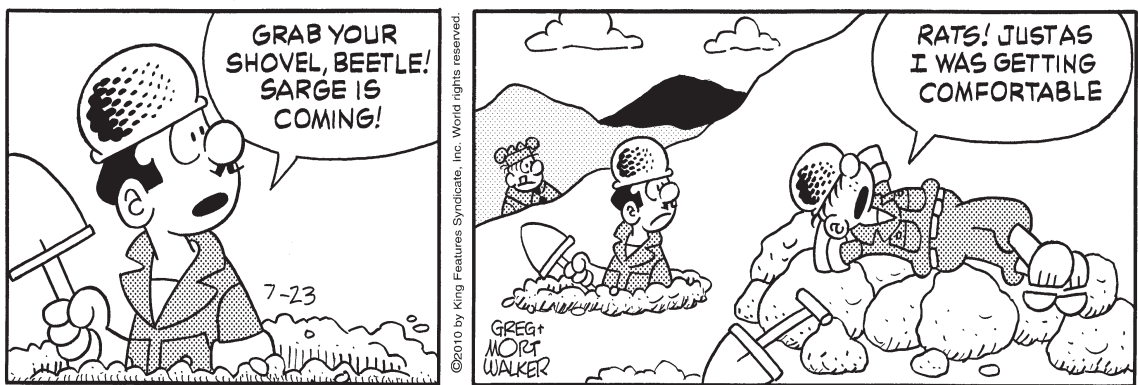


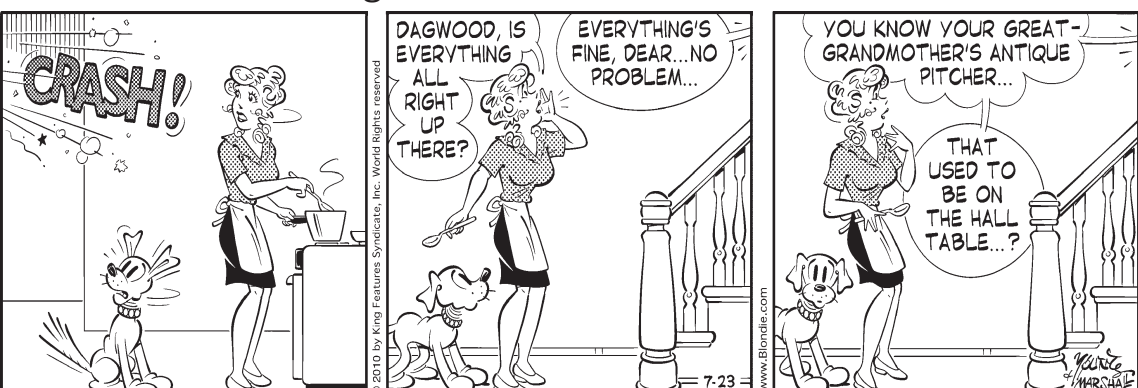
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



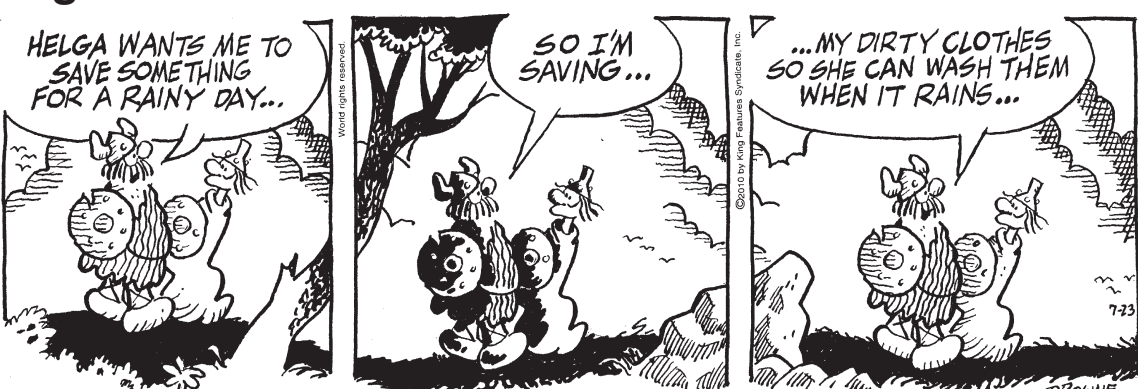
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



