

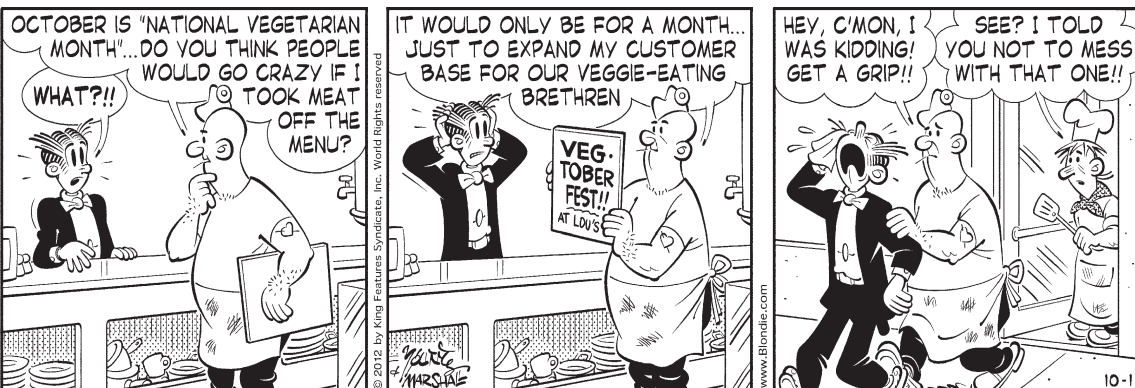
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



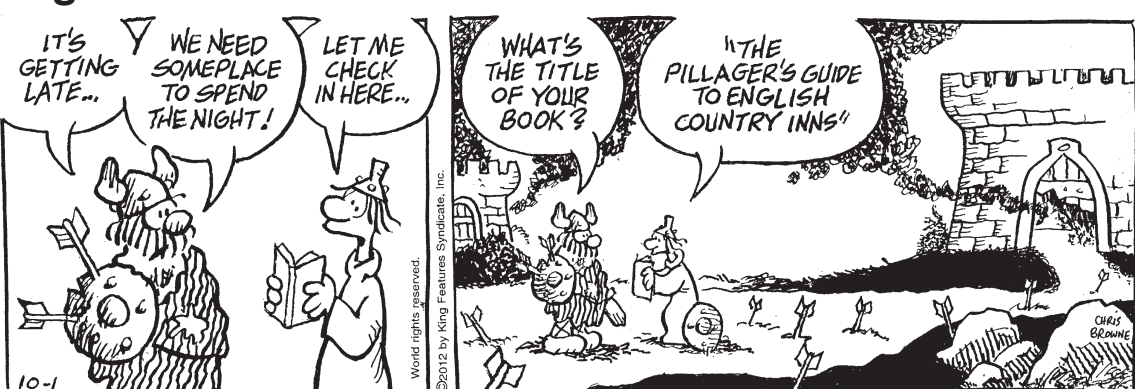
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



