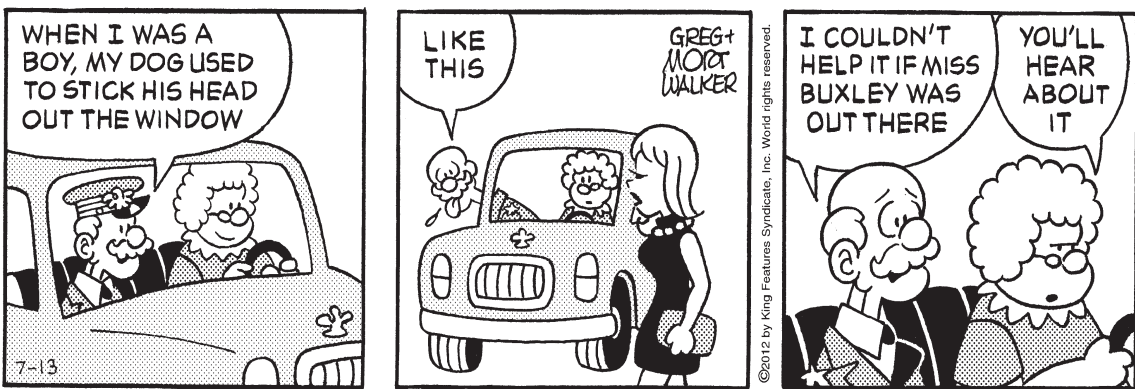


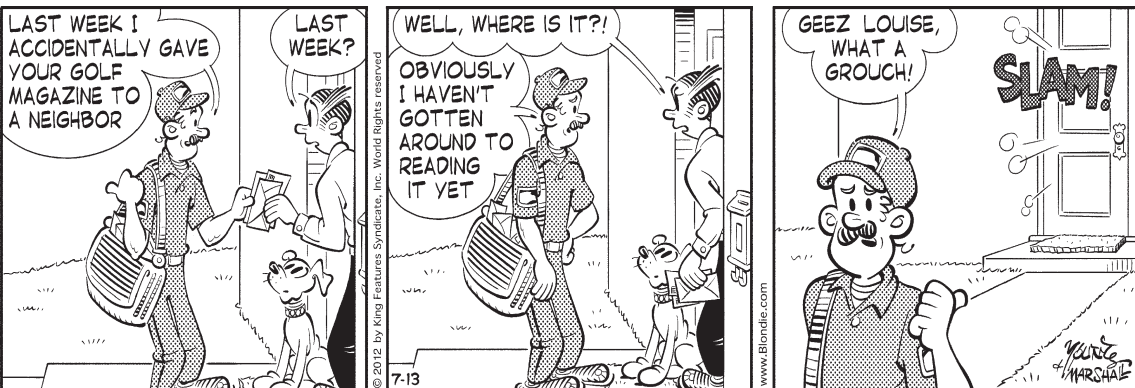
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



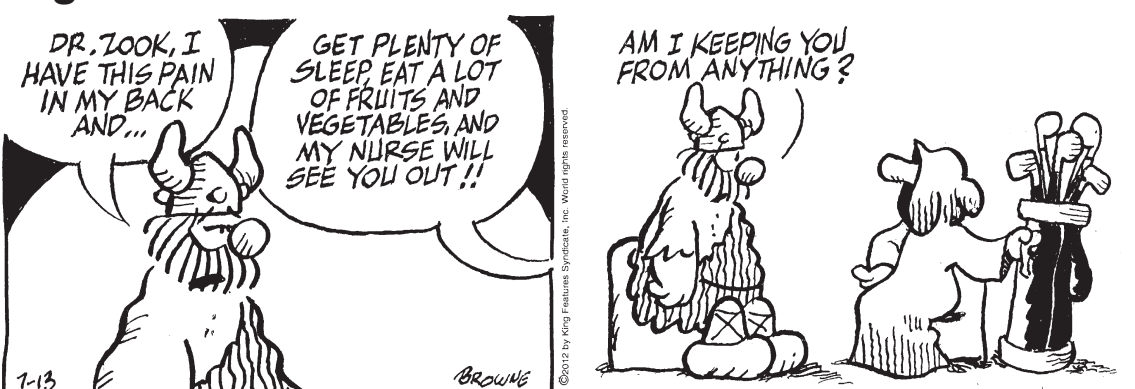
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



