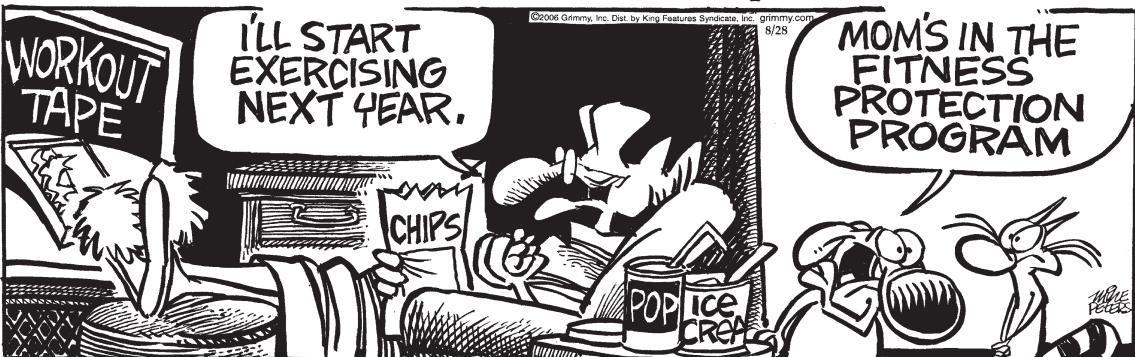
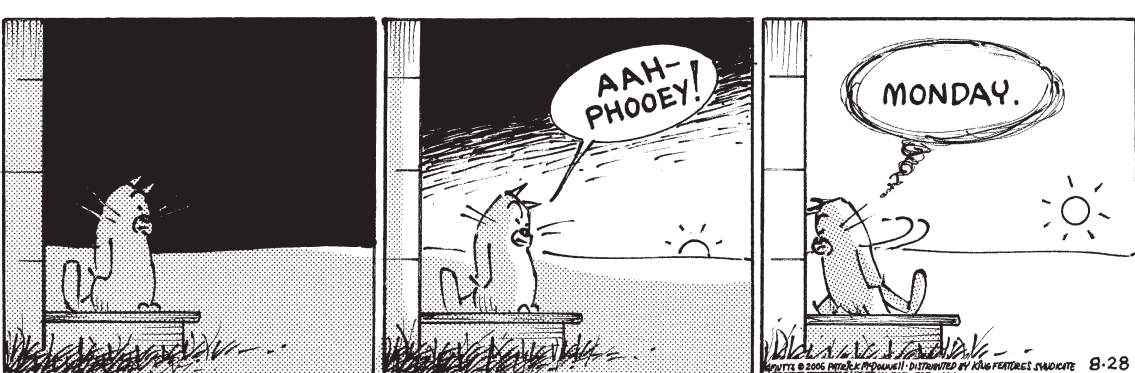


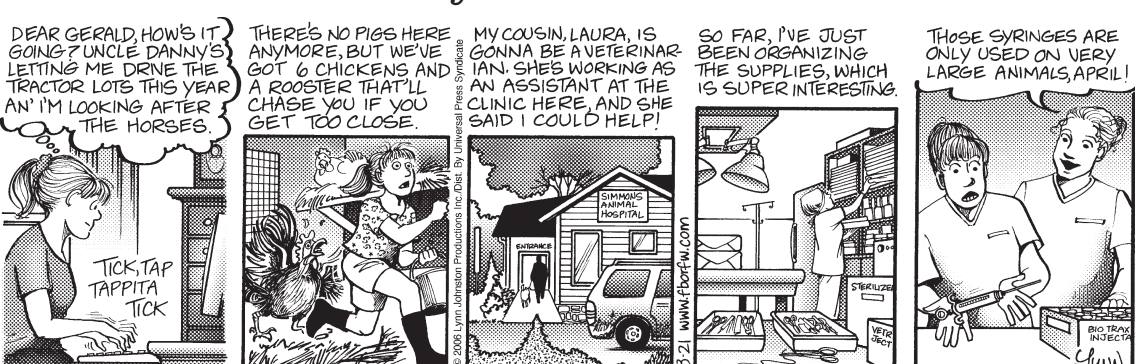
Mother Goose & Grim • Mike Peters (Sample)



