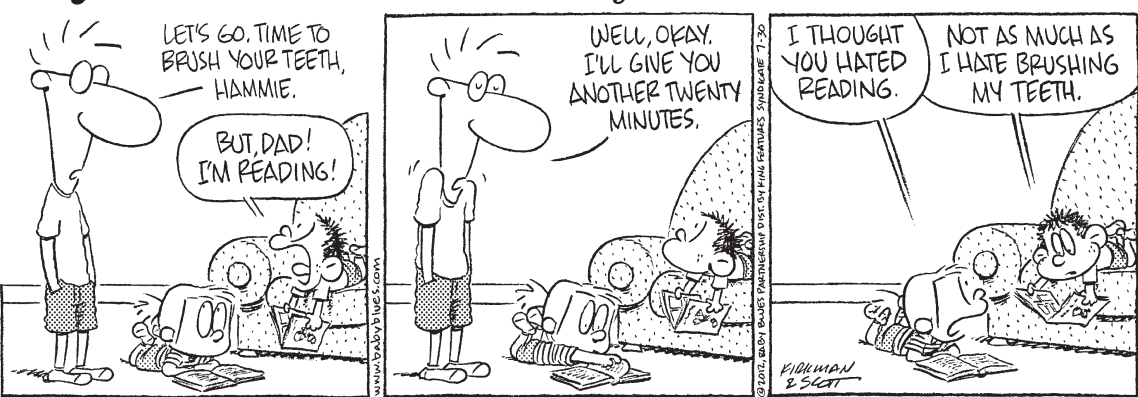


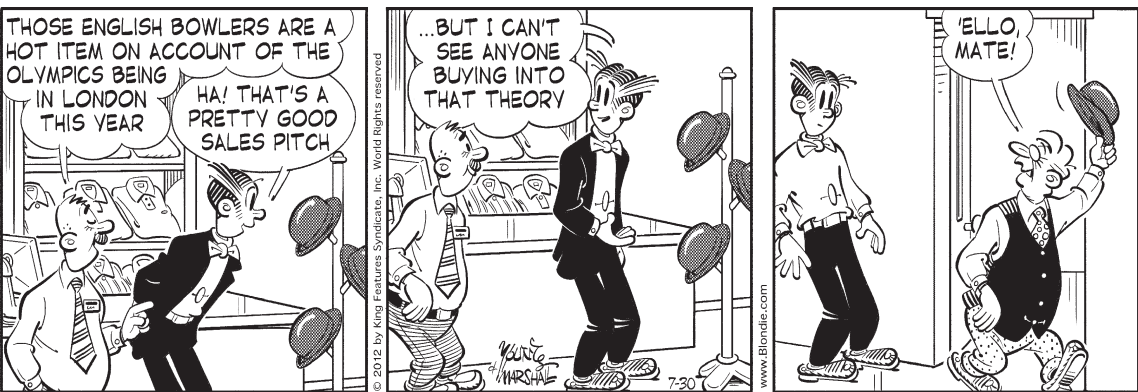
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



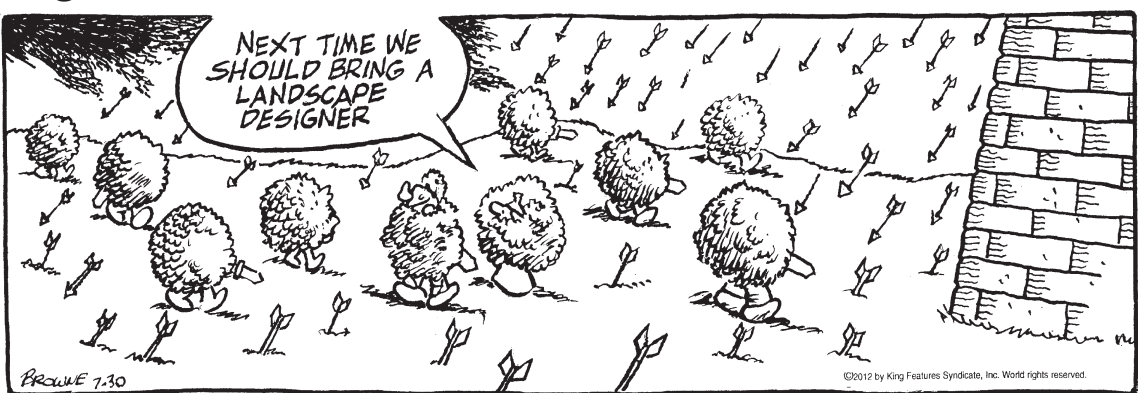
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



