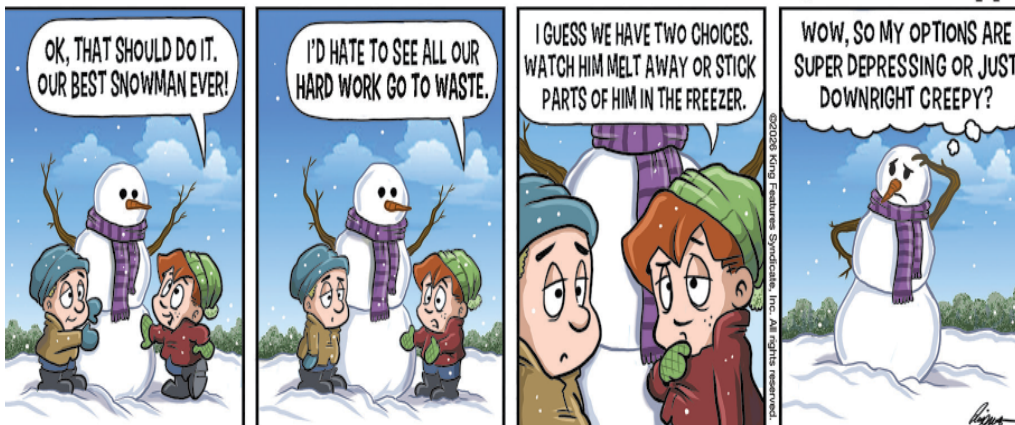


February 16, 2026 Posting Date

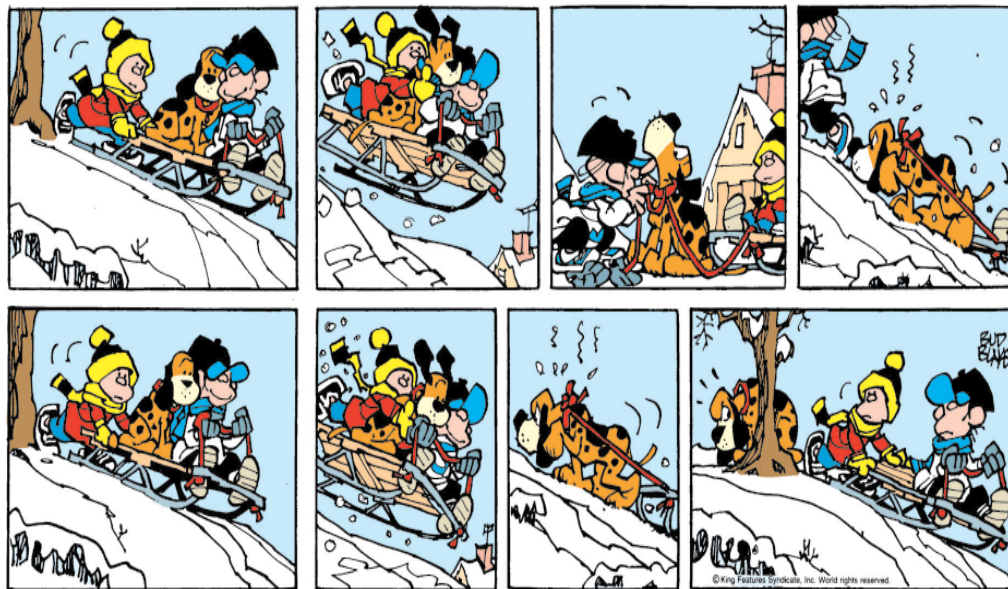
# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



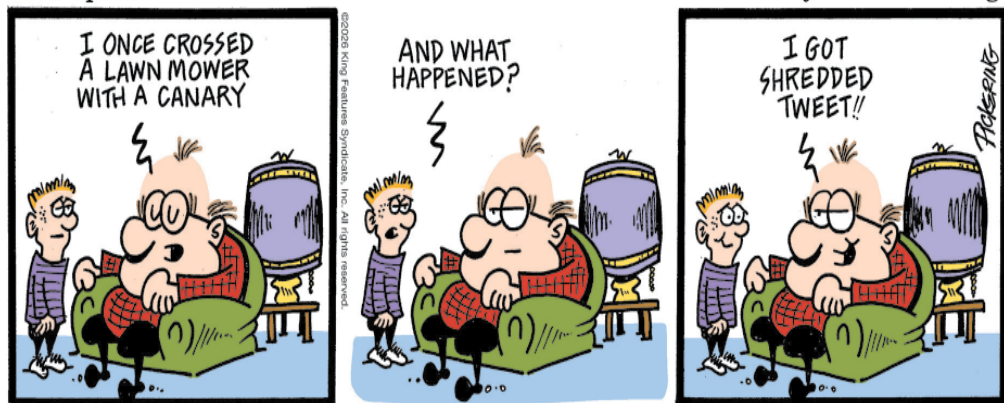
# TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Lawyers' gp.
- 4 Radiator sound
- 7 Explosion
- 12 Bottom line
- 13 Ref
- 14 — Ababa
- 15 Hindu honorific
- 16 Obstruction
- 18 Work unit
- 19 Incursion
- 20 Frog's relative
- 22 — Aviv
- 23 Chumps
- 27 Fan's shout
- 29 Owing money
- 31 Choir member
- 34 Like anchovies
- 35 Hour follower
- 37 Dog's foot
- 38 Yuletide tune
- 39 GPS suggestion
- 41 Lounge about
- 45 Toe woes
- 47 Nev. neighbor
- 48 "Psycho" director Alfred
- 52 Chemical suffix
- 53 Petrify
- 54 "QB —" (Uris novel)
- 55 Cacophony
- 56 "One L" author Scott
- 57 Right angle