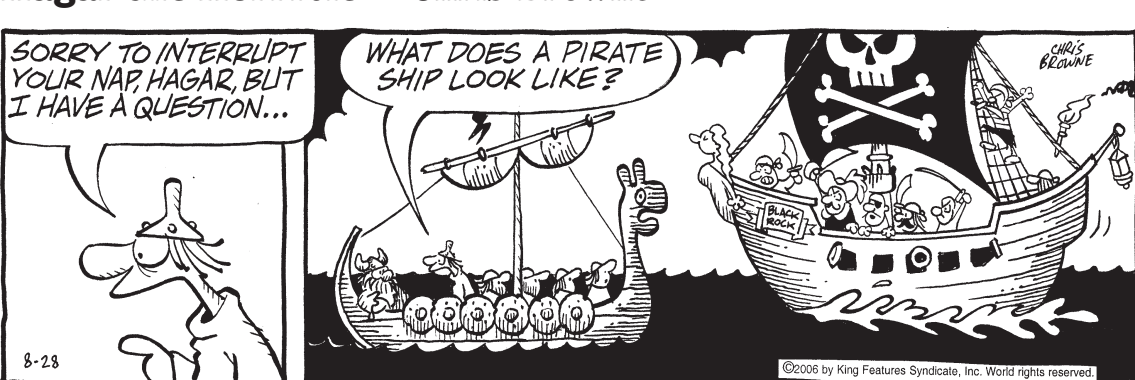
Mutts • Patrick McDonnell



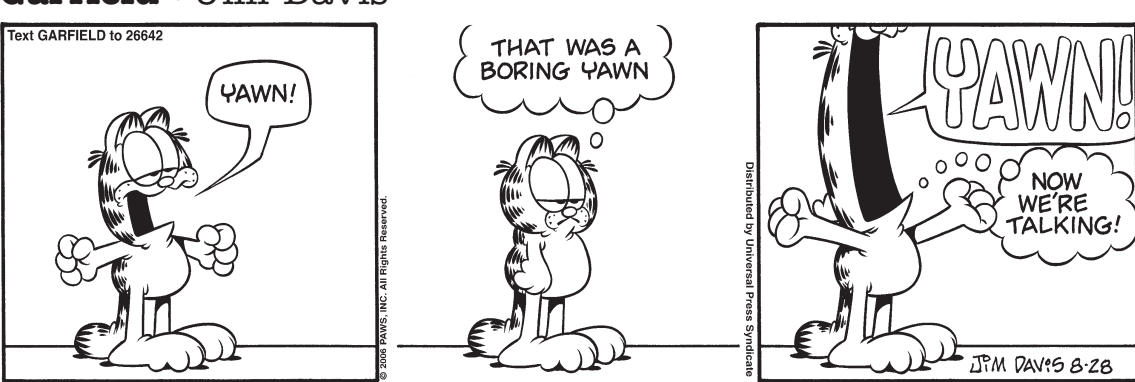
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



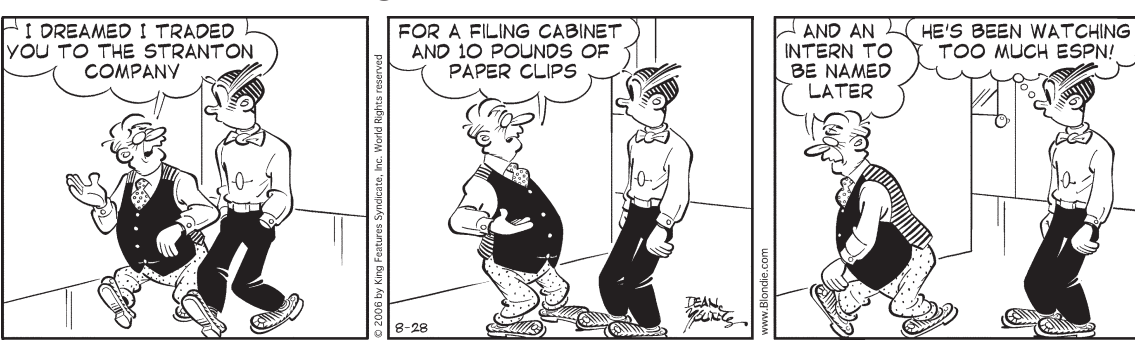
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



