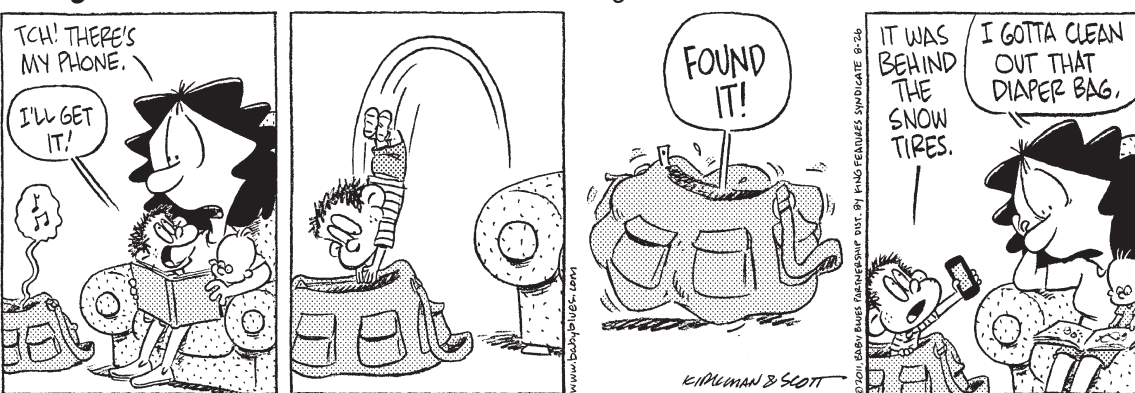
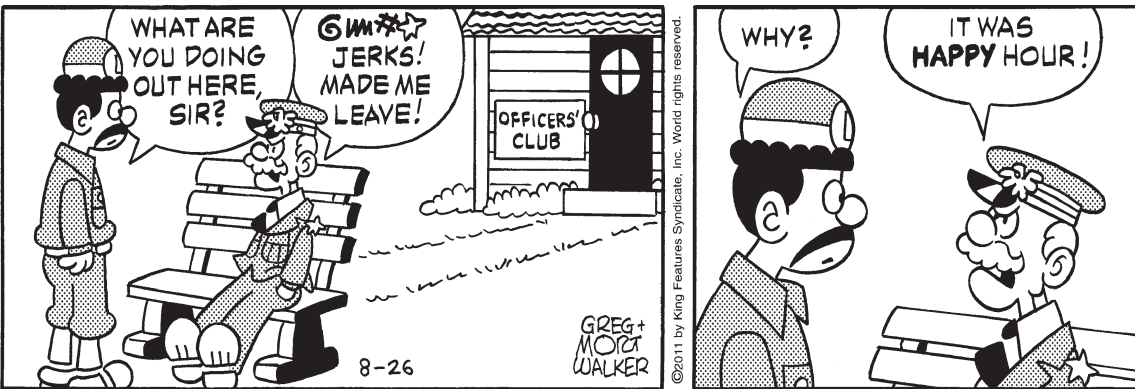


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



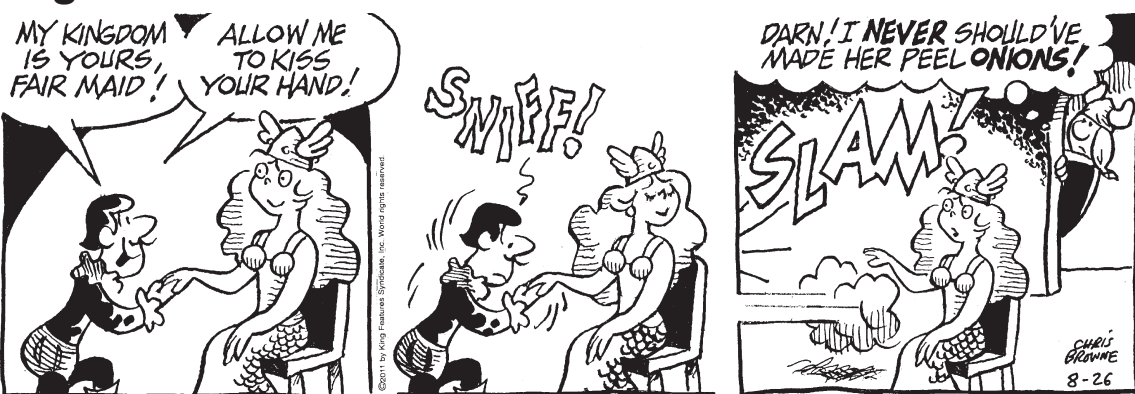
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



