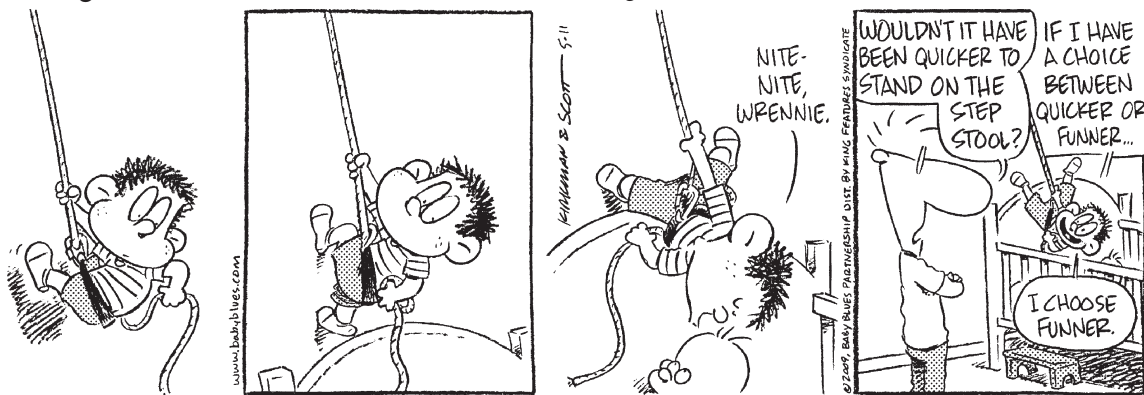


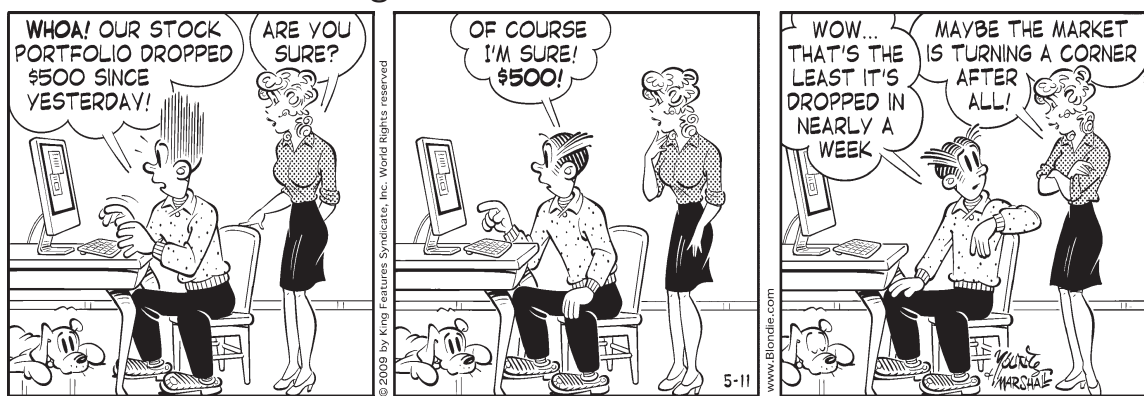
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



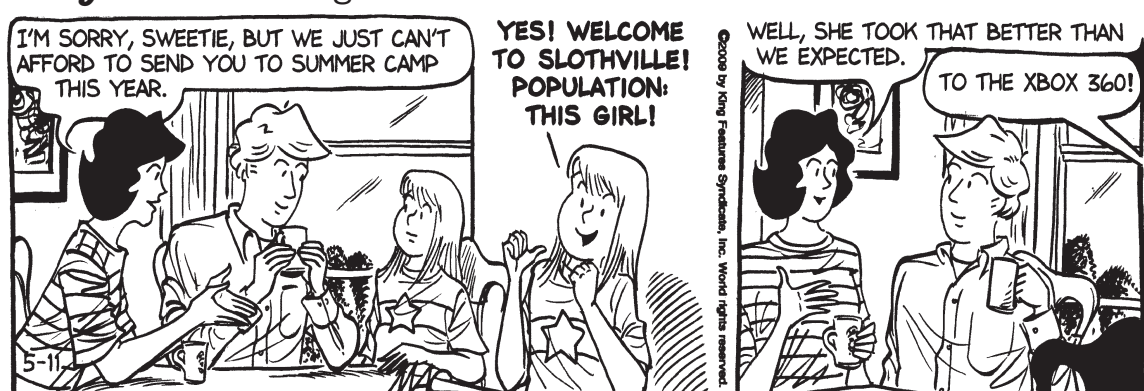
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