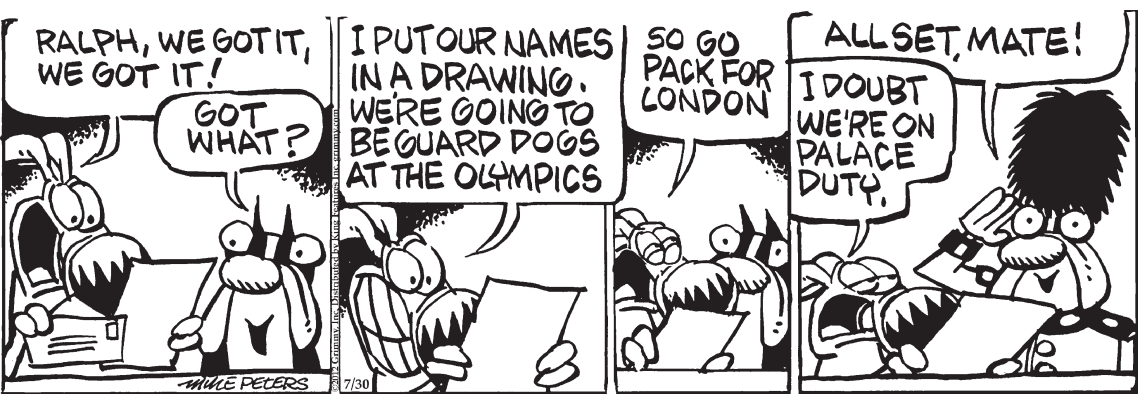
Blondie • Chic Young



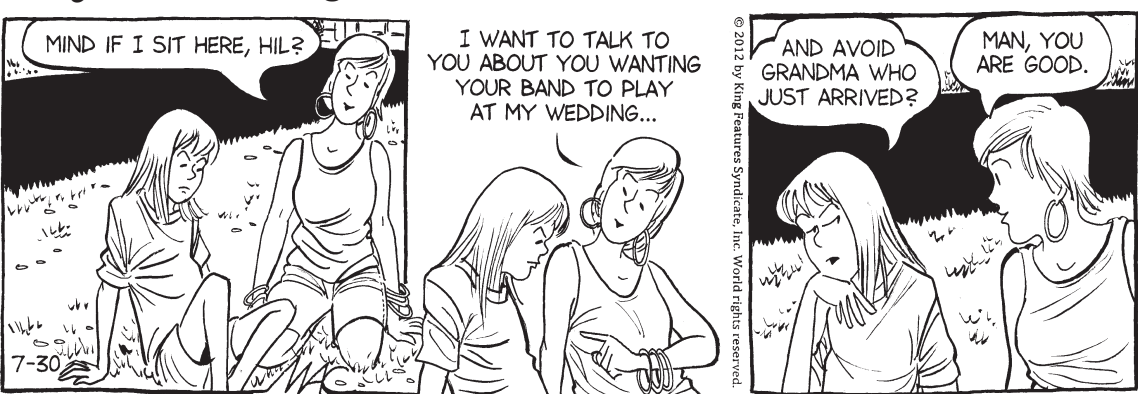
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



