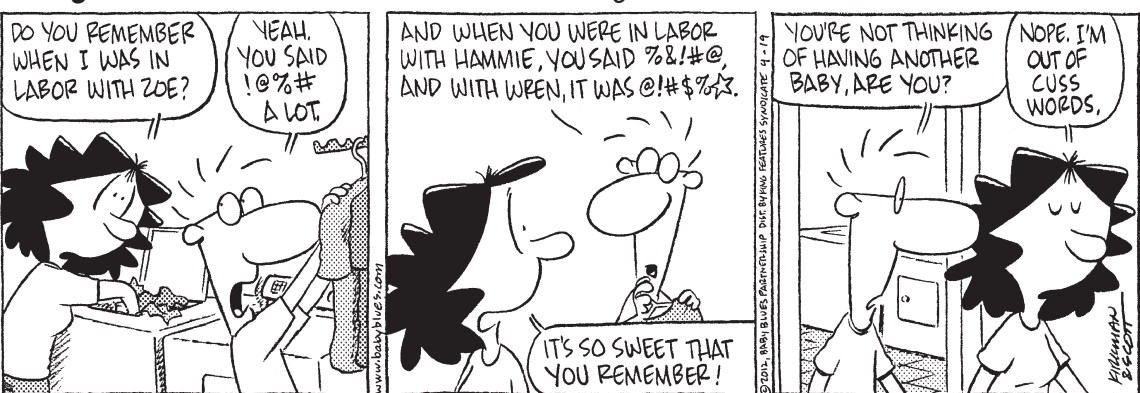
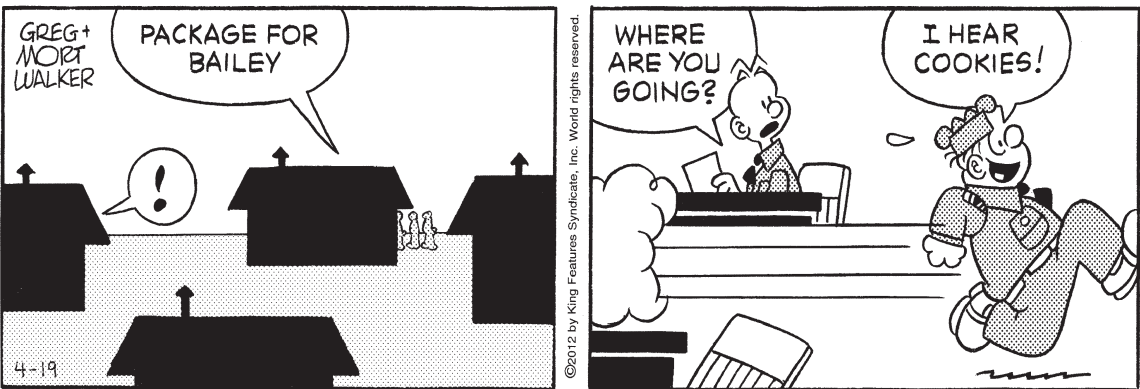


