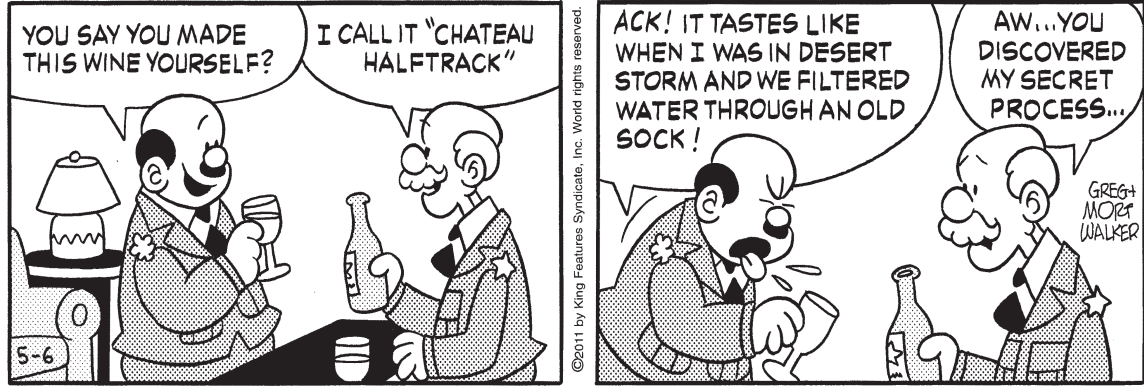


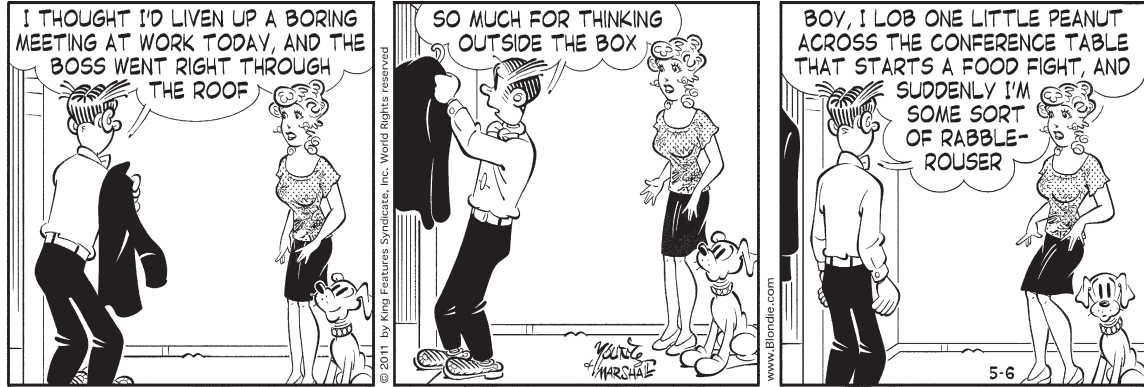
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



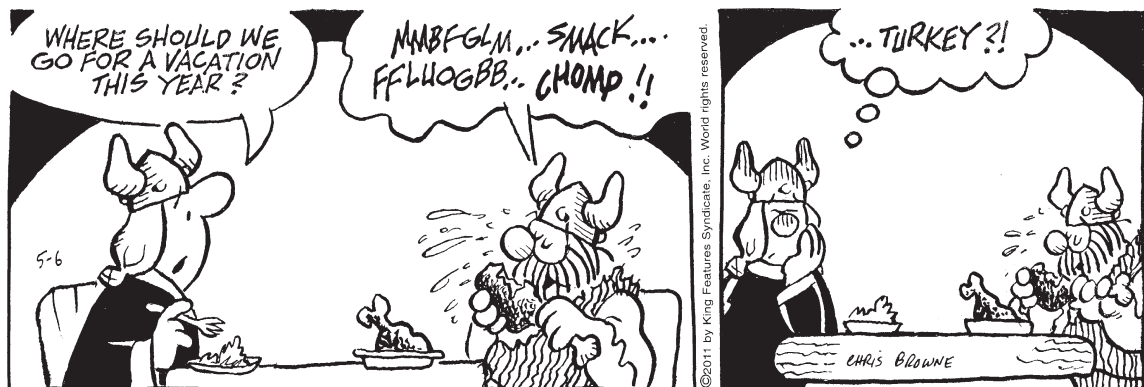
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



