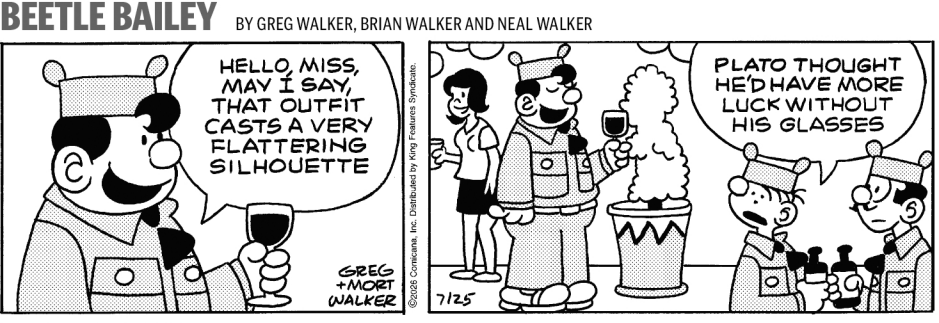
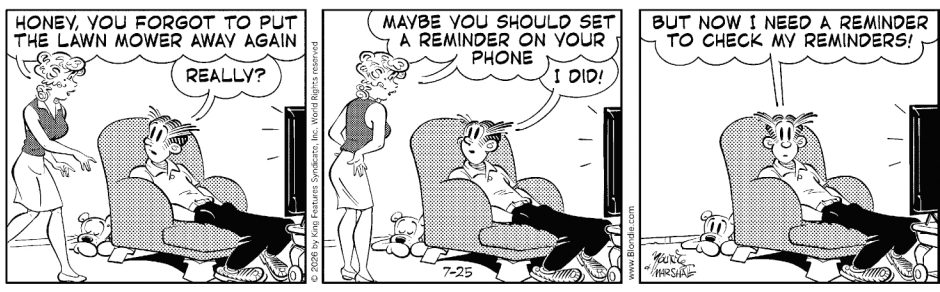
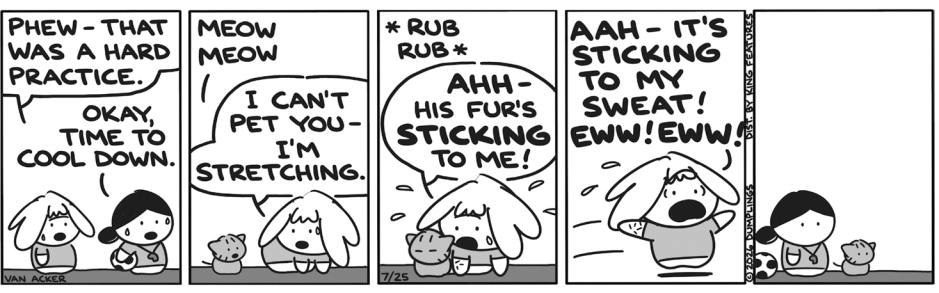
BEETLE BAILEY
BY GREG WALKER, BRIAN WALKER AND NEAL WALKER



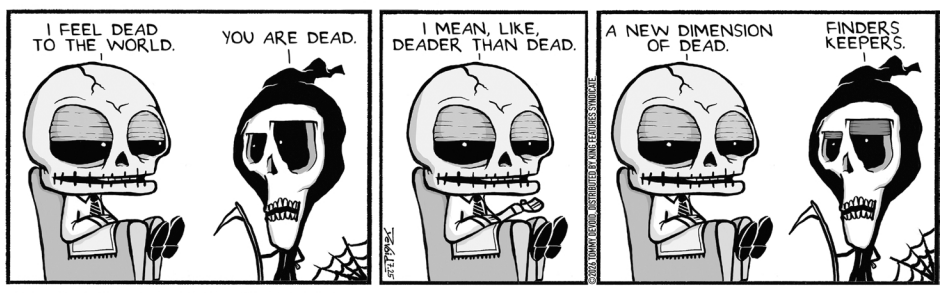
BLONDIE
BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



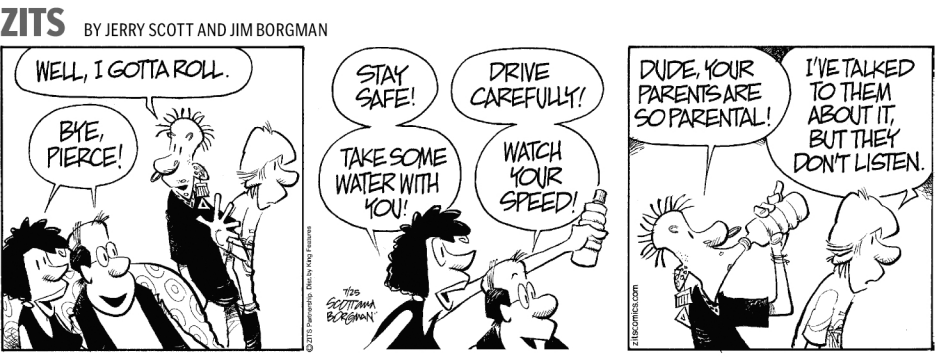
DUMPLINGS
BY VICTOR VAN ACKER



NEVER BEEN DEADER
BY TOMMY DEVOID



ZITS
BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
BY CHRIS BROWNE

INSANITY STREAK
BY TONY LOPES

ROYAL STARS

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE FROM GEORGIA NICOLS

The day ahead: ★★★★★ = Dynamic; ★★★★ = Positive; ★★★ = Average; ★★ = So-so; ★ = Difficult