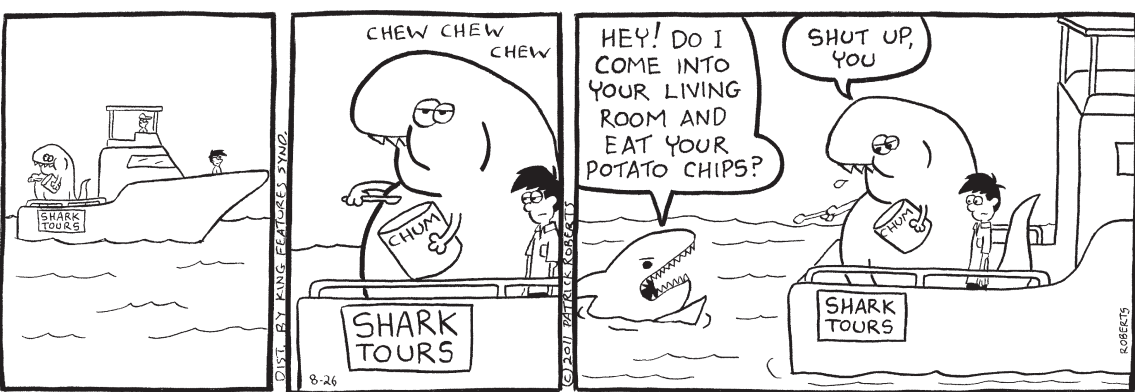
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



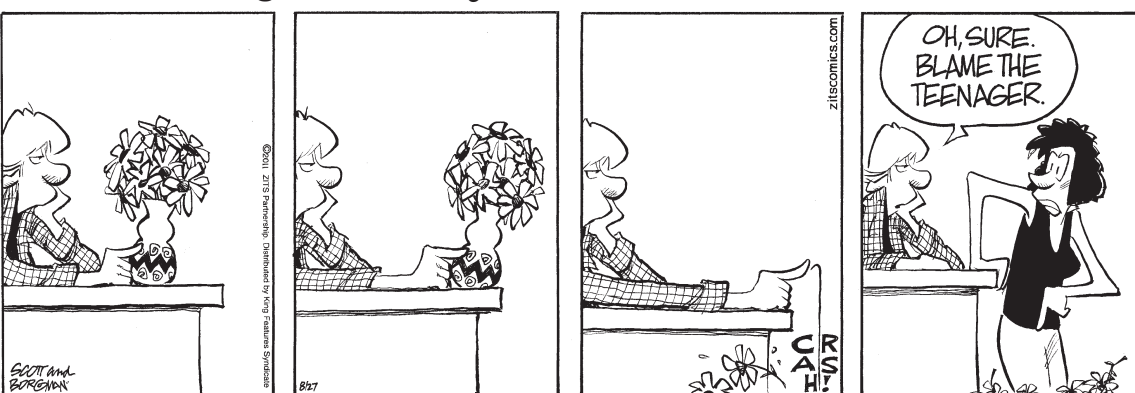
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

One large bag for two travelers

Dear Heloise: My sister and I recently flew to Arizona. Instead of each taking one small suitcase and paying \$25 apiece, we decided to consolidate and take one large bag. To keep things separate, I put all of my clothing into a zippered plastic bag from the purchase of a new pillow. My sister did the same in a plastic bag she had saved. When we got to our destination, we took out our own plastic bags and unpacked our things. Neither of us had to sort through the other's to find something. It saved time and check-in fees. — Jan, via e-mail

Jan, congrats on being so smart! Readers, most airlines limit a checked bag to between 50 and 70 pounds, and there may be height and length limits, too. Be sure to find out beforehand so you aren't caught off guard! — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE
Email: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

Dear Heloise: In regard to the inquiry about cleaning glass stovetops, my hint is a miracle cleaner for that burned-on gunk. Baking soda: yes, yes, yes, PLUS vinegar!

I keep baking soda in a small shaker and sprinkle it over the stovetop, making sure the gunk is covered. I spray vinegar onto the soda, dampening all of the soda, and let sit while doing other chores.

I wipe up the soda mixture, and the stove is as good as new. Hope this cheapo solution works as good for others as it has for me! — Helen N., Concordia, Kan.

Helen, you've hit upon my two favorite cleaners! Wow! I have compiled a collection of my favorite baking-soda hints in a handy pamphlet. If you would like to receive one, send \$5 and a long, stamped (64 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Heloise/Baking Soda, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Use vinegar to remove odors from sponges. — Heloise

Dear Heloise: I have found that some hotels do not provide a mat for the tub and shower. When traveling, I cut a piece of rubberized shelf liner about 18 inches long and roll it up and place in the corner of my luggage. I simply roll it out, step on it and shower. It dries quickly, rolls up and on we go. I do not fear slipping unnecessarily. Thanks so much for your hints — I look forward to reading them daily. — Pat in Louisiana

Dear Readers:

- When you've used the lipstick down to its base, use a lipstick brush to scoop out additional color for many more applications.
- Because of its size, toilet tissue makes the perfect blotter.
- Lipstick smelling bad? Toss it.

