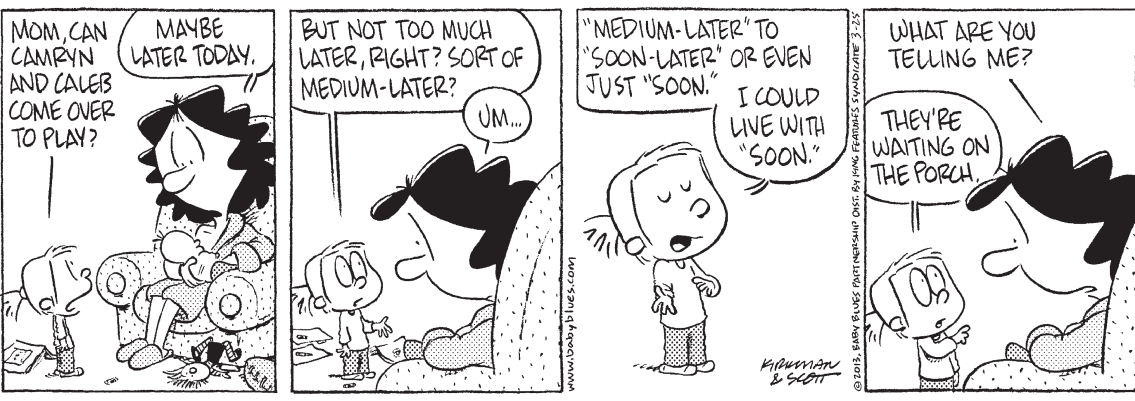


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



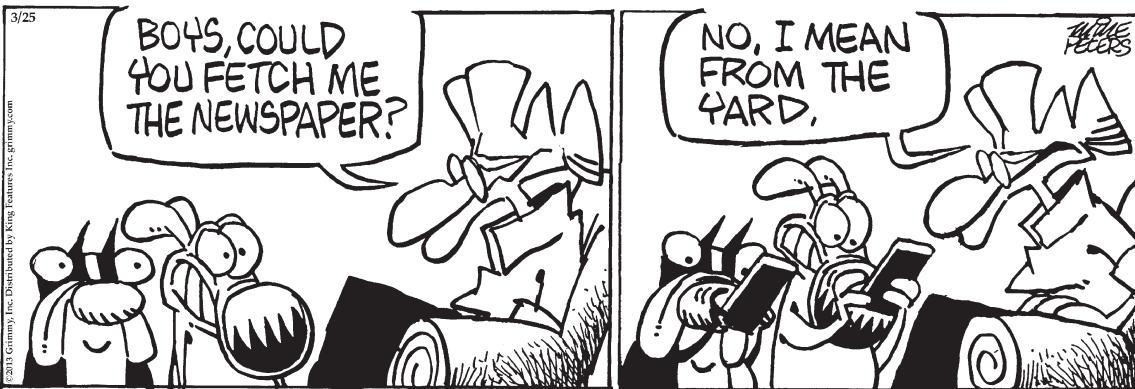
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



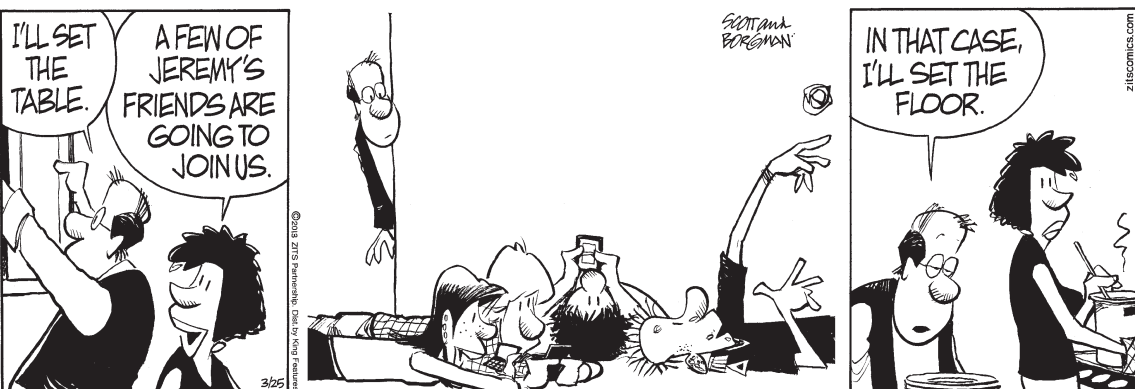
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Backyard art a hidden value

Don't forget to look in the backyard when you go to a yard or house sale.

