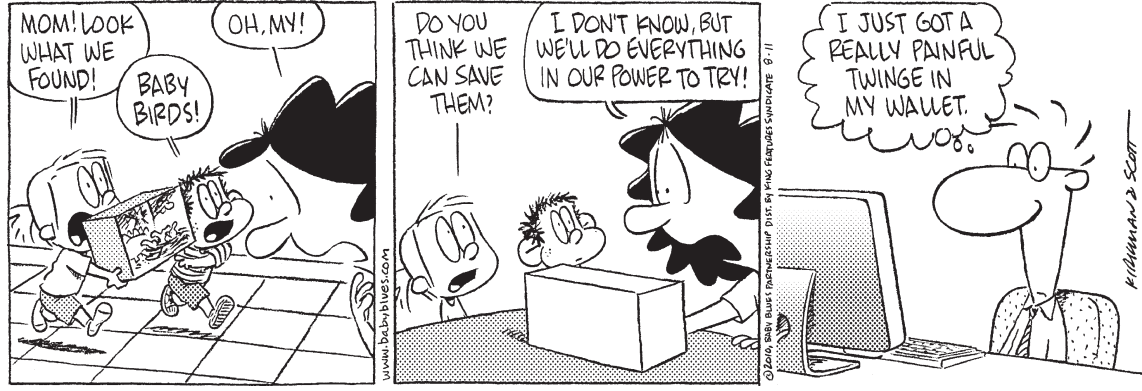
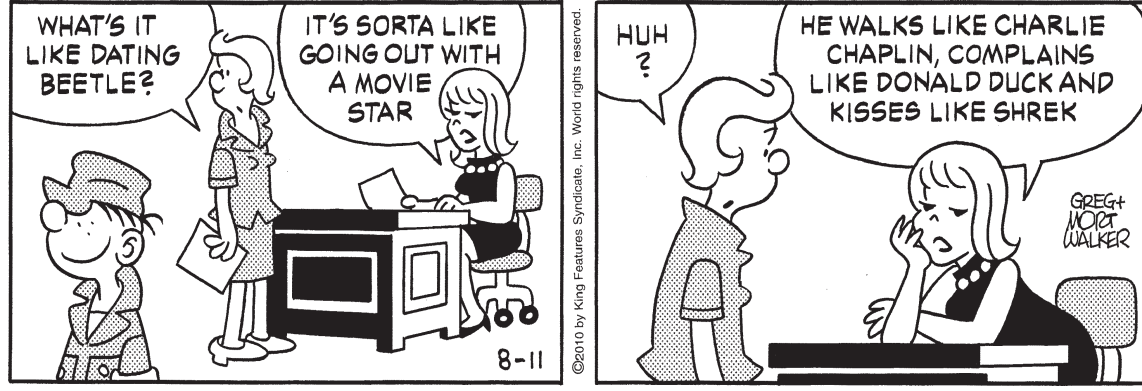


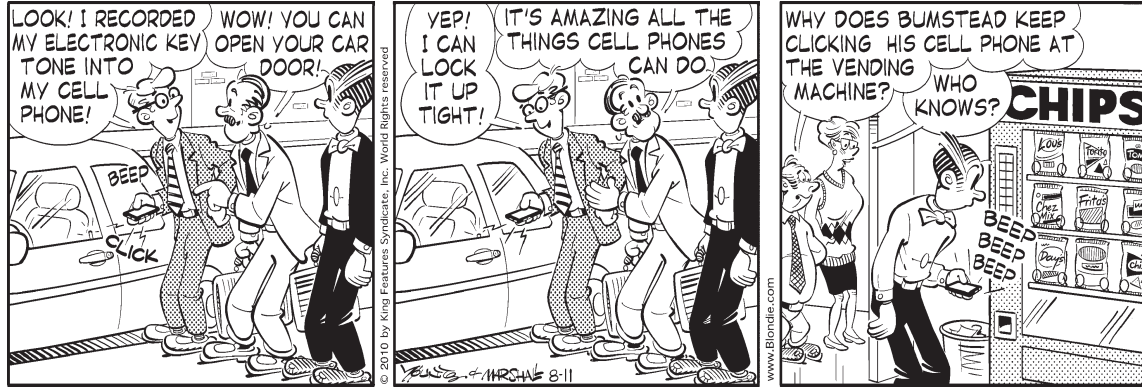
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



