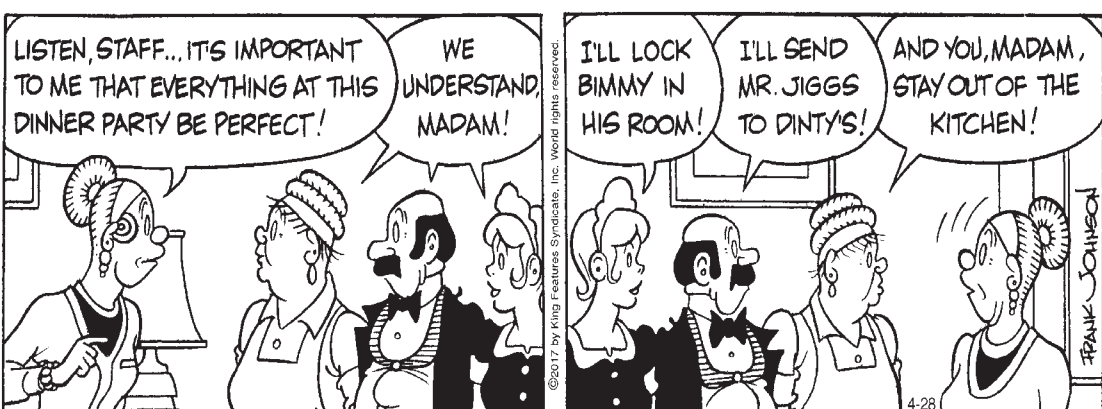


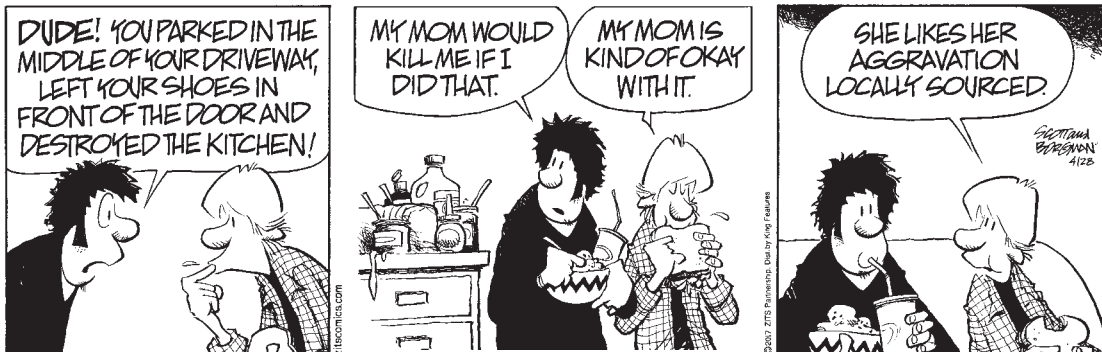
Comics

Friday, April 28, 2017

BRINGING UP FATHER



ZITS



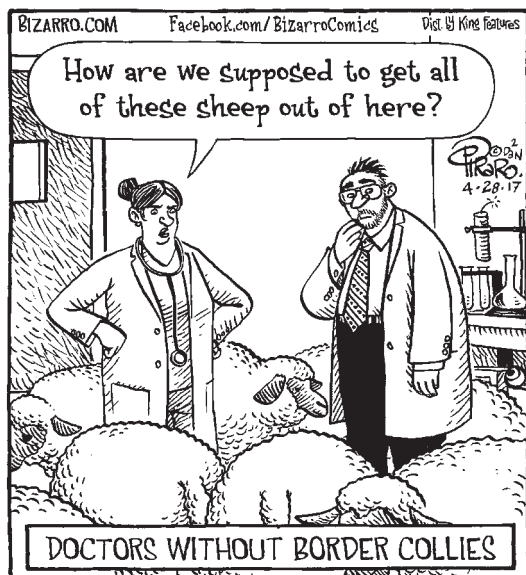
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