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



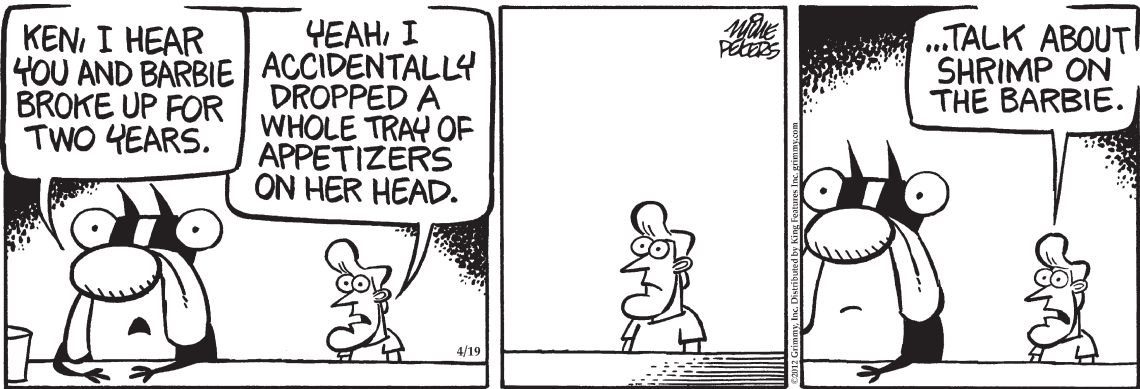
Blondie • Chic Young



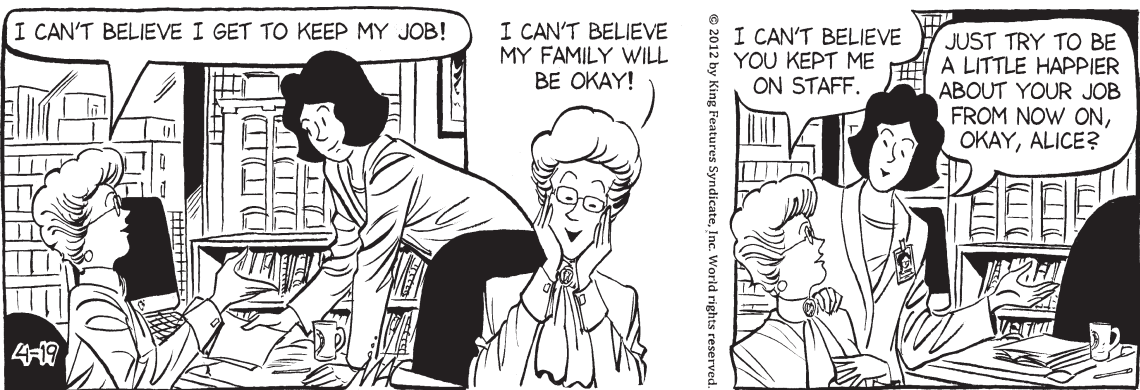
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



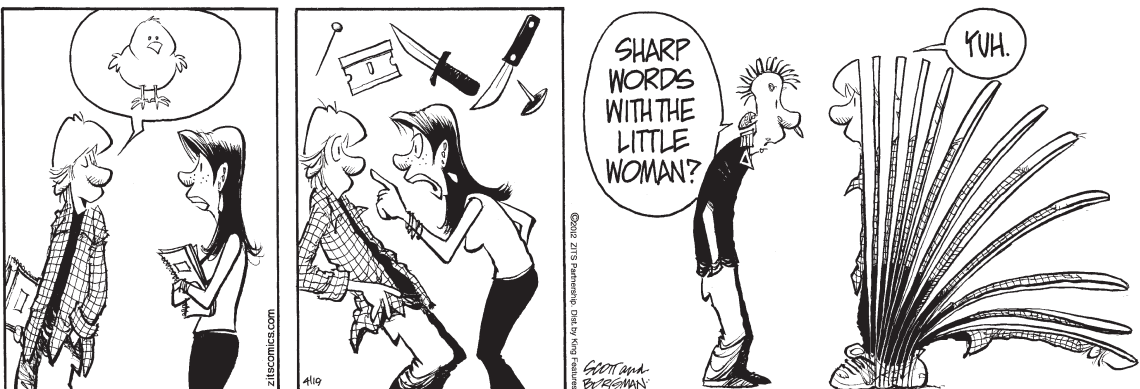
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Designs expand furniture uses

Dual-purpose furniture has been made for centuries. By the 1700s, there were chairs with large, round backs that flipped down on the top of the arms to make a table. There also were chairs that could be flipped over to be used as library steps.

In the 1800s, new types of springs and hinges made it possible to manufacture a flip-down bed that could be stored in a closet, or card tables with hidden pull-out leaves that transformed into a dining table.

A famous French architect and designer, Armand-Albert Rateau, designed a dual-purpose chair in about 1925. The chair had an oak frame with ebony veneer. The back of the chair was upholstered with silk and straw and hinged so that it folded down on the rest of the frame to form a low table. The Art Deco chair design was unique and could be useful today in a small apartment.

Q: I bought an old barbershop and all the antiques in it, including 1920s barber chairs, razors, razor sharpeners, strops, combs and about 25 ceramic shaving mugs decorated with words and designs and signed on the bottom with makers' marks. My favorite mug, "10th Infantry," has a painting of soldiers and a bugler. I don't want most of these things. How do I sell all of this?

A: There are collectors who would be interested in nearly everything in your shop. The most expensive chairs, with elaborate iron trim, sell for hundreds of dollars. And a rare occupational shaving mug — with an image of a person working — can be worth even more than a chair.

An "Aeronaut" mug picturing a parachutist auctioned for the record price of \$45,000 in 2008. You could sell the things yourself, but if you're not familiar with the collecting world, you could ask an expert or auction house to help you. If the collection is in excellent shape, it probably would be best to contact a large auction house that sells barber equipment. The smaller items can be sold in groups or lots. It is easy to find auctions of barber shop items by searching online.

Q: We have an original typed letter handed down in the family from a relative who was a union leader in the 1950s. The letter, dated Aug. 30, 1958, is from Sen. John F. Kennedy and refers to "two enclosed speeches" he made on the Senate floor, one about national defense and the other about labor reform. The letter is signed "John Kennedy." The stationery has a verifiable watermark and we have had the letter authenticated by a local historical society. What is it worth?

