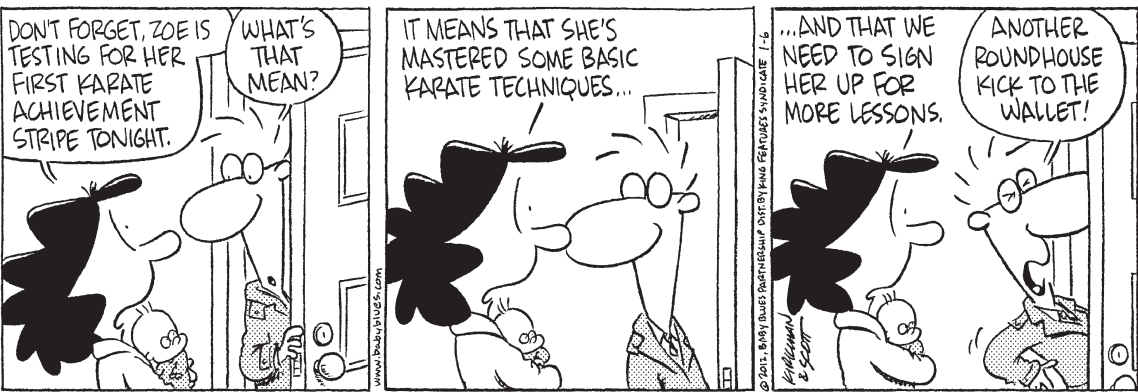
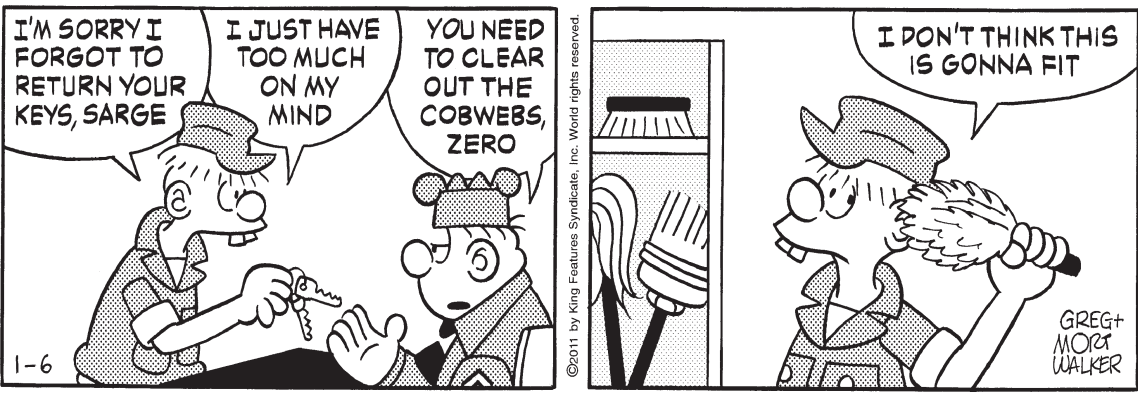


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



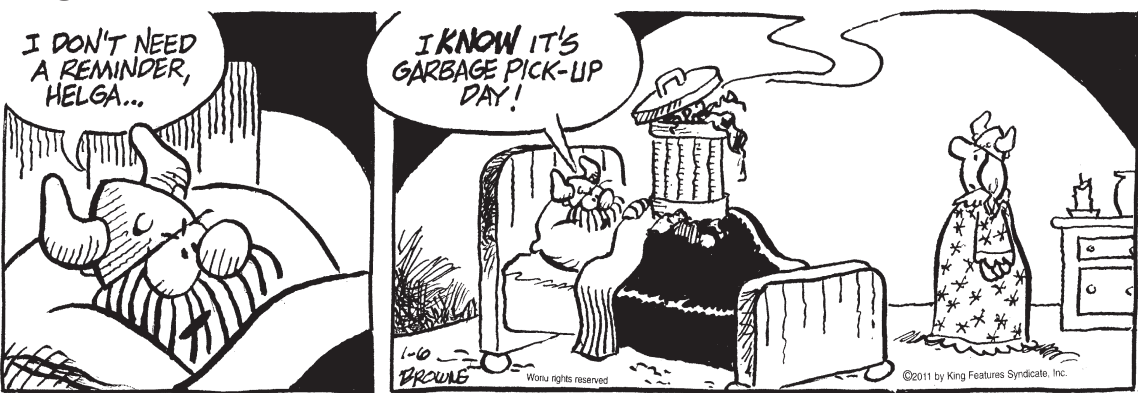
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