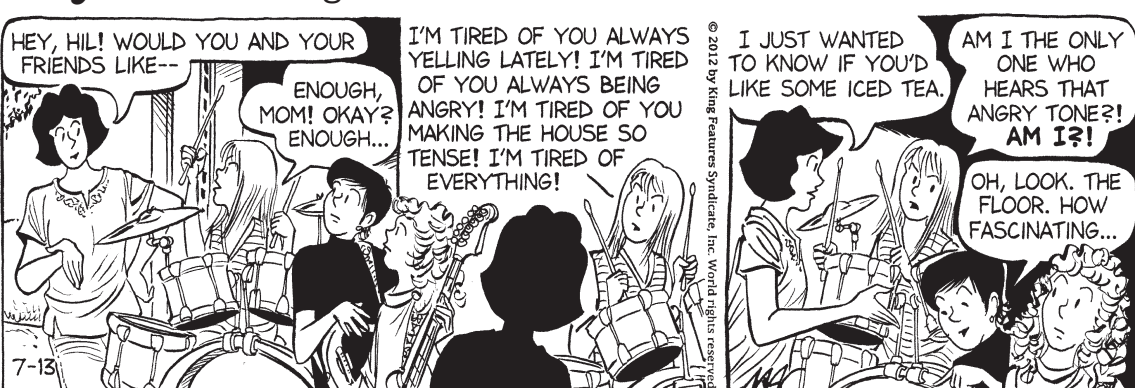
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**  
• Hints from Heloise

**ATM mistake could be costly**

Dear Heloise: The other day, I went to an ATM. There was a car in front of me, so I waited my turn. After the person left, I pulled up to the ATM, and to my surprise the account information was still on the screen. It was asking how much I wanted to withdraw. I easily could have taken money from this person's account, had I wanted to. Just wanted to warn your readers to be careful to check the screen before they drive away. – An Honest Reader, via e-mail

Wow! Folks, please be sure to double-check before leaving an ATM. Also, take the receipt with you – don't leave it lying around. – Heloise

**SEND A GREAT HINT TO:**  
Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE  
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

**DENTURE DO'S**  
Dear Heloise: I have a large box of denture-cleaning tablets. Can I use these for anything besides cleaning dentures? Thank you. – JoAnne, via e-mail

JoAnne, great question! Here are some other uses for denture tablets:  
• Use to clean tea stains out of mugs. Fill the cup with water and add a denture tablet. Let sit overnight and then clean.  
• Clean your gold and diamond jewelry with them. Place a tablet in a glass with the jewelry on top. Fill the glass with water and let soak for 10 to 15 minutes. Gently brush with a soft brush, then rinse well.  
• Clean retainers with it. Soak for 15 minutes, then rinse.  
• Clean vases with narrow necks. Fill a vase with water, then add a couple of denture tablets. Let sit, then rinse.  
• Treat yellow discoloration on fingernails. Place two tablets in a bowl of warm water. Soak hands for five minutes, then gently scrub nails with a soft toothbrush or nailbrush. – Heloise

**TRAVEL HINT**  
Dear Heloise: We were planning a trip to the amusement park and were wondering how to safely take our cell phones, wallets and glucometers onto the water rides. My nephew came up with the perfect solution – a plastic zipper bag. – Colleen in Pennsylvania

This is one way to protect items. Also, check major retail stores near the park. I know that the ones in the San Antonio area sell waterproof containers made specifically for water parks. – Heloise

