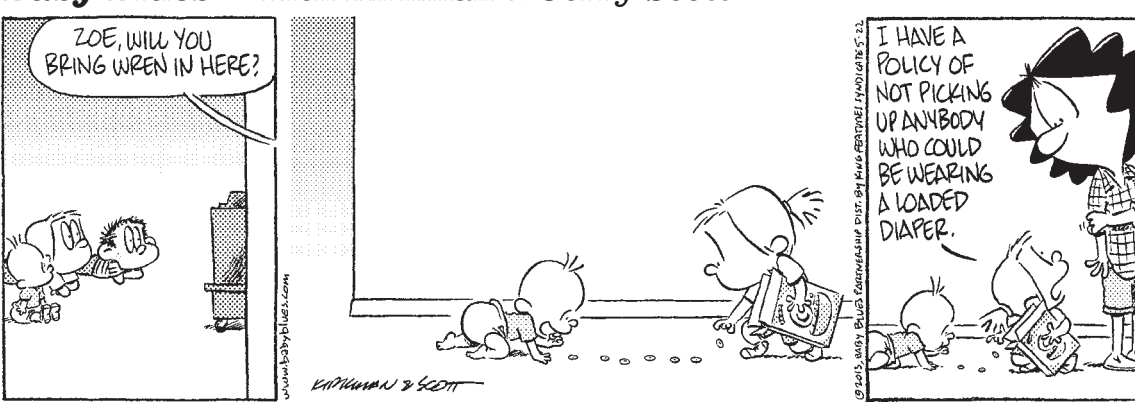
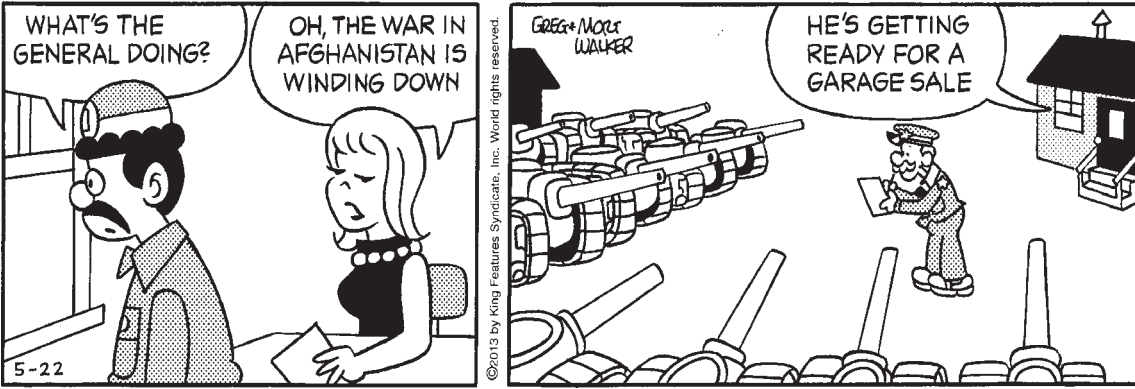


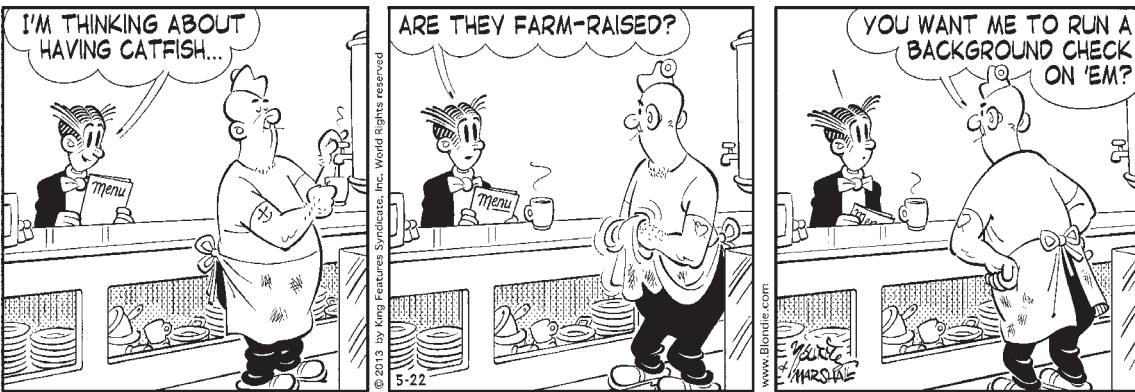
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



