This Week’s Wisdom: GREET OTHERS FIRST

by Andrew Marc Greene

The Talmud advises on how to strengthen friendships: “Be the first to inquire after the peace of others.” Rabbi Huna said, “If your friend is usually the first to greet you, you should anticipate him.” It was said of Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkaï that he was so assiduous about following this principle that no one ever got to greet him first. And so here. No matter what the medium, it’s important to start things off with a pleasant greeting.

ACROSS
1 Slice down the middle, as a bagel
6 1982 movie with a 2010 sequel
10 Legal tender
14 Cup sought by Indiana Jones
15 Dynamic opener?
16 Palo ___
17 Introductory Western?
19 Get together
20 Absence
21 Wild
22 Out on the water
25 Introductory kids’ show?
29 The Grim Reaper
31 ___ Club Roast
32 Buy into the hand
34 Always, to a poet
35 Guacamole, for one
38 Introductory Beatles song?
42 Suffix for east or west
43 Permit
44 Takes to the ice
45 Like a kosher fish
48 Foreword
49 Introductory screwball comedy?
53 They may be connected
54 Charge
55 Stewie’s mom on Family Guy
57 Skip over
58 Introductory musical?
64 Written reminder
65 Furniture chain that sells meatballs
66 Overact
67 Person making the transition from student to alum
68 Look intently
69 Transmits an e-mail

DOWN
1 Substance banned by the NCAA
2 Jeremy’s character on Entourage
3 “Now I ___ me down to sleep…”
4 Broke, as a law
5 Mary Poppins actress Lanchester
6 Speak about
7 MLK Jr., for one
8 Stuff to smelt
9 Boolean operator
10 Small roles for big stars
11 Last Oldsmobile ever made
12 Place
13 How a tight race may be contested
18 “___ bin ein Berliner”
21 WWII POTUS
22 Snippet of wisdom
23 Monsieur, across the Pyrenees
24 Use as dinnerware
26 Tore away (from)
27 God, at Notre Dame
28 Outlandish tales
30 1963 Paul Newman film
33 Survivor setting between Vanuatu and Guatemala
35 “The same”
36 Like neon or helium
37 Mexican coins
39 Website where you’ll find reviews of Eltana
40 Hit the slopes
41 Striking
45 Proclaimed
46 Winter hrs. in Minneapolis
47 Recipient of a “Where’s George?” stamp
49 Like 1+1=3
50 Play along with
51 R&B singer Baker
52 Imitate a dove
56 Mid-month date
58 Bone that’s connected to the thighbone
59 Squeeze (out)
60 Spider-Man co-creator Stan
61 Actor Chaney
62 Inc., in Britain
63 Hoped-for reply to “May I?”