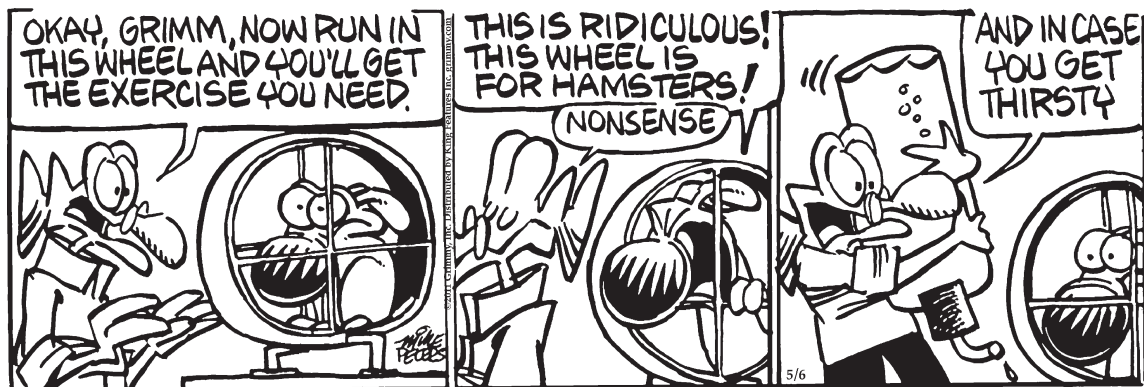
Blondie • Chic Young



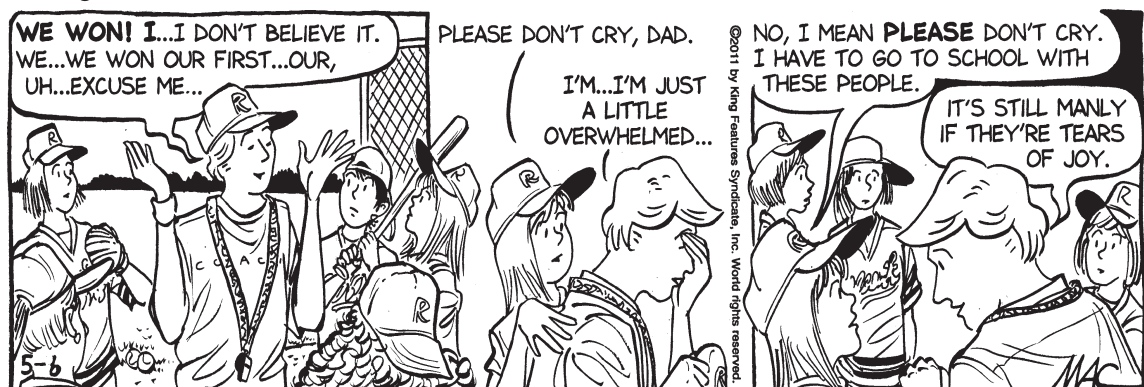
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



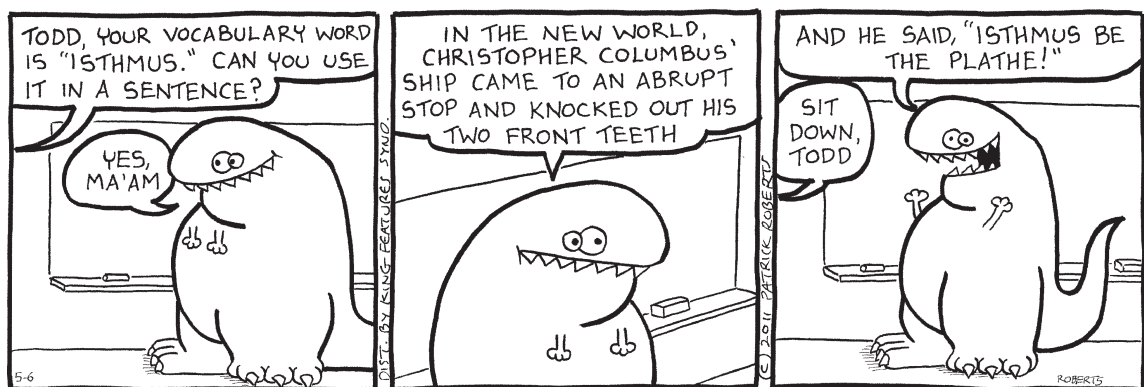
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