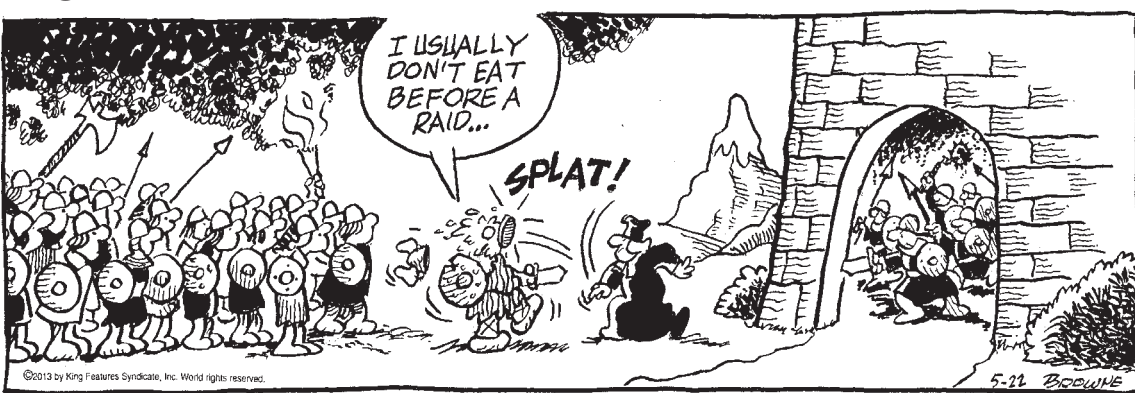
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



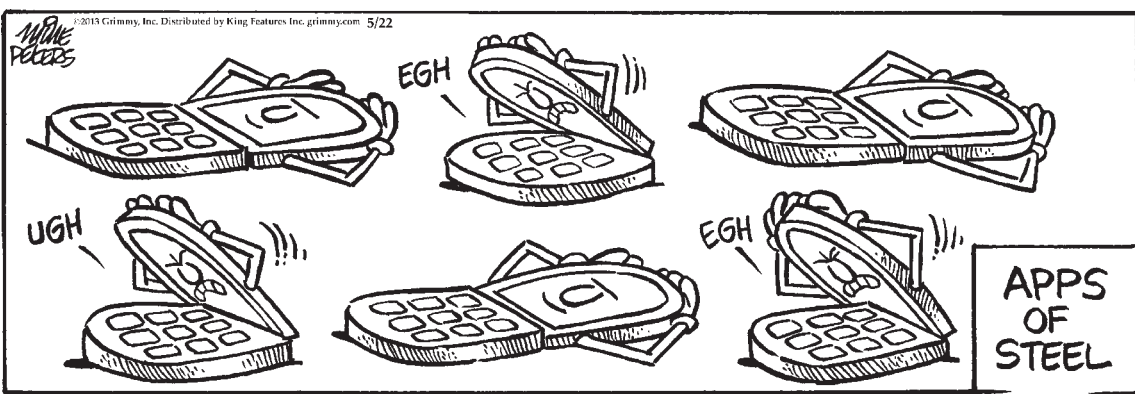
Blondie • Chic Young



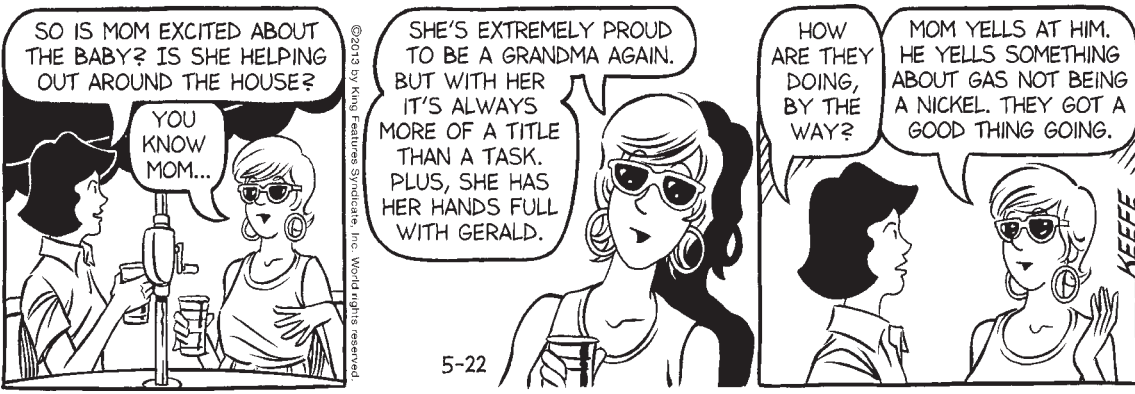
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



