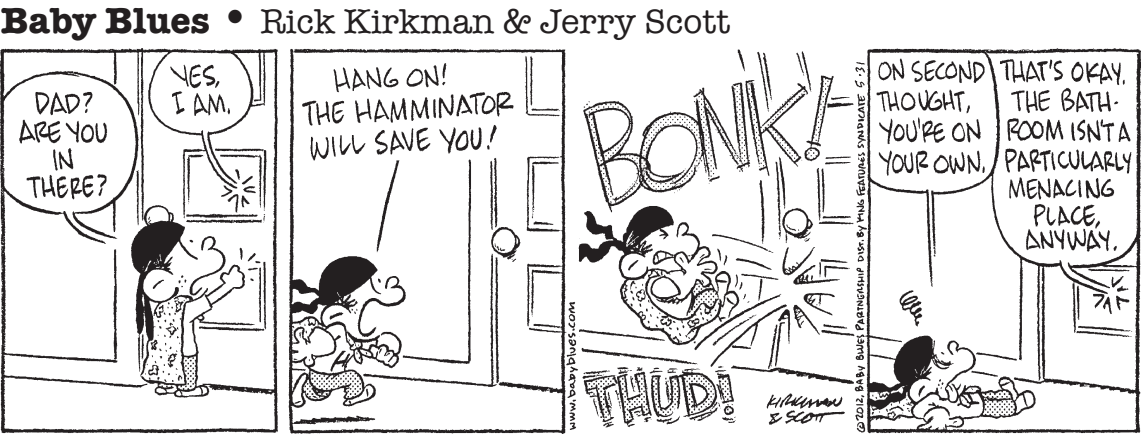
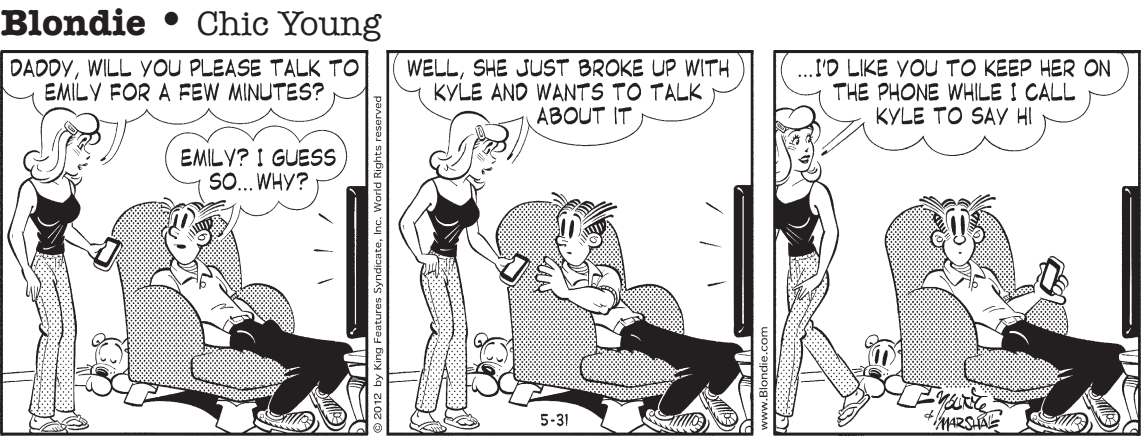
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

