

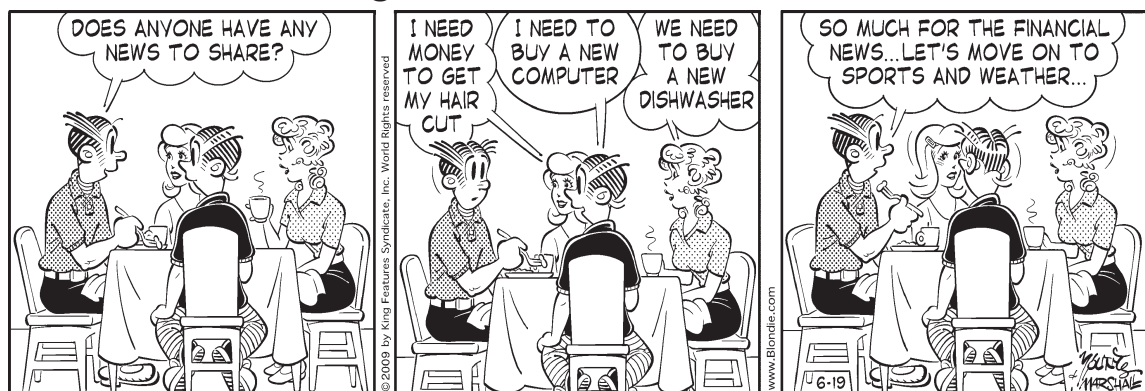
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



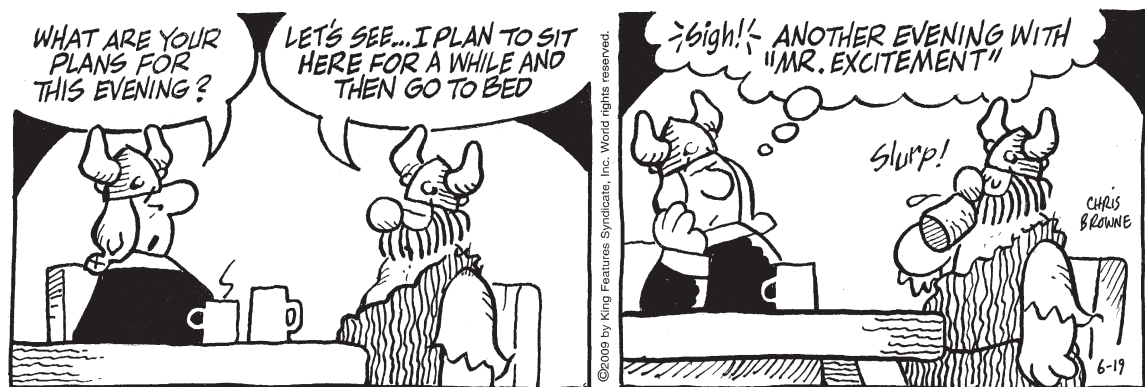
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