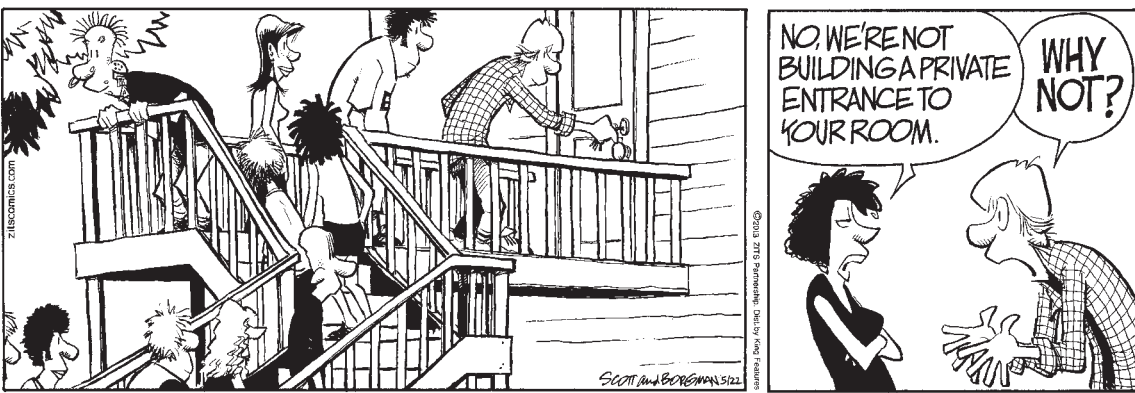
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Start off right for grilling time

Dear Readers: With Memorial Day weekend just days away, it's time to get the outdoor grill ready. Here are some hints to start off the season right:

- Remove all grates, clean with soap and water, and rinse well.
- Check all the parts of the grill: the burner, gas tubes and lava rocks (if used). Make sure there are no bugs (they love to hide in the little spaces), grease or dirt in the line to prevent gas from coming through the lines or out of the burners.
- Wipe the entire grill, inside and out, with soap and water. Rinse and let dry.
- Clean out any old grease from the collection pans or ashes that have accumulated.
- Make sure the grill is set up away from the house and is not near any bushes or overhanging trees. — Heloise

P.S.: Your garage is not the place to grill, either. Just imagine if there was a mishap and a fire started. This same advice applies to turkey fryers, too.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

PASTRY BLENDER

Dear Heloise: Is a pastry blender really a necessary tool to have when making pastry dough? — Joanne in Colorado

Some would say "Yes!" The pastry blender is a baking tool that's worth investing in. This tool, usually stainless steel, has a smooth, rounded handle, with curved wires creating a half-moon shape. The wires cut the shortening or butter evenly and quickly into the flour.

Use a pastry blender to blend the two ingredients before the butter or shortening starts to warm up and melt. It is bigger pieces of butter or shortening inside the dough that creates a flaky crust once it is baked. — Heloise

BURNT BEANS

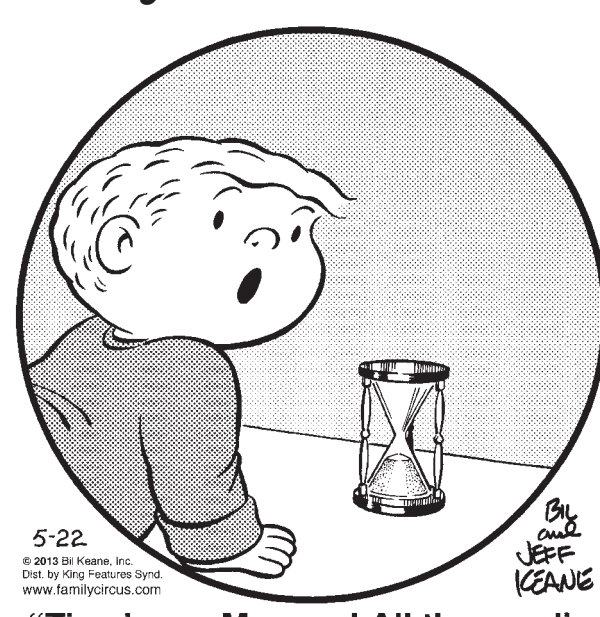
Dear Heloise: A couple of weeks ago, I attempted to boil some baby lima beans, but unfortunately I let them boil dry and then burn. The bottom of my cooking pot looked beyond cleaning. I remembered that I had your book "Heloise From A to Z." I found the following hint for pots and pans: "Cleaning aluminum: Put about 3 tablespoons of cream of tartar and about 1 quart of water in the gunky pot. Bring the mixture to a boil, and let it continue to boil for about 10 minutes. Wash and rinse the pot well." Worked perfectly! Thanks, Heloise. — Emilie P. in Arkansas

