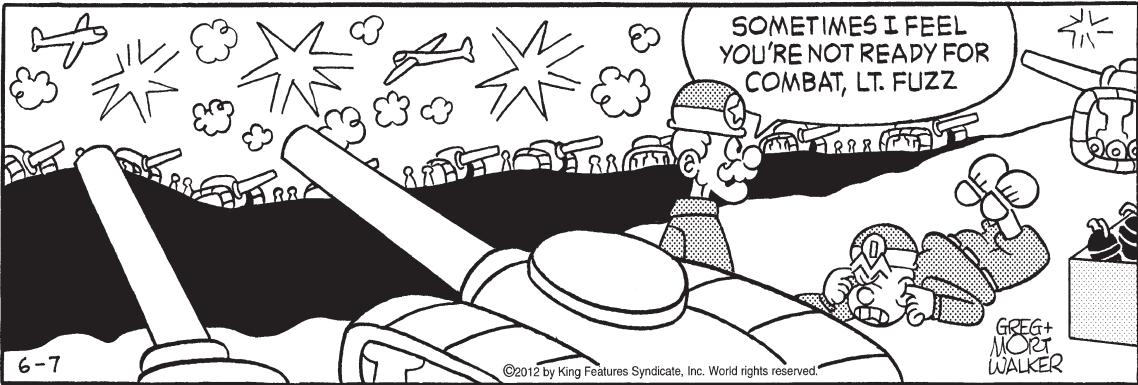


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



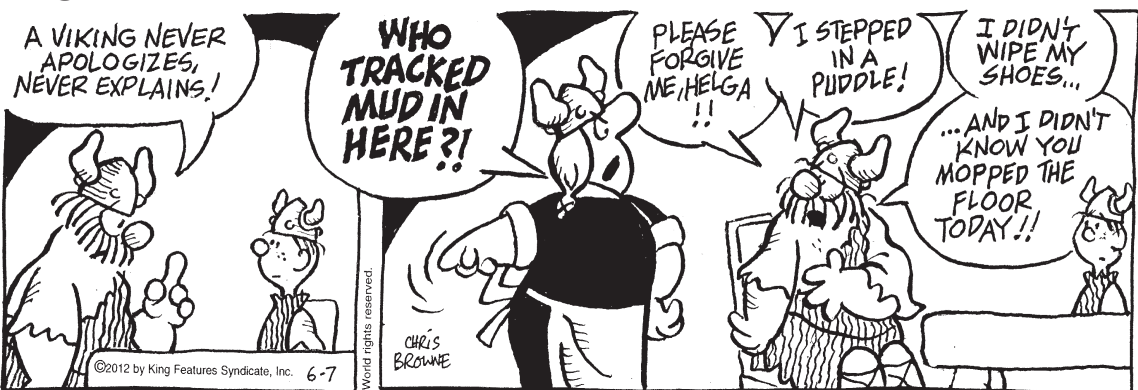
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