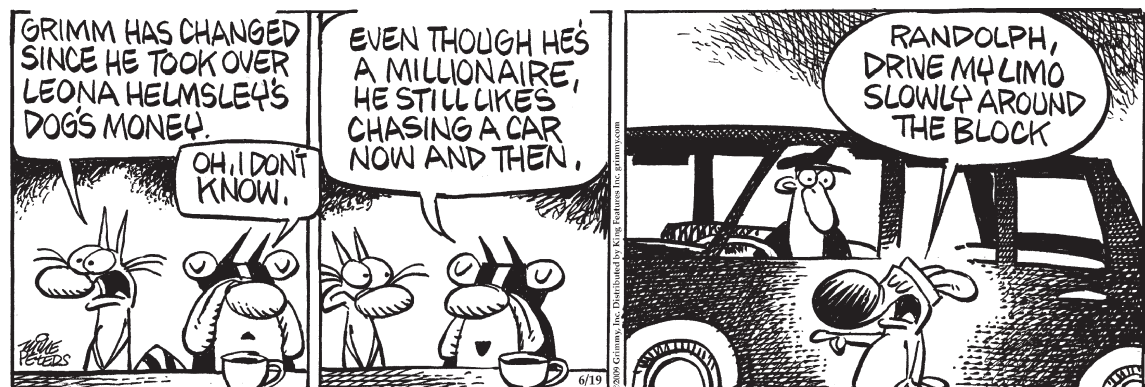
Blondie • Chic Young



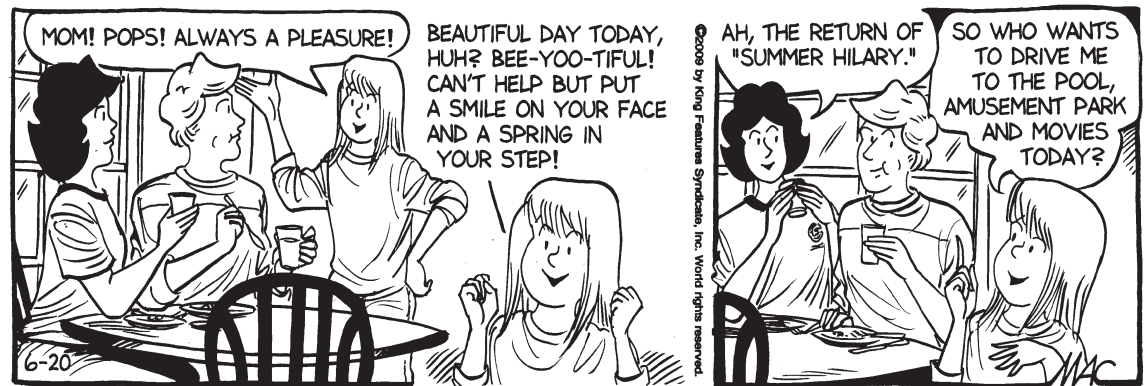
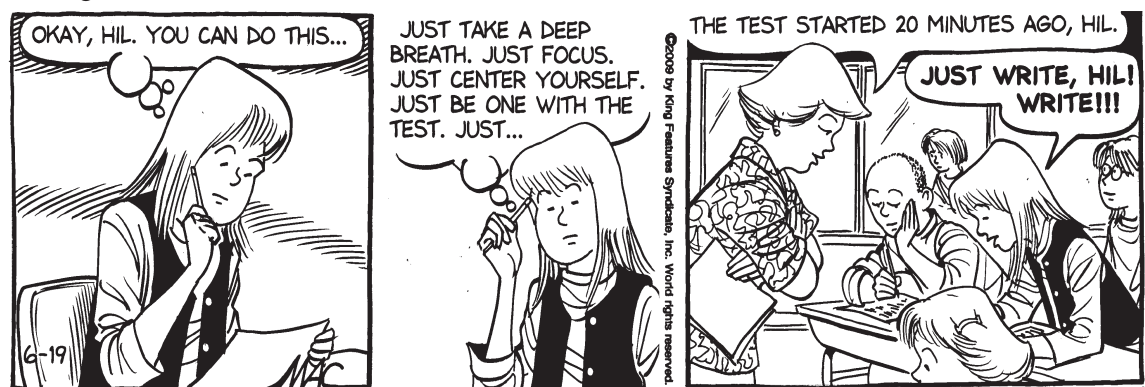
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



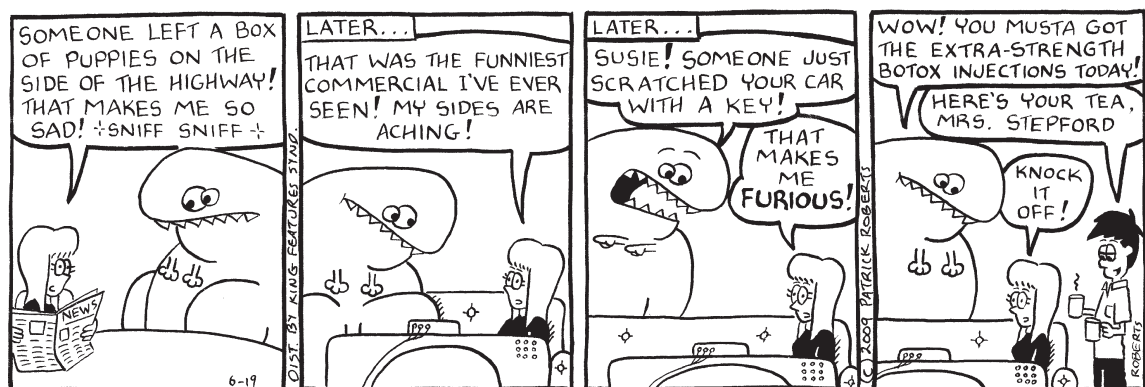
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Tape residue is stuck on door

Howdy, Heloise: I am struggling to get DUCT-TAPE RESIDUE off our front door. Someone used duct tape to put a sign on the door. The sign is off, but I cannot get the sticky residue off. I have tried everything, but nothing seems to work. I do not want to scrape the door, as it is new. — Catherine Ann Stinson, Cibolo, Texas

If the door is metal or painted wood, you can use a petroleum-based cleaner. Here are a couple of ideas: Spray the residue with a petroleum-based prewash laundry spray or a lubricating spray. Wait a bit, then go over the area with a plastic or nylon scrubber. It should come off. If not, repeat the process.

You can also try rubbing mineral oil into the residue, and then use the scrubbie to get the residue off. — Heloise

Send a great hint to: Heloise, Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: When I travel, I pack all of my lingerie in plastic self-sealing bags. I let some of the air out of the bag, so it packs really flat. This is handy because you also can use the bags to put the lingerie in after it has been worn. With the new restrictions on baggage on airlines, I find this really helps in packing. — Shirley Clark, via e-mail

PERFECT PICTURE HANGING

Dear Heloise: It is sometimes difficult to remember where pictures were hung after they had been removed for painting a wall. A way to solve this problem is to put a toothpick in the hole where you removed the picture hanger. Then, when painting the wall, pull out the toothpick, paint, then reinsert the toothpick as you continue painting the wall. When the paint is dry, remove the toothpick and reinsert the picture hanger in its original position. — Ronald N., Alexandria, Va.

