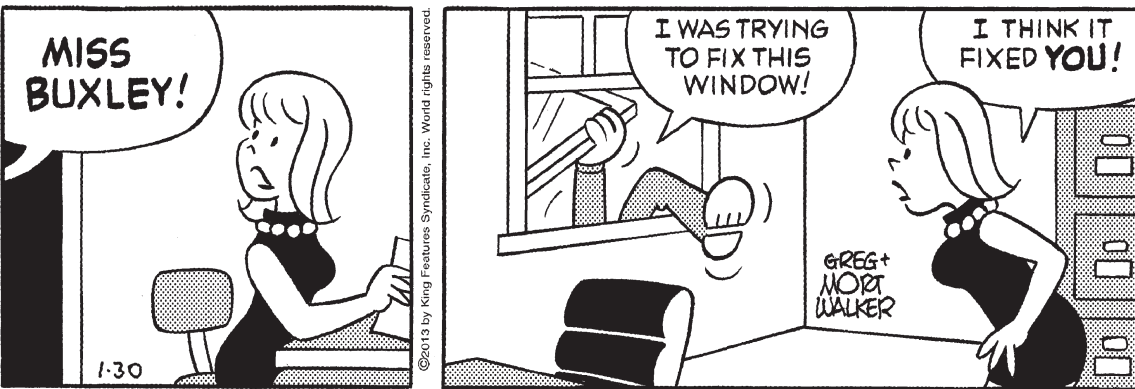


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



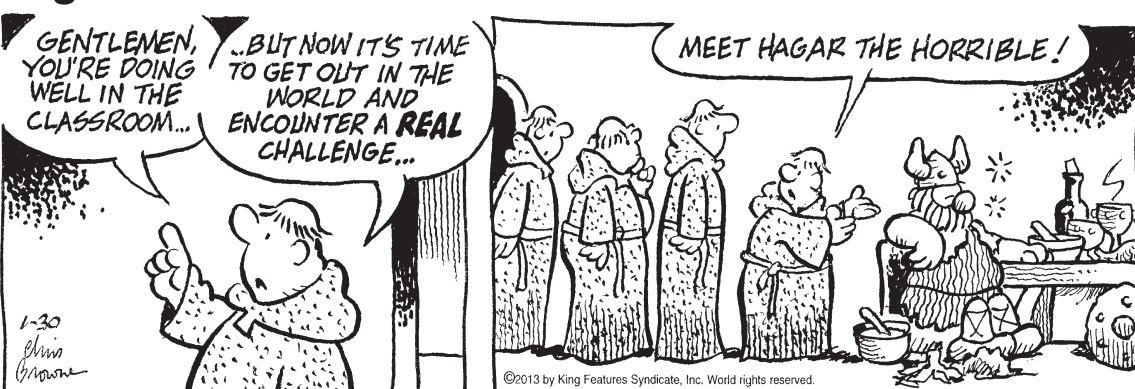
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



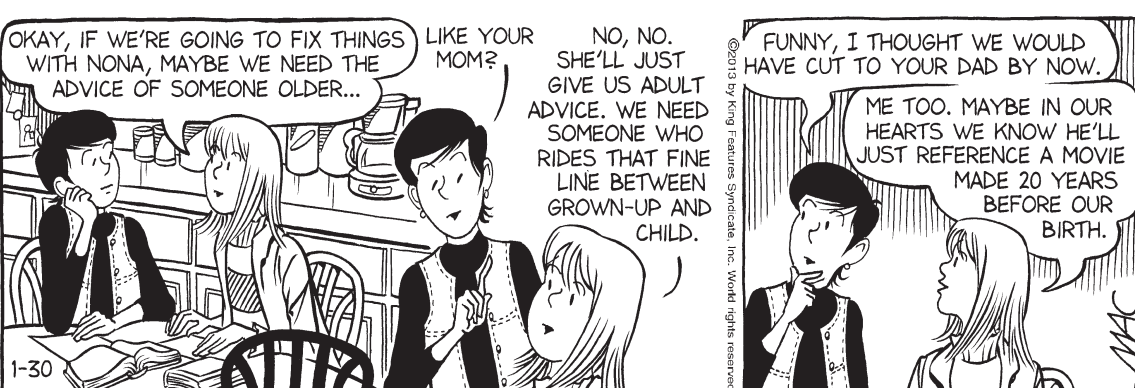
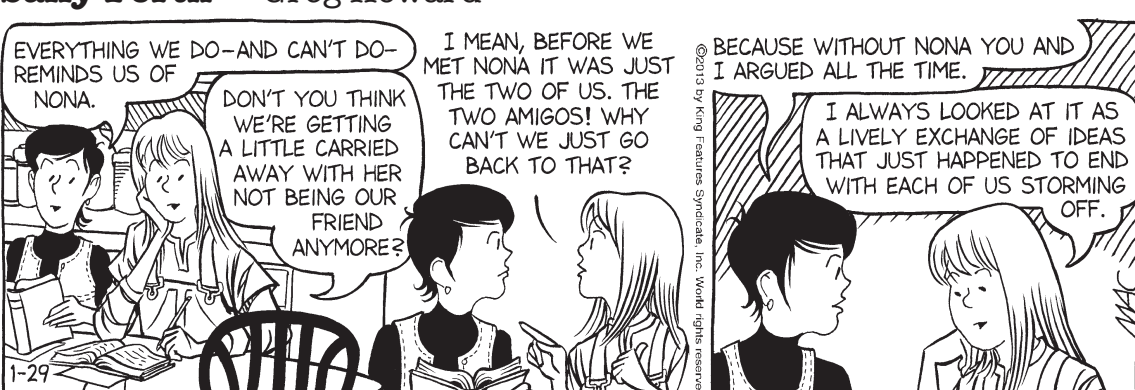
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