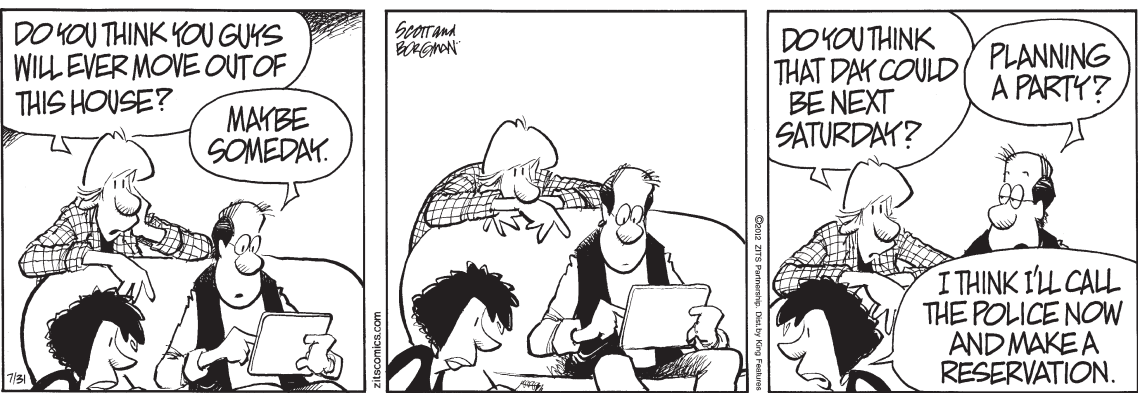
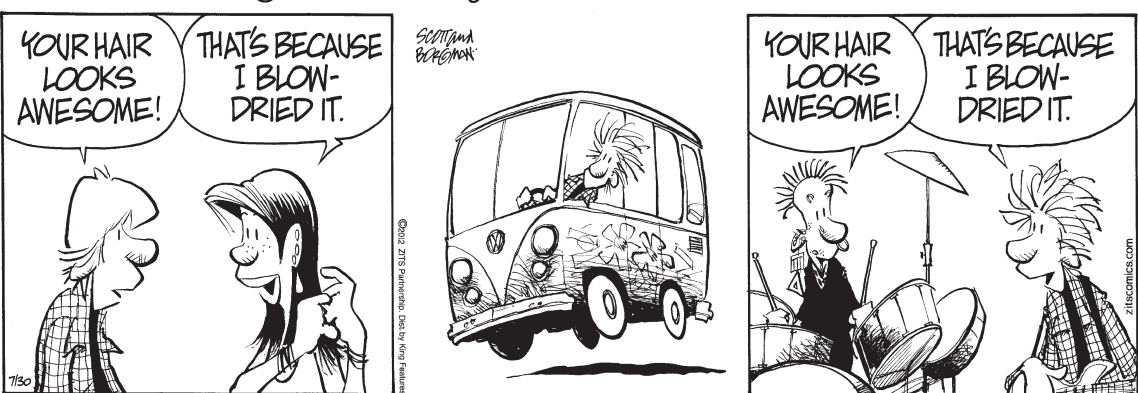
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel • Antiques and Collecting

Tobacco jars in surprise forms

Why would a tobacco jar from the 19th century be shaped like a lady in a long, full dress? Tobacco jars were made in many unexpected shapes, and there are many figural tobacco-jar collectors today. Most were made from 1850 to 1900 in Bohemia and nearby countries, of majolica, bisque, pottery, wood, even bronze. Most common today are "heads." Life-like heads of men, women, children, ethnic groups, animals and even a rare fish were made. "Full figurals" were made that looked like 19th-century ladies, historic figures, peasants, sailors and animals in suits or dresses. There was humor seen in many of the jars, some very subtle. The lady in a full skirt looks demure and proper, but her ankles are showing below the hem of her skirt; she's flirting. In those days, an ankle was considered erotic. Figural jars cost hundreds of dollars today.



ASPIRE AUCTIONS This 9 1/2-inch high figural tobacco jar, made by Conta & Bohme of Germany, sold at auction for \$144 in May at an online auction. She is showing her ankles, a naughty thing in Victorian times.

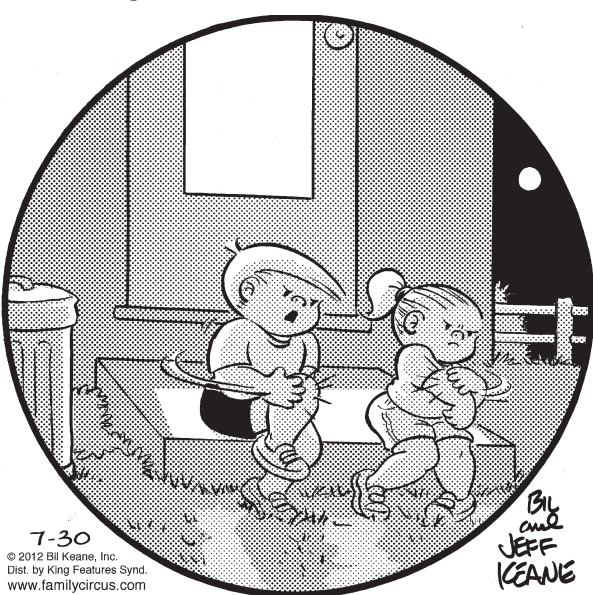
Q: I have a pair of heavy bookends with figures of a Chinese boy and girl. The boy is standing on two books and looking over the top of another. The girl is sitting on two books and reading one. One bookend says "Fashioned by Ronson" and the other "Ronson All Metal Art Wares" and "Royal Old Gold." The figures are gold, and the books are black with gold edges. Can you tell me something about them and what they are worth? A: Ronson was founded in New York by Louis V. Aronson in 1886. The company moved to New Jersey in 1887. Best known for its cigar and cigarette lighters, it also made ashtrays, bookends, busts, desk sets, fraternal and religious items, lamps, medals and toys. Your bookends were made in the 1930s; similar ones were made with Dutch children. Zippo bought most of the Ronson assets in 2010. Value of your set: \$125.

