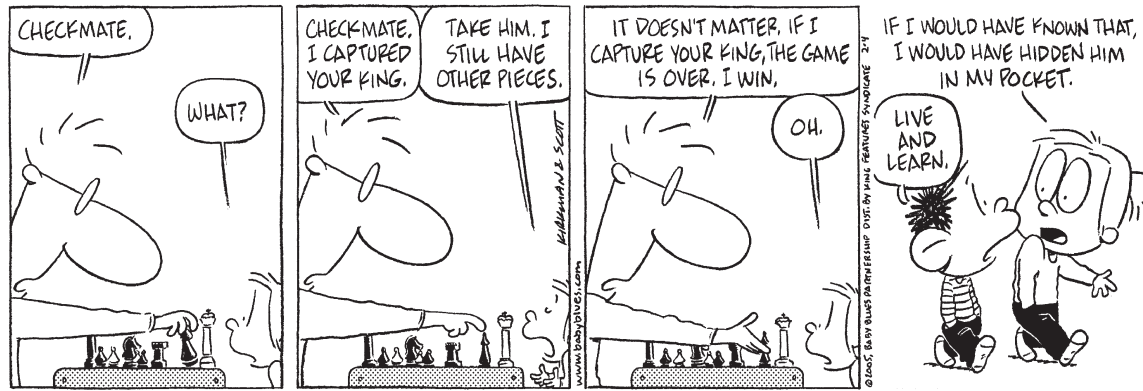
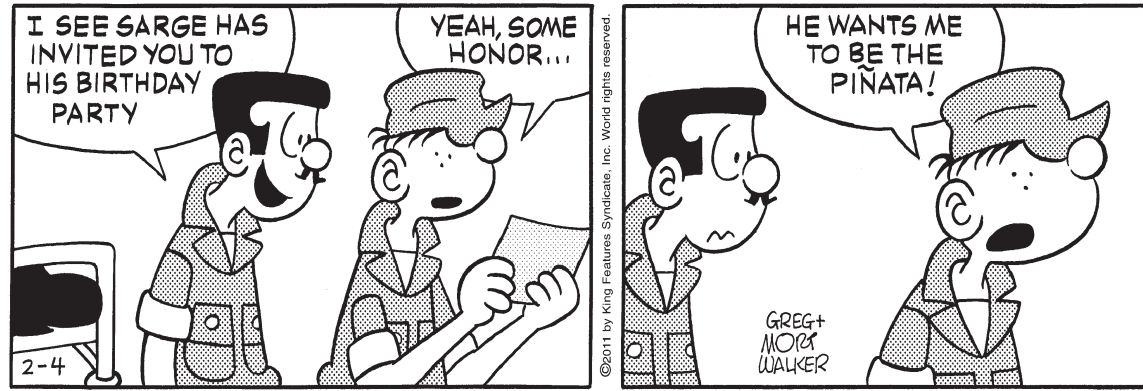


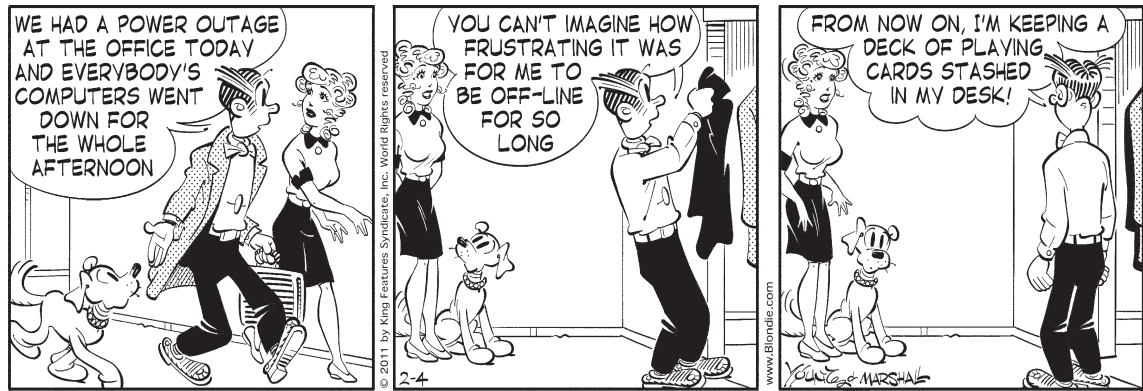
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