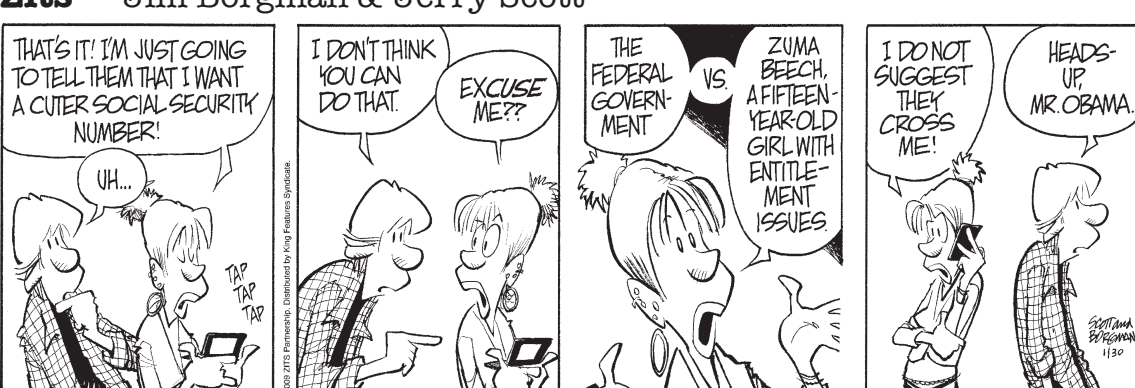
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



• Hints from Heloise

Gluten-free lists offered by stores

Dear Heloise: I must go on a gluten-free diet. It's crazy how many foods I can't have anymore if I want to feel good. My friend told me that most grocery stores now have gluten-free aisles. I called stores in my area and found only one, but many stores have a list that you can ask for to let you know what gluten-free foods they carry. — Linda in California

Linda, you are right — there does seem to be an increase in people requiring gluten-free foods. Several stores in Texas do not have lists available in the stores, but a list of gluten-free products is posted on the stores' websites.

Many stores are starting to have a section or aisles for gluten-free foods, so shop around, because there are more gluten-free products available daily! — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

OUT OF DATE?

Dear Heloise: How long is canned food good to use after the "use by" date printed on the can? I just threw out more than 20 cans and now wonder if it was necessary. — Margie F. in Oregon

It may not have been necessary! If the cans are in good condition and have been stored properly (in a cool, dry, dark place), then the food should be safe to eat after the date passes. However, taste and texture of foods can change over time. Make sure the cans do not have any bulging, leakage or dents before eating the contents. — Heloise

SAVING INFORMATION

Dear Heloise: My granddaughter has type 1 diabetes. I save side and front panels of her favorite packaged foods (brownie mixes, macaroni and cheese, cereal, etc.). These are a source of information on single-serving sizes and carbohydrates. These can be saved in clear plastic sleeves in a three-ring binder. — Carol R., via e-mail

This is a really good hint not only for someone with diabetes, but also anyone with a food allergy or on a special diet. — Heloise

EASY SQUEEZE

Dear Heloise: I've used one of your helpful hints every time I make deviled eggs that I think is worth repeating. After mixing the ingredients for the deviled eggs, put the mixture in a plastic bag and cut off a corner. Squeeze the mixture into the egg white. It is so quick and easy. No mess to clean up, and you are finished in no time. If you're like me, this is the way to go! — Lynda in Texas

Love, love, love this hint! Easy to do, and no mess to clean up! Plus tasty deviled eggs, too. For a different taste, add a can of deviled ham to the yolk mixture. Yummy! What could be better? — Heloise