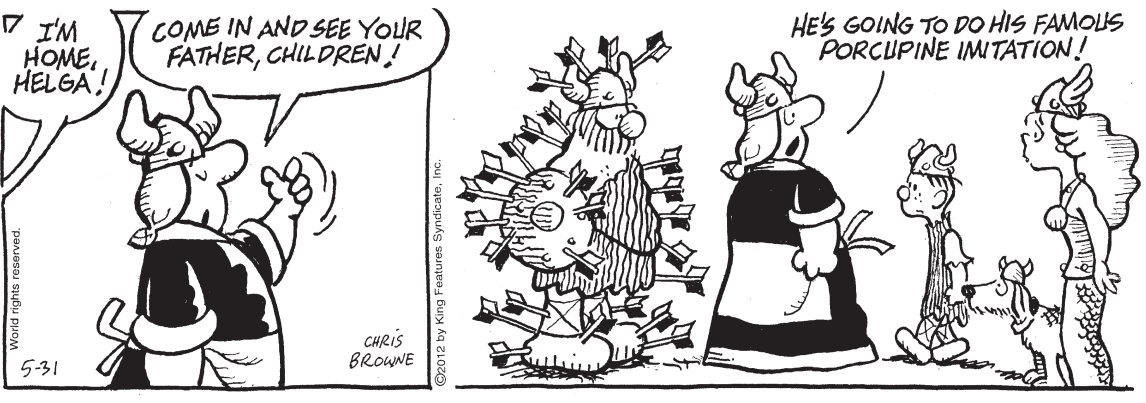


Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

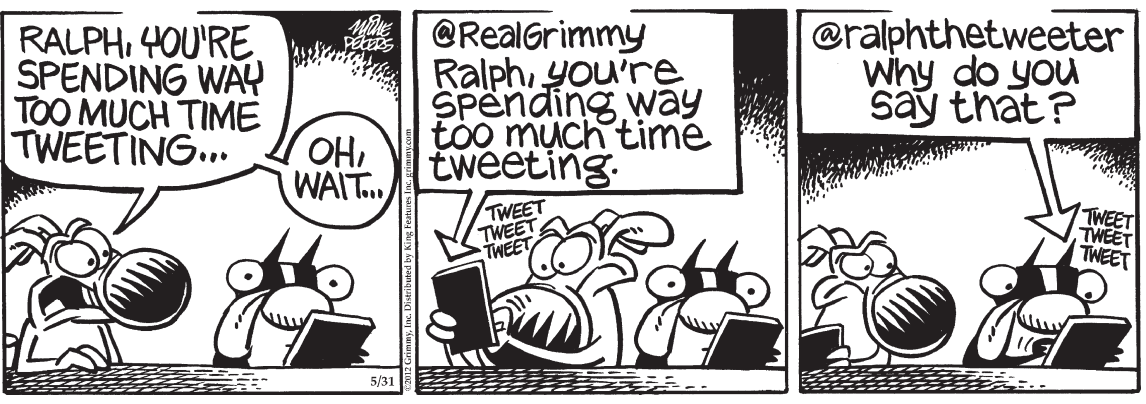
Blondie • Chic Young



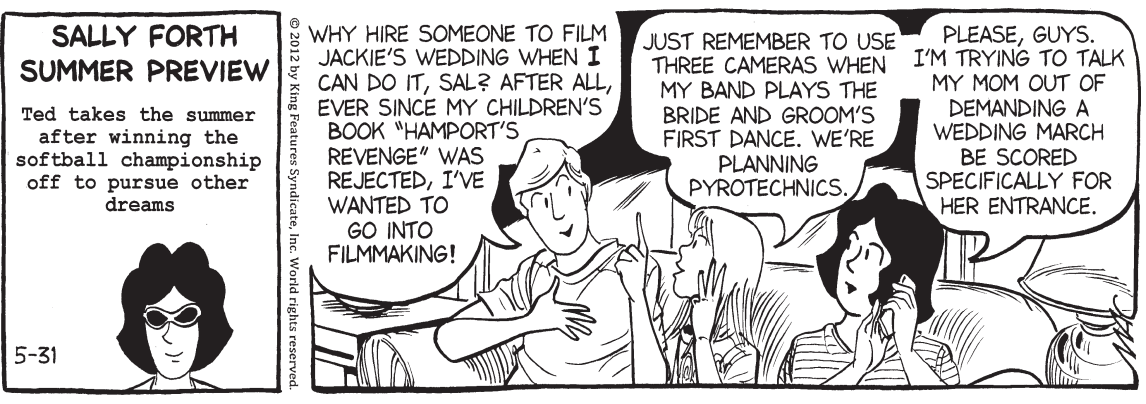
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

