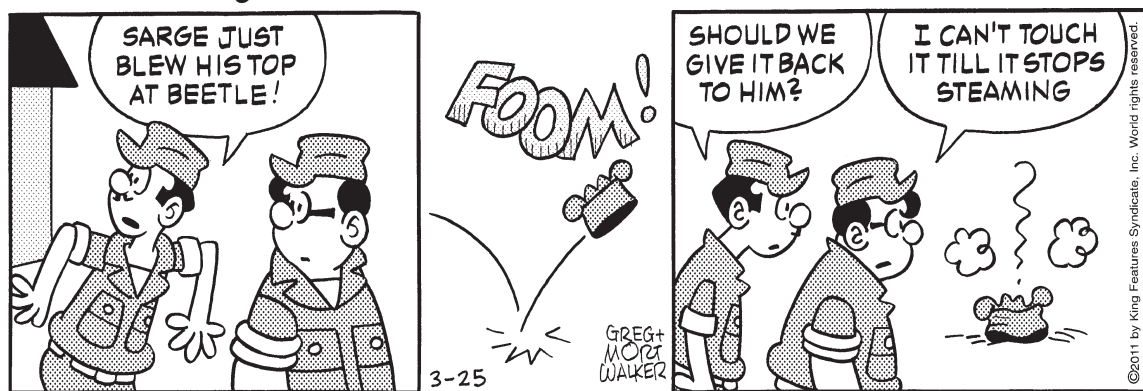


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



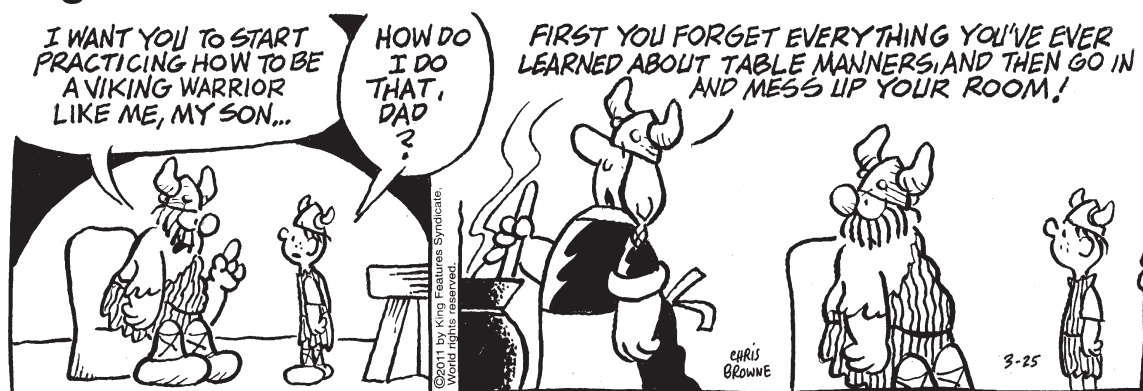
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



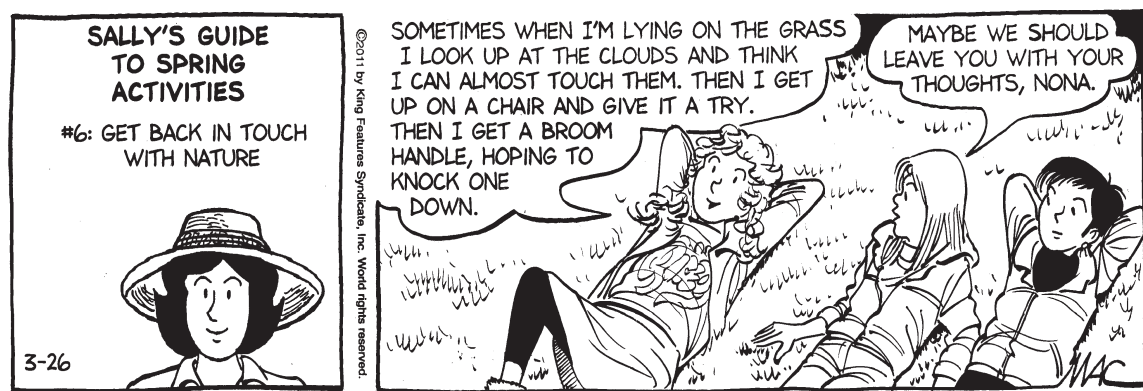
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