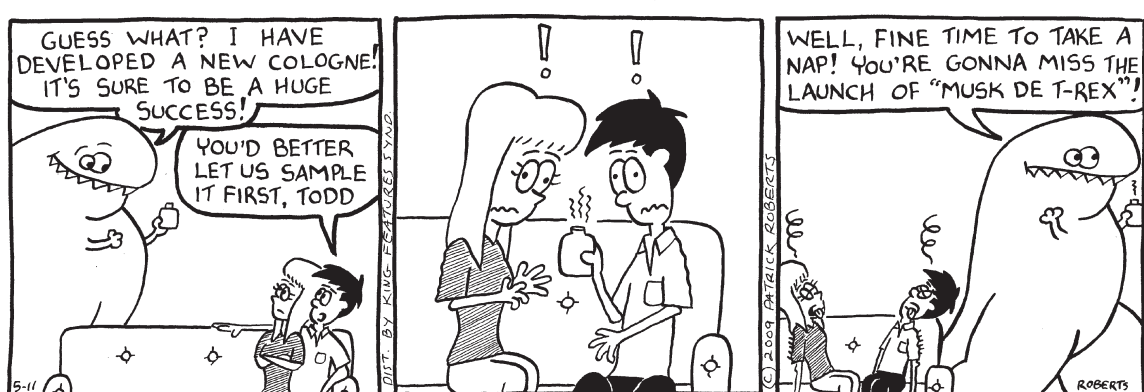
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Dr. Joyce Brothers**

• Ask Dr. Brothers

**Is it time now to change jobs?**

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've been at my job for only four years, but I'm thinking of handing in my resignation. I know with the economy being the way it is, it will be hard to find another one, but I think I'm willing to take that chance. The work I do is mind-numbing, and I don't feel challenged at all. I consider myself a creative person, and I'm tired of forcing myself to show up there every morning just for a paycheck. Any thoughts on what I should do? - F.R.

Dear F.R.: Staying at a job you find unfulfilling may make you very frustrated, but there are a few things you should consider before you tell your boss that you quit. You can look for other employment while still holding your current job; there are lots of people who plan their escape by combing the classifieds, networking sites or Craigslist on their lunch hour. If you're lucky, you may find a perfect fit, but chances are you'll be disappointed when you realize just how dry the job market is today.

Perhaps it's time to change your way of thinking about your present job. Too often, we define ourselves as what we do from 9 to 5, and ignore all the other hours in the day. You say you're a creative person; why not narrow your focus to find what would really make you happy? It's up to you to explore your own creativity and not look to your place of employment as a place to meet all of your needs. The sooner you get started on what you want to be creative doing, the sooner you can build up a body of work. If you're really lucky, someday someone might actually pay you to create. Good luck!

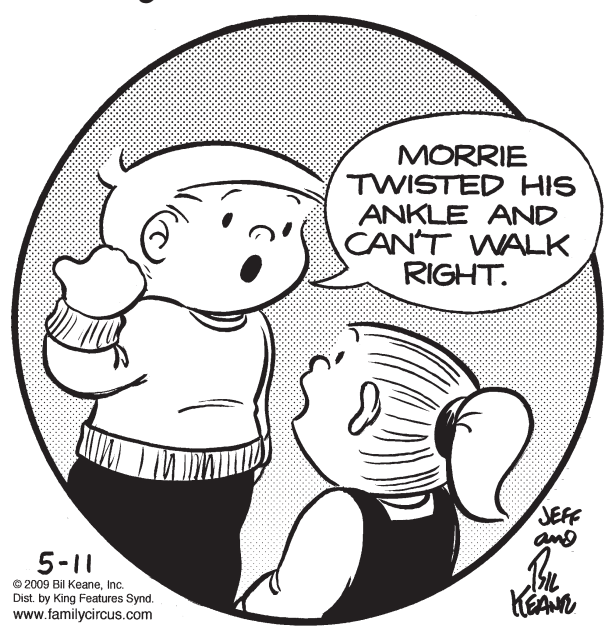
Dear Dr. Brothers: I have never cared too much about my age or what people thought about it. In fact, I have always been mistaken for much younger. But today someone asked me if I am retired and if I have grandchildren. I am 60, but had kids late in life and haven't begun to feel old yet. I must have looked shocked. Is it time to admit to my age and try to adjust to these kinds of remarks, or would it be unhealthy to pretend to be younger? - A.T.