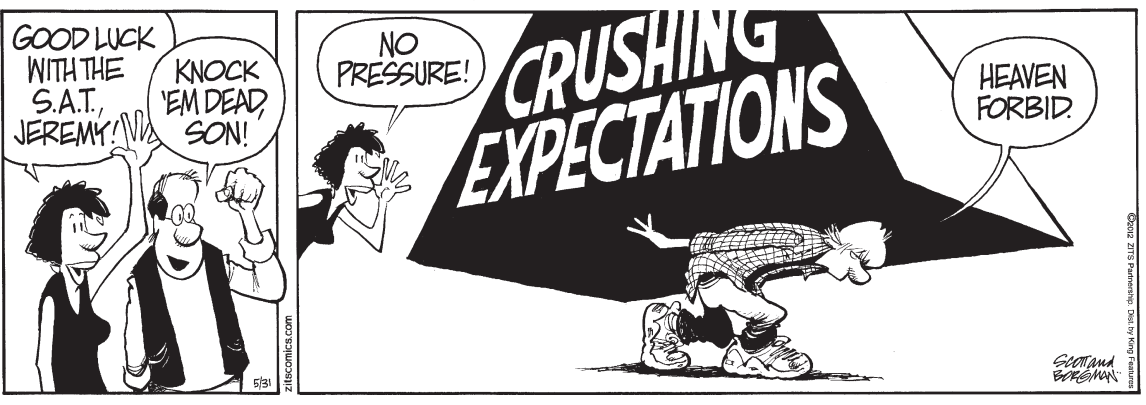


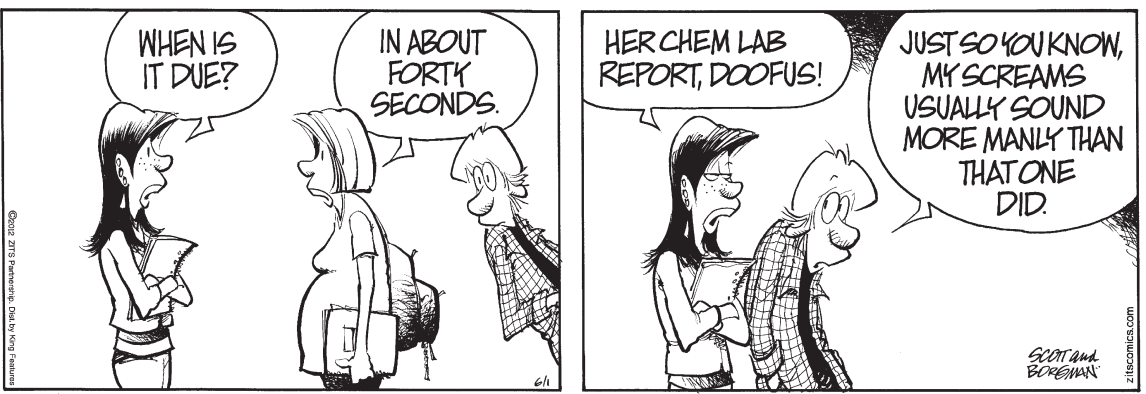
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott





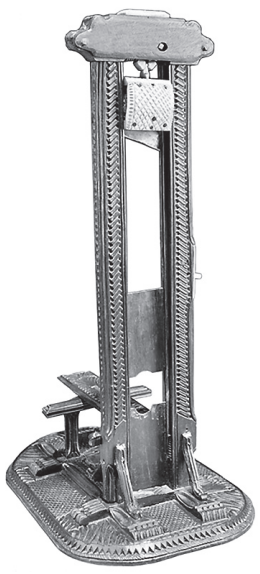
Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Antiques offer gift opportunity

Father's Day is coming in June, so think ahead and try to find a unique gift. Shop at a flea market or antiques shop. Today's movies and TV series have made the "look" of the 1950s and '60s popular.

Shirts with buttonholes, not buttons, on sleeve cuffs need cufflinks. Most dealers who sell jewelry also sell inexpensive and unusual vintage cufflinks – costume jewelry links more than 50 years old – for $10 to $30. Expensive silver or gold cufflinks with precious stones can sell for $750 to $1,000.



Would your father like this? It's shaped like a guillotine and works like one when cutting a cigar. It auctioned in November 2011 for $1,464 at Neal Auction Co. in New Orleans. It's too dangerous to be near children.

The breast pocket handkerchief also has come back. These often are seen at flea markets, carefully folded and stacked, at prices from $2 to $15. Old toy trains, cars and games are easy to find, and so are bookends, duck decoys and tools. The list is almost endless.

Smoking is out of style, but all the collectibles associated with smoking are easy to find. Ashtrays, old lithographed tin boxes that held tobacco, bargain-priced carved Meershaum pipes with amber mouthpieces, advertising signs and cigarette lighters are interesting gifts even if your father doesn't smoke.

The most unusual find this year originally was used by a cigar smoker, but it probably is displayed on a library shelf today, useless but fun. It is a French walnut and ivory cigar cutter shaped like a small guillotine. The 19th-century oddity, called a "Guillotube," is 17 3/4 inches high and has a working blade. Keep it locked away from children. It's a macabre reminder of the French Revolution and of the danger of smoking cigars. It sold for $1,464 at a 2011 auction in New Orleans.

Q: I own an Eames lounge chair and ottoman I purchased in the 1970s. I have had offers from dealers who want to purchase the set even though the leather on the ottoman is heavily worn. If I have the ottoman re-covered, would I increase the set's value?

A: The famous Eames lounge chair and ottoman have been in continuous production since 1956. In the U.S., the manufacturer since the beginning has been Herman Miller, Inc., of Zeeland, Mich. We suspect that your chair interests dealers because of the plywood frame's finish. Chairs that have plywood frames with Brazilian rosewood veneer sell for high prices because an embargo on Brazilian rosewood has been in place since 1992. Don't bother re-covering the ottoman.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 9 3
♥ K Q J 4
♦ K
♣ K Q 10 9 7 6

WEST
♠ A 5 4
♥ 7 6 5 2
♦ J 10 8 4 3
♣ 5

EAST
♠ 2
♥ A 9 8 3
♦ Q 9 7 6 5 2
♣ 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 10 8 7 6
♥ 10
♦ A
♣ A J 8 4

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	5 ♠	

Opening lead — five of clubs.

