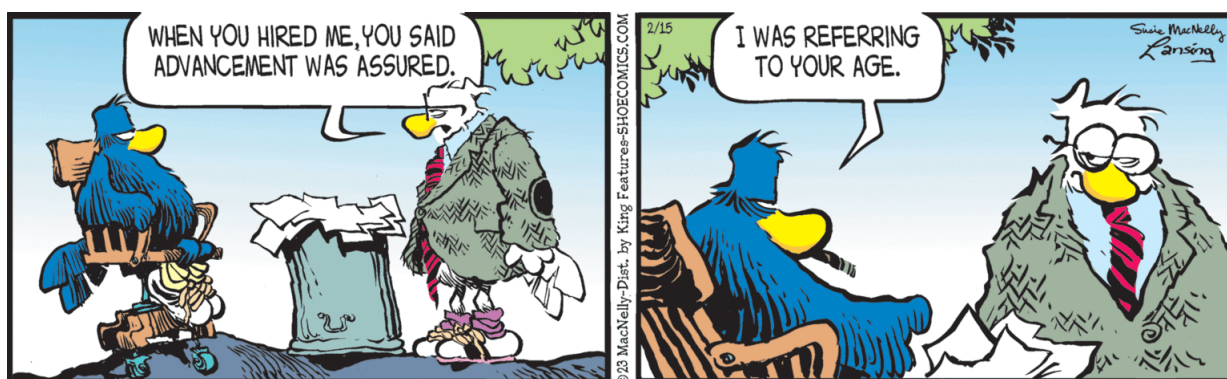




Beyond the Fringefan

[#570]

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN has now advanced to the age of 74, but can't tell whether he's passed GO and is entitled to collect \$200. With the warm weather gearing up, he fears he may have to mortgage some property to pay the electric company, if he wants to keep the a/c running 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)); at least he gets Free Parking thanks to having a driveway (albeit a rather narrow one). The title of this deed is **Beyond the Fringefan #570**, for readers of **APA-NYU** Volume 24, #5 (e-APA-NYU #246) and other folks who take their Chances, published May 2026 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. Cartoon above from *Shoe* by MacNelly and Lansing, 15 February 2015. All uncredited material copyright ©2026 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.

I biked about 100 miles in the month of May (between 1½ and 15 miles on any one day), so I think my surgical recovery is, if not complete, at least getting to the point where I won't need to go to PT any more. (I continue to do 40 minutes or so of stretches every night with ankle weights; I've been using 5-pound weights on each ankle but have just acquired a pair that adjust up to 10 pounds each.) The surgeon, when I saw him last week, was pretty happy with how I'm walking, and wants only one more follow-up visit in six months.

I paid a couple of visits in April to 'nuan Nina Bogin. After a bad medical incident a few years ago, she's now wheelchair bound and living at Park Terrace Care Center in Rego Park, Queens. A mutual friend organized a few group visits, and Nina would love to get more visitors. Contact me if you want more information.

Despite the impressively poor turnout last summer (which could be at least partly attributable to the terrible weather on the day of the event), I'm going to try one last attempt at a Fourth of July Ferry Meeting this year. As always, it'll be the nearest Thursday, which this year will be 2 July. (At worst, I'll end up with leftover pizza to freeze and snack on all summer.) I would appreciate it, though, if folks who've been there in the past would let me know whether they intend to show up; it'll give me a clue what to expect.

And speaking of the Fourth—as I was typing the preceding paragraph, I started hearing booms and bangs outside my windows. The firecracker folks, who in the past have waited until mid-June to begin making their noise, seem to have decided to get an earlier start this year: to wit, on Memorial Day. I have yet to comprehend the attraction of explosions that hurt people's (and pets') ears without at least putting pretty lights up in the sky. Hopefully, I won't be one of the things they blow up real good.