MEATLOAF FILLER

Dear Heloise: Here is a good way to stretch meatloaf. Make the meatloaf and, before baking, mix in some stuffing. Just put the meat and stuffing together, mix well and bake the meatloaf as usual. — K.P. in New York

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Bridge • Steve Becker

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 9 4
♥ 4 2
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ Q 8 5

WEST
♠ 8
♥ K 9 8 6 3
♦ K Q 10 7
♣ A J 2

EAST
♠ —
♥ Q 10 7
♦ J 9 6 5 2
♣ 10 9 6 4 3

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 7 6 5 3 2
♥ A J 5
♦ —
♣ K 7

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ Dble 2♥ 6♣
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Keep Your Eye on the Ball

Assume you're in six spades and West leads the king of diamonds. When dummy comes down, it looks as though you've bitten off a bit more than you can chew. You seem destined to lose a heart and a club and go down one.

However, when you think about the matter more objectively, all you really needed was for partner to have a singleton heart, a distinct possibility on the bidding.

But this isn't the time to be grieving about what might have been. Instead, you should be thinking about how to make the slam.

And if you think hard enough, you realize that the slam can almost surely be made. West could hardly have opened the bidding without the ace of clubs, and if he has that card, you can't be stopped from fulfilling your assignment.

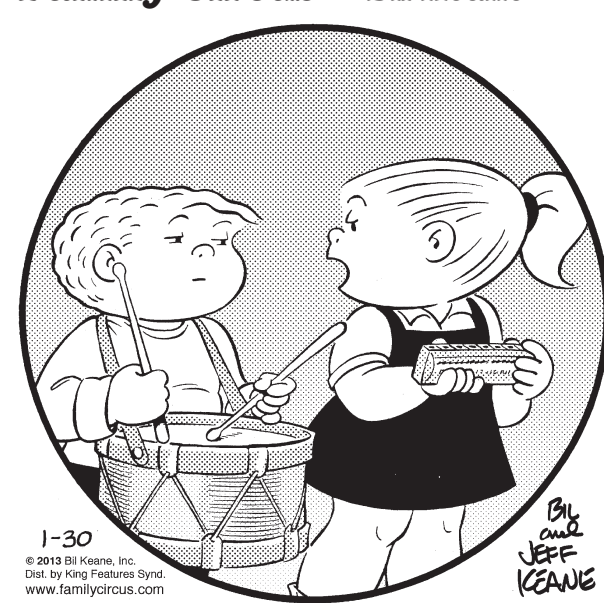
Accordingly, you ruff the king of diamonds at trick one rather than take dummy's ace (if you played the ace, you'd go down one). Then, after cashing the king of spades, you lead the seven of clubs toward dummy.

This puts West in an impossible position. If he goes up with the ace, you can later discard the J-5 of hearts on dummy's queen of clubs and ace of diamonds.

If instead West plays low on the club lead, you win with dummy's queen, discard the king of clubs on the ace of diamonds and later lose only a heart trick. Provided you keep your wits about you at the outset, there's no escape for West.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"No, I don't like drums. They only play one note."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/30

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.

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

Cryptoquip

RGMN AMELMVKDRRD JE WT

NLCLZ MN ILKDCT AMNMICD.

TJQ WMVGR NLT MR'N L

ZKDNNMEV ME ZMNVQMND.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ORCHESTRAL WORK THAT REPRESENTS A FELLOW'S ENCOUNTERS AROUND THE DOCK: "PETER AND THE WHARF"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals Y

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Departed
5 "Gosh!"
8 Capri or Wight
12 Wheel-base terminus
13 Scepter city
14 Mast
15 Punishing, in a way
17 Erstwhile acorns
18 Fares, at times
19 British P.M., 1945-51
21 "— the season ..."
22 Crucifix
23 Lived
26 AAA job
28 Grand tales
31 Rose fruit
33 Unruly bunch
35 Within (Pref.)
36 Give a speech
38 Kids' card game

DOWN

1 Final
2 World's fair
3 Anti-aircraft fire
4 Doctrine
5 Astronaut
6 A billion years
7 — Allan Poe
8 U-235, e.g.
9 Big name in sporting goods
10 Victoria, for one
11 Gaelic
16 Make booties
20 Sock part
23 Personal question?
24 Atmosphere
25 Generating
27 "Holy mack-ere!"
29 B-F link
30 Drunkard
32 Stunt double, e.g.
34 Rapid outpouring
37 — out a living
39 Space
42 German city
44 Domesticates
45 Lot wares
46 Anti-oxidant berry
48 "Thank You" singer
49 Race place
50 Hollywood clashers
53 Opposite of "post-"

Yesterday's answer 1-30

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		