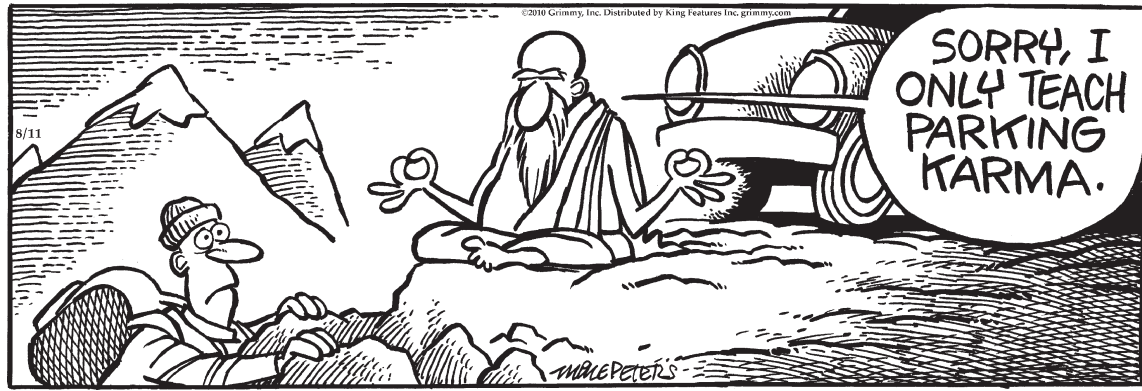
**Blondie** • Chic Young



**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



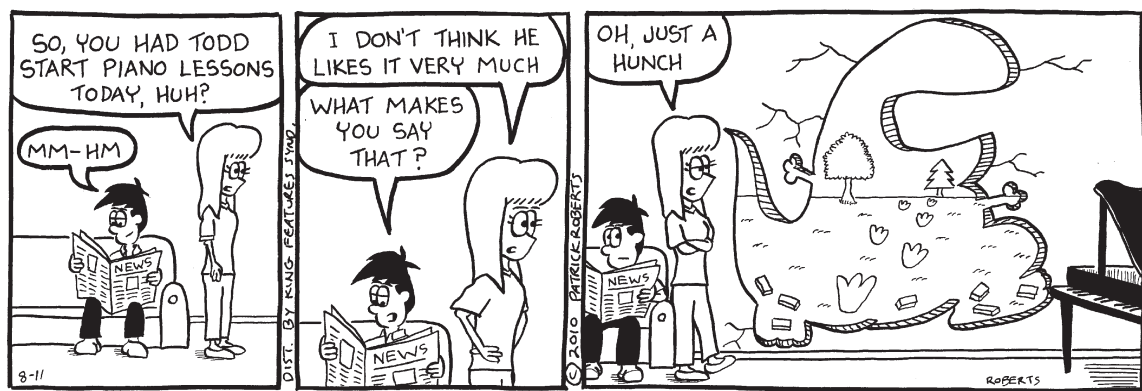
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



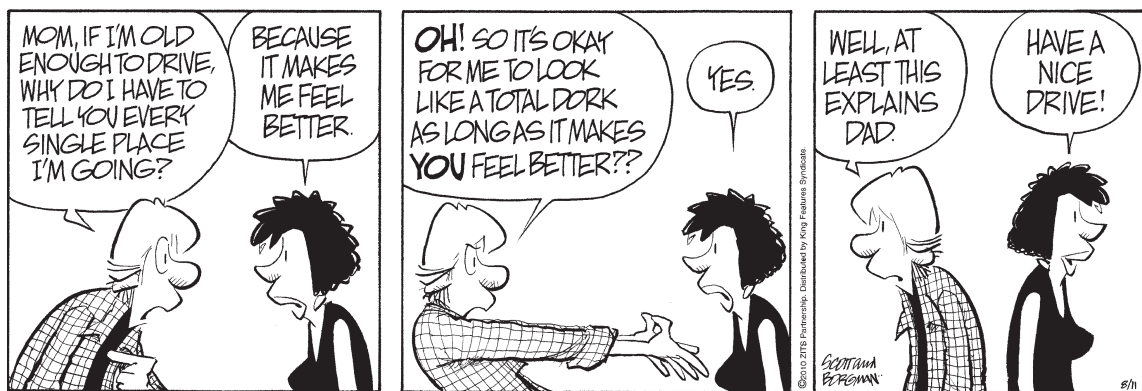
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Exchange salt for spicy flavor**