CUTTING WATERMELON

Dear Heloise: Watermelon can be roly-poly to try to slice, causing the knife to slip dangerously. I slice a small piece across one side so I can set it down without it rolling around. Slice away and enjoy. — Suzie, via e-mail

(c)2013 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



5-22
© 2013 Bil Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
www.familycircus.com

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/22

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

O UVP'A QPVB BGF O SMIA
KHXFRU X SVQR VP AGXA
I EXHH COLU, CMA
KLRIMEXCHF O UOU OA VP
X HXLQ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WANTING SOME FAST MONEY, I HEAR THE GROUP OF BRIDGE-DWELLING BEINGS MAY SET UP A TROLL BOOTH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals D

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 9 7
♥ A 8 3
♦ 5 3 2
♣ 8 4 2

WEST
♠ —
♥ K J 10 6 4 2
♦ 6
♣ K 10 7 6 5 3

EAST
♠ 5 4 2
♥ Q 9 7
♦ 10 9 8 4
♣ Q J 9

SOUTH
♠ A K J 8 6 3
♥ 5
♦ A K Q J 7
♣ A

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ * 2 ♠
2 ♠ 3 ♠
4 NT ? 7 ♣
Pass Pass Pass Pass

* strong, artificial

Double With Even, Pass With Odd

Assume you're South and the bidding goes as shown. West's seven-heart bid over your Blackwood four notrump has robbed your partner of the opportunity to indicate how many aces he has. As a result of West's nuisance bid, you don't know whether to double seven hearts (and collect a few hundred points) or to bid seven spades (and collect 2,210 points if North has the missing ace).

Problems of this sort occur once in a while, and there is a sensible way of dealing with them. The method that many experts use to combat opposing interference over Blackwood is fairly simple, but it does require a prearranged partnership understanding.

Briefly stated, it is this: If the Blackwood bidder's partner doubles the interference bid, he says that he has either no aces or two aces. This is easy to remember mnemonically because the natural tendency, with no aces, would be to double to keep partner from bidding further.

If the Blackwood bidder's partner passes the interference bid, he indicates that he has either one ace or three aces. By applying this mechanism to the present case, South knows that North has an ace when he passes West's seven-heart bid. South therefore bids seven spades and collects 2,210 points.

Some players call this convention DEPO. This is simply an acronym where the letters DE stand for Double with an Even number of aces (zero or two), and PO stands for Pass with an Odd number of aces (one or three). More concisely, the rule is: Double with even, pass with odd. Using this method, the Blackwood bidder will rarely have any difficulty figuring out exactly how many aces partner has.

(c)2013 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Work units

5 Urban carrier

8 Wanderers

12 Hoodlum

13 Bobby of hockey

14 Leave out

15 Atmosphere

17 With skill

18 Godlike

19 Indefinite interval

21 To and —

22 Regiment

23 Sheepish comment

26 Mess up

28 Manicurist's concerns

31 Mater precursor

33 Insult (Sl.)

35 Nike slogan, "Just —"

36 Unpaid bills

38 1960s Pontiac

DOWN

11 Eyelid woe

16 Ireland

20 Victory

23 Evil

24 Brewery product

25 Surprise attacks

27 Tractor-trailer

29 Falsehood

30 Norm: Abbr.

32 Originally

34 Unshaven, in a way

37 "Mayday!"

39 Mr. Sharif

42 Postage buy

44 Scent

45 Singer Lane

46 Protein-rich bean

48 Birthright barterer

49 Symbol of smoothness

50 Body pics

53 Russian space station

Solution time: 21 mins.

O	F	F	S	O	P	T	H	A	S	P
S	A	L	K	N	E	E	A	L	E	
S	Q	U	I	N	T	E	D	R	O	L
O	S	E	I	O	N	C	L	E	F	T
			E	S	P	J	O	E		
I	R	A	Q	I	B	A	N	Q	U	E
T	T	U	F	U	R	U	L	N	A	
S	T	A	I	N	E	D	M	I	T	E
			N	O	W	P	E	N		
M	O	T	O	R	F	I	N	A	S	H
A	P	E	X	L	A	Q	U	I	N	T
L	U	R	E	E	M	U	S	N	U	G
T	S	M	S	G	E	E	P	A	N	S

Yesterday's answer 5-22

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	