CLEAN SHOWER

Dear Heloise: To help make cleaning your shower/tub area easier, I have found that after you shower, while still in the shower, use a rubber squeegee to wipe down the glass door, trim, doorsills and walls.

Also, to keep the mirror from fogging, even with a ceiling exhaust fan, I leave the bathroom door open about 2 inches. There are two of us at home, so you can still be modest. After showering, towel off in the shower. When you step out, close the shower door so the hot air still continues to be pulled up by the ceiling fan. — Bussy, via e-mail

OUTDOOR WALL CLOCKS

Dear Heloise: After years of throwing away outdoor wall clocks, I took an inexpensive wall clock that cost less than \$5 and put some duct tape over the back to conceal the motor and battery and help keep out moisture. It has worked beautifully. There is no condensation inside, and it keeps time perfectly! — Kern C., Fort Worth, Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds, and North leads the K-A of spades. You ruff and cash the ace of trumps, on which North shows out. How would you play the hand?

West: ♠8, ♥KQ, ♦AKQ95, ♣A9743

East: ♠J5, ♥A10943, ♦10762, ♣K6

2. You are West, defending against Three Notrump. The bidding was One Diamond by North, One Notrump by South, Three Notrump by North.

North: ♠K93, ♥K109, ♦KQJ109, ♣AKQ

West: ♠174, ♥108652, ♦A8, ♣872

You lead the five of hearts, dummy plays the nine, East the three and declarer the queen. South leads a diamond, which you win with the ace. What do you play next and why?

Test Your Play

1. To try to ruff a club in dummy by playing the K-A and another club would subject you to a possible overruff if South started with a singleton or doubleton club.

A much safer method of play is to cash the K-Q of hearts. Once you get by this hurdle (the chance of South having one or no hearts is relatively small), you lead a club to the king and start to run dummy's hearts. If South ruffs at any point, you overruff and draw his remaining trumps to score the rest of the tricks. If South discards as dummy's hearts are led, you finish by taking a trump finesse to make the slam.

2. The only play that has any chance to defeat the contract is the jack of spades. You know from the play to the first trick, where partner could not beat dummy's nine, that declarer has the A-K-Q of hearts. You therefore can't afford to "play safe" by leading another heart, because declarer will then score three hearts, four diamonds and three clubs to finish with 10 tricks. What you hope is that South's hand looks something like:

- ♦ 8 5 2
- ♥ A K Q
- ♦ 7 4 2
- ♣ 10 9 6 5

It is known from the bidding that South does not have the ace or queen of spades, since he would not have bid one notrump, indicating six to 10 points, if he had either of those cards together with the A-K-Q of hearts. Your only real hope, therefore, is that partner has four or five spades headed by the A-Q-10. Note that a low spade lead would not succeed in that case, since declarer would simply play low from dummy to safeguard his contract.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Little Billy continues his week of being a substitute cartoonist.

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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

Cryptoquip

R P F G S J G S V Z J P F P R S G Z
Y J K Z E R Y S M M E I Z Q E F S W,
H S V Y J H R W E I G E I M K G J M M

P Z J H J W P F A Q J F Z P R.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ITALIAN CHEESE THAT'S BECOMING ENORMOUSLY POPULAR AT BIG YACHT RACES: REGATTA RICOTTA.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Fidelio" or "Faust"

6 Wilde-beest

9 Summer-time elec. users

12 Kitchen gizmo

13 Disen-cumber

14 Deteriorate

15 Prove false

16 Frugality

18 There from birth

20 Portent

21 Deadly snake

23 Life time?

24 Cognizant

25 Jeopardize

27 Andean beast

29 Story of Sandy and Danny

31 Mystery writer

35 Starksy's partner

37 Ella's style

38 Started bull?

43 Bond, e.g.

44 Arab League member

45 Easter chapeau

47 Country named for an imaginary line

49 Deliver a speech

52 — U.S. Pat. Off.

53 Affirmative action?

54 Start

55 Witness

56 Tummy muscles

57 USA Network whodunit series

10 Star-in-the-making

11 "Gypsy" composer

17 "Fuhged-daboutit!"

19 Shoelace tip

21 S.A. nation

22 Round Table address

24 "I — check Camera"

26 Big — (hot shot)

28 Wan

30 Heat source

32 Rapture

33 Knock vegetable

34 Pigs' digs

36 Triads, e.g.

38 1899 fighters

39 Host

40 Measure

42 Be nosy

45 Nitwit

46 Sea flock

48 Genetic stuff

50 Sleuth (Sl.)

51 Ordinal suffix

Yesterday's answer 6-19

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
		35			36		37			
38	39	40			41		42		43	
44				45			46			
47				48			49		50	51
52				53			54			
55				56			57			