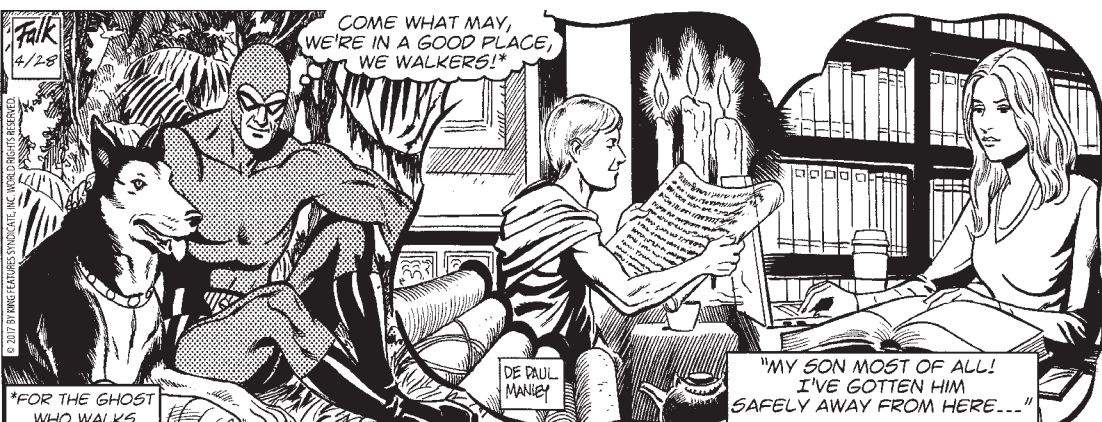
PARDON MY PLANET



BIZARRO



THE PHANTOM



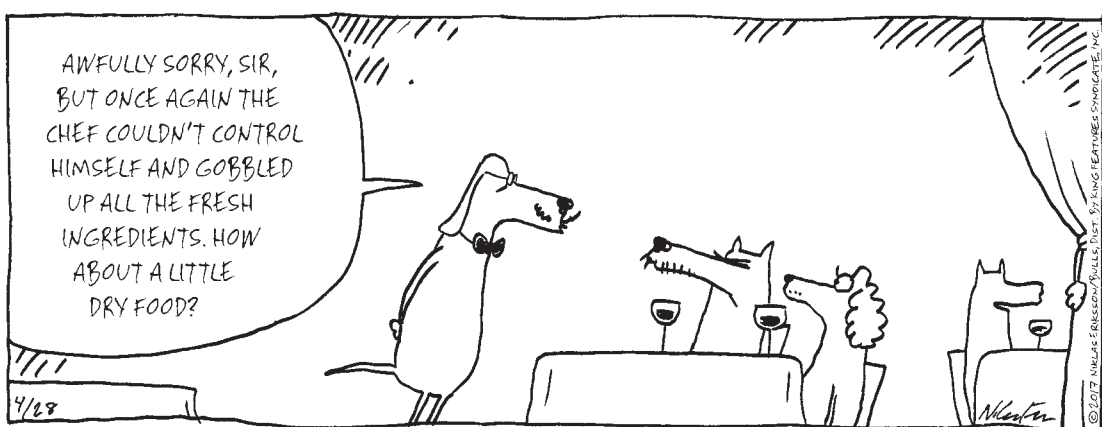
BABY BLUES



TINA'S GROOVE



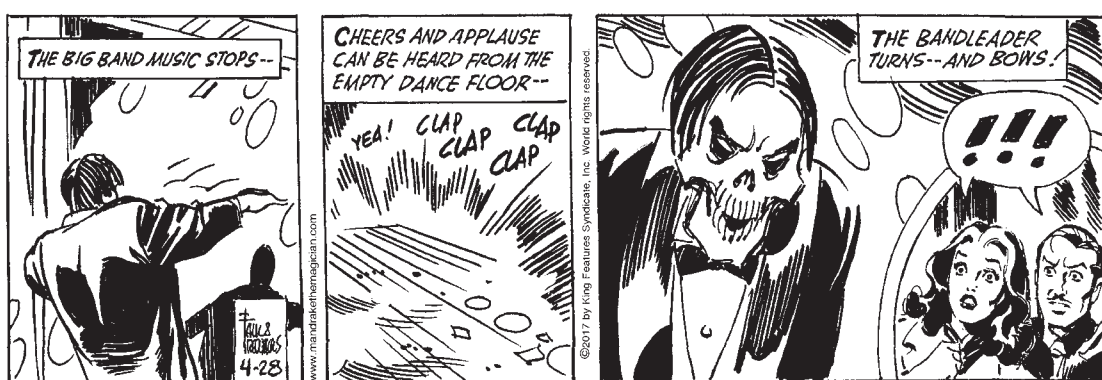
CARPE DIEM



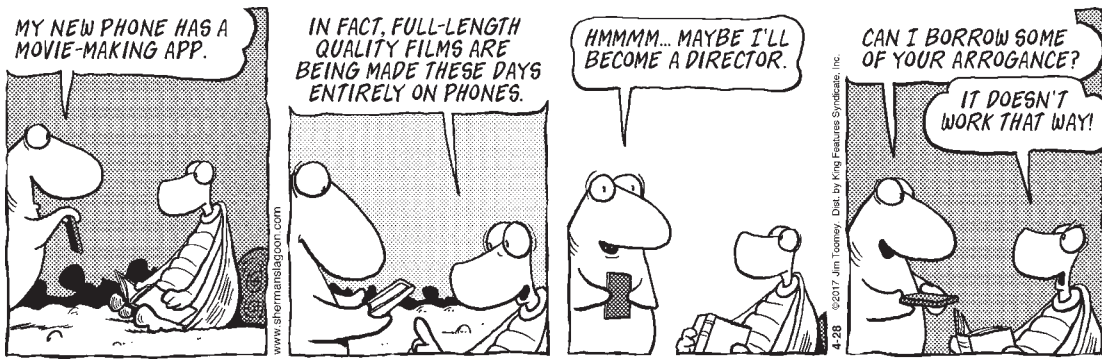
CURTIS



MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



SHERMAN'S LAGOON

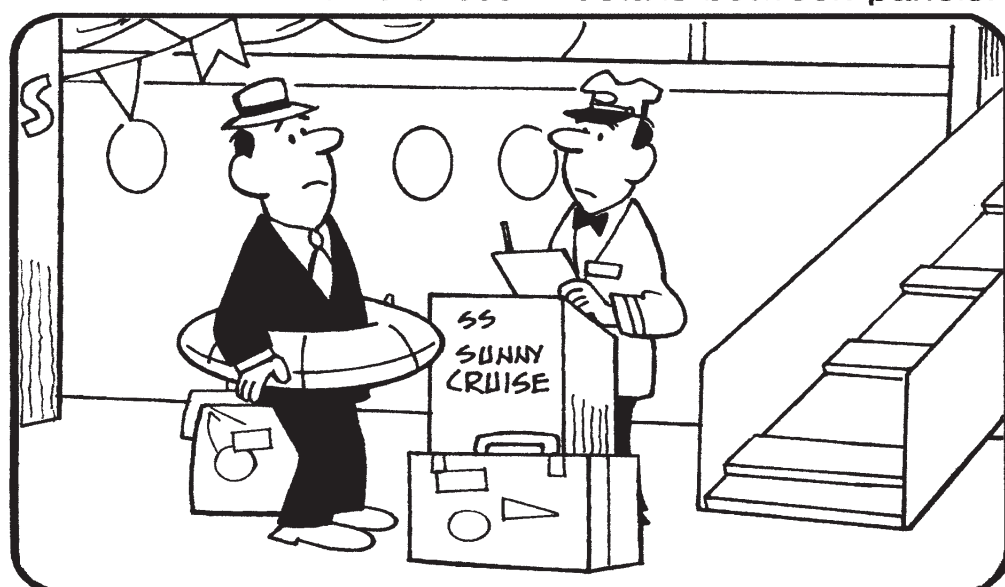


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



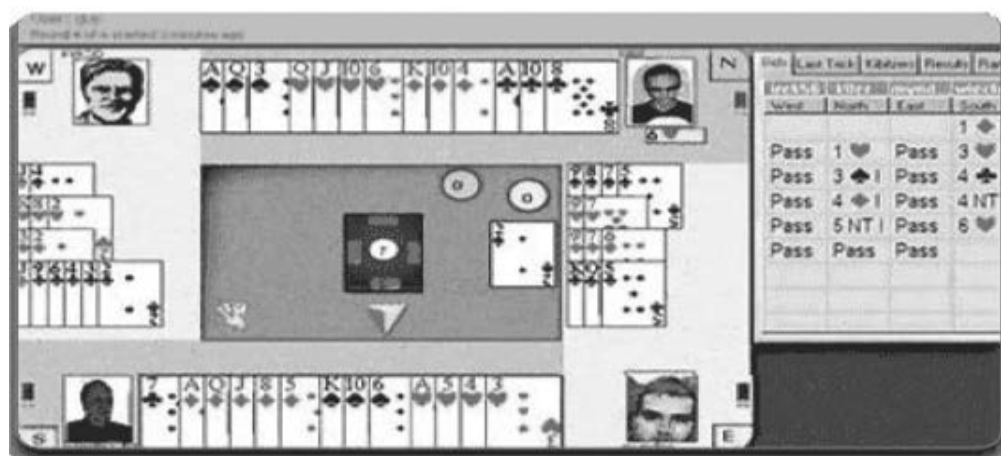
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Suitcase is larger. 2. Air valve is added to tube. 3. Nametag is lower. 4. Pen is moved. 5. Porthole is moved. 6. Step on gangplank is moved.

DIVERSIONS

BRIDGE Ante up!



Two double-dummy problems

1. You are on lead with the South hand. Diamonds are trump, and you must win all six tricks. (This is not an easy problem to solve.)

NORTH
[S] A 8
[H] —
[D] J 10
[C] J 2
WEST
[S] K J
[H] A 9
[D] —
[C] Q 4
EAST
[S] Q
[H] K 10
[D] —
[C] 10 8 3
SOUTH
[S] 4
[H] Q J
[D] —
[C] A K 9