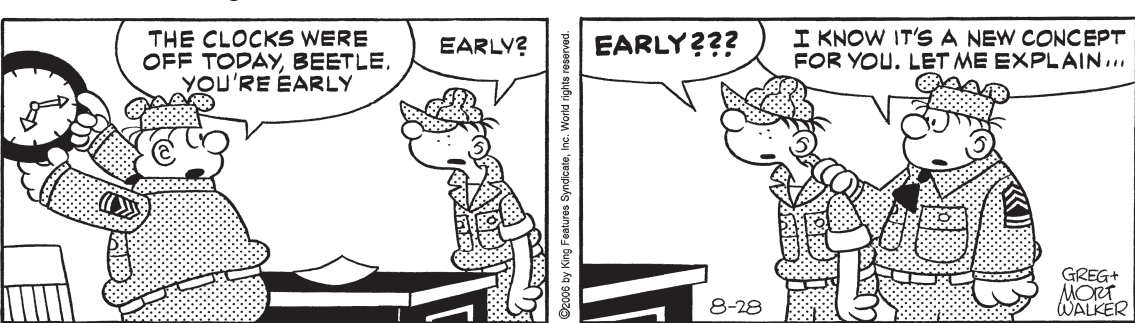
Garfield • Jim Davis



Blondie • Chic Young



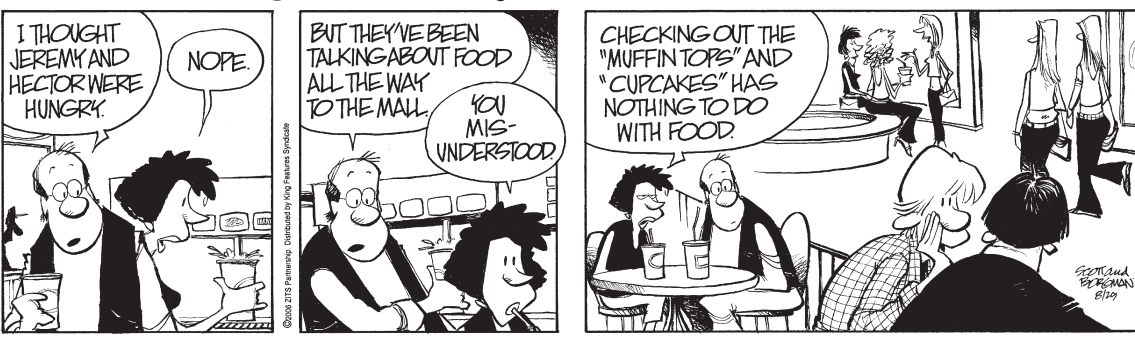
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Family surprised by bachelor uncle's son

DEAR ABBY: I recently attended the funeral of my beloved Uncle Joe. Uncle Joe had never married and had no children — or so everyone thought.



Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

At the funeral a woman came up to me, showed me a photograph, and claimed it was Uncle Joe's 31-year-old son who, she said, is stationed in the Navy in another state.

The resemblance is truly remarkable!

She loaned me the picture and gave me her address. I have so many questions I wish I had asked her, but didn't feel comfortable doing it right then.

I would write her a letter, but I have no idea where to start or what to say.

Have you any suggestions?

— THROWN FOR A LOOP, LEWISTON, IDAHO

DEAR THROWN: You did not mention whether your uncle had a will when he died, or whether he owned any property, so before contacting this lady you should discuss this with the rest of the family and the family lawyer.

Your legal representative might want to contact the woman or the alleged son regarding any claim he might have on Uncle Joe's estate.

As to sending a letter, take your cue from the person who's representing you.

DEAR ABBY: Children need more than paper, pencils and a lunch box to be prepared for this school year. They also need health care coverage.

Children who have health insurance are better prepared to learn in

school and better equipped to succeed in life.

Unfortunately, nearly 3.3 million children in the United States are uninsured.

That means one out of every 10 kids might not receive the medical care they need, when they need it.

The good news is that most uninsured children are eligible for low-cost or free health care coverage through Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

These programs exist in every state and the District of Columbia and cover doctor's visits and prescriptions, but many parents may not believe their kids are eligible. Because these parents are working, they may think they earn too much money to qualify.

Anyone who cares about an uninsured child — that includes grandparents, teachers, day care providers, ministers and others — can do his part by telling parents about these programs and urging them to get more information.

Abby, I know you share my concern that these children be allowed to start the school year off right — with good health and access to health care.

Thank you for helping us connect children with the services they need.

— RISALAVIZZO-MOURAY, M.D., PRESIDENT AND CEO, ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION

DEAR DR.: You're welcome. I'm pleased to help you spread the word about this important program for low-income families. With children heading back to school, your letter is a timely one.

Readers, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation sponsors a program nationwide called **Covering Kids and Families**, and invites parents of uninsured children to call (toll-free) (877) 543-7669 ((877) KIDS-NOW) to find out if your children are eligible.

The need is great, so please don't wait to place that call.