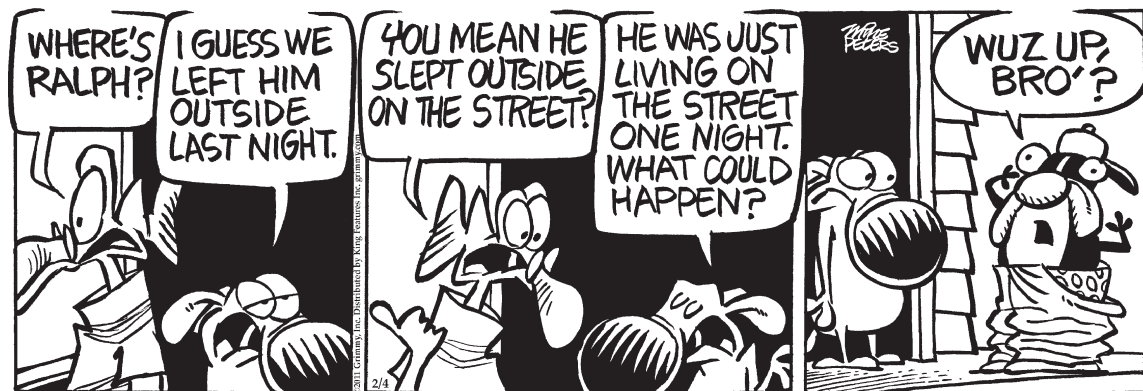
Blondie • Chic Young



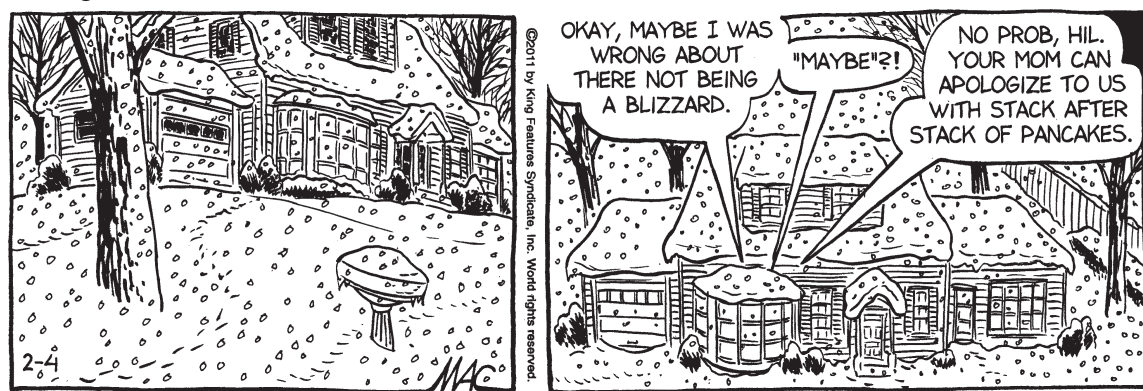
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



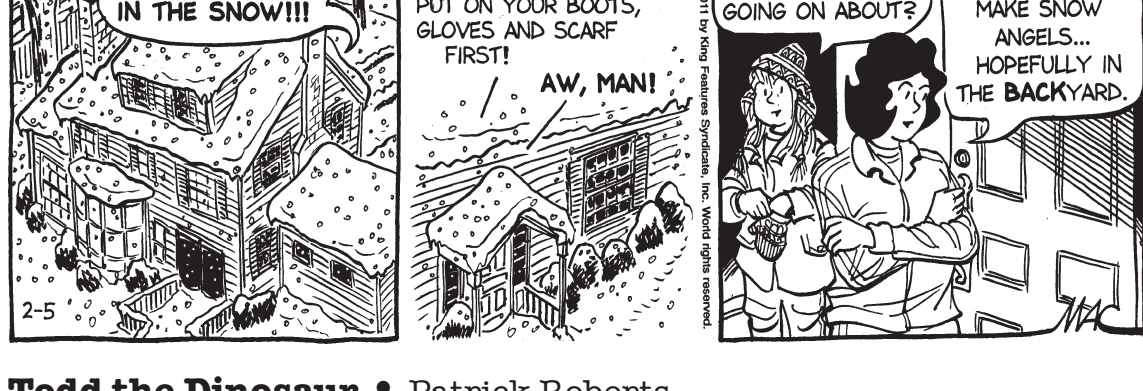
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Conquer closet clutter

Dear Readers: Here are some Heloise hints on how to ORGANIZE YOUR CLOSET to best use all of your space:

- 1. The first step to organizing the closet is to take an inventory and clean out things you don't want or can't wear anymore. Donate items that are gently used, but trash clothes that are frayed, stained, etc.
2. To free up extra space, keep out-of-season items in a suitcase that you don't frequently use.
3. Use hangers made to hold multiple pants, shirts or skirts.
4. Storage containers that fit under the bed are good for seldom-used or seasonal shoes, purses, etc. They are easily accessible when you need them.
5. Keep a bin or basket on the floor to put extra hangers in. This way, you will have more space for clothes on the hanging bar.
6. Hang matching outfits together on one hanger.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

CLEANING OUT BILLS

Dear Heloise: When I was cleaning out the old 2010 paid bills, receipts, etc., and shredding things that could be used for identity theft, I thought, "Why not empty the cat's litter box into the same bag with the shredded bills?" It may not totally stop crooks, but it may give them "paws."