2. Cash the ace of clubs, playing the jack from dummy as a preparatory move for a possible finesse later on. Next, ruff the queen of hearts in dummy and play the jack of diamonds. East can do no better than discard the queen of spades as you also discard a spade. West, who cannot spare a spade or a club, is forced to discard the ace of hearts.

These are double-dummy problems, which means you're allowed to look at all four hands while trying to find the solution.

1. You are declarer with the South hand at Six Clubs, and West leads the king of spades. How would you play the hand?

NORTH
♠ 10 9 8 7 5 4 3
♥ A
♦ A K
♣ Q 3 2

WEST
♠ K Q J 2
♥ 8 7 6 5
♦ Q 6 5 4 3
♣ —

EAST
♠ A 6
♥ J 10 9 4 3 2
♦ 2
♣ 7 6 5 4

SOUTH
♠ —
♥ K Q
♦ J 10 9 8 7
♣ A K J 10 9 8

1. About as good a way as any — even if you don't see the East-West hands — is to ruff the spade lead and play four rounds of trumps, discarding the ace of hearts from dummy! Then cash the K-Q of hearts, discarding dummy's A-K of diamonds! Your housecleaning done, concede the jack of diamonds to the queen, and the rest of the tricks are yours.

* * *

When you next cash the ace of spades, East cannot discard successfully and must either allow you to score the jack of hearts or the nine of clubs.

Tomorrow: Rara avis.

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aries

Expect the unexpected today, because unpredictable events will occur. Your mind is racing and going off in all directions!

taurus

Secrets might come out today, especially if you do research or study something unusual. Something unexpected will occur behind the scenes.

gemini

You might meet a real character today. Or possibly, someone you already know will do something that amazes you. No matter what happens, you will learn something.

cancer

A conversation with a boss, parent or authority figure will surprise you in some way today. If you are caught off guard, take a breath before you react. Don't quit your day job.

leo

You suddenly might have to travel somewhere today, or scheduled travel plans will be changed or canceled. Travel and school schedules definitely are unpredictable.

virgo

Double-check your bank accounts and matters related to inheritances and shared property today, because something unexpected likely will occur. It's always good to know what's happening.