Fringe Reception: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 24, #4 (e-APA-NYU #245)

DOG vs. NOT-DOG (Chas Belov): "I've been getting these annoying text messages from random phone numbers, consisting solely of an attachment. As it is likely malware or phishing, I delete them without viewing them. But it's obnoxious and there's no way to block them." I've only gotten them from one phone number, which turned out to be one of Mark Blackman's temporary mobile numbers. When he sent a text from that phone to my cell, it came out as a Facebook Messenger message with the text as an attachment. First time I got one of those, I downloaded the text attachment, uploaded it to my laptop, and scanned it with the anti-virus software before opening it. /*/ "I keep getting added to email lists for different politicians running for office." Yes. And text blasts too. I haven't found an effective general strategy for filtering them into the spam folders. /*/ The subject headers of the spam I've gotten recently have been pretty unimaginative. Lots of loan scams with titles like "5000USD NOW!", drug scams for Viagra and Cialis, "invoices" that tell me my anti-virus software (from companies I'm not dealing with) is being auto-renewed at a



(Speed Bump by Dave Coverly, 2 September 2002)

charge of \$596.77 (the amount is different every time), and online-sex scams with headers that say "Do you like my naughty pictures?" (Oh, and just this week I've had a rash of "Verify your Amazon account" slop.) I don't think I've even gotten anything from a Nigerian prince in a couple of years. I remember getting a "male enhancement" one a decade or two ago that shouted "You'll be able to pound in nails with your enormous tool!" I kept wondering what kind of situation might arise in which I'd want to. /*/ "I continue to find it amusing that there are words I know for the sole purpose of solving crosswords." Such words are often called "crosswordese." Wikipedia (of course) has a page under that name, listing dozens of them. But it doesn't include "atlatl" (a sort of small catapult used by aboriginal warriors for throwing spears). /*/ "I guess culturally I would know about horas, but I've never been to a Jewish wedding." Some Spaniards and Latinos are fond of Jewish folk dancing and have been known to have 24 horas in a day. /*/ Be glad you haven't seen "Chazz" (the actor Chazz Palminteri) in a crossword. /*/ I usually do as many Acrosses as I can and then start doing the Downs, but if I'm having a lot of trouble getting started and feel I need all the help I can get, I'll use the first Across I get for cross-clues to the Downs that intersect it, and then vice versa. I don't usually try to suss out the theme until I've got a good proportion of the diagram filled in, but some puzzles make it so obvious that I don't even need to try before it hits me over the head. /*/ (cme) Ethan and Ashley decided even before she was pregnant that one hyphen in the family name is plenty for a kid to have to cope with, so no, no triple-barreled surname, though using his mother's maiden name for his middle name perpetuates it for at least one more generation. /*/ I haven't thought about using new covers on the e-apa—it hadn't occurred to me that anyone would do one. My thought: submit one for a collation which, in the original run, didn't have a bacover. Then I'll use the one from 30 years ago as the bacover and yours for the

front. (The only collations in the next fifteen that have/had bacovers are #246, #249, #251, and #260.) /*/ Where do you find Boggle BrainBusters? There are a couple of sample puzzles online, but I couldn't find a source of new ones. /*/(cNelson) I have no problem with nested parentheses, probably because programming languages have no problem with them. I have more problem with remembering what goes outside what when using different symbols of enclosure—square brackets outside or inside parens? Curly braces or angle brackets for the next level in? Much simpler just to use parens all the way down.

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER SUBSTITUTE (Mark L. Blackman): As I type this, nine days before collation, I have your April zine that you were able to e-mail me, and you have a flash drive of mine with the April collation in text, .doc, and .pdf forms. One way or another, we should be able to get your May zine in as well. May you find an ISP that treats you better than Juno has.



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

Be sure to spare a kind thought and a moment of silence on the third of June for Billie Joe McAllister, who sixty years ago jumped off the Tallahatchie Bridge. See you after the solstice.

>Portions of the preceding wish Stephen Colbert all the best in his next venture.<