— Heloise

Dear Heloise: I recently scanned all my travel documents -- passport, airline tickets, etc. -- and e-mailed them to myself. So wherever I am, I can access them, if necessary. Most hotels have at least a computer for guests to use, so you can easily retrieve your e-mail. — Pat C., via e-mail

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Bridge • Steve Becker

NORTH
♠ Q 7 3
♥ Q 3 2
♦ Q 7
♣ 7 6 5 3 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9 8 5
♥ J 9 6 4
♦ 5 3
♣ J 9

EAST
♠ 6 4 2
♥ 10 8 7 5
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ Q 4

SOUTH
♠ A K
♥ A K
♦ A J 6 4 2
♣ A K 10 8

This is a double-dummy problem. You are declarer in Six Notrump, and West leads the jack of spades. Your aim is to make 12 tricks, assuming best defense by East-West. As usual in double-dummy problems, you are permitted to look at all four hands.

Cash the A-K of spades, A-K of hearts and ace of clubs. If East plays the four on the ace of clubs, you next lead the eight, forcing East to win with the queen. If East returns a spade or a heart, discard the K-10 of clubs on dummy's major-suit queens, blocking the suit so that dummy can cash the 7-6-5 of clubs. You finish by taking a diamond finesse to produce your 12th trick.

If East drops the queen of clubs under the ace at trick five, an entirely different approach is needed. You lead the jack of diamonds at trick six. If East takes the jack with the king, the queen of diamonds becomes an entry to dummy, and you finish with 12 tricks regardless of what East returns.

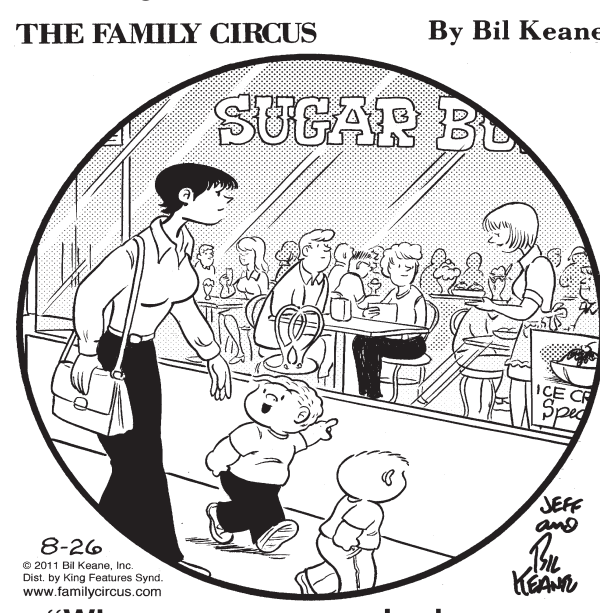
Let's suppose, therefore, that East refuses to take the jack of diamonds when you lead it. In that case, West becomes your pigeon. You cash the ace of diamonds to extract his last diamond, then lead the eight of clubs.

This forces West to win with the jack (or nine, if he has retained that card) and put you in dummy with a spade or a heart. As before, you discard your K-10 of clubs on dummy's major-suit queens, cash the 7-6-5 of clubs and so score 12 tricks.

Thus, you make the contract regardless of which way the defenders twist or turn. There is no way they can escape.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

8-26 CRYPTOQUIP

SIQZBNI HPZH EBD MLNH
HPI SIZQP HZFFYF
QLFHINH, Y VLBMX NZD PI VZN
XIJFYHIMD Z NPLKI MLNIK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MY EATING AREAS MUST BE VERY WELL-LIGHTED. YOU WON'T EVER SEE ME SITTING AT THE DIMMER TABLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 34 Unwanted member 4 Priceless? 8 Egyptian bird 12 Longoria or Mendes 13 Tear apart 14 Zilch 15 Common thirst quencher 17 London gallery 18 Libertine 19 "Hammerin' Hank" 20 Musical combo? 22 Returned 24 "... oh, where can —?" 25 Lake Wobegon church-goer 29 Anger 30 Bottled spirit? 31 Citric quaff 32 Not concrete

DOWN 1 Prepared 2 Eggs 3 Blankets for passengers 4 Charlatan 5 Ceremony 6 First lady 7 For all time, poetically 8 Amount consumed 9 Piglet's papa 10 Grooving on 11 Glimpsed 16 Spotted 19 Rue the run 20 "Pet" plant 21 KFC additive 22 Group 23 Squabbling Meadows 26 Arrest record 27 6-Down's mate 28 "Finding —" 30 Chow 33 Medics' prioritization 34 In — (as found) 36 Resentment 37 Detective novelist 38 Witticism 39 Coffee shop vessels 40 Practice pugilism 42 "So what?" 43 "— was saying ..." 44 Tackle moguls 45 Ball-bearing item

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 8-26