(c)2012 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Bridge** • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the king of clubs. How would you play the hand?  
**WEST**  
♠ A Q 10 5  
♥ A 10 4  
♦ A Q 9 8  
♣ 7 3  
**EAST**  
♠ 7 3  
♥ J 7  
♦ K 7 5 4 3 2  
♣ A 9 6

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Hearts, and North leads the nine of diamonds. How would you play the hand? (Assume the missing trumps are divided 2-2.)  
**WEST**  
♠ A 8 3  
♥ K Q J 7 2  
♦ K J 5  
♣ A Q  
**EAST**  
♠ Q 7 2  
♥ A 10 8 4  
♦ A Q 10 3  
♣ 10 5

**Test Your Play**  
1. This is one of those hands where you're certain to make the contract regardless of how the missing cards are divided – provided you play correctly. Obviously, there's no problem if the diamonds are divided 2-1: You simply cash the A-Q-9 of diamonds and then overtake the eight with dummy's king. That gives you nine tricks, easy as pie.  
Your primary concern should be what you will do if the opposing diamonds are divided 3-0 – a 22 percent probability. In that case, with one opponent holding the J-10-6, you won't be able to run six diamond tricks unless you can find a way to untangle the blockage in the suit.

This can easily be done by ducking the king of clubs and the next club if North continues the suit. Whether the defenders play a third club or not, sooner or later you can dispose of your nine of diamonds on dummy's ace of clubs and run the entire suit.

Note that North cannot defeat you by shifting to a heart at trick two. In that case, you follow low from dummy, win whatever heart South produces, lead the seven of clubs and play low from dummy. Regardless of how the opponents continue, you cannot be prevented from eventually discarding the diamond nine on the club ace to make the contract.

2. Win the diamond lead with the jack, draw trumps, cash three more diamond tricks, discarding a spade, then play the ace and another spade toward dummy's remaining Q-7. If North has the king of spades, dummy's queen becomes your 12th trick. If South has the king of spades, you still have the club finesse to fall back on.

It is important to first test your luck in spades rather than clubs, because by doing so you give yourself an extra chance to make the slam if North was dealt the king of spades. If you tried the club finesse first and lost the queen to the king, you would still have to lose a trick to the king of spades. By tackling spades first, you give yourself two chances to make the contract instead of just one.

(c)2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



7-13  
© 2012 Bil Keane, Inc.  
Dist. by King Features Synd.  
www.familycircus.com

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/13

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

Z B T Z L T C A O D G E Z D A Z  
A Z R C P D E N V J T F P - O X R A Z G C  
C G A A G X Z A M X G V G X A Z B T Z

V K J F A O T J J B D L T M D G - K J K N D A Z.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: REPUBLIC IN WHICH, BY LAW, EVERY SINGLE HOUSE HAS TO HAVE A VERANDA ATTACHED: PORCH-UGAL.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals T

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Gladiatorial venue  
6 Agent  
9 Early bird?  
12 Wears a rut in the rug  
13 — -tzu  
14 Ultra-modern  
15 Group character  
16 Quito's land  
18 Miffed  
20 Abundant source  
21 Conclusion  
23 Miff  
24 Manhandled  
25 Loud bird  
27 Fools  
29 Fearful  
31 Staples Center team  
35 Viticulturist's morsel

**DOWN**  
1 Mimic  
2 Scoundrel  
3 Spiny ant-eater  
4 Night light?  
5 Very, to Vivaldi  
6 Makes smooth  
7 Treaty  
8 Thee  
9 Be philanthropic  
10 Crystalline stone  
11 Impaled  
17 Iditarod site  
19 Gucci alternative  
21 Type measures  
22 Big Apple letters  
24 Shell game need  
26 Heraldic silver  
28 Winter forecast  
30 Mess up  
32 Thrift  
33 Genetic abbr.  
34 Prepared  
36 Orison  
38 Shell out  
39 Stomach malady  
40 Wan  
42 Regiments  
45 Answer an invite  
46 Leave out  
48 Motorists' org.  
50 X rating?  
51 Before

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

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			