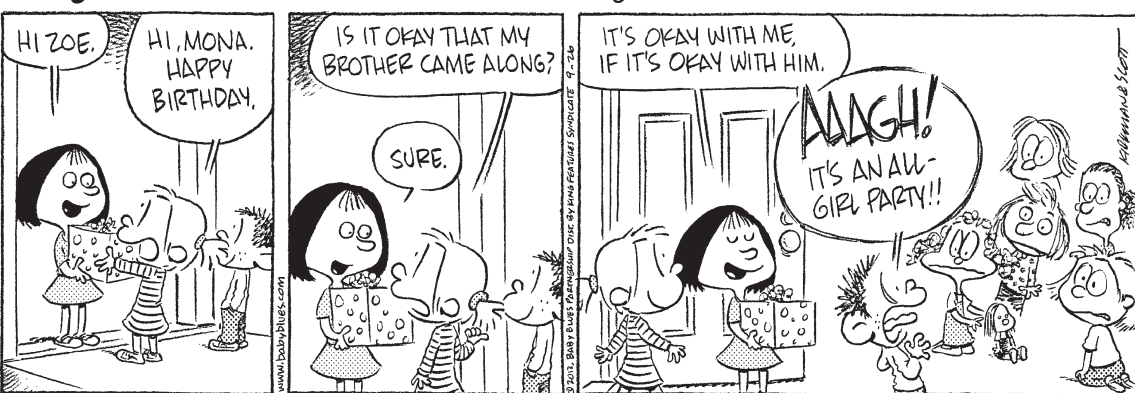


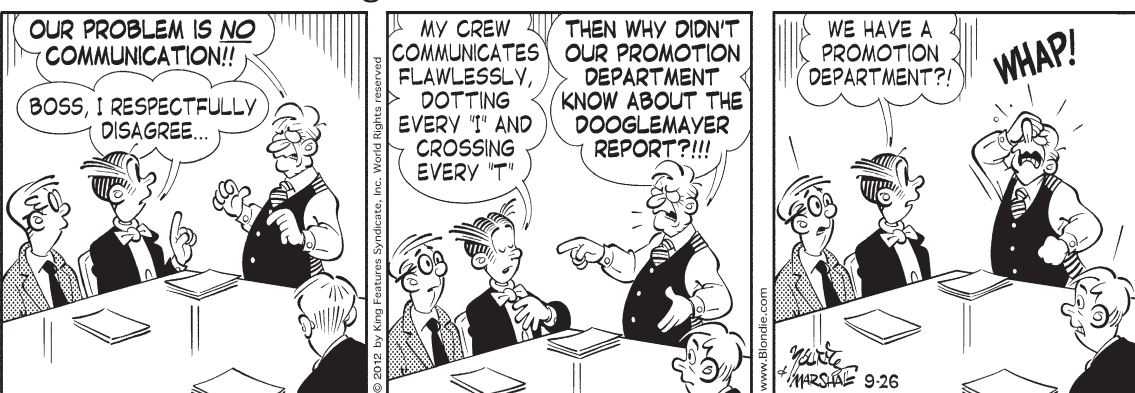
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



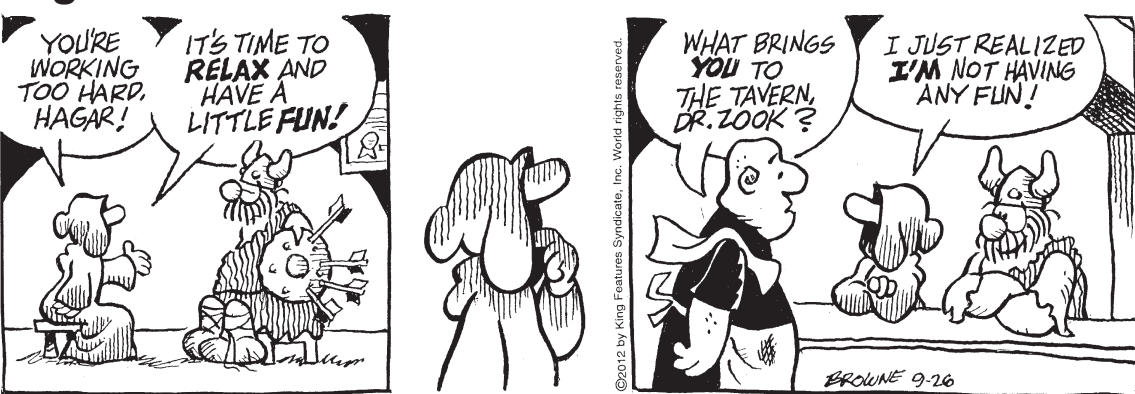
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



