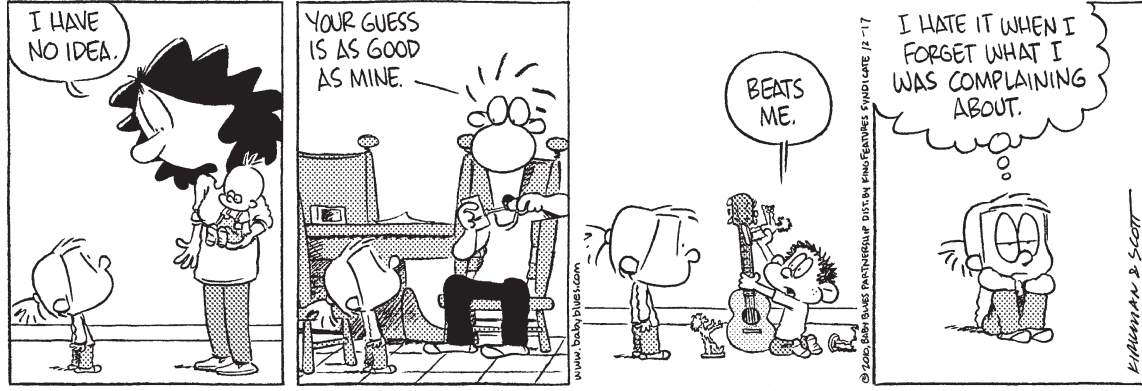


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



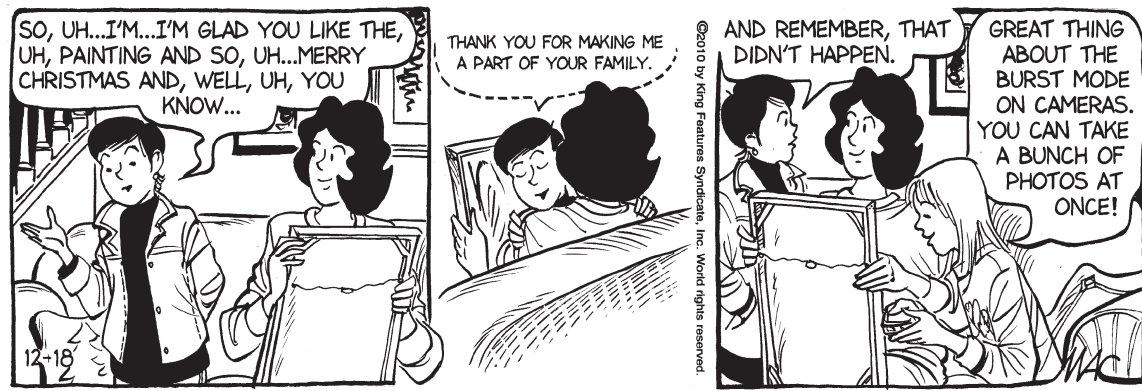
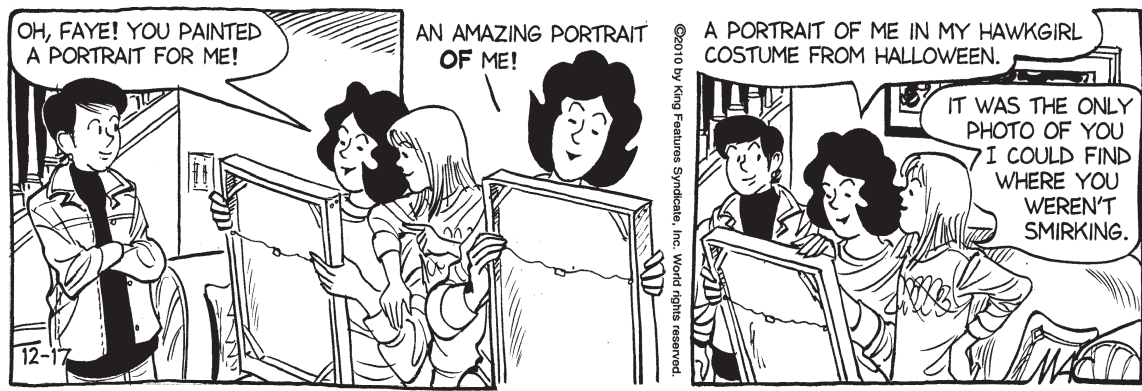
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