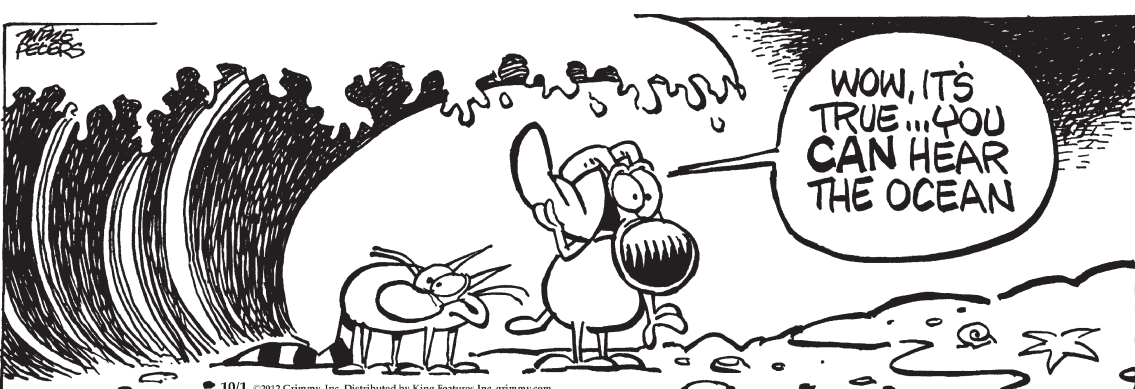
Blondie • Chic Young



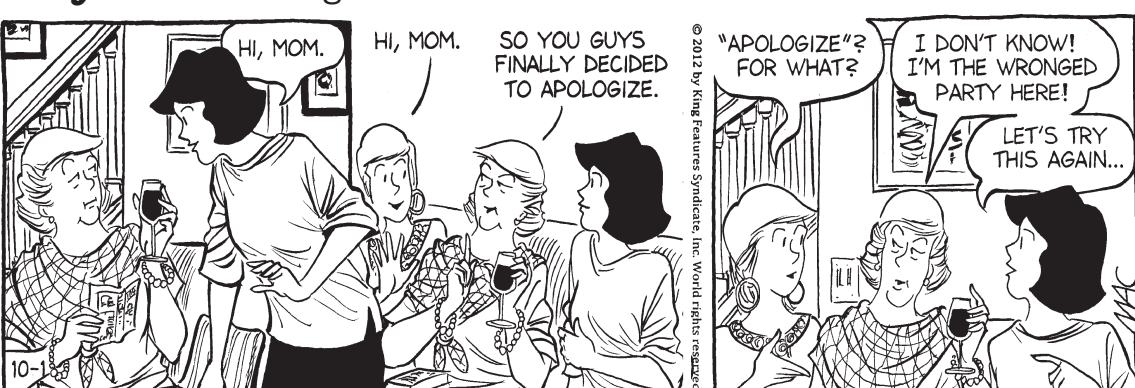
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



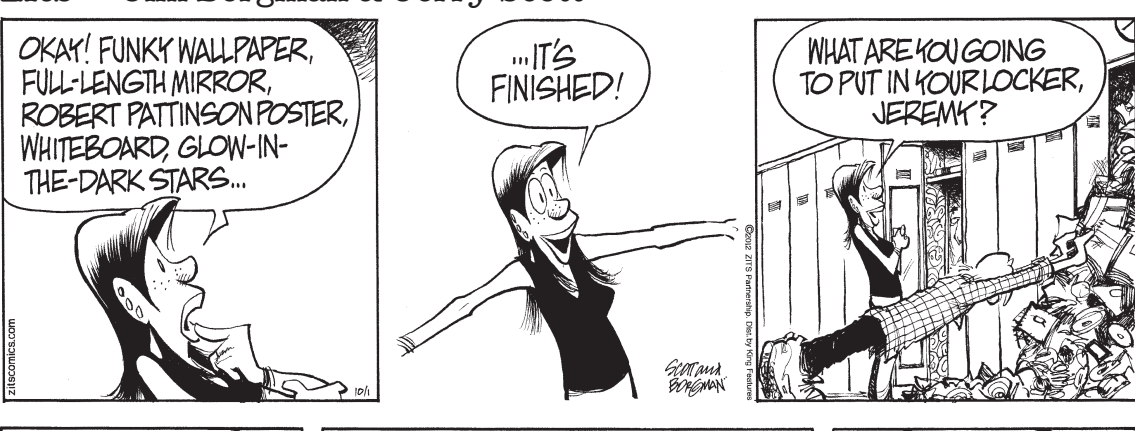
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Petit porcelain grew in 1870s

Jacob Petit (1796-1868) was a talented porcelain painter who worked for the Sevres factory in France, then opened his own shop. He moved his company to Paris in 1869. In less than 10 years, he had hired about 200 people to make and decorate porcelains.

They made ornamental vases, statues, clocks, inkwells and perfume bottles. A specialty was figural velleuses shaped like sultans or fortune-tellers. These were tea warmers meant for use in the bedroom. Each was a stand with space for a candle heater and a teapot.

Most of the Petit pieces had decorations that were colored pink, light green, pale purple, black and gold. He used the cobalt-blue initials "J.P." as his mark, but many of his pieces were not marked.

His customers wanted "antique"-style china, so he made copies of Sevres vases, Meissen figurines, many patterns of English dinnerware, Chinese export porcelain and more. These copies often are mistakenly identified as original old pieces.

But Jacob Petit porcelains are so attractive and well-made they are almost as pricey as originals.

Q: I own a heavy wooden chair I purchased years ago for \$25. The back is marked "P. Derby & Co. Inc., Gardner, Mass." I am interested in the history of the chair and its value.

A: Derby, Knowlton and Co. was established in Gardner in 1863. Several years later, Mr. Derby bought out his business partners. In 1880 he established P. Derby & Co. By 1897 P. Derby & Co. was listed as the second-largest chair manufacturer in the country. It had branches in Boston, New York and Chicago.

The company specialized in cane furniture, but also made traditional wooden tables and chairs. It went out of business in 1935. Most Derby chairs are worth \$25 to \$50.

Q: I recently bought a ceramic box at a yard sale. The base color is white, and the box is decorated with gold trim, green vines and a green frog. The bottom is marked "Freeman Leidy, Laguna Beach, Calif."

A: California pottery-making was in its prime during the 1930s and '40s. During World War II, California pottery production increased because there were no imports from Japan, Germany or Italy.

Freeman Leidy was active in Laguna Beach from 1944 to 1955. The company made figurines, tiles and giftware. It also made many glazed and footed ceramic boxes like yours, often with floral designs. Price depends on size. Your box could sell for about \$200.