libra

A friend or partner probably will surprise you today. This person might demand more freedom in the relationship or suggest something unusual. Actually, you can make demands, too.

scorpio

Your work routine will be interrupted by computer crashes, power outages, fire drills, canceled appointments or something unexpected. Count on it. Nevertheless, you might see clever ways to introduce improvements to your job.

sagittarius

This is an accident-prone day for your children, so be extra vigilant. This applies to sports as well. Meanwhile, love at first sight might take place for some of you. (Be still my beating heart.)

capricorn

Small appliances might break down, or minor breakages could occur today. An unexpected visitor might appear at your door. Yes, your home routine will be wonky and unpredictable.

aquarius

This is an accident-prone day, so be careful. Think before you act or speak. However, you're full of clever and genius-like ideas, because it's easy for you to think outside the box today.

pisces

Be careful with your finances and possessions today. You might find money, or you might lose money. Be careful to guard your possessions against loss or theft.

IF YOU WERE BORN TODAY You are reserved, organized and adventurous! This more-personal year focuses on family, loved ones and close friends. These relationships will be positive. You will experience success and financial accumulation during the next three years. That's why it is wise to settle your debts this year. This also is a social year that deals with the results of last year's changes.

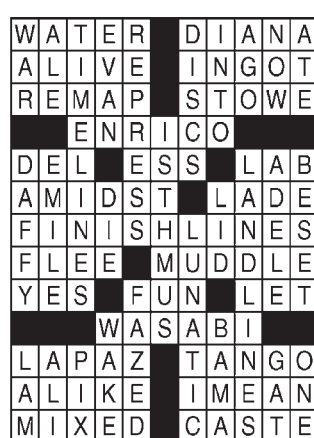
BIRTHDATE OF: Jay Leno; TV personality; Penelope Cruz, actor; Drew Scott, TV host. (c) 2017 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Crossword/Quote Word Sleuth

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

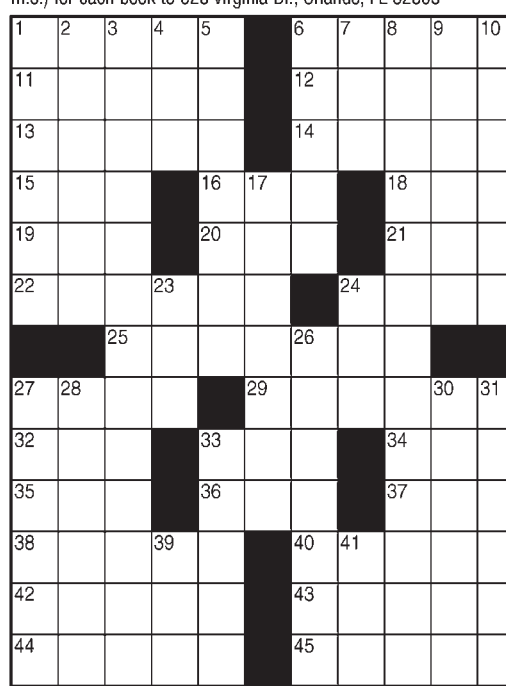
- ACROSS**
- 40 As — (generally)
 - 1 Fire proof?
 - 6 Mesa's cousin
 - 11 Onion's kin
 - 12 One of the Kennedys
 - 13 West Point student
 - 14 Davis of "Beetle-juice"
 - 15 Conclude
 - 16 However, for short
 - 18 Tire track
 - 19 Bakery buy
 - 20 Auction unit
 - 21 Hot blood
 - 22 Leather worker
 - 24 A very long time
 - 25 Make livable, as a house
 - 27 Meager
 - 29 Grab greedily
 - 32 Floor cover
 - 33 USO audience
 - 34 That lass
 - 35 Outback bird
 - 36 Tiny worker
 - 37 Shooting marble
 - 38 Polo in Asia
- DOWN**
- 1 Agree to
 - 2 Singer
 - 3 2016
 - 4 Genesis name
 - 5 Home-steader
 - 6 Sired
 - 7 Salt Lake City
 - 8 1983
 - 9 Prof
 - 10 Brightens
 - 11 Intrudes
 - 12 Con-vent
 - 13 Home-steader resident
 - 14 Sired
 - 15 Salt Lake City
 - 16 2016
 - 17 Prof
 - 18 Brightens
 - 19 Intrudes
 - 20 Con-vent
 - 21 Home-steader resident
 - 22 Sired
 - 23 Salt Lake City
 - 24 2016
 - 25 Prof
 - 26 Brightens
 - 27 Intrudes
 - 28 Con-vent
 - 29 Home-steader resident
 - 30 Sired
 - 31 Salt Lake City
 - 32 2016
 - 33 Prof
 - 34 Brightens
 - 35 Intrudes
 - 36 Con-vent
 - 37 Home-steader resident
 - 38 Sired
 - 39 Salt Lake City
 - 40 2016
 - 41 Prof
 - 42 Brightens
 - 43 Intrudes
 - 44 Con-vent
 - 45 Home-steader resident