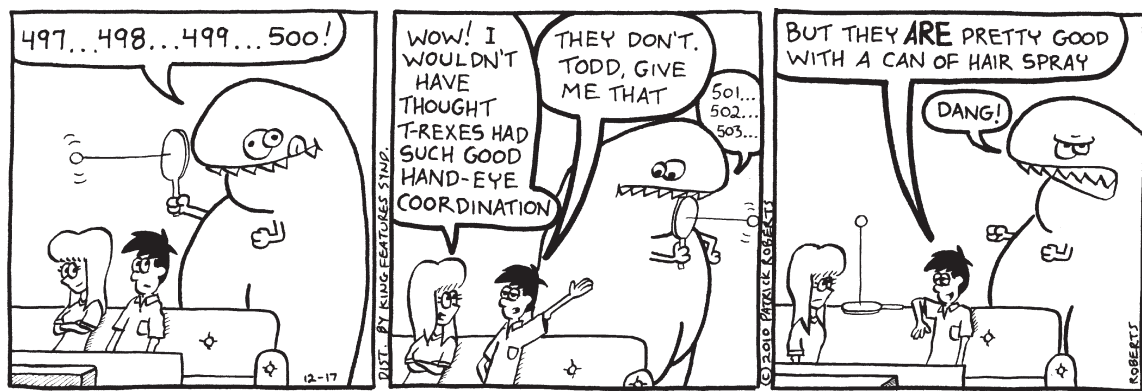
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Clean house moves on market

Dear Readers: When SELLING YOUR HOME in today's market, it's very important to have your house in perfect condition when showing it to a prospective buyer.

Here are some hints to help do just that:

- To make windows really shine, add about 1 cup of vinegar to 1/2 gallon of water, pour into a spray bottle and apply to the windows. Then dry well.

- To clean your microwave, add 2 tablespoons of baking soda to 1 cup of water in a 4-cup microwave-safe bowl. Turn the microwave on high for three to five minutes. This will soften spills and any splatter on the walls and floor. Let the cup sit for 15 minutes to cool off, and then carefully open the door and remove the cup. Use a sponge to wipe off the gunk.

- To dust curtains or drapes, if you notice dust in the folds or on top, take them down. Then put the washables into the dryer on the "air" setting for several minutes to get rid of the dust. You also can hang them outside in the fresh air (not in the direct sun).

- If you smell odd odors in your house, some could be far more than just a nuisance, such as a gas leak. They can be dangerous, so you should check them out and deal with them quickly. Inspect and maintain the chimney, plumbing, and heating and cooling systems to prevent these potentially deadly fumes.

- To quick-clean the tub, pour cheap shampoo onto a scrub brush and rub over the dirty areas. Commercial cleaners also do a good job, as does vinegar, but don't use it on marble or other porous surfaces.

- To remove white rings from hardwood tables, mix a little bit of white, nongel toothpaste with some baking soda. Rub the mixture into the white stains until warm. It takes time for the marks to go away. When they are gone, wax or use furniture polish on the wood, if OK for the surface.

- If you are selling your home yourself, job experts say to list it online. Take good pictures of the inside and outside to post online.

- To prevent cockroach infestation, be aware that cockroaches love warmth, humid spots and the dark, so they can gather in your basement, kitchen and bathroom – or hide just about anywhere else in your house. Use duct tape to seal the space around under-sink water pipes to prevent roaches from getting in. At night, they sneak out to eat crumbs, paper with glue on it, pet food or even wax. Good sanitation is essential, because roaches won't drop by if there's nothing to eat. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
BUDGETING

Dear Heloise: If you have trouble budgeting, keep track of how you spend in a spiral notebook with pages ruled off into four columns: Necessities, Comforts, Luxuries and Vices. Soon you will see what sort of priorities you set for your money and which need changing. – Diane, via e-mail
(c)2010 by King Features Syndicate

Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You, West, are in Six Spades, and North leads the king of clubs. How would you play the hand?

West	East
♠ A Q J 10 9 8	♠ 5 2
♥ A Q J	♥ K 10 8
♦ A Q J	♦ 9 7 4
♣ 6	♣ A J 8 4 3

2. You, West, are declarer at Six Hearts, and North leads the queen of spades. How would you play the hand? (Assume that the trumps are divided 3-2.)