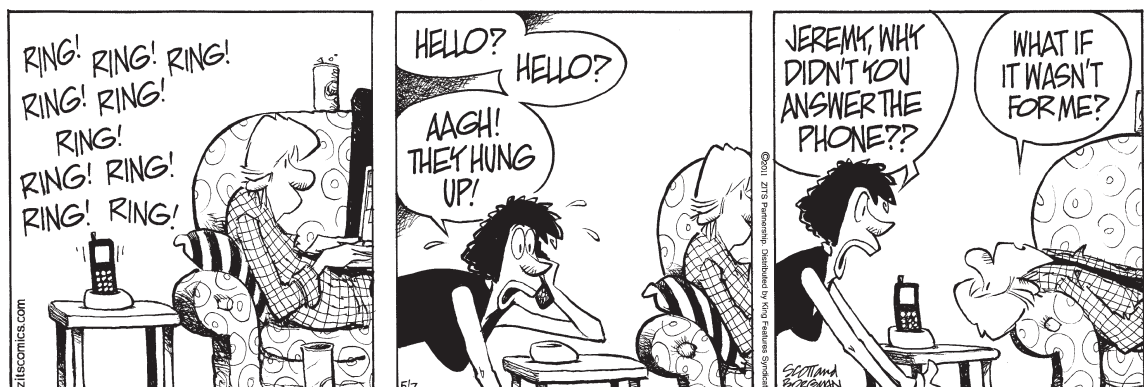
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise • Hints from Heloise

Help avoid car seat tragedy

Dear Heloise: I just heard a story of another infant forgotten and left in a parked car all day, with TRAGIC RESULTS! Solution: Pair your purse with the diaper bag, placing both on the front seat by you or both on the back seat next to your infant. — Grandma in San Antonio

Sadly, this happens more than it should (more than one child a month in the United States dies from being left in a vehicle) because a routine was changed, the other parent took the child or picked him or her up, and the child was left unintentionally in the vehicle.

Even if it only gets hot occasionally where you live, this awful situation can happen to anyone. The inside of a closed vehicle (even with the windows open slightly and parked in the shade) can quickly turn into an oven, and babies, small children and pets cannot regulate their body temperature the way adults can.

Please stop and think! Put your purse, diaper bag, briefcase, etc., in the back with the baby to alert you. Or place something unusual — a beach ball, a stuffed animal, a box of tissues — on the front seat next to you to remind you. Or post a sticky note on the dashboard.

You think it will never happen to you or your family, but I can assure you that the families who have suffered this type of horrific event thought it would never happen to them. — Heloise

CLEANER RECIPES

Dear Heloise: I went to get my recipe for your general cleaning solution but couldn't find it. It called for water, nonsudsing ammonia, rubbing alcohol and a small amount of dishwashing detergent; however, I don't remember the amounts. Would you please provide that information to me? Thank you in advance. — Sandra, via email

Easy to do, and a money-saver, too. Just pour 1/2 cup nonsudsing ammonia, 1/2 cup rubbing alcohol and 1 teaspoon dishwashing liquid into a bucket and fill with water to the 1-gallon mark. Wear rubber gloves when working with this solution or anything containing ammonia. NOTE: NEVER mix ammonia with bleach or any cleanser containing bleach.

This good all-purpose cleaner is safe for most surfaces. — Heloise

SALAD-DRESSING-BOTTLE VASES

Dear Heloise: I recycle salad-dressing bottles as vases when I make giveaway bouquets. The bottles work well, and the receiver is always happy to get flowers. — A Reader, via e-mail

PARKING-LOT WATCH

Dear Heloise: I read your column on pedestrians walking at dusk, and I wish to add something. Pedestrians in parking lots might not realize they cannot be seen by a driver who is backing out of a parking space. — Shirley, Springfield, Ohio

Bridge • Steve Becker

How many points does the responder indicate by his rebid in the following three sequences?

- 1. Opener: 1♦, 2♦; Responder: 1♠, 2NT
2. Opener: 1♥, 3♣; Responder: 2♥, 4♥
3. Opener: 1♠, 1♣; Responder: 1♦, 2♠

Bidding Quiz

1. Ten to 12 points. Two notrump in this sequence is invitational, not forcing. Opener's two-diamond rebid announced a hand of minimum opening strength (13 to 15 points) and a willingness to have the bidding stop if responder holds a weak hand.

If responder next bids two notrump, he is saying in effect that game is still possible if opener has maximum values for his minimum rebid (i.e., closer to 15 points than to 13). Opener may then pass two notrump, sign off by bidding three diamonds or continue on by bidding three clubs, three spades or three notrump with the appropriate hand.

