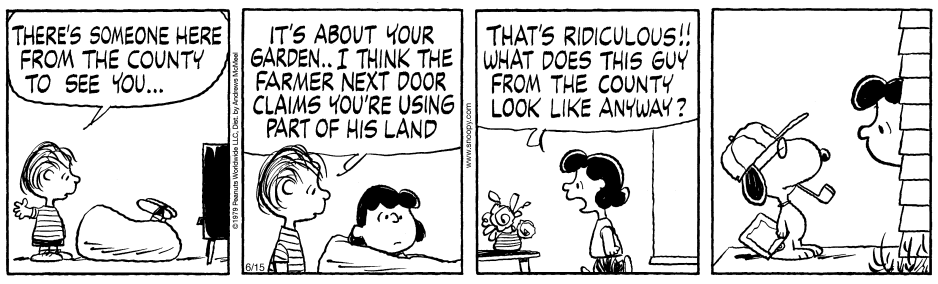
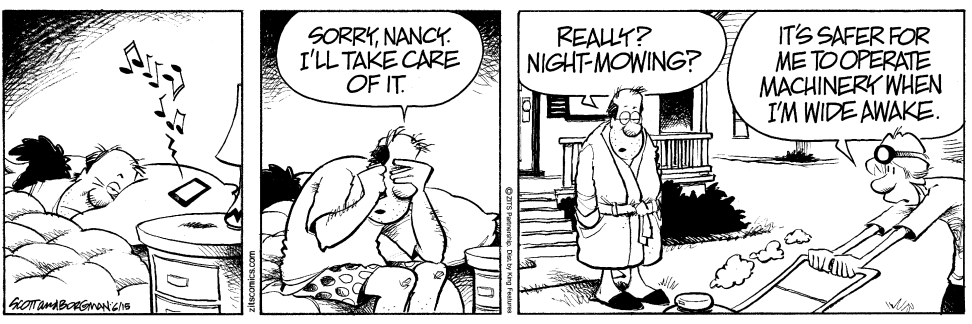
PEANUTS® BY CHARLES SCHULZ