Yesterday's answer

- 8 1983
- 27 Small quake
- 28 Compassionate
- 30 Alpine home
- 31 Ax wielders
- 33 British clinks
- 39 Alley prowler
- 41 Carnival city

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



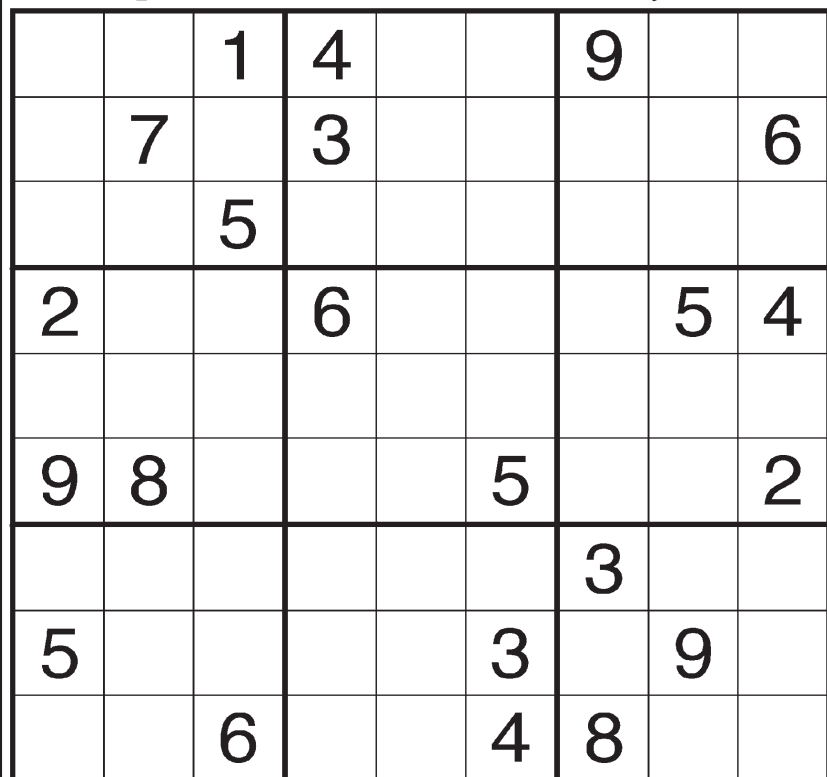
4-28

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/28

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/27

WORD SLEUTH • DOG-EARED WORDS

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

Thursday's unlisted clue: ANNIKA

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue hint: A SHARP ANGLE OR BEND

- Bulldog
- Chili dog
- Corn dog
- Dog days
- Dog-tired
- Dogfight
- Dogfish
- Doggone
- Dogma
- Dogmatic
- Dogtrot
- Hotdog
- Sled dog
- Top dog
- Underdog

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4/28

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-28 CRYPTOQUOTE

M S C N G S Z E Q Q L S M H R Q
A M O L R O L L G L U R I Q M B R
Z U R S R E L Z E Q Q B M C O R
L U R K S R M L R O L U M S N .

— K C O L M H G M K S M E L
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE PATH TO MY FIXED PURPOSE IS LAID WITH IRON RAILS, WHEREON MY SOUL IS GROOVED TO RUN. — HERMAN MELVILLE