Typically, responder might have one of these hands: [S] J9763 [H] KQ6 [D] J4 [C] A85 [S] KJ84 [H] AJ3 [D] Q2 [C] 9862 [S] KQ98 [H] Q96 [D] 973 [C] A104
2. Eight to 10 points. Responder's two-heart bid shows six to 10 points, including distributional values. When opener now bids three clubs, he is trying to find out whether responder has minimum or maximum values for his heart raise. Three clubs is forcing, and responder then indicates how good or bad his two-heart bid was by bidding game with a maximum or retreating to three hearts with a minimum. Any close decision is resolved by responder's club holding. A jump to four hearts would be proper with any of these hands:

- [S] 10 [H] Q853 [D] 108742 [C] KQ4 [S] Q852 [H] K96 [D] 9643 [C] K2 [S] A963 [H] J754 [D] 72 [C] QJ4

3. Eight to 10 points. The second-round raise in spades shows four-card trump support and is mildly encouraging, catering to the possibility that opener might have 16 to 18 points, which is entirely possible on the bidding. With six or seven points, responder would normally pass one spade, since game is highly unlikely in the absence of a jump-shift by opener to indicate 19 or more points. A typical two-spade bid could be based on:

- [S] KQ62 [H] 107 [D] Q9432 [C] J3 [S] A764 [H] 93 [D] A10872 [C] 74 [S] J1095 [H] 64 [D] AQ95 [C] J62

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 1, 6, 5, 8, 3, 1, 4, 9, 8, 5, 6, 2, 7, 8, 1, 4, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 9, 7, 6, 8, 8, 9, 6, 7, 5, 4, 1, 3, 2, 7, 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 4, 5, 9, 2, 5, 1, 8, 6, 4, 7, 3, 6, 8, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 9, 1, 4, 3, 1, 9, 7, 2, 5, 8, 6

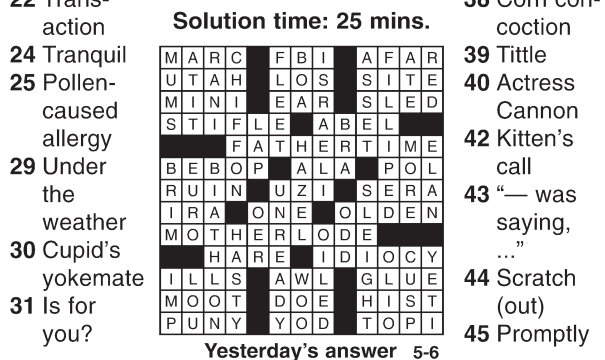
This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

Cryptoquip

EYESKMQ LTVUR HBKT
HVMPSQBGI TMGR HMTYSC
KYLMPBYGC YH CGVMW
MPPMLWC: "QMBUBGI EKMLVC."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I BELIEVE THE ROAD CREW GUYS WHO LOVED GROOMING THEIR HAIR WERE BUSY ARRANGING TRAFFIC COMBS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS: 1 — Mahal; 4 Parisian pals; 8 Choose from a group; 12 Fuss; 13 Color quality; 14 On the briny; 15 Old communication method; 17 Bit of banter; 18 Comestibles; 19 Stallion or mare; 20 Malaria symptoms; 22 Trans-action; 24 Tranquil; 25 Pollen-caused allergy; 29 Under the weather; 30 Cupid's yokemate; 31 Is for you?
32 Short-term employment; 34 Schleps; 35 Shakespeare's river; 36 Cockpit VIP; 37 Steeple; 40 Regiment; 41 Lumber; 42 Spring parade leader; 46 Initial stake; 47 Birthright; 48 Old studio letters; 49 Paraphernalia; 50 Sommelier's offering; 51 Stitch; DOWN: 1 Noisy dance; 2 Oklahoma city; 3 With glee; 4 Friend of D'Artagnan; 5 Disposition; 6 Hostel; 7 Get a glimpse of; 8 Wheelie; 9 Addict letters; 10 Not so much; 11 Tardy; 16 Verse; 19 Weapon's handle; 20 Alkali neutralizer; 21 Festive; 22 Pythias' pal; 23 Watchful one; 25 Vagrant; 26 Some track-and-field athletes; 27 Therefore; 28 Take a break; 30 Bear lair; 33 Pantry; 34 Stead; 36 Resentment; 37 Booty; 38 Corn concoction; 39 Tittle; 40 Actress Cannon; 42 Kitten's call; 43 "— was saying, ..."; 44 Scratch (out); 45 Promptly



11x11 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-51.