Dear A.T.: There are so many cliches about aging that I don't know which one to offer up - but the old adage about being only as old as you feel is as applicable as ever. I'm sure you've heard the new credo that 50 is the new 40, 40 is the new 30, and so forth - that would mean 60 is the new 50, and you probably do act and look a lot younger than people your age did a generation ago. So today, being retired or having grandchildren doesn't have to take on a dreadful sound.

I think the fact that you simply haven't entered into that stage of life yet where having grandchildren seems like the age-appropriate thing may be skewing your reaction. And retirement can come at any age. But it is more likely that you and members of the baby-boomer generation will never officially retire. So, my advice is not to worry too much about these emotion-laden words.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



5-11  
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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 5/11

This is a logic-based number 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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

VLTA CZXLHKA NZBTA RKRK  
VZX GHWHAY XKNT VZBTX, H  
YOTXX PKO RKOSW XZP  
XLT VZX RLZATS-XOGCHAY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I IMAGINE A KITCHEN TOOL THAT TAKES THE SKINS OFF OF SOUR FRUITS MIGHT GET CALLED A LEMON AID.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals C

**Bridge** • Steve Becker

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH  
♠ 10 9 6  
♥ 7  
♦ A Q J 5 3  
♣ A 10 8 5

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

EAST  
♠ 8 7  
♥ 9 8 5 4 2  
♦ K 10 8 2  
♣ K 6

SOUTH  
♠ A 4 3  
♥ A K 10 3  
♦ 9  
♣ Q 1 9 7 3

The bidding:  
West North East South  
Pass 1♦ Pass 2♣  
Pass 3♦ Pass 3♠  
Pass 4♦ Pass 4♥  
Dble 5♣ Pass 6♣  
Opening lead — king of spades.

**Famous Hand**

This deal was played by many-times national and world champion Bob Hamman in the 1986 Grand National Teams championship, won by his Texas team. He and his partner, Bobby Wolff, reached six clubs, against which West made the most effective lead, the king of spades.

Hamman took the ace and could have banked everything on a club finesse. This would have resulted in losing the slam as the cards lie.

But Hamman didn't become one of the world's greatest players by relying on a finesse when a reasonable alternative was available. So after taking the first spade, he cashed the A-K of hearts, discarding a spade from dummy, then led a diamond to the ace.

Next came the diamond queen, covered by the king and ruffed by declarer. A heart ruff brought forth the queen, establishing the ten, and Hamman was now at the crossroads.

One possibility was to trump a low diamond to establish the suit, then try a club finesse, planning to discard two spades on the J-5 of diamonds after trumps were drawn. But Hamman had good reason to suspect the club finesse would fail. West had thus far shown up with the Q-J-x of hearts and apparently had a good spade suit. If he also had the king of clubs, he probably would have opened the bidding.

So, after ruffing the heart, Hamman next cashed the ace of clubs, then played the jack of diamonds, discarding a spade, and ruffed a diamond. The ten of hearts was then led, West ruffing and dummy overruffing. When dummy's good diamond was now led, East ruffed with the king as Hamman discarded his last spade, and the slam was home.

At the other table, North-South bid and made exactly five clubs, so Hamman's team gained 13 IMPs on the deal. Every one of those points proved vital, because the Texans won the match by just 1 IMP.

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**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**  
1 Annie Lennox's "No More 'I Love \_\_\_'"  
5 Shade provider  
8 Grate  
12 Ordinate counter-part  
14 "Do — others ..."  
15 Labyrinth beast  
16 Ollie's pal  
17 Little, in Paris  
18 Unisex top  
20 PC peripheral  
23 Folder contents  
24 Angered  
25 Stately dances  
28 "— Miserables"  
29 Pugilist  
30 Discoverer's cry  
32 Mosque tower  
34 Culture medium  
35 — and crafts
- DOWN**  
3 Sailors' org.  
4 Evaluated by eyeing  
5 Jacob's brother  
6 Baton Rouge  
7 Strict disciplinarian  
8 Potential frat member  
9 Con  
10 Celeb  
11 Bridge, in Brest  
13 Particular  
19 Speak sloppily  
20 Wire measure  
21 Utah city  
22 Lucy's partner  
23 Repairs  
25 Bergen's dummy  
26 Takeout request  
27 Phony  
29 Homer's imp  
31 Sphere  
33 Caught red-handed  
34 Bottomless pits  
36 Estate recipient  
37 Sobbed  
38 Lotion additive  
39 Rid of rind  
40 Patella site  
43 Wall climber  
44 Youngster  
45 Historic time  
46 CSA soldier

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 5-11

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	27	
28				29					30	31	
	32		33						34		
								36			
37	38	39					40				
41					42	43			44	45	46
47					48						
49					50				51		