If the house is old, you may spot a concrete birdbath, an iron garden gnome, old tools hanging on a fence or even a log cabin playhouse. Landscaping and outdoor decorating styles have changed through the years just as styles for houses and living rooms have changed. And a modern landscape can update any house.

During past centuries, trees and plantings were not placed near a house. They were far enough away to provide shade but not harm the roof. By the 1930s, a flat row of bushes, trees and other green plants were placed in a straight line against the house. Today homes have curved beds and walks, colorful flowers in the front and back yards, paved seating areas, patios, fountains and other water features. In the 1900s, Weller Pottery of Zanesville, Ohio, began to make "Gardenware." It was not part of the company's art pottery lines, but it has become popular with today's collectors. Weller garden figures include a pelican, pop-eyed dog, a variety of frogs, hen and chicks, dogs, squirrels, swans, rabbits, ducks, a boy fishing and even Pan with a flute or rabbit. The figures are about 19 to 20 inches high and all realistic. Weller also made a variety of large frogs with copper-tone glazes — a bold green with large blotches — and some figural sprinklers and birdbaths. All of these are popular today and expensive, many costing more than \$1,000.

Q: I found a metal bracelet while using my metal detector. It may have been silver-plated at one time. It has six links that look like shields. There's a different name on the back of each shield: Lorraine, Flandre, Normandie, Paris, Alsace and Bretagne. The word "Moutereau" is on the clasp. I would appreciate any information you can give me.

A: The words on your bracelet are the names of six French provinces. The metal is probably brass and would have originally had a silver tone. Montereau, not Moutereau, is an area in France. It could be the name of the maker or just the place it was made. Bracelets like yours were made for the tourist trade and don't sell for much today. Some have enameled coats of arms and sell for a little more.

Tip: Turn a rug a quarter or half turn twice a year so it will wear evenly.

Bridge • Steve Becker

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 7 5
 ♥ J 9 2
 ♦ 9 8 6 4 2
 ♣ K 9 5

WEST **EAST**
 ♠ 6 2 ♠ K Q 10 8 7 6 5 4
 ♥ A Q 10 7 3 ♥ K J 5
 ♦ 8 6 4 3 2 ♦ A 10
 ♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 4 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A 3
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ J 7

The bidding:
 West North East South
 Pass Pass 4 4 ♠
 Pass Pass 5 ♥ 5 ♣
 Opening lead — four of clubs.

Famous Hand
 This dramatic deal occurred in the semifinal round of the Spingold Teams many years ago. It features a bad play by declarer that should have cost him the contract, followed by a good recovery that resulted in his making the contract.

West led a club against five spades, declarer playing low from dummy. When East won with the ace, South falsecarded with the jack. Had South followed with the seven of clubs instead of the jack, he would have made the contract due to a lucky lie of the clubs that would have allowed him to score two club tricks instead of just one.

East shifted to the king of hearts at trick two, West ruffing South's ace. It seems normal for West to play the ace of diamonds at trick three, but when he did so, it cost him the contract. Had West led a trump or a low club instead, South would have gone down one.

