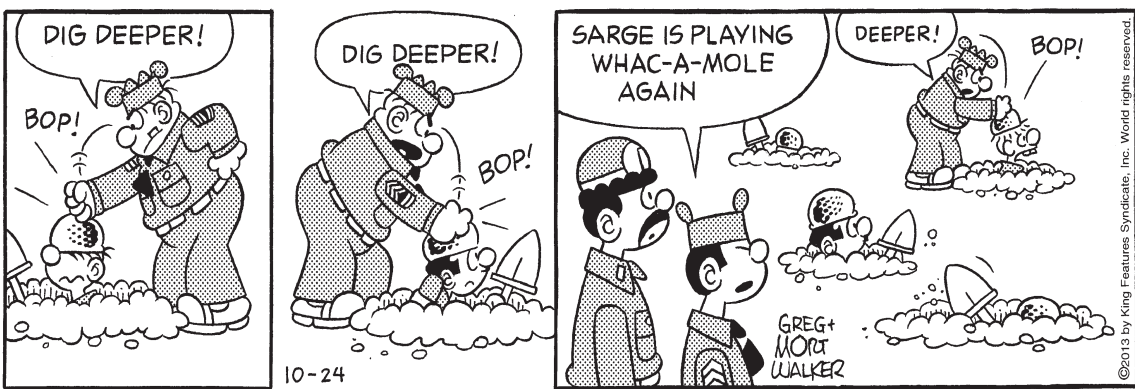


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



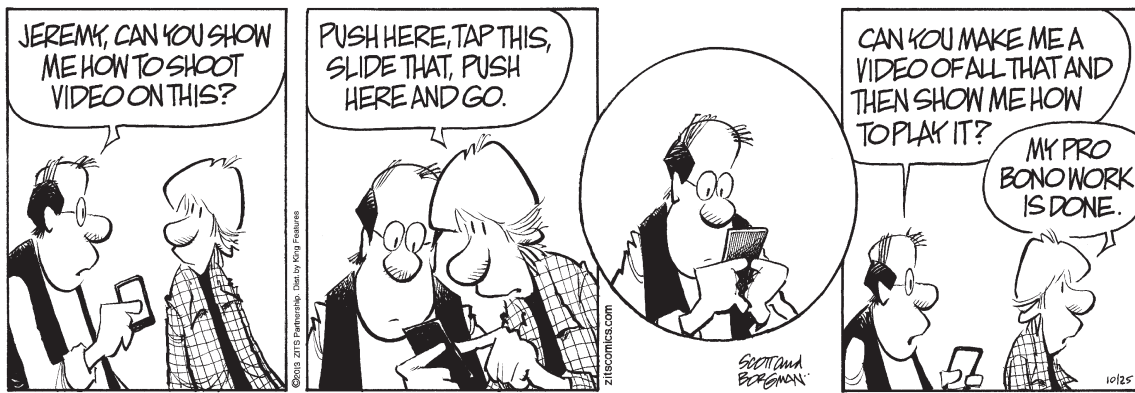
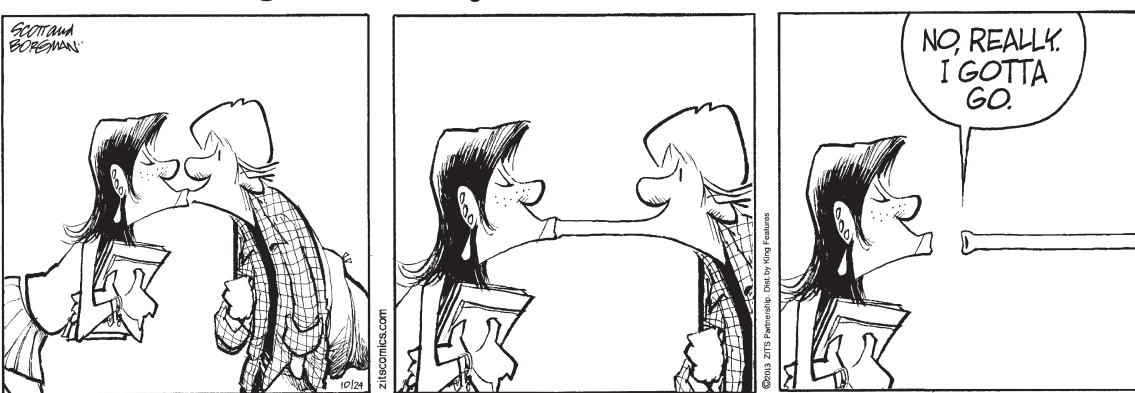
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Dining room set short one chair

Q: I recently acquired a vintage dining room table, one table leaf and five matching chairs. The wood is walnut, and the table is very ornate. We found a paper label on two of the chairs. It reads "Midwest Furniture & Chair Co." I can't find any information about the company. And what could the set be worth?

A: Midwest Furniture & Chair Co. was in business in St. Joseph, Mo., in the 1920s. Your set would be worth more if you had a sixth chair. Sets by the maker have sold recently for \$450 and \$675, but both had at least six chairs plus a sideboard. So your set might sell for \$200 or less.