Tip: To clean old paper, try talcum powder. Take a soft brush or powder puff, sprinkle on the powder, leave for an hour, and brush it off. (c) 2012 by Cowles Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH ♠ A 3 2 ♥ A K 10 8 5 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ J 7 WEST ♠ J 9 ♥ Q 6 ♦ 10 8 5 ♣ A K 9 6 5 3 EAST ♠ 7 6 4 ♥ 7 4 3 ♦ J 7 3 ♣ Q 10 8 2 SOUTH ♠ K Q 10 8 5 ♥ J 9 ♦ A K 9 6 2 ♣ 4 Final contract: six spades. Famous Hand Today's deal features another in the seemingly endless stream of spectacular triumphs for Zia Mahmood, who has provided reams of material for bridge columnists since he first appeared on the international bridge scene about 30 years ago. The deal occurred in the 2001 Cap Gemini Pairs, an elite invitational pair tournament held annually in The Hague. Zia and his partner, Andrew Robson, won the event for the second straight year. The bidding of the Polish pair who held the North-South cards is not available. All that matters is that they reached the excellent slam in spades, and Zia, West, led the A-K of clubs. Looking at all four hands, you might wonder how the Polish declarer — a member of the team that finished second in the 2000 World Team Olympiad — failed to make six spades. The diamonds are divided 3-3, the trumps are 3-2, and the heart queen is doubleton outside. But with Zia at the table, anything is possible. South, of course, could not see how favorably the cards lay. His primary concern was what to do if the trumps broke 4-1 or the diamonds 4-2, with the heart queen offside. So, keeping his options open after ruffing the second club, he cashed the king of spades. Declarer would no doubt have gotten home safely had Zia followed to this trick with the nine, but instead, Zia dropped the jack! This diabolical falsehood had the desired effect of steering South away from the winning line of play. Assuming the jack was a legitimate singleton, declarer could now "assure" 12 tricks even if the spades were 4-1 and the diamonds 4-2. Accordingly, he played a diamond to the queen, returned a diamond to the ace and ruffed a low diamond with the ace of spades. He then led a spade to the eight — finessing against East's "marked" nine — and prepared to claim. But when Zia unexpectedly produced the nine of spades, the seemingly unbeatable slam went down one! (c)2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 7/30 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	8	6	7	5	2	9	4	1
2	4	7	6	1	9	5	8	3
5	9	1	4	8	3	7	2	6
9	5	4	8	3	6	2	1	7
6	7	8	1	2	4	3	9	5
1	3	2	9	7	5	4	6	8
7	6	5	2	9	1	8	3	4
4	2	3	5	6	8	1	7	9
8	1	9	3	4	7	6	5	2

Cryptoquip

F T V X T B L D V D O Z O G Z H T W D N Z O H Y E E Y X N T O P V Y G Y W I N Z F Y B Y D W Y N L Y W Y B Y H Y N D W P V V Z D Y O Y W H I

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I KNOW PEOPLE WHO FIND IT FUN TO DRILL HOLES THROUGH SOLID ROCK, BUT I CONSIDER IT BORING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Rosary component 5 Ever-green 8 Apple's center 12 Make undue claims 14 By word of mouth 15 Drunk, in slang 16 "Darn!" 17 Brewery product 18 They're read on a Kindle 20 Braid 23 Bruin 24 Antler 25 Pet rodent, often 28 "Rocks" 29 Sensitive spots 30 Midafternoon social 32 Darrell of "SNL" 34 Catches some rays
- 35 Arctic diving birds 36 Jones' "Men in Black" co-star 37 Hurts 40 Devoured 41 TV legend Griffin 42 First Treasury Secretary 47 Great Lake 48 Secondary quality being 49 Well-known portrait of 42-Across
- 51 Leftovers recipe 52 Hanukkah gift 19 Low voice 20 — Beta Kappa 21 Names, for one 22 Geometry calculation 23 Farm structures 25 Basketball tactic 26 Needle case 27 Land-lord's due 29 Pornography 31 Fire residue 33 Wonder 34 Works in a refinery 36 Use a teaspoon 37 Old World duck 38 Unembellished 39 Met melody 40 "So be it" 43 Rd. 44 Youngster 45 Individual 46 Fresh

Saturday's answer 7-30