Declarer ruffed the ace of diamonds high, led the three of trumps to dummy's seven, ruffed another diamond high, led the four of trumps to dummy's five and ruffed a third round of diamonds. He then cashed three more rounds of trumps, producing this position:

North
 ♠ 9
 ♣ K 9

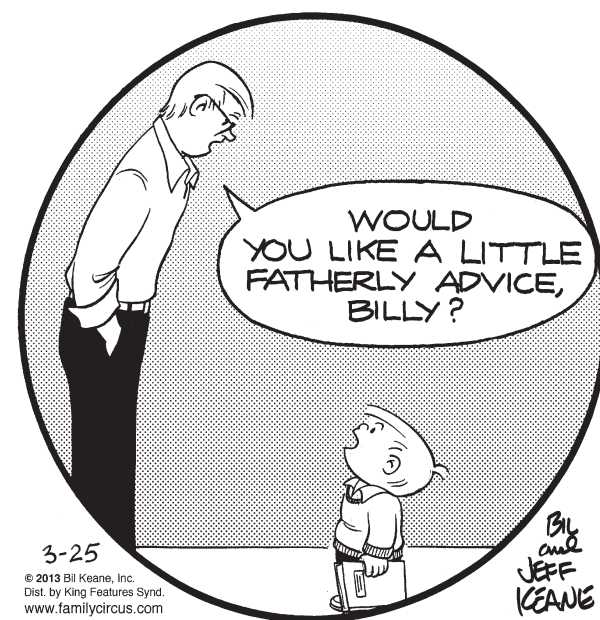
West
 ♠ Q
 ♣ Q 8

East
 ♥ Q 10
 ♣ 10

South
 ♠ 8
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 7

South now led his last trump, and poor West was squeezed. Whatever he discarded, declarer would win the last three tricks. So South wound up making five spades after all — the hard way.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 3/25

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.

Cryptoquip

J B A M U E B A D B M U E R B R D T V H
 R F W Q Q T Z M O D H R J Z A
 O D D N U M I W N N W A D Q U E D F R U M
 R E Z A W I D : V B A A Z R ' V B A D W B R .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE I'VE EATEN A LOT OF ROUGHAGE AT CHURCH, I IMAGINE I MUST HAVE A STRONG MORAL FIBER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals N

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Helper 61 Witness 12 "Blue Boy" artist

DOWN 1 Coffee 19 Cudgel 2 Elderly 21 Energy 3 Hot dog 23 Morsel 4 — de 25 Settled a bill 5 Mid-plume 26 Loosen 6 Eastern nation 27 Hammer-head part 7 "Pieta" artist 28 Right angles 8 Reaction to fireworks 29 Cafe au — 9 Emotion eliciting 30 Bullets et al. 10 Caught sight of, of Tweety 31 U.S. spy org. 11 "Why not?" 32 Med. approval agcy. 12 Caught sight of, of Tweety 33 Letterman's network 13 "Pieta" artist 34 "That feels so good!" 14 Caught sight of, of Tweety 35 Letterman's network 15 Caught sight of, of Tweety 36 Med. approval agcy. 16 Name in China's history 37 "Why not?" 17 Masticate 38 Sailor's domain 18 Extemporize 39 "Why not?" 19 19th Hebrew letter 40 "That feels so good!" 20 19th Hebrew letter 41 Arrest 42 Workers 21 Masticate 43 Droop holder 43 Solemn pledge 44 Border shrubbery 45 Hastened 22 Arrest 46 Border shrubbery 47 Puts on 23 Masticate 47 Masticate 24 Stay informed 48 — En-lai 49 Merriment 25 Settled a bill 49 Merriment 26 Loosen 50 — En-lai 50 Weep 27 Hammer-head part 51 Lounge 51 Lounge 51 Coloration 28 Waistband material 52 Ladder step 52 Ladder step 52 Ladder step 52 Ladder step 29 Cafe au — 53 — En-lai 53 — En-lai 53 — En-lai 53 — En-lai 30 Bullets et al. 54 — En-lai 54 — En-lai 54 — En-lai 54 — En-lai 31 U.S. spy org. 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 55 Lounge 32 Med. approval agcy. 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 56 Ladder step 33 Letterman's network 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 57 Doctor's due 34 "That feels so good!" 58 Individual 58 Individual 58 Individual 58 Individual 58 Individual 58 Individual 58 Individual 58 Individual 35 Letterman's network 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 59 "Why not?" 36 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 60 Med. approval agcy. 37 Letterman's network 61 Witness 61 Witness 61 Witness 61 Witness 61 Witness 61 Witness 61 Witness 61 Witness

Saturday's answer 3-25

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
						60			61