DEAR ABBY: I am being married this fall. When we booked the minister last year, he seemed like a nice man. We have since found that he's very overbearing and micromanages everything. What would be a discreet way of telling him that we no longer want him to perform our ceremony?

We have already booked someone else.

— VERBALLY BATTERED BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR BATTERED: Tell him your "plans have changed" and you will no longer be needing his services. (He may think that the wedding is off.)

If he starts questioning you, then tell him exactly what you have told me. Because his personality is affecting his business, he needs to hear it. You'll be doing him a favor in the long run.

Bridge

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST		
♠ 7	♥ J 5	♠ A Q 9 4	♥ A K Q 10 3	
♦ K 8 6 3 2	♦ A Q 9 4	♦ A K Q 10 3	♣ Q 6	
♣ J 7 5 4 2	♣ 9 3			
WEST		SOUTH		
♠ 9 8 6 4	♠ A K Q 10 3 2	♥ —	♥ —	
♥ J 10 7 5	♦ —	♦ —	♦ —	
♦ 9 8 6	♣ A K J 8 5 4 2			
♣ 10 7				

Famous Hand

This deal occurred in a regional pair championship in Los Angeles many years ago. The hand was played at many tables, of course, but our story concerns itself solely with the table where Mrs. Kelsey Petterson held the South cards.

When she first looked at her extraordinary hand, Mrs. Petterson wondered whether it would be better to open the bidding with two spades (strong) or two clubs when it was her turn to bid. A good case can be made for either of these calls, and even the best players would differ as to the correct opening.

However, the problem became altogether academic when Mrs. Petterson thought she heard the player on her right open the bidding with seven diamonds!

Undaunted by this totally unexpected development, Mrs. Petterson bid seven spades. East doubled, and, after three passes, West led the jack of hearts.

There was nothing much to the play. Declarer ruffed the heart and drew four rounds of trumps, the jack obligingly falling on the second round. When she then cashed the A-K of clubs, the missing queen also fell on the second round, so the upshot was that she made seven spades doubled for a score of 2,470 points.

East-West were understandably nonplussed by this dreadful result. They realized they would get a very bad score on the deal, especially since East had elected to double the grand slam, giving North-South an optimum result that was unlikely to be duplicated at the other tables.

As the East-West pair were disconsolately putting their cards back into the duplicate board, Mrs. Petterson turned to her right-hand opponent and asked, "May I please see what an opening seven-diamond bid looks like?"

"I opened the bidding with one diamond," East sadly replied.

Cryptoquip

GB UVAKN BVGAV QZ TVKN
 VO NBBNPQ ZO V SZLOJ,
 G SZLAJ PVAA QTVQ

ZGOQFNOQ JGUVYYZGOQFNOQ.
 Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE KING'S SON IS AUTHORIZING AN ETIQUETTE BOOK TO BE CALLED "THE PRINCE AND THE PROPER."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals F

Family Circus • Bil Keane



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"The good news is we've still got plenty of UNbroken windows."

Crossword

ACROSS	DOWN	21 Old French coin
1 Columbus Day mo.	1 News paper page	23 Sphere
4 Pouch	2 "The Da Vinci —"	25 Troubadour's accompaniment
7 News, briefly	3 Forum garb	26 Winged
11 "Winnie-the- —"	4 Bawl	27 Back talk
13 Bob of CBS News	5 Deserlike	28 Suitable noise
14 Deposited	6 Frog	29 Mideast gulf
15 Rim	7 "Maybe"	30 Fork-tailed bird
16 Life story	8 Yea	31 "— your old man!"
17 Ancient instrument	9 Ever-green	35 Peruke
18 Handed out hands	10 Tribute in verse	38 Deviate off course
20 Morse symbol	11 Snorkel's dog	40 Afternoon affair
22 Writer Buscaglia	12 Classic Reeves song	42 Mournful music
24 Eucalyptus eaters	13 Conclusion	45 Night light?
28 Mid-June honorees	14 Spelling contest	47 Grouch
32 Throat dangler	15 Links prop	48 Storybook villain
33 Notion	16 Spelling contest	49 Color quality
34 Arrow launcher	17 Spelling contest	50 Past
36 Greek vowels	18 Spelling contest	51 Sodom
37 Brash	19 Spelling contest	52 Blasting stick
39 Temporary caregivers	20 Spelling contest	54 Physique
41 Group of nine	21 Spelling contest	

Solution time: 24 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 8-21

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
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28	29	30			31			32	
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59						60			61