- Susan F., via e-mail

Susan, yes, it might, but if papers are shredded well enough, it's almost impossible to get any pertinent information from all those tiny pieces!

- Heloise

PURSE ORGANIZATION

Dear Heloise: Many of us ladies carry handbags with several zippered compartments. I find it handy to keep my wallet, cell phone and keys in one zippered section, to which I then attach a key chain through the zippered grip. This makes it easy to see at a glance where these important things are. It eliminates frantic purse searches at checkout lines, missed phone calls, etc.

- Jean Milici in Torrington, Conn.

CEMETERY

Dear Heloise: While traveling, I realized I was only an hour from where my grandfather is buried, and I decided to visit his grave. Last time the family went, we had a hard time remembering where his plot was. I called the cemetery to see if someone there could tell me where the plot was. It was so simple; I got turn-by-turn directions. I saved so much time!

- Heather in San Antonio

TRAVEL HINTS

Dear Heloise: When I travel, I put my phone number in the camera bag. In case it's lost, the finder may call.

Also, I keep a few granola bars and nuts in my purse. - K. Jain, Reston, Va.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:

Table with 4 columns: North, East, South, West. Row 1: 1♦, Pass, 1♠, Pass. Row 2: 2♥, Pass, ?, Pass.

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- 1. ♠AQ83 ♥K75 ♦1062 ♣QJ3
2. ♠J9652 ♥84 ♦Q73 ♣K94
3. ♠K9843 ♥10 ♦QJ85 ♣A106
4. ♠AJ964 ♥KQ72 ♦9 ♣A32

Bidding Quiz

1. Three notrump. Partner obviously has a good hand, since he bid his suits in reverse order and was willing to risk a preference to three diamonds if you had a poor hand containing more diamonds than hearts. In the given sequence, partner should have more diamonds than hearts as well as at least 17 points.

However, though the possibility of a slam exists, you really can't do more than jump to three notrump to show your extra values. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, since you could do that with a much weaker hand.

2. Three diamonds. With barely enough values for an initial response, you must try to slow partner down by bidding three diamonds. It is tempting to bid two notrump because of your club stopper, but partner is likely to take such a bid more seriously than if you simply return to his first suit. If partner passes three diamonds, it is probably the best contract.

3. Four diamonds. This hand is far better than the previous one, and you show the additional values by a jump-raise to four diamonds. It is true that in so doing you are bypassing three notrump, but there is no assurance that that contract would prove safer than five diamonds, while there is a strong possibility that partner might want to investigate a slam once he hears your encouraging response. He might have the A-K of diamonds and two side aces, as well as other values sufficient to justify a reverse, in which case a slam is very likely to be made. This possibility should not be ignored.

4. Three clubs. A small slam in hearts is already certain; the only remaining question is whether there might be a grand slam. Three clubs is a waiting bid as well as a cuebid, its chief purpose being to force partner to reveal more about his hand. If the auction develops favorably, you might wind up bidding a grand slam in hearts; if not, you won't settle for less than six.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Could you please just listen and stop saying 'you don't say?'"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

Conceptis Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

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.

Small 8x8 grid with numbers 1-8.

Cryptoquip

PUNEZOU P KUOOZQR EOO

KTPNK TY UCIZHLUQN YTP

E HTHIOEP FTIPN RELU:

NGU LUPFGEQN TY NUQQZK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HAVEN'T READ VERY MUCH ABOUT PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITIONING, BUT THE NAME PAVLOV RINGS A BELL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Dandy 4 Thrash 8 Injury 12 Flightless bird 13 Wash 14 Diva's show-stopper 15 Secular 17 Cincinnati team 18 Not digital 19 Mimic 21 Hubbub 22 Entices 26 Suburban sprawls 29 Leprechaun's dance 30 Storm center 31 Rue the run 32 Vehicle with sliding doors 33 One of the Three Bears 34 "No seats" sign 35 Mediterranean fruit tree 36 Mathematician Leonhard 37 "fugit" 39 Mountain 40 "Entourage" role 41 Grape that's seen better days? 45 Walked (on) 48 Pattern 50 Tart 51 Bullring cheers 52 Mauna — 53 Sampras of tennis 54 Carousel, e.g.

- DOWN 20 "Married ... With Children" mom 23 Ring out 24 Work at the keyboard 25 Burn somewhat 26 Ultimate 27 Farm fraction 28 Part of TWIMC 29 Binge 32 Guest 33 Student 35 PETA no-no 36 Pass by 38 Chaplain 39 Ready for battle 42 Benefit 43 Two-some, to TMZ 44 Tide variety 45 Recipe meas. 46 Shad product 47 Chic no more 49 Yale grad

Solution time: 25 mins.

Crossword grid with letters filled in.

Yesterday's answer 2-4

Small crossword grid with numbers 1-25.

Small crossword grid with numbers 1-55.