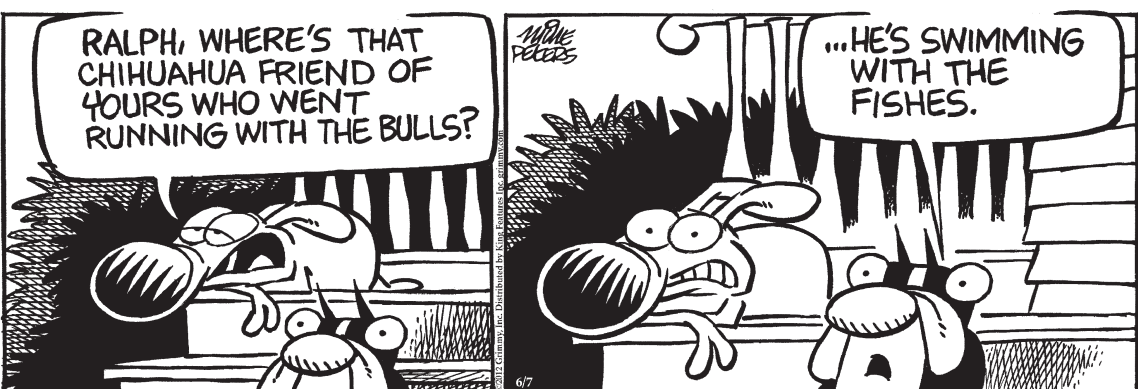
**Blondie** • Chic Young



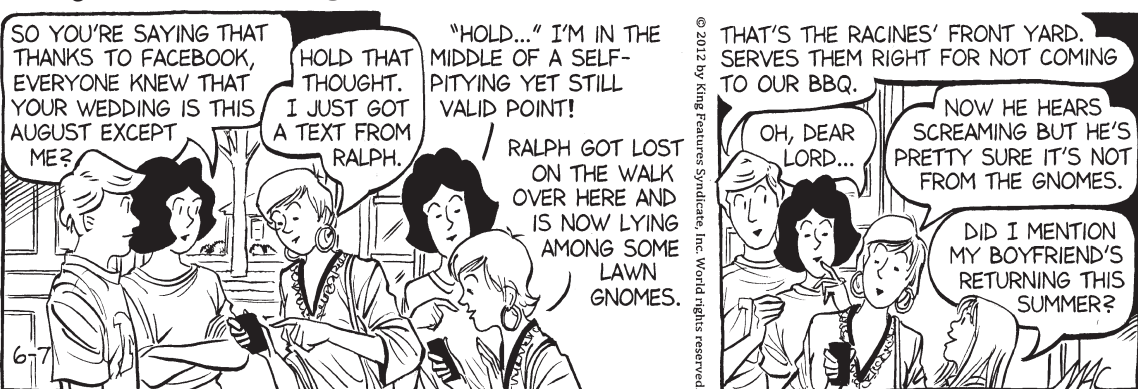
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



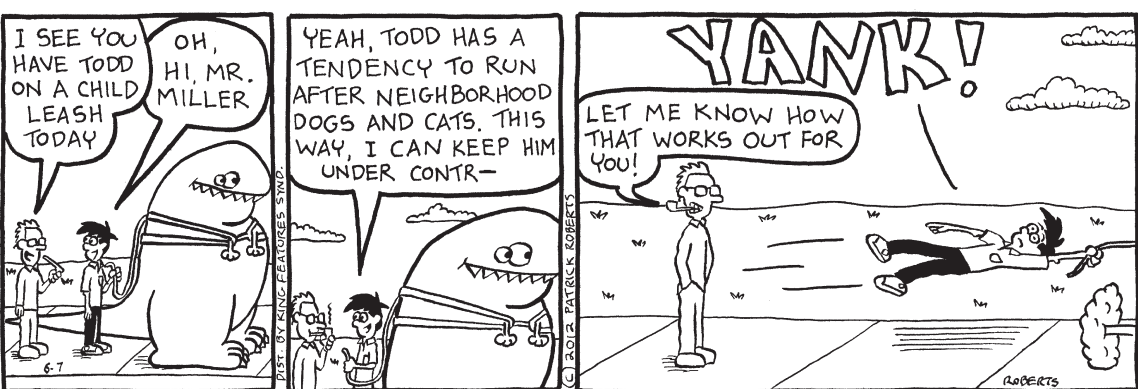
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



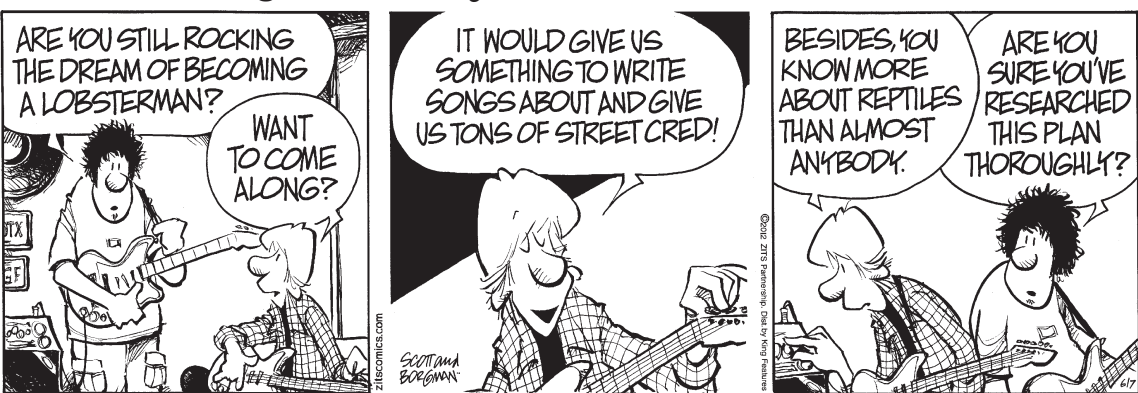
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Terry Kovel**  
• Antiques and Collecting