The Telltale Heart

Assume you're West and it's your lead against five spades. North's five-club bid over four notrump, using regular Blackwood, tells you that he is aceless, and South's retreat to five spades should say he has only two aces.

This means that your partner has an ace -- which could easily be the ace of clubs -- and this in turn tells you that the best lead by far is your singleton club. So you lead a club, taken by declarer with dummy's queen.

At this point -- assuming that your theory about partner having an ace is correct -- you have no way of knowing whether it is the ace of diamonds or the ace of hearts. (He can't have the ace of clubs or he'd have taken it at trick one and returned a club.)

So, when declarer next leads a low spade from dummy and plays the king, you must resist the temptation to win it because you wouldn't know which suit to return to secure the club ruff. Fortunately, you can afford to duck the king because you have another low trump available for the club ruff.

When South next plays the six of spades, you step up with the ace, hoping East can clarify the situation for you. As it happens, East shows out of trumps and, aware that you are looking to him for guidance, signals with the nine of hearts.

This is manna from heaven. East's illuminating discard removes all the guesswork. You lead a heart to East's ace, and his club return puts South out of business.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane

"I don't know what I said. I never listen to me."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/31

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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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/30

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Cryptoquip

IQAZE KJSGZ EPKBBQPCDM K LGZSKCD YCDGZKB EAOOBGYGDS, C ZGKBCUGR C IKR SIKS UCDLCDM JGGBCDM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN MY BABY MUTT BARKED ITS "GOODBYE" IN THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE, I RECKON IT WAS A PUPPY CIAO.

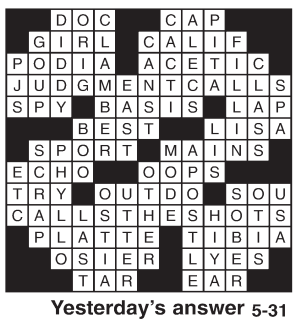
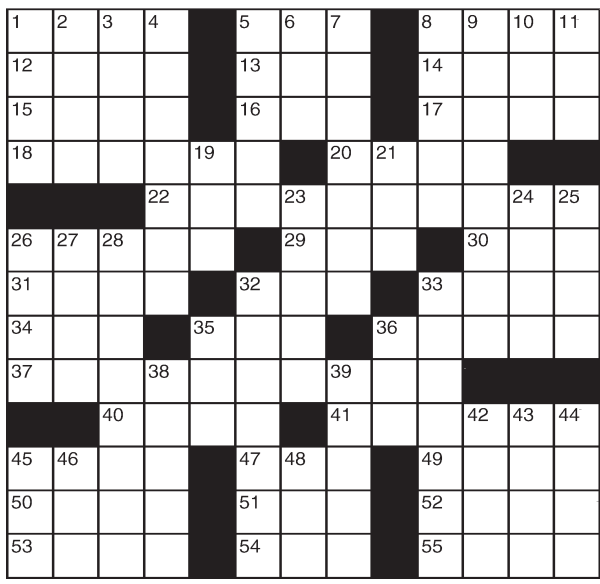
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Physicist Niels
5 Dine
8 Enervates
12 Sheltered
13 Tray contents
14 Small combo
15 Authentic
16 Ultramodernist
17 On in years
18 Senility
20 Beige
22 Supernatural
26 Tumbler
29 Party bowlful
30 Swelled head
31 Mature
32 Half dozen
33 Uppity one
34 Mischievous kid
35 Expert
36 Expenditure
37 Drop cloths?
40 Choir member
41 Oliver Twist, e.g.
45 Use scissors
47 Legislation
49 Continental coin
50 Luxurious
51 Hearty brew
52 Antony's love, for short
53 Vicinity
54 Disencumber
55 Chore

DOWN
1 Shakespeare, for one
2 Bread spread
3 Warmth
4 Get sick again
5 More logical
6 Handle
7 Suns' spot?
8 Beatle surname
9 Quarrel
10 Chart format
11 Turf
19 Petrol
21 Filch
23 Farewell
24 Enthusiastic, plus
25 Timber wolf
26 Clench
27 South American capital
28 Assess
32 Learned one
33 Colonel Mustard, for one
35 Performance
36 "— the ramparts ..."
38 Greek leader
39 Hauled behind
42 Island entertainment
43 War god
44 Secluded area
45 Hydrotherapy venue
46 Neither mate
48 "The Greatest"

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 5-31