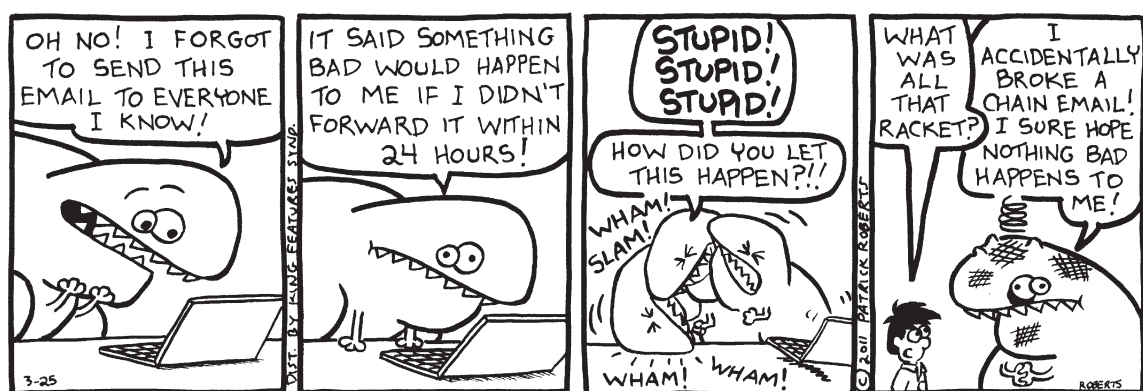
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



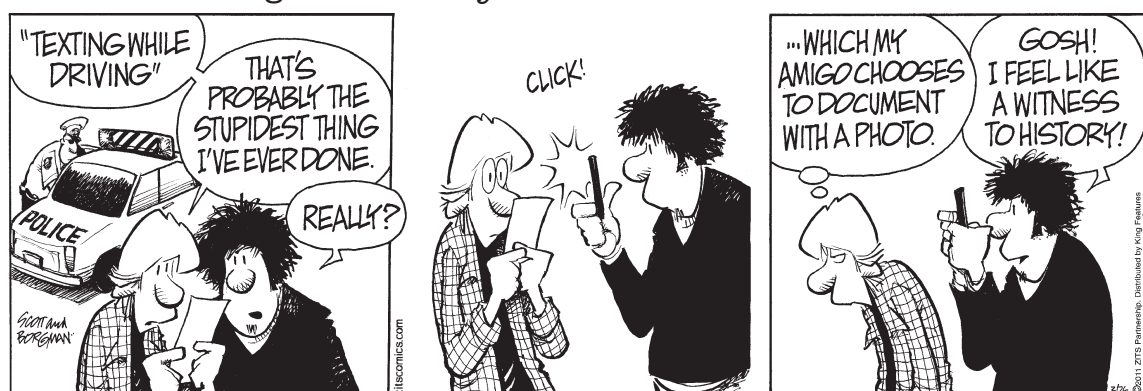
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Smelly problem can be masked**

Dear Heloise: Please, help me! I had a DEAD MOUSE in the ceiling of my walk-in closet. I have tried everything to get rid of the terrible odor. — Mary Reist, Warren, Pa.

Mary, this odor is one of the worst! The odor will not go away until the mouse completely decomposes. Yuck, I know!

You can try masking the odor with essential oils. Put several drops of an essential oil (like peppermint or clove) on a paper towel or cotton ball and set on a plate on a top closet shelf.

If you have an attic fan, turn it on to circulate as much fresh air as possible. As a last resort, you can rent or purchase an ozone machine, which will help “clean” the air of the smell. — Heloise

**DOWNSIZING A HOME**

Dear Heloise: When a family member dies or is moving to a nursing home, there are many places you wouldn't necessarily think of that can help with downsizing and house clearing.