Tip: The old-fashioned way to whiten linens? Bring a pot of water to a boil and add some lemon slices. Take the pot off the stove, add the linens and let them soak for an hour or so. Launder as usual.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 10 9 8 3
 ♥ Q 8 6 5
 ♦ A 3
 ♣ A 6 4

WEST
 ♠ 7
 ♥ K J 9 3
 ♦ Q J 10 5 2
 ♣ 7 5 3

EAST
 ♠ J 6 4
 ♥ 10 7 4 2
 ♦ 6 4
 ♣ K 10 9 8

SOUTH
 ♠ A K Q 5 2
 ♥ A
 ♦ K 9 8 7
 ♣ Q J 2

The bidding:
 North East South West
 Pass Pass 1 ♦ Pass
 1 NT Pass 2 ♥ Pass
 4 ♣ Pass 5 ♣ Pass
 6 ♣

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

Famous Hand

If you look at all four hands on this deal, you might wonder how declarer made six spades. But, in fact, he did when it was played in the 1975 Israel-France European championship match.

The bidding, which included an artificial one-diamond opening by South, went as shown when an Israeli pair held the North-South cards. (The French North-South pair at the other table stopped at four spades, making five.) West led the queen of diamonds against six spades, and declarer, Sam Lev, made his first good move by taking the queen in his hand with the king.

He then played the A-K-Q of trumps and queen of clubs. East won with the king and returned the ten of clubs. Lev took the ten with the jack and cashed the ace of hearts, producing this position:

North
 ♠ 10
 ♥ Q 8 6
 ♦ A
 ♣ A

West
 ♥ K J 9
 ♦ J 10 5

East
 ♥ 10 7 4
 ♦ 4
 ♣ 9 8

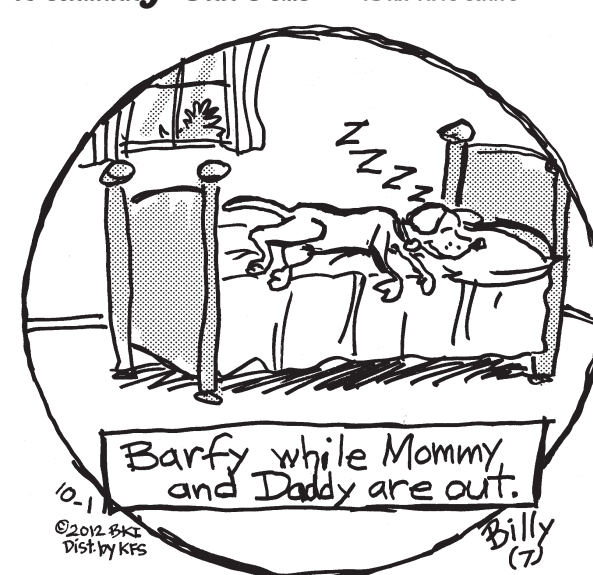
South
 ♠ 5 2
 ♥ 9 8 7
 ♣ 2

Lev now led the club deuce, and West was in trouble. He had to discard a heart or a diamond, and either discard was destined to be fatal.

If West parted with a heart, Lev would next ruff the six of hearts, lead a diamond to the ace and ruff the eight of hearts to establish dummy's queen as his 12th trick. And if West discarded a diamond instead, Lev would cash the ace of diamonds, ruff a heart and ruff the eight of diamonds to establish the nine. Either way, West was a goner.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Little Billy (age 7) takes over this week with his own family observations.

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 10/01

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.

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

Cryptoquip

QKYIDY WIDYZTWA HYDMZUDAR

ECK EWM KQRDA TWXNCR

UWATZAN RK HKHXVWY

IXMZT: NYKKG DY TVDGDVWAW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IS THE WEIRD ABILITY TO INFLUENCE WHICH DRINKS FOLKS CHOOSE TO BUY CALLED BEVERAGE LEVERAGE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Fearward, at sea

4 Highlanders

9 AAA job

12 Scatter seeds

13 Monastery head

14 Years you've lived

15 9-Ball setting

17 Popular sandwich, for short

18 Him (Ger.)

19 They can't be compared to oranges

21 Thickly entangled, as hair

24 Aching

25 Playwright Levin

26 Steal from

28 Do, re and mi

DOWN

31 Occupy completely

33 Ph. bk. data

35 Colt's mama

36 Derivish

38 Affirmative

40 Falsehood

41 Sketch

43 Rouse

45 Journalist Fallaci

47 Scot's hat

48 "— and Peace"

49 Cheating, e.g.

54 Superlative ending

55 Small egg

56 Citric beverage

57 Secret agent

58 Apportioned

59 Tatter

DOWN

1 Cleopatra's snake

2 Egg

3 Pair

4 Accumulate

5 Strand

6 Recede

7 Albright and Falana

8 Trample

9 Mealtime chat

10 Lecherous look

11 Drenches

16 Illuminated

20 Seniors' dance

21 Anger

22 Opera solo

23 Swear

27 Lad

29 A Great Lake

30 Wittenessed

32 Old Italian money

34 Washington city

37 Haphazard

39 Vaccinated

42 Relinquish

44 Pump up the volume

45 Has bills

46 Grate

50 Trench

51 Rowing tool

52 Harem room

53 Lower limb

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			58						59		