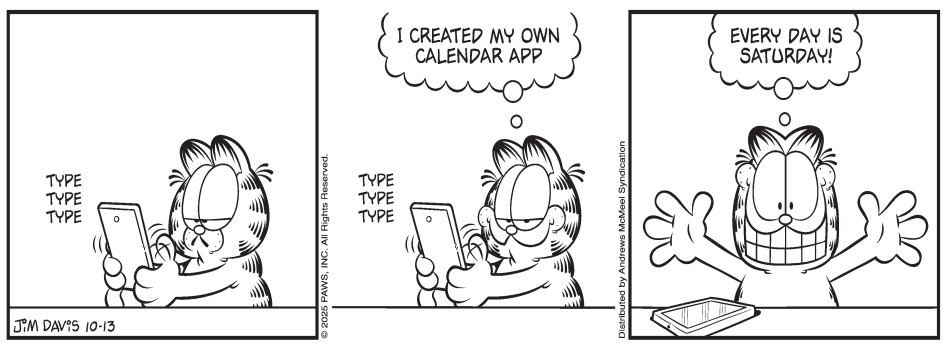
GARFIELD



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ROSE IS ROSE

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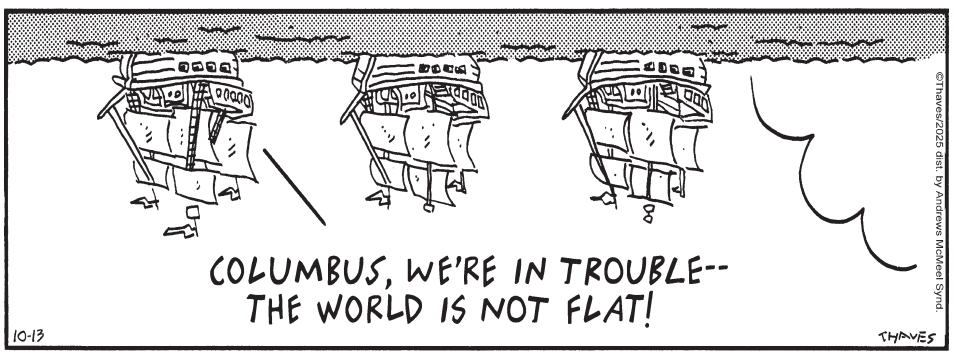
FRANK & ERNEST



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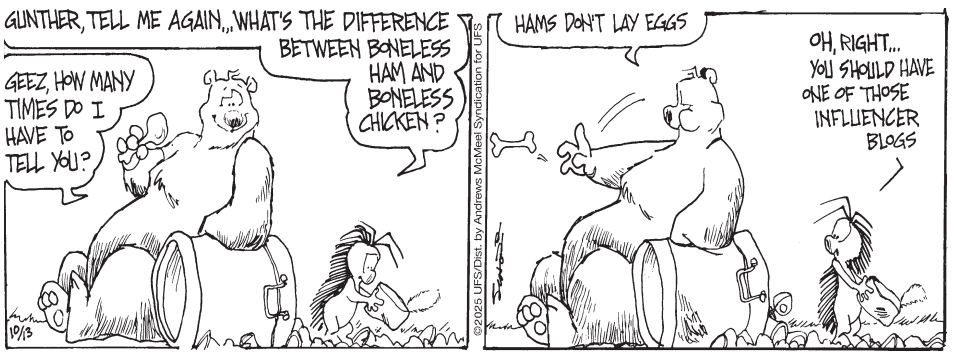
MUTTS

THE GRIZZWELLS



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RHYMES WITH ORANGE

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BEETLE BAILEY

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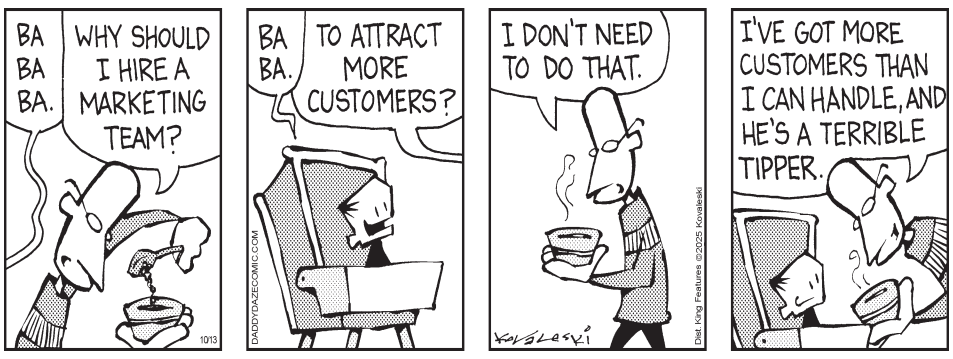
DADDY DAZE



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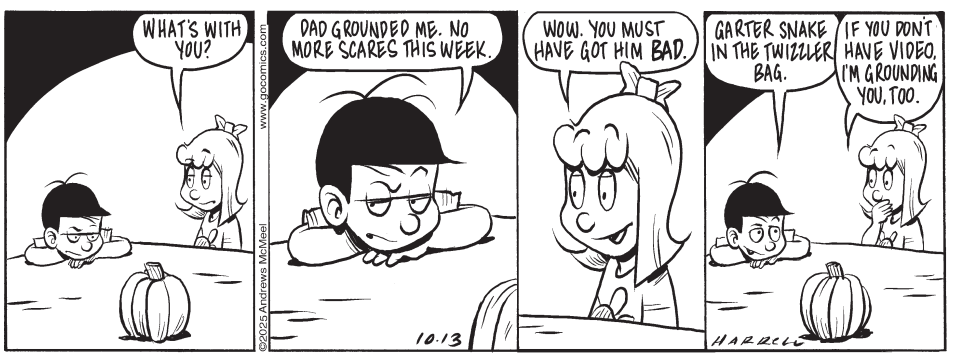
ADAM DAILIES