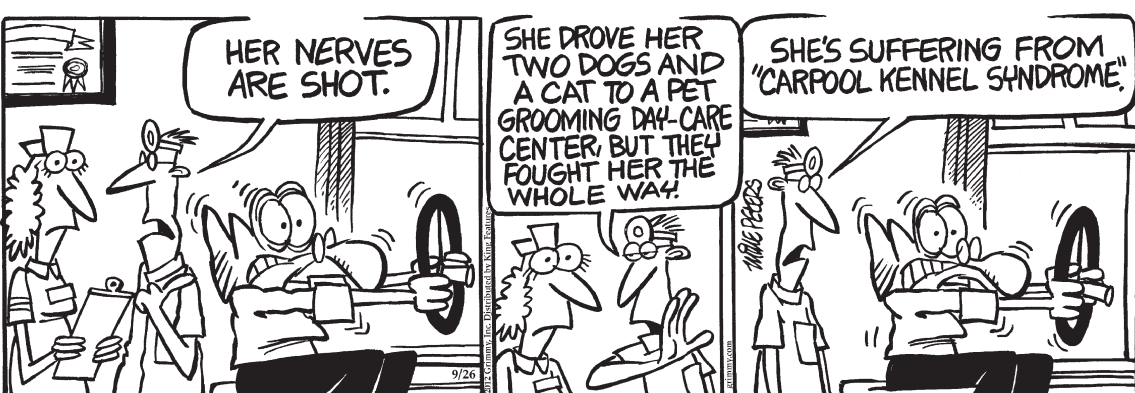
**Blondie** • Chic Young



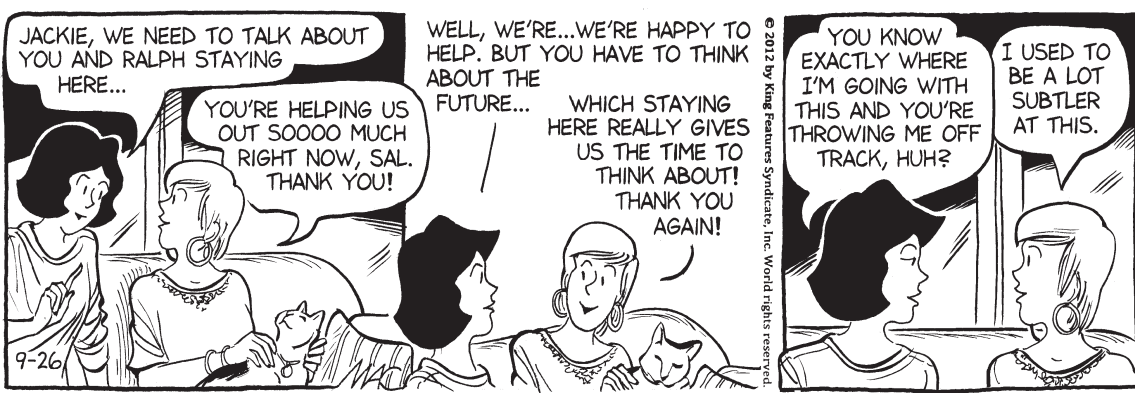
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



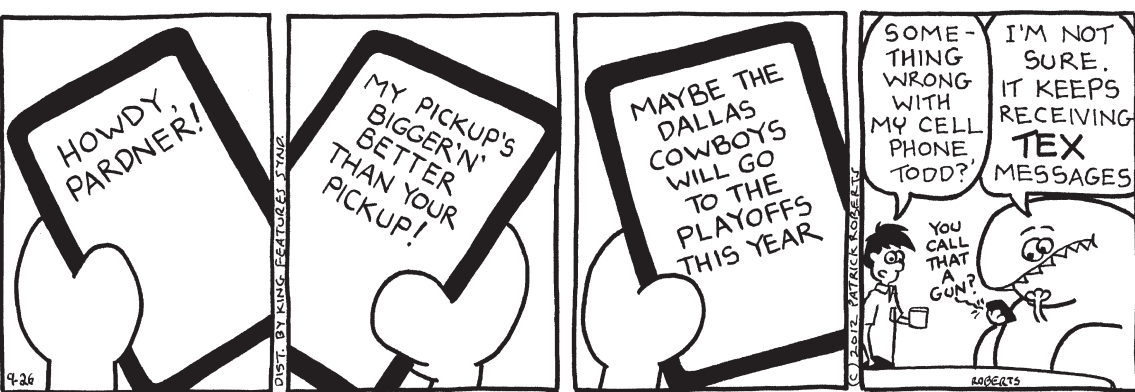
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