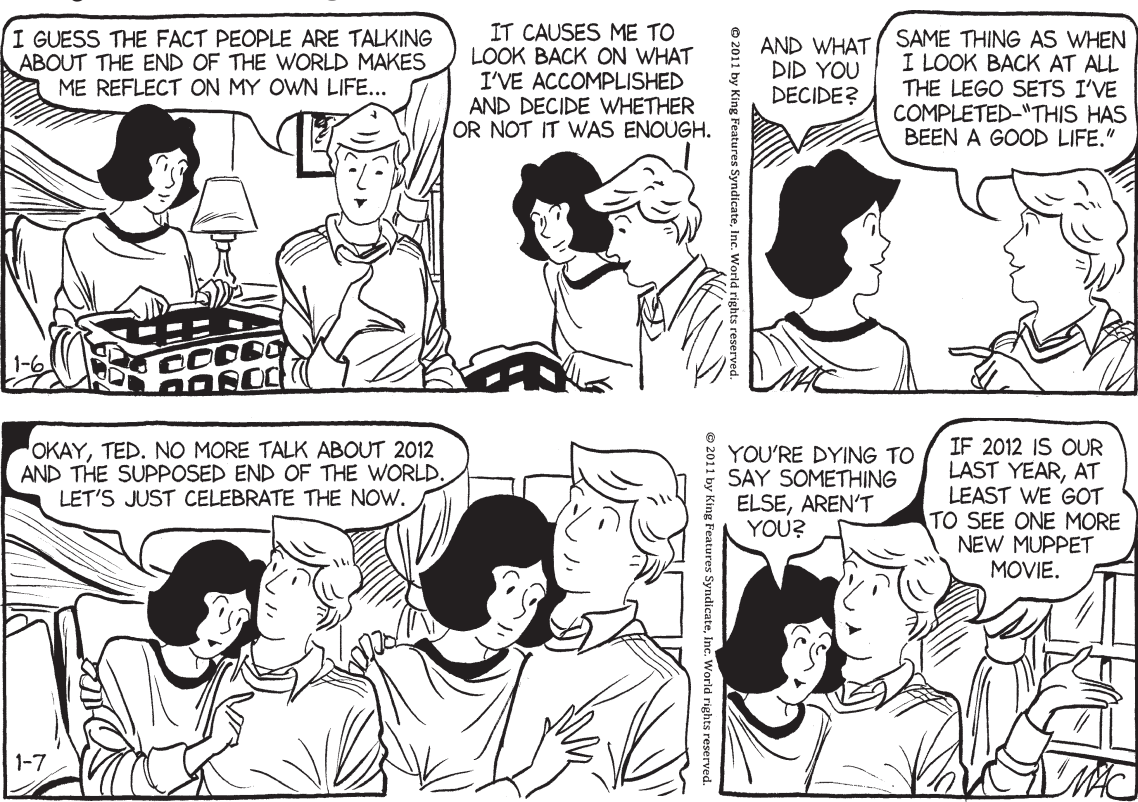
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



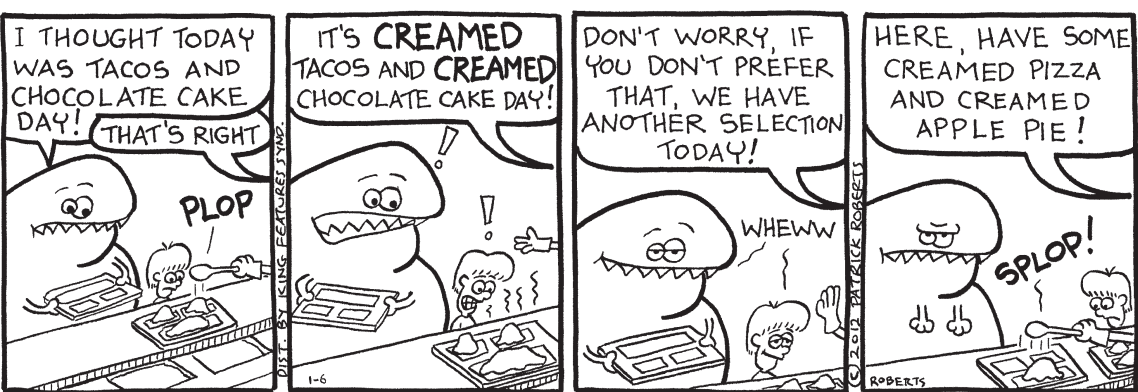
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