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		
56					57			58		

- 58 Mermaid's home
- 10 Bracketed word
- 11 Chiding sound
- 17 Painter Salvador
- 21 Slobber
- 23 Shoulder wrap
- 24 "You've got mail" co.
- 25 Agt.'s cut
- 26 Cloud setting
- 28 Rainbow
- 30 Code-breaking gp.
- 31 Great weight
- 32 Green prefix
- 33 Mets' div.
- 36 Ray of McDonald's
- 37 Writing instrument
- 40 Treasure stash
- 42 Lab liquids
- 43 "The Fraud" author — Smith
- 44 Justice Kagan
- 45 Enjoy gum
- 46 Power tool brand
- 48 FDR follower
- 49 Post-op area
- 50 Sailor
- 51 — -Magnon

## DOWN

- 1 Plus
- 2 Small pack animal
- 3 Spanish girlfriend
- 4 Ride the waves
- 5 Suave
- 6 Memoir by Prince Harry
- 7 Infant
- 8 "Bad" cholesterol
- 9 Commotion

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# Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

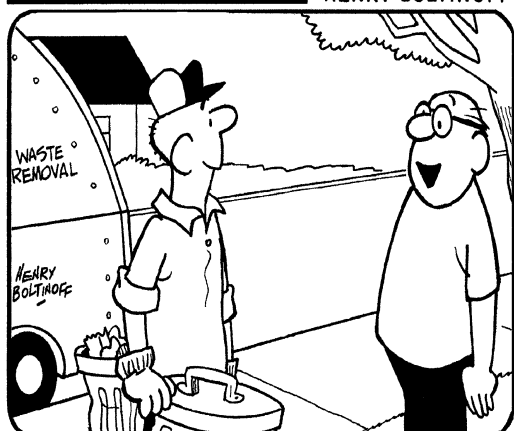
## DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

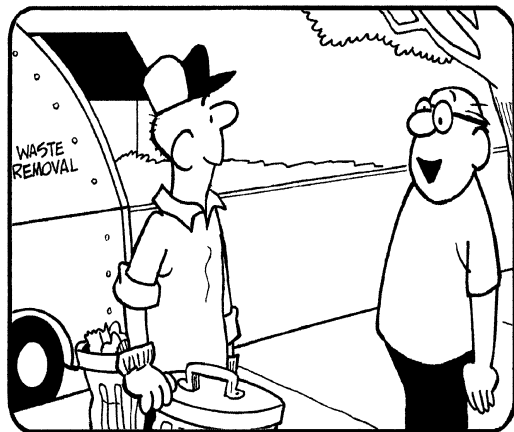
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# HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Wheel is larger. 2. Hat is larger. 3. Window is wider. 4. Button is missing. 5. Sleeve is longer. 6. Sidewalk is wider.

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

Answer

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

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# Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. FOOD & DRINK: What is a bunch of bananas called?
2. MOVIES: Who is Neo's nemesis in "The Matrix"?
3. MUSIC: The Broadway show "Jersey Boys" is about which music group?
4. TELEVISION: In which U.S. city is the sitcom "New Girl" set?
5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What is the name of the helicopter that transports U.S. presidents?
6. GEOGRAPHY: The Lake of the Ozarks is in which U.S. state?
7. HISTORY: When did construction begin on the Berlin Wall?
8. PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented in the condition called mageriophobia?
9. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system has the Great Red Spot?
10. LITERATURE: Which country is the setting for the novel "The French Lieutenant's Woman"?

# King Crossword

Answers

1. A hand, and each banana is a finger. 2. Agent Smith. 3. The Four Seasons. 4. Los Angeles. 5. Marine One. 6. Missouri. 7. 1961. 8. A fear of cooking. 9. Jupiter. 10. England

## Trivia Test Answerst