**Value of doll reduced by wear**

**Q:** My Madame Alexander "Pussy Cat" baby doll dates from the early 1970s. She is pretty worn because I played with her a lot, but I still have her original box. Value?  
**A:** Madame Alexander made Pussy Cat baby dolls from 1970 to 1984. They came in two sizes, 14 and 20 inches. The smaller doll, in excellent condition, sells without her box for about \$60. The larger doll is worth about \$100. A worn doll in either size might sell for \$10 to \$20, with a premium for the box.

**Q:** I would like to know the current price for various old bottles from San Francisco's Bay City Soda Water Co.  
**A:** Bay City Soda Water Co. was in business from 1871 to 1913. The bottles were embossed "Bay City Soda Water Co. S.F." and have an embossed star on the back. They were made in green and various shades of blue. The blue bottles are fairly common, but the green bottles are rare. Blob-top bottles were sealed with a cork and a wire closure. Hutchinson-type bottles had spring stoppers, patented by Charles Hutchinson in 1879. Value depends on the color of the glass. We can't tell the exact color of your bottle without seeing it, so we can't give you a value, but a Bay City Soda Water bottle in "medium coloration" sold recently for \$130.

**Q:** I bought a set of dishes about three years ago in Melbourne, Fla. It's a service for 12 with two vegetable bowls. The dishes appear to be stoneware and are marked on the bottom "Tiffany Ceramiche Italy." I'm interested in finding out more about these dishes, and especially if they are really "Tiffany."  
**A:** Your dishes were made by Tiffany Ceramiche, a company in Scandiano, Italy. The company began as a maker of stoneware tiles and is not associated with the glassmaker Louis Comfort Tiffany, or with Tiffany & Co., the store in New York. Another Italian company, Este Ceramiche, has made porcelain for Tiffany & Co. Those dishes are marked with both company names. Tiffany Ceramiche became part of Ceramica Lord, bought by Gruppo Majorca in 2010.

**Tip:** If your cane or rush chair seats seem dry, spray them with water using a mister. A cane or rush seat that is regularly used lasts only about 10 to 12 years. Keeping it from drying out extends its life.  
 Need prices for collectibles? Find them at Kovels.com, our website for collectors. More than 84,000 prices and 5,000 color pictures have just been added. Access to the prices is free at Kovels.com/priceguide.

Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Write to Kovels, (Name of this newspaper), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019.

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

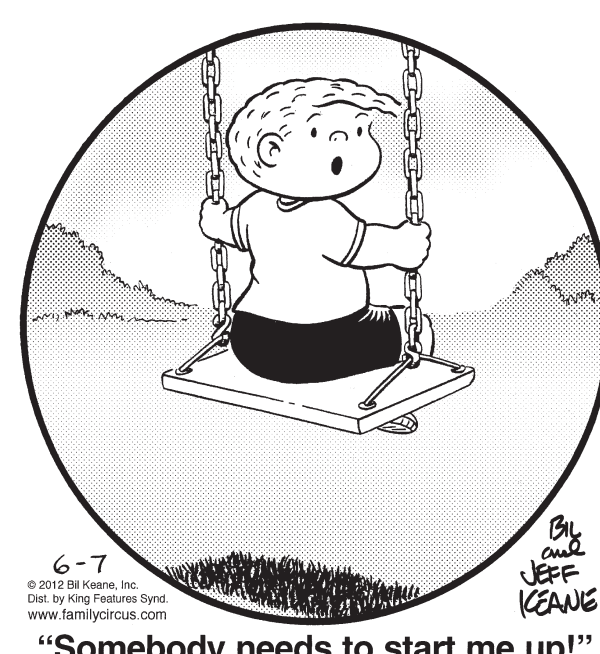
East dealer. East-West vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
 ♠ Q 2  
 ♥ K 10 3  
 ♦ A 7 6 5 2  
 ♣ K J 8  
**WEST**  
 ♠ A 9 8 6 4  
 ♥ 8 5 2  
 ♦ J 8  
 ♣ 10 3 2  
**EAST**  
 ♠ K 10 7 3  
 ♥ J 7 6 4  
 ♦ Q 9 4  
 ♣ 9 6  
**SOUTH**  
 ♠ J 5  
 ♥ A Q 9  
 ♦ K 10 3  
 ♣ A Q 7 5 4  
 The bidding:  
 East South West North  
 Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT  
 Opening lead — six of spades.