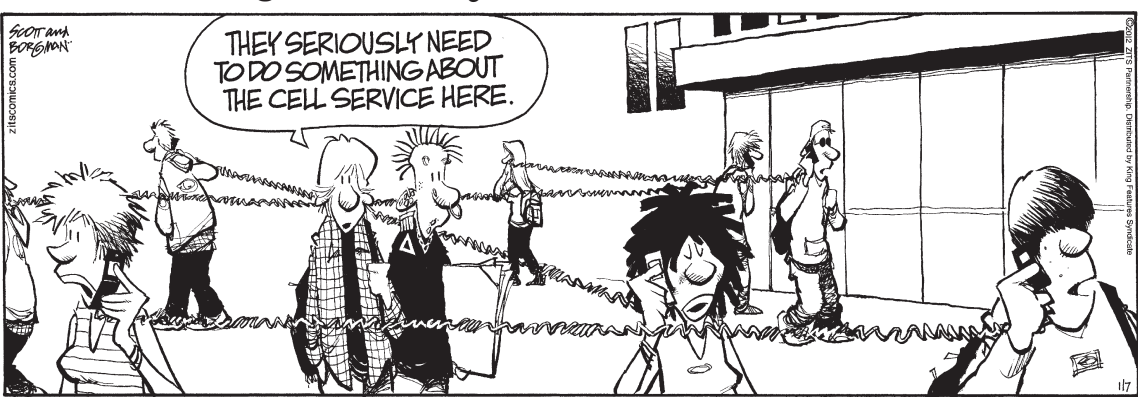
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Vacuum storage fills bags better

Dear Heloise: Here is a hint for PACKING MORE ITEMS into your luggage for flying so you don't have to take too many checked bags. My grandson was going to school, and we wanted to keep cost down by limiting his checked bags. We used reusable vacuum-seal storage packs. He was able to take a comforter, two pillows, sheets and clothes in one checked bag and one carry-on by using these bags. My son also used this hint and was amazed at what he got into one bag for airplane travel. I enjoy reading your column every day. — Barbara in Wasco, Calif. Great space saver! The only consideration is weight limitations! Many airlines have them; check how much the bag weighs before you leave. — Heloise P.S.: Join me on Facebook and Twitter. Visit [www.Heloise.com](http://www.Heloise.com) for direct links. I'm posting hints, photos and tidbits of information about upcoming appearances, plus Cabbie pictures.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Email: [Heloise@Heloise.com](mailto:Heloise@Heloise.com)

CANNED GOODS

Dear Heloise: To keep canned goods rotating, we always write the month and year on the can so I know which ones to use first. — Rae Philpott, Cedar Hill, Texas

GUEST-BED GRIPE

Dear Heloise: I would like to call attention to the issue of guest beds, specifically pillows. As a 60-year veteran of visiting friends for reunions and staying in rooms that used to be kids' rooms, I have experienced pillows that should have been thrown out decades ago. They are uncomfortable and have an odor. Just because a bed was fine once doesn't mean it is still. I suggest hosts try the guest bed before submitting a friend to it. I try to make the beds freshly just before guests arrive, and buy new pillows. Not to sound ungrateful for hospitality, but I still would like a little freshness in accommodations. Odor is odor. — Lou D., via email How right you are, and one can buy new pillows pretty cheaply. Old, old pillows should be sent to the pillow graveyard, especially those from a guest bed. — Heloise

NO CARROTS OR EGGSHELLS

Dear Heloise: Plumbers have told me to NOT put carrot skins and eggshells in the garbage disposal. They can clog the drain and drainpipe. — Betty in Laguna Woods, Calif. You are right, no eggshells — ever! Carrot skins, a few, should be OK, but always be sure to run lots of water! — Heloise

HANDY TISSUE BOXES

Dear Heloise: A hint I saw some time ago that is worth repeating is putting plastic grocery bags into tissue boxes. You would be surprised how many will fit into such a compact place. I keep them throughout the house for lining wastebaskets, gathering trash in a work room, etc. I use the square ones because they fit into my kitchen drawer, and then the bags are right at hand. — A Reader, via email (c)2011 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Hearts. North leads the ten of spades, and dummy's jack wins the trick. How would you play the hand?

WEST	EAST
♠ A K 5 2	♠ J 6 3
♥ A K 7 6 5 4	♥ Q 3
♦ A	♦ 9 7 6 5 3 2
♣ K 4	♣ A Q

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Five Clubs, reached via this sequence:

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	1 ♠	3 ♣	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	5 ♣	Pass

North leads the king of diamonds. How would you play the hand?