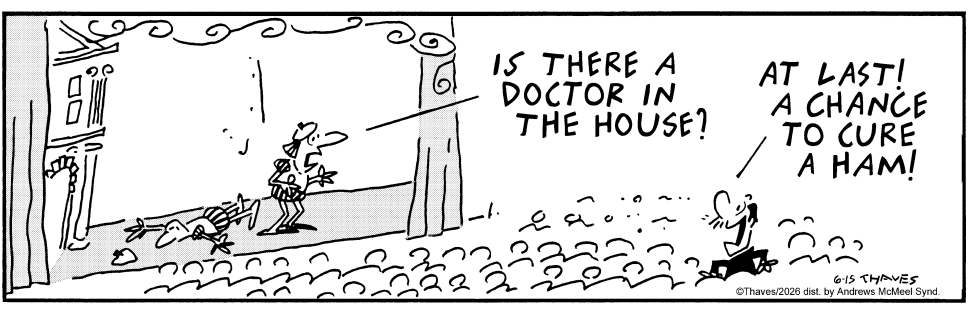
GARFIELD® BY JIM DAVIS

ZITS® BY JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

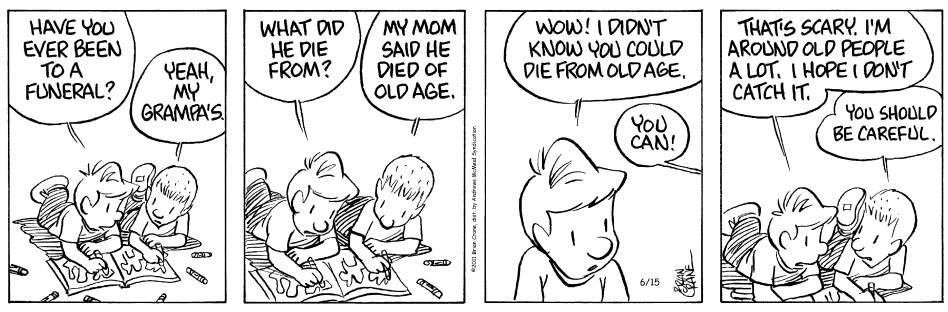


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® BY CHRIS BROWNE

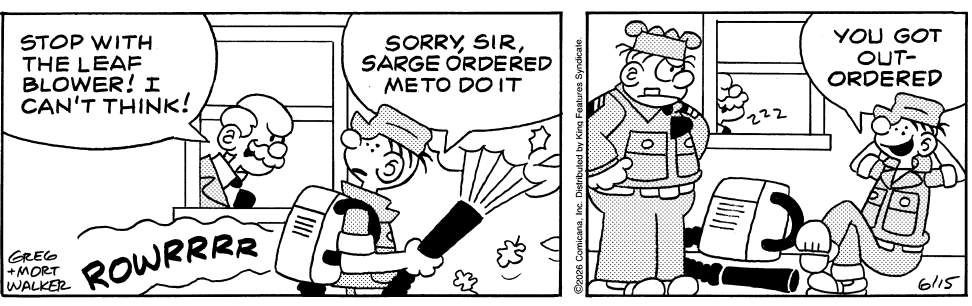
FRANK AND ERNEST® BY BOB THAVES



PICKLES® BY BRIAN CRANE



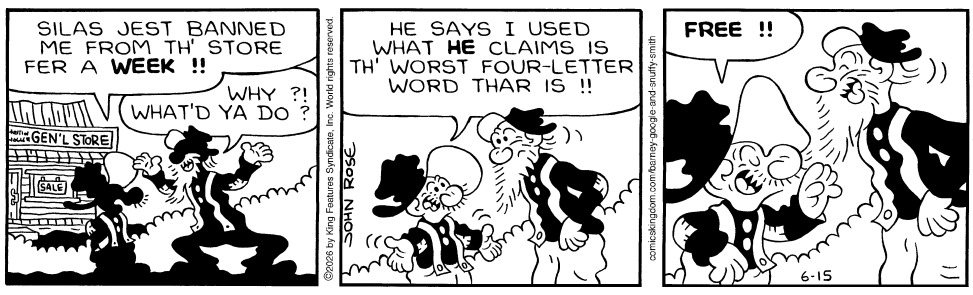
BEETLE BAILEY® BY Greg Walker, Brian Walker and Neal Walker



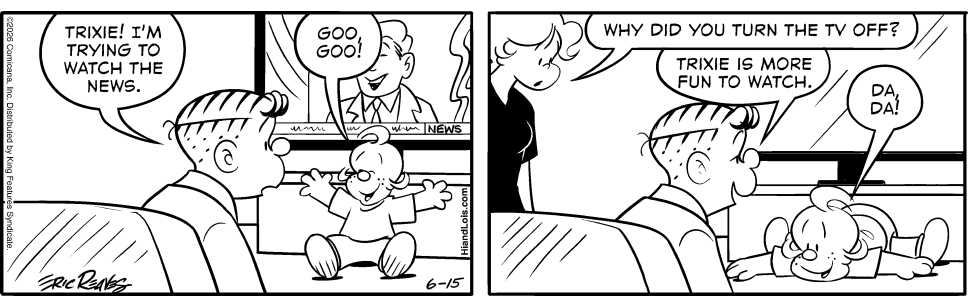
BABY BLUES® BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

THE BORN LOSER® BY ART & CHIP SANSOM

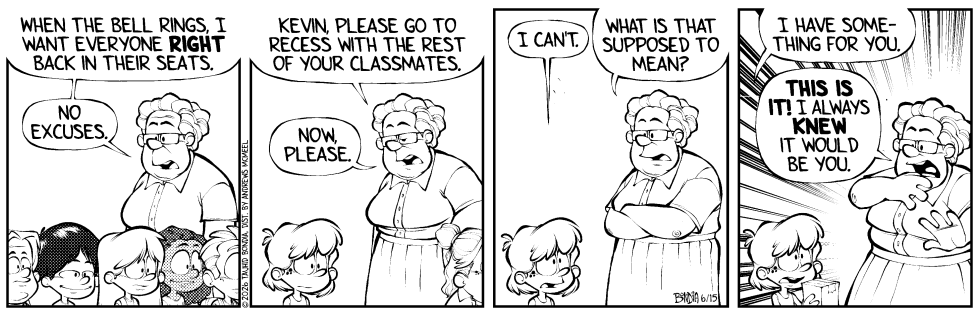
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH® BY F. LASSWELL & JOHN ROSE



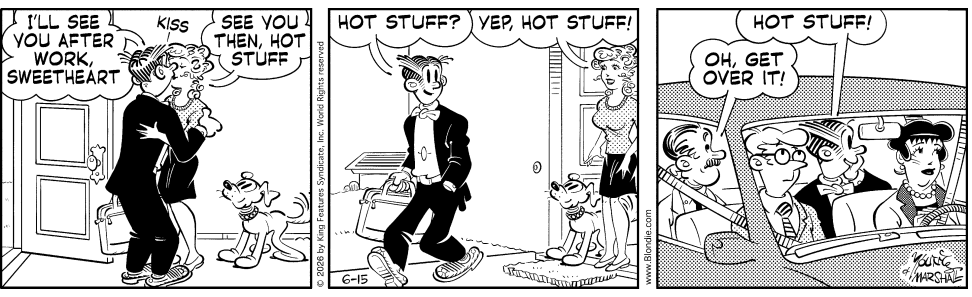
HI AND LOIS® BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER & CHANCE BROWNE