**A Critical Choice**  
 The backbone of good card play is the ability to diagnose how the unseen cards are divided. This does not mean that to succeed, a player must ascertain the location of every critical missing card. Sometimes, it might be sufficient to know only how a particular suit is divided.  
 For example, assume you hold the East cards in this deal. West leads the six of spades against three notrump, and dummy follows low. This presents you with the problem of whether to play the ten or the king.  
 It's obvious that the king is the winning play if you can see all 52 cards, but what is the right play if you see only 26 cards? If declarer has, let's say, the A-5 of spades, the proper play is the ten -- thus limiting South to just one spade trick -- but if South has only the J-5, the proper play is the king.

Making the right decision in the present case is not simply a matter of guesswork. As usual, there are clues to guide you to the solution. To begin with, you should apply the Rule of Eleven. You deduct the card West led, the six, from 11, which tells you that there are five cards higher than the six in the North, East and South hands.  
 Since one of the five higher cards is in dummy and you see three of them in your own hand, you know that South has only one card higher than the six. It is easy to deduce that it cannot be the ace, because in that case South would surely have played the queen from dummy in an effort to win two tricks in the suit instead of one.  
 So you put up the king and return a spade, hoping that partner started with five to the ace. The reward for analyzing the situation correctly is that you set the contract one trick.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



"Somebody needs to start me up!"

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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.

**Cryptoquip**

O C G Y L Q X B H L P Z J A M B C S  
 X O P O T S L C Y G A Y J C M Y W S Y  
 X B L P O L H B H C D G B A B D D Z S C M  
 D S Z W B Z : L S A T S Y G - G Y L Q .  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** THOSE ADORABLE LAP DOGS ARE BECOMING ALL THE RAGE IN TEHRAN. PEOPLE CALL THEM POM-IRANIANS.  
 Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals F

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
 1 Pouch  
 4 Mast  
 8 Genuine (Ger.)  
 12 Altar affirmative  
 13 Godly Greek cup-bearer  
 14 Winged  
 15 Produced as by magic  
 17 Anger  
 18 Perch  
 19 Countdown follow-up  
 21 Hawaiian garment  
 24 Homer's interjection  
 25 Shade tree  
 26 Omega preceptor  
 28 Right-hand page  
 32 Freshly  
 34 Elev.  
 36 Part of speech

**DOWN**  
 1 Uncorrected, in a text  
 2 Big  
 3 Ate  
 4 "Quiet!"  
 5 Piece  
 6 First victim  
 7 Made over  
 8 Made of clay  
 9 Advertising award  
 10 50 percent  
 11 Not kosher  
 16 Muppet master  
 20 Supporting  
 21 Nasty  
 22 Arm bone  
 23 N.A. nation  
 27 Sort  
 29 Added  
 30 Tooth-paste container  
 31 Formerly  
 33 Smart aleck  
 35 —  
 38 Tier  
 40 Medic  
 43 Mexican entrees  
 45 Winter ailment  
 46 Ready for anything  
 47 On in years  
 48 Chinese gang  
 49 Bygone times  
 53 Born  
 54 Prior night  
 55 Dapper fellow?

**Solution time: 25 mins.**  
 I M P C H E N J A B S  
 B A A R O M E I L I E  
 T L L E D U C A T I O N  
 S T E E D K I N  
 R I D S M E S O N  
 V A C A T I O N Y A L E  
 O B I S A D I E R I O  
 W E A L L O C A T I O N  
 S T O O L M E T H  
 W E S I O N I C  
 A V O C A T I O N O D E  
 L A V A E D I T S O L  
 E T A L P O L O E L L  
 Yesterday's answer 6-7

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
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	
59				60					61	