Vintage clothing stores often will send someone out to look at items and buy things. And they take them away the same day. This way, you have a better idea of what should go to charity and what can be making you some extra money, with no effort on your part but a phone call!

Many antiques dealers do the same thing for furniture and glassware; they will come out, appraise and buy on the spot. This is especially helpful when you have a whole houseful to deal with and idea where to start. It is a shame to just throw old things away because there is no perceived value, when they can be reused by people who will appreciate them. — Kellie in Minnesota

**TRAVEL HINT**

Dear Heloise: To keep earrings organized for traveling, buy plastic canvas (found at craft stores), cut into 1/2-inch squares and put one pair of earrings in each square. If the canvas has big-enough holes, you can thread the ear wires through them, too. — Sharon, via e-mail

**DUSTING GLOVE**

Dear Heloise: I was getting some items together to give to a charitable organization and came across a two-pack of those stretchy-knit, one-size-fits-all gloves.

I had purchased a feltlike plant dusting mitten, and it occurred to me that these gloves would be perfect for dusting plants and furniture as well. I used it on my dining-room chairs with carved spindles, and it worked great. I was able to dust all six chairs faster than using a rag.

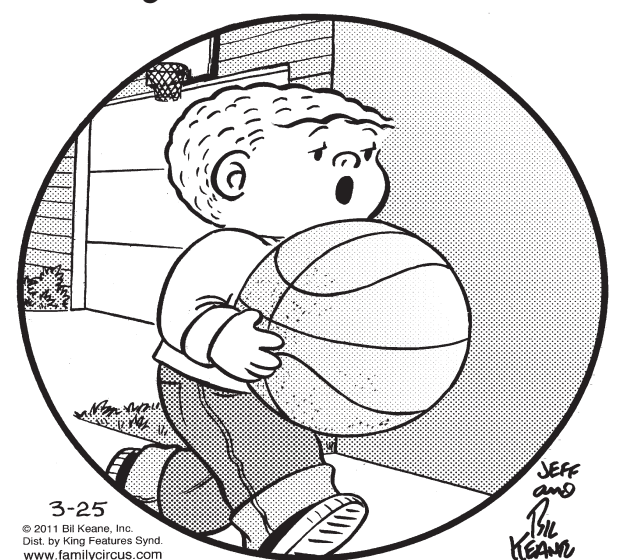
Of course, I still save my hubby's socks with holes for dusting, too. — Kaye Robinson in Thaxton, Miss.

**NO SLIP**

Dear Heloise: You know that webbing material they put around Asian pears and other fancy fruit? Put it on your dish detergent bottle, and it makes a nice slip-proof grip. — Tom, via e-mail

(c)2011 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



“I don't think I'm gonna be very good at basketball till my head grows taller.”

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

D G C C Q D Z T R D Q O P

C F P L Z D E Q F Z B L G O S T D L S H

R F P S E D E S E G F P, B Q G N H Q T P

BSNN ELPO TPSTHPF-ESNN OPT?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THIS MARKETPLACE HAS PLENTY OF CRAZY ITEMS FOR SALE. MANY FOLKS REFER TO IT AS A BIZARRE BAZAAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals L

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
 1 Sur-rounded by  
 6 — the ramparts ...  
 9 Periodical, for short  
 12 Big name in grills  
 13 Catcher's place?  
 14 Lemieux milieu  
 15 Summarizing stanza  
 16 Stray  
 18 Absolutely unfavorable votes  
 21 "Eureka!"  
 23 1974 kidnap org.  
 24 Dodge  
 25 Green shot  
 27 Kazakhstan's — Mountains  
 29 Believer

**DOWN**  
 31 "Gun-smoke" star  
 35 Watt power  
 37 World's fair  
 38 Wool eaters  
 41 IRS employee  
 43 Manhandle  
 44 Eastern bigwig  
 45 Shrimp recipe  
 47 Spread out from the center  
 49 Plank  
 52 Dance syllable  
 53 "Of course"

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 3-25

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			
52					53			54			
55					56			57			