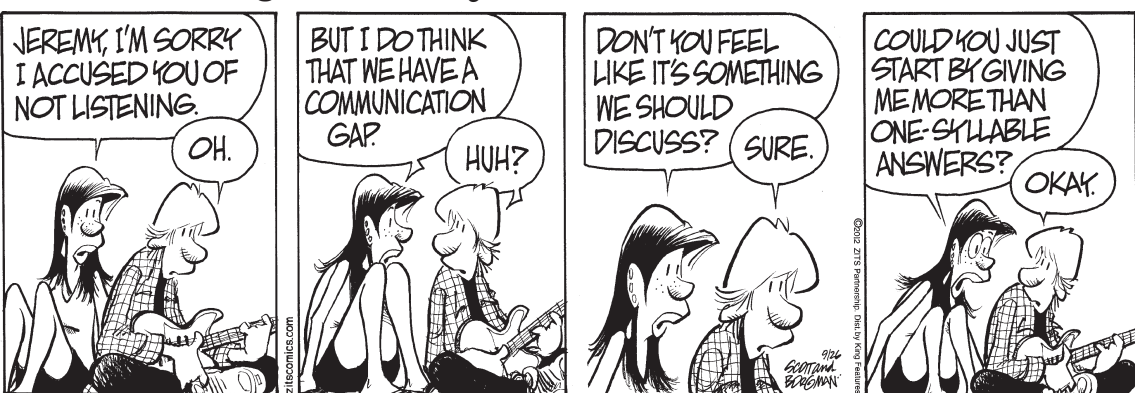
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

- Hints from Heloise

**Maybe olives aren't finger food**

Dear Heloise: I read your reply to a question regarding the shelf life of olives. We use olives a lot and keep them in their original brine in the refrigerator. The past few months, when we've opened a jar that some olives have been used out of, there has been mold on the top, they've tasted funny, and we've ended up throwing them out. What do you suggest? - I.H., via e-mail

Hmmm. Olive manufacturers say olives last for up to 12 months in the jar in the refrigerator. But never use your fingers to get the olives out of the jar! You may be adding bacteria or germs.

If white film or mold develops, simply remove it by tipping over the jar and pouring out the film. You can add a teaspoon or so of vinegar to the jar to keep this film from forming. The olives still should be safe to eat. However, if they taste funny, then you should throw them out! - Heloise

**SEND A GREAT HINT TO:**

Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 210-HELOISE  
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

**COCONUT COATING**

Dear Heloise: I read your column daily in the Tyler (Texas) Morning Telegraph and rely on it for so many things. How do you get coconut on the sides of a frosted coconut cake? If I put it on with my hand, it just gets all over my fingers and comes off the cake. - Jo in Texas

Well, Jo, you could buy disposable gloves made for food preparation, or take a plastic sandwich bag and put it over your hand before placing the coconut on the cake. This keeps your hand from sticking to the coconut while allowing you to press the coconut into the frosting. - Heloise

**EGG HINTS**

Dear Heloise: Here are two hints about eggs: When I am buying eggs, I always open the carton and give each egg a twist to make sure it isn't broken or cracked.

Once home, if you find an egg stuck to the carton, try this hint: Run a little cool water into the carton, after removing the other eggs, and let it sit for a few minutes. The water will loosen the egg enough that you can remove it. I have found that some stuck eggs weren't even broken or cracked, they just needed help getting out of the carton. - Georgia D. in North Carolina

**MEASURING SPOON**

Dear Readers: If you drink hot coffee and tea, it's easy to use nondairy creamer. However, serving sizes usually are not used, if you are like most! To figure out just how many calories you're actually getting, use a measuring spoon to "catch" what you normally pour as you add it to your drink as usual. You'll get a good idea of how many calories you might be pouring. - Heloise

**EATING CHIPS**

Dear Heloise: As chips are eaten, I cut the bag down in size. This makes more storage room, less air in the bag, and I can see when I need to buy more. - Cindy V. in Arkansas

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A K 9 6 5 2  
♥ 10 4  
♦ 9 7  
♣ 8 7 6

**WEST**  
♠ Q 7 4  
♥ K Q J 3  
♦ 6 4  
♣ J 9 3 2

**EAST**  
♠ J 10 8 3  
♥ 9 8 7 6 2  
♦ 10 3  
♣ Q 10

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 5  
♥ A K Q J 8 5 2  
♦ A K 5 4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2♦\* Pass 2♠ Pass  
3♦ Pass 3♥ Pass  
4♦ Pass 4♠ Pass  
5♦ Pass 5♥ Pass

\* strong, artificial  
Opening lead — king of hearts.

**Hidden Asset**

This deal appeared in the 1959 National Intercollegiate Bridge Tournament. This once-popular competition, which at its height attracted entries from about 150 colleges annually, featured deals on which a par result was pre-established. Contestants then had to achieve the par in the bidding, play or defense to receive full credit.

