

Beyond the Fringefan

[#569]

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN is glad to see Spring stepping up to bat at last. (Bat at last? Oy, don't remind me of those Mets!...) He got the air conditioners back in the windows (well, his son did, truth be told) at the N.Y. Cadre (1088 East 40th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210 (☎(718) NY-CADRE; ☑↔☑ nycadre [at] acedsl [dot] com; 🌐http://www [dot] nycadre [dot] org)) right after that one week of 75-degree weather and just in time for the return of temperatures in the 40s. But any time now... ya gotta believe... (Oy, don't remind me of those Mets!...) This is **Beyond the Fringefan** #569, for readers of **APA-NYU** Volume 24, #4 (e-APA-NYU #245) and other dark knights, published April 2026 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. Cartoon above from *Bizarro* by Dan Piraro, 20 April 2013. All uncredited material copyright ©2026 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.



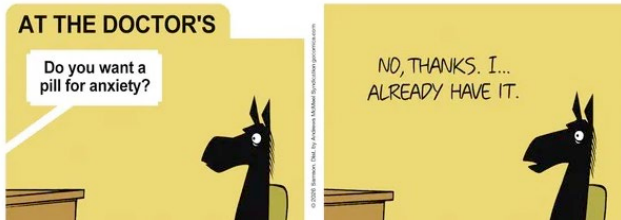
HE'S MY FAVORITE HONKY: Ethan got me a Chanukah gift which, because of inclement weather, we didn't get around to putting on the Cadre Conveyance until late March. It's a bumper sticker reading HONK, AND I'LL SLOW DOWN. I'd been talking for years about getting something of that nature. I don't know that it will change the behavior of the arseholes I need to share the Brooklyn streets with—obviously only the ones driving immediately behind me will ever see it—but at least they won't be able to say I didn't warn them when I do just what it says I'll do. (I haven't decided what to do when the car is standing still and someone honks. Backing up would likely be a bad idea. I guess if I'm going zero miles per hour, and I continue to go zero miles per hour, I can honestly say that I slowed down by 20%, or 50%, or any real number.)

My surgical recovery continues apace. At the recommendation of Ruslan the physical therapist, I'm continuing to carry a cane (which folds up to fit in a tote bag), but not using it to lean on unless I feel the need. I've managed to walk a couple of blocks at a time without the cane, though I believe I'm still limping visibly, at least a bit. My final (I expect) follow-up visit with the surgeon will be early May, but I'll probably continue getting PT into June (as long as Medicare is willing to keep paying for it).

Fringe Reception: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 24, #3 (e-APA-NYU #244)

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER (Mark L. Blackman):

"My doctor, as I noted, halved the dosage on my blood pressure med, but my insurance wouldn't fill it as I still had pills with the old, wrong dosage." Are you allowed to cut the pills you have in half? (Some meds allow it, some don't.)



(Dark Side of the Horse by Samson, 18 January 2026)

See if your doctor can fix you up with a pill-splitter; they're not expensive. /*/ (¢Belov) "note how 'apple' is applied to both fruits (pineapples, pomegranates) & vegetables (potatoes are 'earth apples' in French)." And the Hebrew for vegetables is "fruits of the earth." /*/ (¢me) "The Super Bowl may be the last stand of Roman numerals. Movie sequels have moved to Arabic numerals or subtitles." Have they stopped teaching Roman numerals in schools (along with reading analog clocks)? Mike Oldfield put out an album called *Tubular Bells II* in MCMXCH 1992, but the American release was relabeled *Tubular Bells 2*. I wonder if they were afraid that people would think it was numbered eleven. /*/ (¢self) If you're continuing to retain fluid in your lungs, you should probably see a pulmonologist.

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN (me): (¢Belov) It

occurs to me that since the *Times* maintains a multi-month archive of its crosswords, I could wait until next fall, upgrade my subscription then to cover the puzzles, download and print six months of Sunday puzzles, and then downgrade my subscription the following month, thus cutting the per-puzzle cost to something under 30¢. Yes, I'm a cheapass. /*/ (¢Blackman) I'm afraid the only copies of the Feiffer cartoon I was able to find online were low in resolution and not very legible. The cartoon depicted a black man speaking, as it were, to the camera:

"As a matter of racial pride we want to be called 'blacks.'

Which has replaced the term 'Afro-American'—

Which replaced 'Negroes'—

Which replaced 'colored people'—

Which replaced 'darkies'—

Which replaced 'blacks.'"

ICONOCLAST (Joel Nelson): (¢Belov) "Your social media mention them [Wordle and the like] from time to time? Odd." Some folks love to post their results on social media to brag about how clever they are. The games have a "Share Your Results" button which creates an image you can post—one that represents how well you did on each guess without actually showing the answers that would enable readers to cheat off your test paper. /*/ Merriam-Webster's unabridged contains "scritch," but not in reference to what you do to a dog or cat. It defines the word as a "chiefly dialectal variant of *screech*." The *American Heritage Dictionary*, on the other hand, offers "1. A scratching motion. 2. A light sound made by scratching. 3. A screech." Perhaps there are fewer folks with pets at Merriam-Webster. /*/ (¢me) As I expected,



(Peanuts by Charles M. Schulz, 24 September 1956)

within a month of getting home from the rehab, I'd reverted to my habitual hours, crashing between 1 and 2 am and getting up around 10. /*/ (¢Blackman) *The Making of Doctor Who* is something of a relic now, dating as it does from the (I think) Tom Baker era. /*/ "One night I happened to be driving the van instead of the car. To my astonishment I had no trouble with the oncoming headlights!" I find that the glare varies from oncoming car to oncoming car; when I'm sitting at the wheel of a minivan, maybe one in twenty oncoming cars threatens to blind me. But elevating your posture can't hurt, especially if the driver's seat has been lowered by damage to its infrastructure. /*/ Arriving for work late and leaving late can cause you to miss the worst traffic. In The City, it can improve your chances of getting a seat on the subway. I worked a 10 am to 6 pm shift whenever I could. (Proofreading as

a trade was compatible with this, as the work was often sparse early in the day until the writers

whose work I was proofing had gotten something written.)

I was hoping to have exciting news about grandson Simon to share this month, but he has yet to walk or speak, let alone compose any symphonies or demonstrate any aptitude for differential calculus. I guess I'll give him a couple more months.



(The Knight Life by Keith Knight, 20 August 2014)

(Footnote: I sent this cartoon to the proud parents, and Ashley replied, "It's a no pet building, but they allow babies.")

I won't be celebrating Beltane this year by dancing skyclad in the park, but more power to those who do. It will be nice if our ~~feckless~~ fearless leader finds a way of *not* adding any more to the list of fallen whom we honor on Memorial Day; that would be something worth celebrating. See you when I'm another year older...

>Portions of the preceding have saved their medical history in a .doc file.<