West	East
♠ A K	♠ 7
♥ K Q J 5	♥ A 10 9 3
♦ A 9 8 6 2	♦ K J 10 4
♣ A Q	♣ 9 6 5 3

Test Your Play

1. You have only two entries to dummy, so you will be able to take only two finesses. The question, therefore, is whether it is better, after taking the ace of clubs, to finesse in trumps or diamonds. It is true that South might have either king, and to that extent either finesse has a 50-50 chance of winning. But insofar as making the contract is concerned, you are much better off trying the diamond finesse.

If the diamond finesse wins, your worries are over, because your next move will be to play the ace and another trump, planning to repeat the diamond finesse later. If the diamond finesse loses at trick two, you can still get home safely if South started with the singleton or doubleton king of spades.

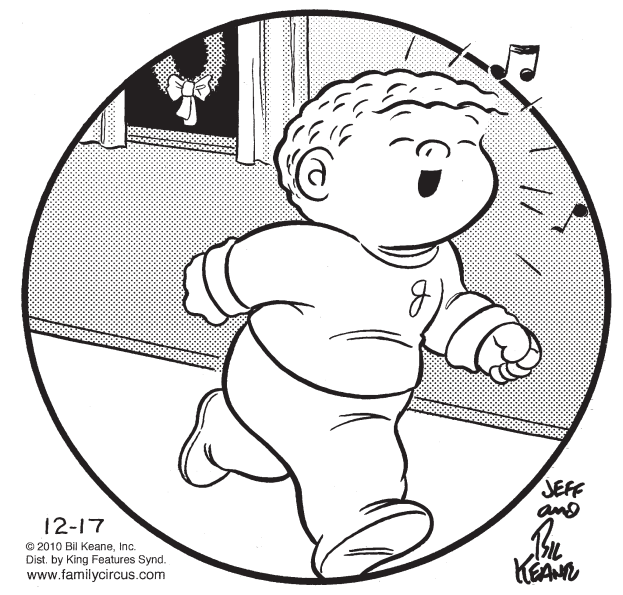
The decisive factor is that a trump finesse at trick two does not necessarily make the slam even if it succeeds, because South might have four or five trumps to the king, while the diamond finesse virtually guarantees the slam if South has the king.

2. Draw three rounds of trumps and cash the ace of spades, discarding a club from dummy. Then play a diamond to the king, and if both opponents follow suit, the contract is assured. Continue with the jack and, if South follows low, finesse.

If the jack wins, you make at least 12 tricks, while if it loses, the slam is still certain, since North must next either return a club into your A-Q or hand you a ruff-and-discard.

If South shows out on the jack of diamonds, you are still in good shape. Simply win the jack with the ace and concede a diamond to North, forcing him to make the same losing return.
(c)2010 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



12-17
© 2010 Bil Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

"Later on we'll perspire, as we dream in the fire! ..."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

J S C I K Z D A E Z S C S B W W X

Z D G Z D N W C K I U G D A D B E

J S K A C G A C C N K I U , K Z

Y C F A A X S K Z F G I D Y C G N D Z .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT THE PREFERRED FRUIT OF MANY FAST AFRICAN MAMMALS IS ANTELOPE CANTALOUPE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Lobbying grp.
4 Fusses
8 Belgrade native
12 Literary collection
13 1942 vessel
14 "Arrivederci"
15 Remove (from)
17 Jason's ship
18 Injure
19 Bedtime story?
20 Mall unit
22 Entreaty
24 Calm before the storm
25 Disadvantage
29 Japanese 34-Down
30 Sycophant
31 That girl
32 Spine
34 Unescorted, in a way
35 "Listen!"

DOWN

2 Blackbird
3 Comprehensive
4 Agassi or Previn
5 Gossip
6 — budget
7 Witness
8 Ornamental beetle
9 Green acres
10 Sitar music
11 Upsurge in activity
16 Throw
19 Moist in the morn
20 Messy fellow
21 Big brass
22 Mischievous
23 Stow cargo
25 Entrance
26 With shrewdness
27 Charlie of whodunits
28 Bar supply
30 Ski lift type
33 Light-colored uniforms
34 Cumberbund, e.g.
36 Raging hot
37 Partner
38 Portent
39 Parliamentary address
40 Summer-time pest
42 Push-up provider
43 "— the fields we go"
44 Sailor's assent
45 Lair

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 12-17

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	