A: We're not sure if you had the stationery or the autograph or both authenticated. And we also don't know if your local historical society employs or has a relationship with an autograph authenticator. It's a tricky business, especially with public officials. Kennedy is known to have used autopens as early as the 1950s before he was elected president in 1960. It also is generally known that Kennedy often asked his secretary to sign his letters. If the letter is original but the autograph an autopen signature, the letter would sell for under \$100. If the signature is real, the letter is worth \$2,000 or more.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 9 6 5 4 2
 ♥ A Q 3
 ♦ 8 4 3
 ♣ 10 2

WEST
 ♠ K 10
 ♥ K 8 5 4
 ♦ Q 10 7
 ♣ A K J 8

EAST
 ♠ —
 ♥ J 10 9 7 2
 ♦ 9 6 2
 ♣ 9 7 5 4 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q J 8 7 3
 ♥ 6
 ♦ A K J 5
 ♣ Q 6

The bidding:
 West North East South
 1 NT Pass 2♥ 2♠
 3♥ 3♣ 4♥ 4♠
 Dble Pass
 Opening lead — king of clubs.

An Open Book

Assume you reach four spades doubled on the bidding shown. West leads the K-A of clubs, then shifts to a low heart. How would you play the hand?

At first blush, it seems you should go up with the ace of hearts. Finessing the queen appears to be a foolish risk, because you have no useful discard to make on the ace of hearts even if the queen wins the trick. Nevertheless, the fact remains that if you take the finesse, you are practically certain to make the contract.

Let's see what happens if you do finesse. After winning the heart with the queen and discarding a diamond on the ace, you ruff dummy's last heart. Next you play the ace and another trump, forcing West into the lead with no safe way out. He must either concede a ruff-and-discard or lead a diamond into your A-K-J, handing you the contract.

Now let's see what happens if you don't finesse the queen of hearts at trick three. In that case, you eventually go down one against proper defense, losing a spade, a diamond and two clubs. The difference is that at the point where West is given the lead with the spade king, he can exit safely with a heart, marooning you with a diamond loser.

It is not difficult to justify the heart finesse once it is granted that West opened the bidding with one notrump (15 to 17 points). Only 17 points are missing, and it is not possible for West to be in the 15- to 17-point range without the king of hearts.

Finessing the queen of hearts therefore gives you the best chance to make the contract. It's not because you need a discard, but because it affords you an opportunity to strip the dummy of hearts and establish a position that renders West helpless.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/19

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.

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

Cryptoquip

DPAWGNP R FWBBPS BL PCDZY

REN RSP IMWI SRNOCWL

AWDREPI, YZGCS OPZOC

NWL R AWNPS IMP FZREI?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: GREAT NEW MOUTHWASH BRAND THAT ALSO SPEEDS UP THE HEALING OF SOME PAINFUL SORES: BLISTERINE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals P

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| ACROSS | 40 Fellow | DOWN | 25 Khan |
| 1 Persian | 42 Catchbigwig | 1 Detail, for short | 26 Ensued |
| 5 Corn core | 45 Expectant | 2 Frost | 28 Preceding |
| 8 Donahue or Collins | 49 "The La Scala Music Man" | 3 Farm fraction | 29 Inn |
| 12 Little, in La Scala | 50 Personal | 4 Sincere weapon | 30 Work unit |
| 13 Regret | 52 Gospel writer | 6 "— Town" | 31 Rotation |
| 14 Logical | 53 Help a hood | 7 Next | 32 Official |
| 15 Deserve | 54 Periodical, for short | 8 Fake | 37 — |
| 16 Table scrap | 55 Eye part | 9 Consecrated | 38 There may be a shadow on it |
| 17 Differently | 56 Fashion | 10 "Meet Me — Louis" | 41 Movie with a balloon-borne house |
| 18 Guiding principles | 57 Type measures | 11 Dregs | 42 "The King and I" |
| 20 Grown-ups | 58 Fender bender | 19 Accomplish | 43 Timber wolf |
| 22 "Help!" | | 21 First st. | 44 Iditarod |
| 23 Tokyo's old name | | 24 Morning moisture | 46 Remedy |
| 24 Crazy | | | 47 Similar |
| 27 Roared | | | 48 "— |
| 32 Id counterpart | | | 51 la vie" ruddy |
| 33 Acapulco gold | | | |
| 34 Geological period | | | |
| 35 Delighted (in) | | | |
| 38 Nervous | | | |
| 39 Writer Deighton | | | |

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 4-19

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			
56					57			58			