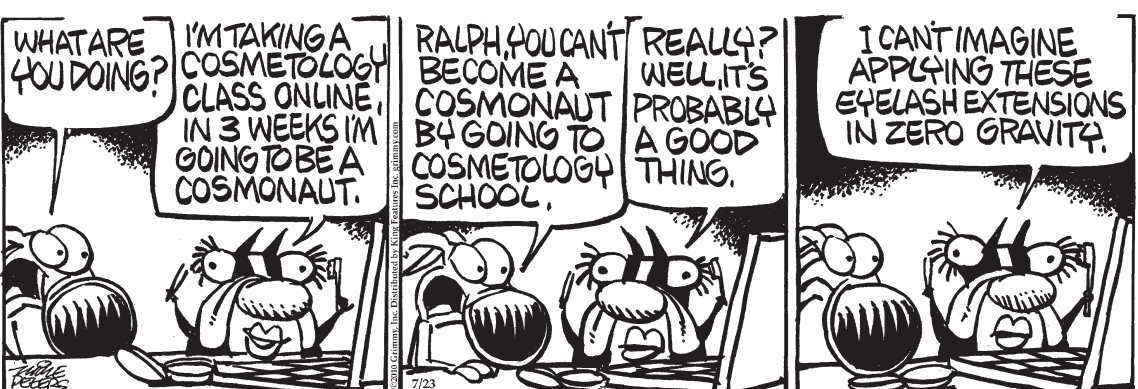
Blondie • Chic Young



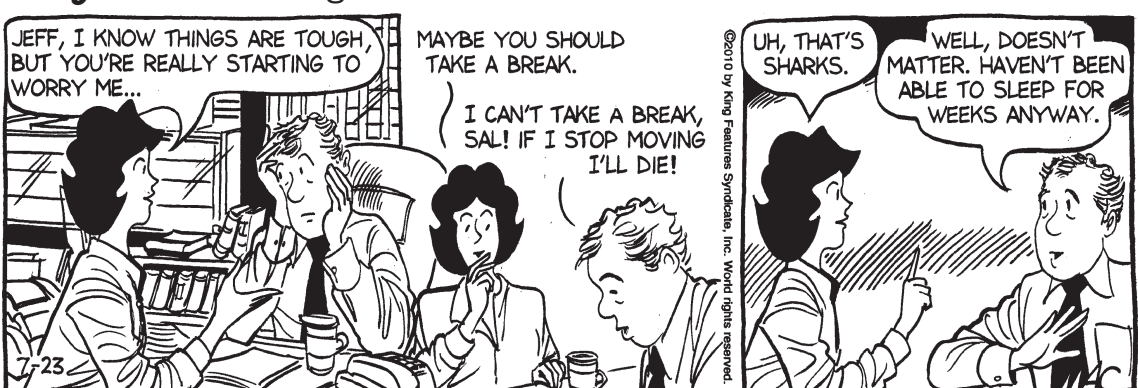
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Clean garage with baking soda

Dear Readers: With the daily uses of the GA-RAGE, the floors can get stained with fluids from vehicles. Here's how to clean them up:

- To remove fresh oil stains, first pour 1 cup of baking soda over the spot and let sit for a while. Scrub, scrub, scrub, then rinse and mop dry. Clay-type cat litter can be used to absorb large spills. Pour it on the area and grind it in with your foot. Let it stay on overnight, then sweep up and wash the area with detergent and water.

- If the spills are old, try to scrape off all residue with a paint scraper. Then grind in sawdust to absorb any oil. Sweep up after allowing it to sit awhile so that all the liquid is absorbed, then wash stains with detergent and mop dry.

- Try to clean the floors in your garage at least once a month to prevent serious staining that will be harder to get off later. You can cover the floor where the car will sit with rubber mats or large aluminum pans, if you know exactly where your vehicle leaks. – Heloise

BAKING SODA IN THE BATHROOM

Dear Heloise: I use baking soda to clean my bathroom sinks and tub. I also occasionally use baking soda to brush my teeth.

A few months ago, I was reading the back of the box, which said you can add it to bathwater to soften it, and that a teaspoon added to shampoo will get your hair really clean. – Denise Riebold, Magnolia, Texas

Denise, you're right – baking soda is fabulous and has a multitude of uses. Did you know that you can sprinkle baking soda in the clothes hamper to keep odors away? You even can make a baking-soda sachet using a coffee filter filled with baking soda. Staple it shut and toss it in the hamper. Interested in other baking soda uses? I have a six-page Heloise's Baking Soda Hints and Recipes pamphlet that can be yours by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Baking Soda, Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Keep some baking soda in a grated-cheese container by the side of the sink, and it will be right at hand. – Heloise

PATIENT CARE

Dear Heloise: Here is a great suggestion for bringing something to a hospital patient. Bring the person earplugs and a face mask! The patient will thank you for a better sleep, as he or she can filter out all the hospital noise and bright lights. I took a set to an elderly friend, and she was thrilled. While I was visiting, I gave her a manicure. She felt pampered, and her nails looked great. That also was a big hit. – Polly in New York

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. Spades are trumps, and it's your lead with the South hand. How would you play to make all the tricks?