Q: I have a letter opener that reads "Pan-American Exposition, 1901" on the blade and a picture of the fair's Electric Tower on the handle. The back has fruit and flower designs. It's silver-colored, but I'm not sure if it's sterling silver. Does it have any value?

A: The Pan-American Exposition was held in Buffalo, N.Y., from May to November 1901. Many souvenir items were made picturing the buildings and features of the fair. The Electric Tower on your letter opener was the tallest structure at the fair and often pictured. Most souvenir items are silver plate, not sterling. Your letter opener is probably worth about \$25. Here's some history: President William McKinley was shot by anarchist Leon Czolgosz while the president was shaking hands with visitors in the Temple of Music on the fairgrounds on Sept. 6, 1901. He died eight days later. For more information about the 1901 World's Fair, go to PanAm1901.org.

Q: A few years ago, I was at a garage sale and spotted a bronze-colored bust of a classical woman. I instantly fell in love with her. She's imprinted on the back with the artist's signature, "Henri Jacobs," and "copyright 1904 by Napoleon Alliot." I would like to know more about the maker of this bust.

A: Henri Jacobs (1864-1935) was been called the "Father of Belgian Art Nouveau." He was an artist and architect and was also known for his Art Nouveau busts of women. Napoleon Alliot was a sculptor who also had a foundry. Your bust could sell at auction for more than \$1,000 even though it is not bronze.

Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or e-mail addresses will not be published. We cannot guarantee the return of any photograph, but if a stamped envelope is included, we will try. The amount of mail makes personal answers or appraisals impossible. Write to Kovels, (Colby Free Press), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019. (c) 2013 by Cowles Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7
♥ A 10
♦ Q 6 5 2
♣ A Q J 7 6 2

WEST
♠ K J 6 3
♥ 7 5 4 3
♦ 9 8 7
♣ 5 4

EAST
♠ 10 9 8 5
♥ J 8 6 2
♦ A J 10
♣ K 8

SOUTH
♥ A Q 4
♦ K Q 9
♠ K 4 3
♣ 10 9 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — nine of diamonds.

Accent on the Wrong Syllable
You can't play bridge by rote. While it's true that, over the long haul, you'd probably hit the mark quite often by blindly applying the general rules of bidding or play, it's important to remember that a general rule should not be regarded as a substitute for thinking.

Suppose you're East in today's deal and partner leads the diamond nine. Dummy follows low, and the question is whether to play the ten or the ace.

Your decision is crucial. If you play the ten from force of habit, consistent with the traditional principles of sound defense, it costs you the contract. South wins with the king, takes a club finesse and finishes with 10 tricks.

Observe, however, that if you win the opening diamond lead with the ace and shift to the ten of spades, the contract fails regardless of what declarer does from this point on. Eventually he loses three spades, a diamond and a club, and goes down one.

It should not surprise you that if you let South win the first diamond with the king, he will make the contract. While it can't be denied that putting up the diamond ace allows South to score three diamond tricks instead of one, those three tricks do not give him the nine he needs to make the contract. You should feel much more concerned with finding a play that defeats the contract than with finding a play that stops declarer from making three diamond tricks.

To that end, you should launch an attack on spades — your only real hope — before declarer can launch his own attack on clubs. If you do, you wind up with a modest plus instead of a substantial minus.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



10-24
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"Mommy, can you help me turn up the volume on my finger-snappin'?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/24

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

W'DD BEZYY OL UVZ YIVEDX
BZF IZQZ WK YZTZKFL
OWKEFZY. FINF'Y OL
ZYFWONFZX FWOZ VU N QWTND.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WOULD A COMEDY SERIES FEATURING A FAMILY OF HUNGRY RODENTS BE CALLED "FATHER GNAWS BEST"?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Swamp
4 Tele- phone interaction
8 Un- adorned
12 Past
13 Hodge- podge
14 Largest continent
15 Minor occurrence that had major hype
17 Tatters
18 Sock part
19 Small citrus fruit
21 Literary sibling surname
24 Old French coin
25 Remiss
26 "Casa- blanca" pianist
28 Mideast money
32 Lindros of hockey
34 — Mahal
36 Un- escorted
37 Starbucks request
39 Intimidate

DOWN

41 Ph. bk. info
42 Knock
44 "Gold- finger" singer
46 Triumph (over)
50 Trawler need
51 OK for the lactose- intolerant
56 Deserve
57 Stage statuette
58 Prompt
59 Pharma- ceutical
60 Rip
61 London's — Gardens
1 Enthusi- ast
2 Swelled head
3 Safe for consumption
4 Breaks a Com- mand- ment
5 Pub order
6 Nexus
7 Yoga position
8 Earl's superior
9 Birthright
10 Latvia's capital
11 Right on the map?
16 A billion years
20 Chic, to Austin Powers
21 Evidenced a wound
22 Excep- tional
23 Dine on
27 PC alter- native
29 Like Teflon
30 Shaving cream additive
31 Opti- mistic
33 Thanks- giving task
35 Occupation
38 JFK watch- dog org.
40 Roam
43 Vineyard grape
45 Red or Black
46 Respond- ed in court
47 Lion's noise
48 Beige
49 Earring locale
53 Actress Vardalos
54 Wish other- wise
55 Ever- green type

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 10-24

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			