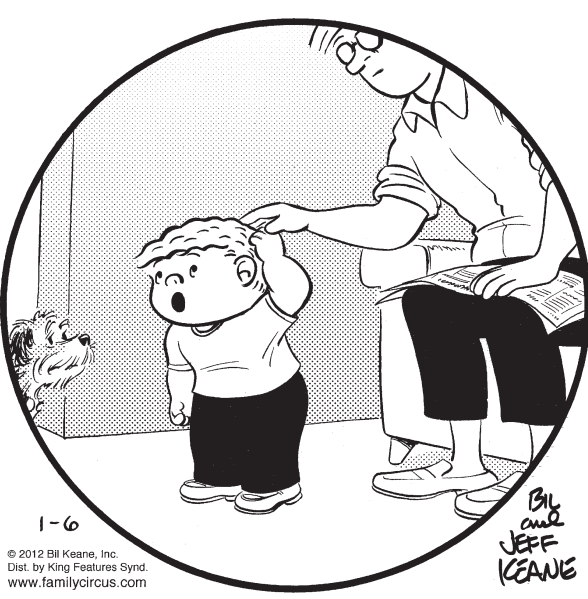
WEST	EAST
♠ K 10	♠ J 9 5
♥ A K J	♥ Q 7
♦ J 3	♦ A 4 2
♣ J 10 8 6 4 2	♣ A K 9 5 3

\*\*\*

Test Your Play

1. If the trumps are divided 3-2, you're sure to make the slam, so you start by assuming they're divided 4-1. Similarly, if the spades are divided 3-3, you'll have no problem, so you assume that suit is divided 4-2 or 5-1, with North holding either Q-10-9-x or Q-10-9-x-x. To guard against both possibilities, you cash the queen of hearts at trick two and then lead a spade toward your hand. If South ruffs, you have the rest of the tricks, so let's assume he either follows suit or discards a club. You win the trick with the ace, return to dummy with a club and repeat the spade play. Again you're confident of the outcome, regardless of what South does. If he discards, you win with the king and ruff a spade in dummy to assure 12 tricks, while if he ruffs, you are also home free. Observe that the suggested method of play is equally effective if North has the heart length. 2. Your potential losers are two spades and a diamond, since North might have the A-Q of spades in addition to the K-Q of diamonds. In order to overcome this possibility, your best bet is to arrange an endplay. Accordingly, you win the king of diamonds with the ace and draw trumps. You then play the A-K-J of hearts, discarding a diamond from dummy. Now you play the jack of diamonds, saddling North with the lead and forcing him to lead a spade or yield a ruff-and-discard. Either way, the contract is home. (c)2011 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I bumped my head. Feel how much it hurts."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/06

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

S G A F E O B J S E G F M F R T P

F D D F X Y B G G V F G G V Y G A N

P N O B I R X Y F U R F M Y X E V F U

R Y Y B Q F T T S B I J F U T P S B T N F Q.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THE SINGLE BILL'S SURFACE FADED WITH TIME, YOU MIGHT SAY IT'S NOW A DULLER DOLLAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Balaam's beast
  - 4 Practice boxing
  - 8 Nitwit
  - 12 Make pigeon noises
  - 13 — Alto
  - 14 Pressing need?
  - 15 Attention-getting, and much more
  - 17 Progeny
  - 18 Boorish types
  - 19 Sanders' franchise
  - 21 Firma-ment
  - 22 X-rated
  - 26 Busy places
  - 29 Pigs' digs
  - 30 Literary collection
  - 31 Wading bird
  - 32 More, to Manuel
  - 33 Item on stage
  - 34 Lair
  - 35 Car wash option
  - 36 South American plain
  - 37 Strikingly unusual
  - 39 One-name R&B artist
  - 40 Zeta follower
  - 41 Chronicles
  - 45 Con game
  - 48 Foolishly impractical
  - 50 Novelist
  - 51 Magazine founder
  - 52 Eggs
  - 53 Clothing store
  - 54 Dines
  - 55 Buddhist sect
  - 2 Protein bean
  - 3 Last year's frosh
  - 4 Ghosts
  - 5 Sucker
  - 6 Foreman foe
  - 7 Pyrotechnician's supply
  - 8 "Saturday Night Fever" genre
  - 9 Raw rock
  - 10 "Ulalume" writer
  - 11 Conclusion
  - 16 What attendance takers count
  - 20 Saute
  - 23 "GWTW" plantation
  - 24 Aware of
  - 25 Mob boss
  - 26 Stash
  - 27 Mountain goat
  - 28 In — veritas
  - 29 Lisa Simpson's instrument
  - 32 Rhesus monkey
  - 33 City north of Dallas
  - 35 Humor
  - 36 Bobcats' kin
  - 38 33-Down's state
  - 39 Upkeep (Abbr.)
  - 42 The gamut
  - 43 Not pretaped
  - 44 Read cursorily
  - 45 Height of fashion?
  - 46 Praise in verse
  - 47 Massachusetts cape
  - 49 Actress Hagen

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 1-6

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					52		
53					54					55		