

Colby Free Press Friday, May 1, 2009 Page 11

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



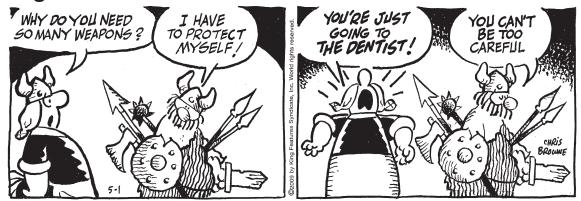
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



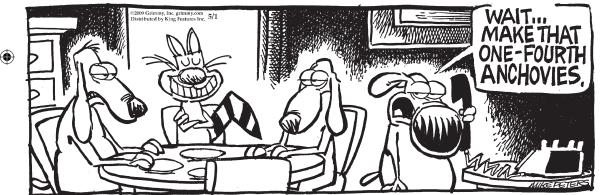
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters





Dear Heloise: I just wanted to say thanks for the article on CHANGING FURNACE FIL-TERS. Coincidentally, several of my friends have brought up things like fuel bills or sneezing or whatever in our recent conversations. I asked them if they change their furnace filters regularly, and they just gave me this look like "What?" So I proceeded to tell them exactly what you said in your column.

I have seasonal allergies, asthma and three house cats. I also change my furnace filters monthly. I write "FF" on the first Saturday of each month to remind me, and it's embarrassing how dirty the filters get! When they go on sale, I buy 12 at a time to last me all year. And yes, the furnace runs much more efficiently that way. I also cough and sneeze much less!

I tell my friends that if they can't remember when they last changed the filter, then it's time to do so. One can also write the date on the side of the filter – that way, you can keep track better.

Those furnace filters are like the carpet. Besides vacuuming regularly, I clean the carpets every three to four months. I don't always use carpet cleaner - just hot water sometimes - and the carpets smell so much fresher and soften up nicely. I've found it to be just as important as the filter when it comes to my allergies and asthma. -Joan Hoppe, Bloomfield, Neb.

How right you are! Indoor pollution from dirty filters and all of the "stuff" we bring in on shoes can cause a lot of health problems. Walk-off mats by each door will cut down on dirt being tracked in. - Heloise

> SEND A GREAT HINT TO: Heloise

P.O. Box 795000 San Antonio, TX 78279-5000 Fax: 210-HELOISE E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I never could find a luggage tag that I liked, so I made my own and saved some money in the process. I bought a package of laminating pouches, printed my important information from the computer on brightly colored paper, then used an iron to seal the pouch. I now have a one-of-a-kind luggage tag that makes it easier to identify in a sea of black luggage. - T.C., Pearland, Texas

SILVERWARE TRAYS Dear Heloise: This has helped me to get more organized with small stuff. I purchased a few sil-

verware trays and fill them with earrings, bracelets and necklaces, and they are neatly organized! I even have one for my hammer, nails, tape,

now know where items are. - Marjorie Hill, Portsmouth, N.H.

COFFEE MUG

inside of stained coffee mugs: Put a little bleach in the mug and fill it with water. Let it soak several hours, and presto -- all the stains disappear. Wash as usual, and you're ready for the next morning's cup o'joe. - Revonda Stroud, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"No, but if Mommy was here I'd really cry up a storm."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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This is a logic-based num-

ber placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

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Cryptoquip

MLGZL ZIQUFPR GK SIKF FLGZXYR TITQYOFDA MGFL EGW EYOZX EGPAK? G GSOWGUD 🏵

etc. I place the trays in a couple of drawers and GF LOK FI ED ZPIMOFGO. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF I WISHED TO BECOME A MEMBER OF A DISSENTING GROUP, I Dear Heloise: Just a quick hint on cleaning the GUESS I'D WANT A PIECE OF THE FACTION. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals H

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



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Bridge • Steve Becker

You have the following hand, oth sides vulnerable: $AKJ3 \forall KJ852 \diamond 7 \Rightarrow AQ4$ **1.** Your right-hand opponent opens One Diamond, which you double for takeout, and your left-hand opponent bids Three Dia-monds, which is followed by two passes. What would you do now? 2. You deal and bid One Heart, and partner responds One Spade What would you do now? 3. You deal and bid One Heart, and partner responds Two Clubs. When you rebid Two Spades, partner bids Three Diamonds. What would bids Three Diamonds. What would you do now? **4. Your right-hand opponent** opens the bidding with Three Dia-monds, which you double. Your part-ner responds Three Notrump. What would you do now? ***

Bidding Quiz

1. Double. This is still a takeout double, even though partner had the opportunity to bid and didn't. Your hand is much too good to give up without a fight, since you have considerably more strength than was implied by the first double. It is better to ask partner to choose the suit by doubling again than it is to blindly bid three hearts or three spades in the hope of finding partner with support for that suit. Furthermore, there is a chance that clubs may turn out to be the best place to play the hand.

2. Four spades. The jump to four spades tells partner that even though his spade response may be based on only six points and four mediocre spades, a game in spades is highly probable. By inference, therefore, the jump promises at least 20 points, including distributional values. The four-spade bid thus constitutes an indirect slam try, and is not a closeout bid, as some might mistakenly think.

3. Five clubs. Having indicated five hearts and four spades already, you should now show your excellent club support and additional strength by jumping to five of that suit. It would be wrong to bid three notrump, which would be correct if the queen of clubs were, say, the queen of diamonds. As it is, though, the queen of clubs is probably the difference between making a slam and just a game.

4. Pass. You should accept partner's judgment that notrump is the best spot. He knows you were angling for a suit contract when you doubled, and it would be wrong to start groping around now in hopes of finding a better place to play.

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Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

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