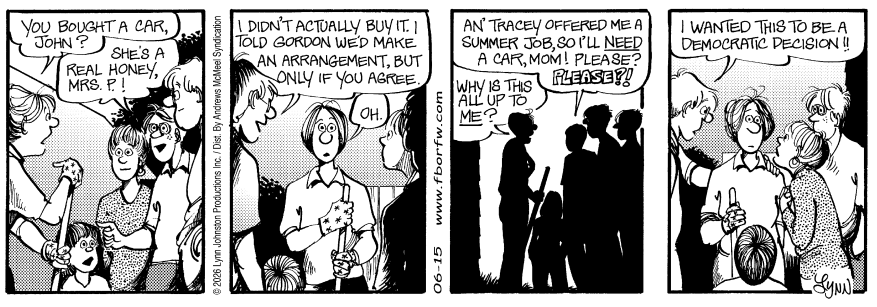
CRABGRASS® BY TAUHID BONDIA



BLONDIE® BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE® BY LYNN JOHNSTON

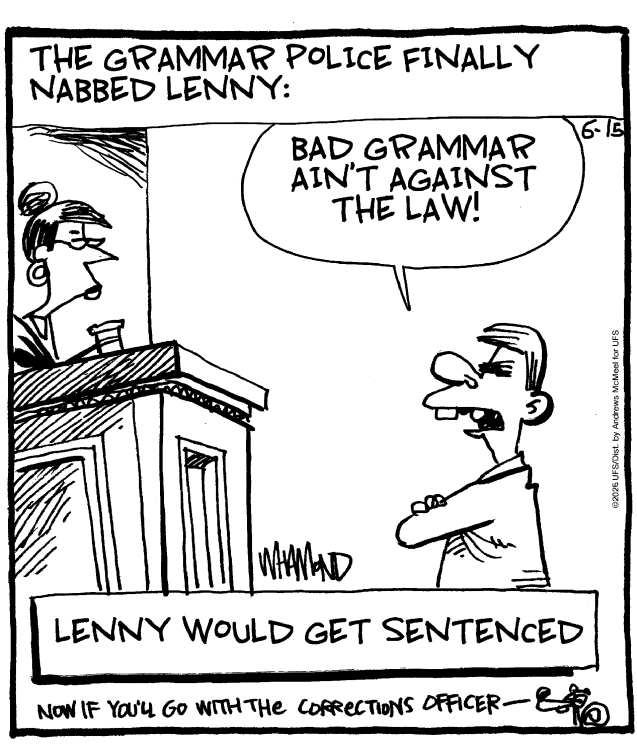


THE LOCKHORNS® BY Dave Whamond

"CAN WE MOVE TO ANOTHER TABLE? I FEEL GUILTY ABOUT EATING A SALAD."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS® REALITY CHECK®

He pays me big money to fill in for him.



BRIDGE® BY STEVE BECKER

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 10 9 7 2
♥ 9 5
♦ Q 6 3
♣ 9 5 3

WEST
♠ J 8 6 5
♥ J 3
♦ 8
♣ A K Q 7 6 2

EAST
♠ A Q 3
♥ 10 8 7 4
♦ K 5 2
♣ 10 8 4

SOUTH
♠ 4
♥ A K Q 6 2
♦ A J 10 9 7 4
♣ J

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	2 ♦
3 ♣	3 ♦	3 NT	5 ♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	

Opening lead — king of clubs.

This deal was played in a match between France and Belgium some years ago. It illustrates how a declarer who pays close attention to tiny details can reap a substantial reward for his efforts.

West led the king of clubs and continued with the ace, whereupon declarer (Georges Theron of France) made the key play of ruffing with the seven instead of the four. Theron then cashed the A-K of hearts and led a low heart, planning to ruff low in dummy and lead the queen of diamonds through East's king.

But West ruffed the third round of hearts with the eight, forcing dummy to overruff with the queen. However, the farseeing Theron was able to take this development in stride. He led the six of diamonds from dummy and played the four from his hand after East followed low. Another trump lead from dummy then trapped East's king.

So, Theron made five diamonds doubled by virtue of his thoughtful unblocking play at trick two. Had he ruffed the second club with the four instead of the seven, he would later have been unable to lead diamonds twice from dummy to pick up East's king.

It takes rare insight for a declarer to recognize the importance of trumping with the seven instead of the four at trick two, but it is little things like this that make the difference between the greats of the game and everyone else.

Tomorrow: A tactical maneuver.

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JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MUYMY

UTOCR

MHTOSO

OWHTGR

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Answer here: _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: HONEY TREND GOVERN DETECT
Answer: The old chairs in the clinic were getting new upholstery and would soon be — RECOVERED