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REALITY CHECK

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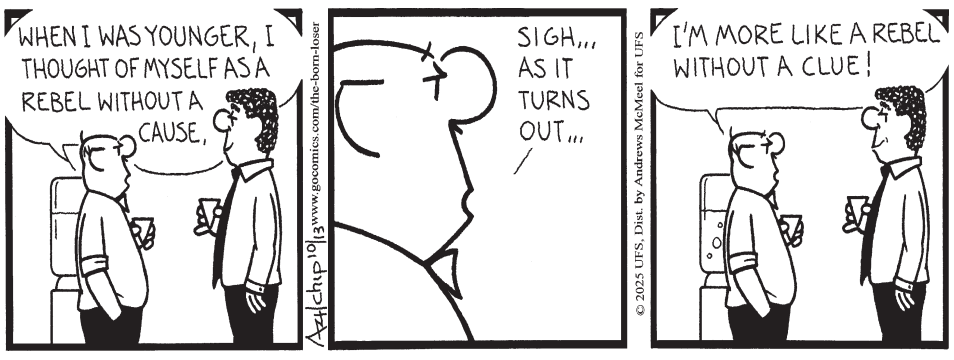
THE BORN LOSER



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Shortcuts®

by jeff harris

On The Lookout For The Spotted Lanternfly

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by F. Spot Fitzgerald.

This cartoon is out of control.

You could say my books have invaded the world.

What do you call a lanternfly without wings? A lantern-walk.

With their bright red underwings, the spotted lanternfly, or SLF, is a strikingly beautiful member of the planthopper family of insects. They are native to China, India and Vietnam. Recently, SLFs were accidentally introduced to other parts of the world, where they are considered an invasive species. Invasive SLFs often wreak havoc on the local environment because they are able to multiply and thrive due to a lack of natural predators to keep their populations in check.

Documented Aliens

Invasive SLFs have caused problems in many countries. SLFs were introduced to South Korea in 2006, Japan in 2009 and were confirmed in the eastern United States in 2014. Scientists believe SLFs will also be able to thrive in many areas where they have yet to be introduced, including southern Australia, southern Africa, most of Europe, southern South America and the Midwest and West of the United States.

A Bug's Life

SLFs prefer to lay egg masses on naturally smooth surfaces like smooth-trunked trees and stones, but will also lay eggs on smooth manmade objects, including cars, lawn chairs and farm equipment.

SLFs go through several stages of development before becoming adults. Young nymphs are black with white spots. Older nymphs have bright red patches along with white spots.

Word Search

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

HONEYDEW	PLANT	FEED
INVASIVE	TRUNK	BOB
LANTERN	STEM	RED
DAMAGE	SPOT	HOP
BRIGHT	LEAF	FLY
NYMPH	TREE	SAP

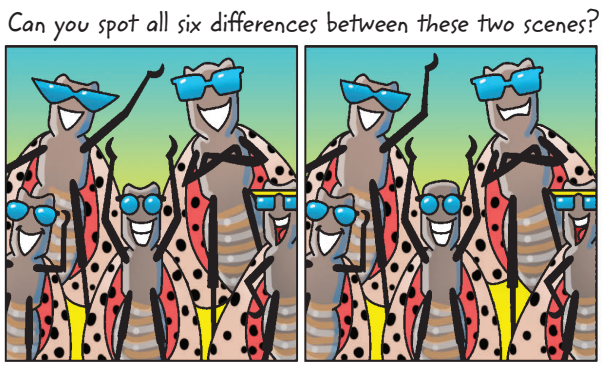
B	A	S	K	E	T	S	F	O	R	Y	O	U
D	A	T	E	V	O	R	H	E	E	D	N	A
P	I	E	X	I	T	T	E	O	D	H	R	W
A	R	M	U	S	N	E	W	E	P	H	E	W
S	T	A	R	A	E	G	A	M	A	D	T	O
A	R	H	L	V	E	R	Y	A	Y	O	N	F
P	U	P	G	N	O	N	E	E	P	L	A	E
O	N	E	Y	I	B	O	N	S	F	E	L	E
S	K	A	T	E	R	O	L	L	L	A	W	D
C	H	E	E	R	H	B	B	O	Y	A	R	D

SLFs look like moths, but are more closely related to cicadas.

SLFs do not sting or bite.

Look On The Bright Side

Can you spot all six differences between these two scenes?



GAME ANSWERS: 1. Mouth is different. 2. Arm is moved. 3. Glasses are different. 4. Head is different. 5. Leg is missing. 6. Wing is shorter.

Why don't lanternflies like to play hide-and-seek? They are always spotted.

Why do lanternflies do well in school? They are very bright.

Feeding SLFs excrete a sugary waste called "honeydew." An infestation can produce large amounts of honeydew, which in turn can cause mold that can further damage the plant. The honeydew also attracts ants, bees and wasps.

SLFs feed by sucking sap from plants using special strawlike mouthparts capable of piercing through the tough outer tissue of plants.

Adult SLFs do not feed on the fruit or leaves of the host plant, preferring instead to feed on the trunk and limbs.

An infestation of SLFs can cause serious damage to the plant on which they feed. Often, the damage can result in the death of the plant.

SLFs are not great at flying, but are excellent hoppers.

What do you call a lanternfly that leaves the area? A lantern-flew.

For more information: www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/slf or https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef465

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