NORTH			
♠ 5			
♥ K 7 4 3			
♦ K			
♣ K			
WEST		EAST	
♠ 7		♠ —	
♥ 6		♥ Q 10	
♦ Q 5 3		♦ 10 9 6	
♣ 9 4		♣ Q 3	
SOUTH			
♠ Q			
♥ 5			
♦ A J 8			
♣ A 10			

Two Double-Dummy Problems

1. Cash the diamond ace and lead the jack. If West covers with the queen, ruff in dummy, overtake the king of clubs with your ace and play the queen of spades, placing East under severe pressure.

He cannot spare a heart, which would establish all of dummy's hearts; he cannot spare the diamond ten, because you'd then cash your eight, squeezing him again; nor can he spare the club queen, because you'd cash your ten, continuing the remorseless squeeze.

If West ducks the diamond jack, you discard a heart from dummy, ruff the diamond eight, overtake the king of clubs and play the queen of spades, placing East once again in the same hopeless predicament.

2. You are on lead with the South hand and, with diamonds as trumps, must make five of the last six tricks. How would you proceed?

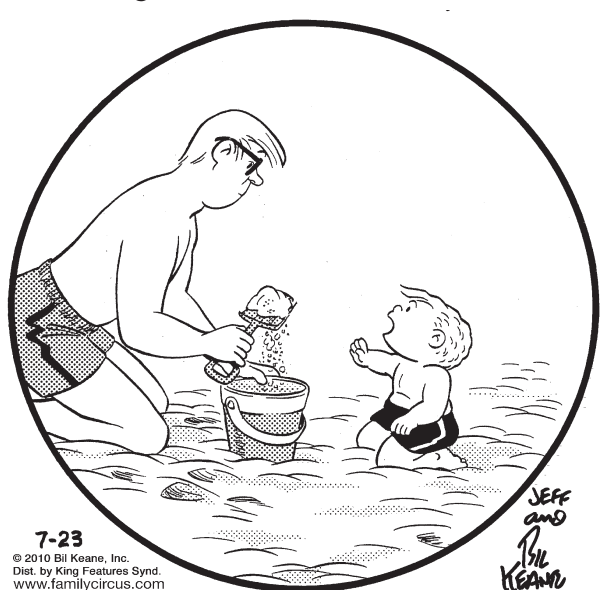
NORTH			
♠ A 2			
♥ A Q 6			
♦ Q			
♣ —			
WEST		EAST	
♠ K Q		♠ 3	
♥ 10		♥ K J 8	
♦ —		♦ —	
♣ K 5 3		♣ A Q	
SOUTH			
♠ 4			
♥ 2			
♦ K			
♣ 6 4 2			

Play a spade to the ace and ruff a spade. East is forced to discard a club on this trick and, furthermore, must discard the ace. (If he discards the queen, you play the deuce of clubs next and discard a heart from dummy, forcing East to win and return a heart into dummy's A-Q.)

Now lead the deuce of clubs. If West follows low, you discard a heart, compelling East to win the club and return a heart into the A-Q. If West instead goes up with the king of clubs to prevent East from being endplayed, you ruff in dummy and return the six of hearts. If East wins the heart, he must yield two heart tricks to dummy; if West wins the heart, he must yield two club tricks to you by leading from the 5-3 into your 6-4!

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“You don't have to show me how to do it — I already know how they work.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★★

7/23

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★★

Cryptoquip

DELNHT DX EXFHV FQ RNDDL

XMMNBSEK, DPS QXCNBS

BPNSM RXFCV KXYS DNYSK

BEL “BZCCNHT ZCC BZEVK!”

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SO AS TO COMMUTE MORE EFFICIENTLY, THE GROUP OF FISH RECENTLY DECIDED TO START CARP-POOLING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals P

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37	1966	DOWN	24	Huge fusses		
1	PC graphics format	James Clavell novel	1	Undergoes a recession	25	Small sala-mander	
4	Future tulip	39	Swiss canton	2	Harbor town	26	Tidy
8	Vagrant	40	Mound stat	3	Luminary	27	Earthenware pot
12	Automation, for	41	Heinz	4	On — knee		

Solution time: 25 mins.

AMMO	BURP	SEC
COAL	AREA	OIL
HARD	DRIVE	FRO
ETCHER	BONUS	ACTED
LAST	HRS	BOSH
IDO	EEL	APE
SOFIA	LAO	SPRAY
TWO	PM	CT
FACET	OUTAGE	
AGO	HARD	LABOR
CUR	EGAD	RUBS
TEE	REFS	STYE

Yesterday's answer 7-23

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	