Moon Alert: Caution! Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) and important decisions after 10:15 a.m. EDT (7:15 a.m. PDT) and for the rest of the day. The Moon is in **SAGITTARIUS**.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Today you might realize that your game face is different than what you thought it was. Or how you present yourself and relate to others is not who you really are. It's like having a moment of truth — a reality check. (You don't have to share this; it's a private observation.) Tonight: Freedom appeals. Check your finances.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Your focus is on home and family, social occasions, fun times with kids and making money. These are your priorities right now. Therefore, in a curious way, it's a bit unusual that you're giving thought to how much attention you should pay to your spiritual values. Tonight: Cooperate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★ Something might happen today that makes you question a friendship or realize you have to be more realistic about friends and groups to which you belong. There's no point in kidding yourself, because this means you're the only one not grasping what's happening. Tonight: Get organized.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ An important shift is taking place. Something might make you question your life direction or where you're headed. Basically, you have to ask yourself if it's realistic. After all, you're practical. It needs to be within reach. Tonight: Be friendly and protective.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Whether it's travel plans or ideas about publishing a book or a screenplay, or perhaps something related to medicine or the law, today you might wonder if your goals are reasonable. Stephen Covey said, "Goals are pure fantasy unless you have a specific plan to achieve them." Tonight: Relax.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ It's important to know what financial and practical support you can count on from a spouse, partner or a third party. We're talking the nuts and bolts of a situation, the real deal. This is not the time for wishful thinking. It's time to know what's in the piggy bank. Tonight: Share ideas.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ More than any other sign, you value partnerships because you're sociable and not really a loner. If you want to count on someone important who is in your life, make sure your assessments are real. Pie-in-the-sky fantasies rarely live up to the challenges of the day-to-day world. Tonight: Check your belongings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ You're looking successful to others this year, no question. This might cloud your judgement about how you feel about your job or your work. Fortunately, as a rule, you don't kid yourself. Be prepared to let go of familiar fantasies about what you do; see it for what it is. Tonight: You're strong.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You are a future oriented sign who likes to believe in a better tomorrow. Today you might challenge your expectations about kids, sports, romance and socializing. You might even challenge your own creative talents. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ You have traditional values. White picket fence, 2.5 kids — the whole enchilada. Something might happen today that makes you question these values. You might wonder how realistic it is to subscribe to this viewpoint. Not everyone is the same. Tonight: Friendships.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You're an idealist who wants to save the world before bedtime. You want to make the world a better place. Today something might occur that is a wake-up call. You might see the limitations about what is possible. Nevertheless, your intention and direction can continue, can't it? Tonight: You're noticed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Your ability to believe something affects how it manifests in your life. Today you might see that, especially with money and personal wealth. You might see that your ideals have been self-limiting. (Join the club.) Tonight: Explore!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Saturday, July 25, 2026:

You're innovative, determined and resourceful. You have a vigorous mind and clarity of purpose. This is a year of service for you, perhaps service to family. Take care of yourself so that you can be a resource to those who turn to you for guidance, comfort and courage.

BORN TODAY

Actor Matt LeBlanc (1967), decathlete, football player, actor Woody Strode (1914), actress Miriam Shor (1971)

SUDOKU

	4	1				8		
					6			
7	6	8		2	4	9		
1			6	9	3			2
				1				9
	9	5			2			6
				4		3		
		7	9					
	1		3			6		4

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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Difficulty: ★★★★ 7/25

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Diva's solos
6 Looks after
11 Loath (to)
12 Like native llamas
14 Tell
15 "Is that so?"
16 "Psst!"
17 Gather
19 Kilmer of "Top Gun"
20 Shortly
22 Jamaican music
23 Blood (Pref.)
24 In shape
26 Magic lamp owner
28 Actor Stephen
30 Curator's concern
31 "Star Wars" queen
35 Acknowledges
39 Skeletal
40 Mandela's org.
42 Hearty dish
43 Finale
44 Early PC software
46 Japanese sash
47 Legendary "Jeopardy!" host
49 Bigwigs
51 Recital piece
52 Roof features
53 Patriot Allen
54 Rainbow-shaped

DOWN
1 Skin care brand
2 Trust
3 Writer Levin
4 Nick and Nora's pooch
5 Appears
6 Sicilian wine
7 Spanish model Sastre
8 Secret-protecting doc.
9 Probed (into)
10 Deli meat
11 Enlightened Buddhist
13 Hose material
18 Rap sheet letters
21 Hardly hip
23 Sharp-image flat-screens, e.g.
25 Narc's org.
27 Notre Dame's Parseghian
29 Nome resident
31 Helps a crook
32 Fifth president
33 Use a tab key
34 Moreover
36 Peter in "Lawrence of Arabia"
37 Like a duck's feet
38 Reuben cheese
41 Line dance
44 Self-referential
45 Coal-rich German valley
48 "Humbug!"
50 English channel?

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 7-25

■	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					■

TODAY'S ANSWER

2	4	1	7	3	9	8	6	5
3	5	9	1	8	6	4	2	7
7	6	8	5	2	4	9	1	3
1	7	4	6	9	3	5	8	2
6	2	3	8	1	5	7	4	9
8	9	5	4	7	2	1	3	6
5	8	6	2	4	7	3	9	1
4	3	7	9	6	1	2	5	8
9	1	2	3	5	8	6	7	4

DENNIS THE MENACE

"A DAY WITH DENNIS IS A LONG WEEK."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"No, thanks. I'd rather yell."