In today's deal, the spotlight was on declarer play. South was directed to play in five diamonds against the lead of the heart king.

Some declarers won the heart, drew trumps and then played the A-K and another club, hoping for a 3-3 club split. When West showed up with four clubs, these declarers went down one.

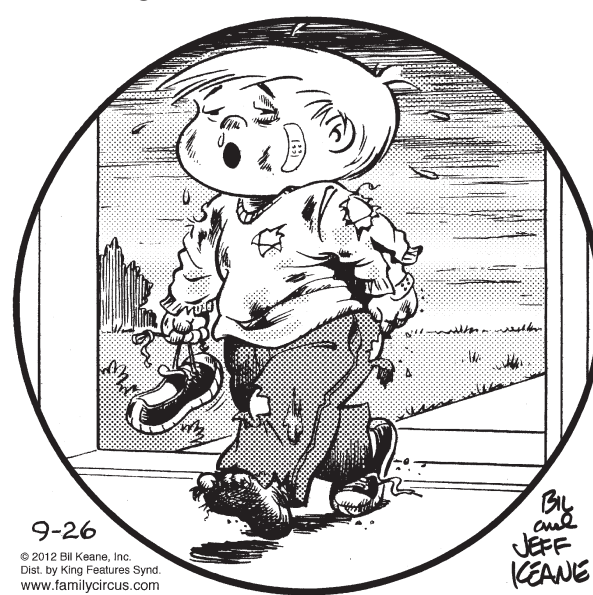
Other declarers, reluctant to place their faith entirely on an even club break, found a way to add significantly to their chances. They won the heart lead, cashed the A-K of clubs and played a third club. If the opposing clubs were divided 3-3, they would be home free; if the clubs divided 4-2, there was still the possibility of ruffing their fourth club in dummy, provided the opponent with the doubleton club did not have the ten of diamonds.

Unfortunately, West won the third club, cashed a high heart and returned the jack of clubs. East overruffed dummy's nine of diamonds with the ten, and again the contract went down one.

A number of Souths, however, found the winning -- and by far the best -- line of play. After taking the first heart, they led a low trump to dummy's seven! East won with the ten, but there was no way to stop declarer from eventually crossing to dummy's nine of diamonds and discarding two clubs on the A-K of spades. These declarers lost only two tricks -- a diamond and a heart -- to achieve a well-earned par.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



9-26  
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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/26

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

**Cryptoquip**

RP HVN YNB XHIQVJX ZPBD

BWD SVOKX "QZI" ZAK

"MZYVS," EVNJK HVN EZJJ

BWVXD YNAEW-NZBRVA IZOMX?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: REQUIREMENT THAT A PERSON MUST STAY AT A QUARTET OF SMALL HOTELS EACH YEAR: FOUR-INN POLICY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals Y

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Express
  - 4 Leprechauns' dances
  - 8 Quest
  - 12 Area 51
  - 13 Arm bone
  - 14 Sandwich treat
  - 15 Tatter
  - 16 "Consider it done"
  - 18 Pat down
  - 20 Charged bit
  - 21 Consider
  - 24 "Greetings, pardner"
  - 28 Nolan Ryan specialty
  - 32 Soft cheese
  - 33 Brewery product
  - 34 One's performances?
  - 36 401(k) alternative
  - 37 Peel
  - 39 "Don't sweat it"
  - 41 Trig ratio, for short
  - 43 "Peter Pan" dog
- DOWN**
- 3 Boo-sphere
  - 4 Mentor
  - 5 Super-easy decision
  - 6 Fish eggs
  - 7 British noble
  - 8 Leslie Caron
  - 9 role
  - 10 Pistol
  - 11 Salver
  - 12 Bit of plankton
  - 13 Conclusion
  - 14 Go from website to website
  - 15 In the distance
  - 16 Boo's mentor
  - 17 Promotional trips
  - 18 UN workers agcy.
  - 19 Econ. statistic
  - 20 Ganges garment
  - 21 Rub elbows
  - 22 Web address
  - 23 Star Wars' initials
  - 24 Harrow rival
  - 25 Legal document
  - 26 Tragic
  - 27 Calendar period
  - 28 DEA agent
  - 29 Hodge-podge
  - 30 Coop group
  - 31 Actress Downey
  - 32 Punch-bowl contents, maybe
  - 33 With all one's heart
  - 34 Pitch
  - 35 Spy org.
  - 36 Latvia's capital
  - 37 Incite
  - 38 Proper subject?
  - 39 Incline
  - 40 Profit
  - 41 Rowing need
  - 42 Lingerie item
  - 43 Zero
  - 44 Early bird?



Yesterday's answer 9-26

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				
56						57				58	
59						60				61	