Dear Readers: Watching your SALT INTAKE? Here is a longtime Heloise recipe that my readers love. It's Heloise's No-Salt Spice Substitute. Here's what you need:

- 5 teaspoons onion powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon white pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon celery seeds

Mix all ingredients and put in an airtight container, like an old spice jar. Don't store this or any spice near the stove; the heat can cause the flavor to diminish. Some of my other favorite recipes are found in my pamphlet Heloise's All-Time Favorite Recipes. To get a copy, send \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/All-Time, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Stow these tasty spices in a pretty canning jar with a bow or ribbon, and voilà! Instant gift! — Heloise

**HOMEMADE GROCERY LIST**

Dear Heloise: I used a spreadsheet on my computer to make up a grocery list. I made columns for each category, such as "dairy," "meat," etc. I saved it, and now when I go to the grocery store, all I have to do is print out my list and circle the things I need to get.

While I am shopping, I can write in things I buy that weren't on the list, and when I get on the computer again, I can edit the list and add these items for future trips to the store. — Janis Potter, San Angelo, Texas

**CARROT DELIGHTS**

Dear Heloise: When I have baby carrots about to reach the expiration date, I put a tablespoon of olive oil in a plastic bag and squeeze until they are covered. I put them onto a nonstick, foil-lined baking sheet, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and roast them at 425 degrees for 35-45 minutes (depending on carrot size). I cook them until they start to become wrinkled, but not too brown on the bottom. — K.B., Hutchinson, Kan.

I love carrots, and this is a nice way to use them. I tested your hint with regular carrots cut into 5- to 6-inch pieces or smaller bite sizes. — Heloise

**DISHWASHER DUTY**

Dear Heloise: I recently retired, relieving my husband of loading the dishwasher. I found that by placing sharp knives by themselves in a bin on the silverware holder, I no longer poke myself as I'm putting silverware away. I place handles down with the blades and fork tines up so they get much cleaner and aren't jammed together. I remove the silverware holder and take it to the utensil drawer. — Judi M., via e-mail

This will help keep the silverware from "nesting," but please note the knives should be placed with the blade down and handle up as a safety precaution. — Heloise

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
NORTH  
♠ 7  
♥ K 8 5 4  
♦ 19 5 2  
♣ K 6 3  
WEST  
♠ 9 5 4  
♥ A 1 9 3  
♦ 8 7 4 3  
♣ 7 5  
EAST  
♠ A 3 2  
♥ 10 6 2  
♦ A K Q 10  
♣ 9 4 2  
SOUTH  
♠ K J 10 8 6  
♥ Q 7  
♦ 6  
♣ A Q J 10 8  
The bidding:  
North East South West  
Pass 1♦ 1♠ 2♦  
2♠ 3♦ 4♠  
Opening lead — three of diamonds.

**Where There's Life, There's Hope**

There are times when declarer sees he cannot make his contract if the opponents defend correctly. But at the same time, he has the great advantage of knowing that his opponents do not know what he knows.

Here is a typical case. West led a diamond against four spades. East won with the ten and continued with the king, ruffed by South.

Declarer realized that he could not make the contract against proper defense, even if the opposing trumps were divided 3-3. Thus, suppose he had led a trump to dummy's queen at trick three. In that case, East would take the ace and play another diamond, ruffed again by South.

Declarer would now have only two trumps left, the king and jack. After he played them, exhausting everyone of trumps, the best he could do would be to cash five club tricks and go down one. The defenders would score the last two tricks with the heart and diamond aces.

So, to give himself at least some chance to make the contract, South led a low heart toward dummy at trick three! Fortunately for declarer, West followed low, no doubt allowing for the possibility that declarer might have three hearts to the queen. In that case, playing low on South's heart lead would limit South to one heart trick.

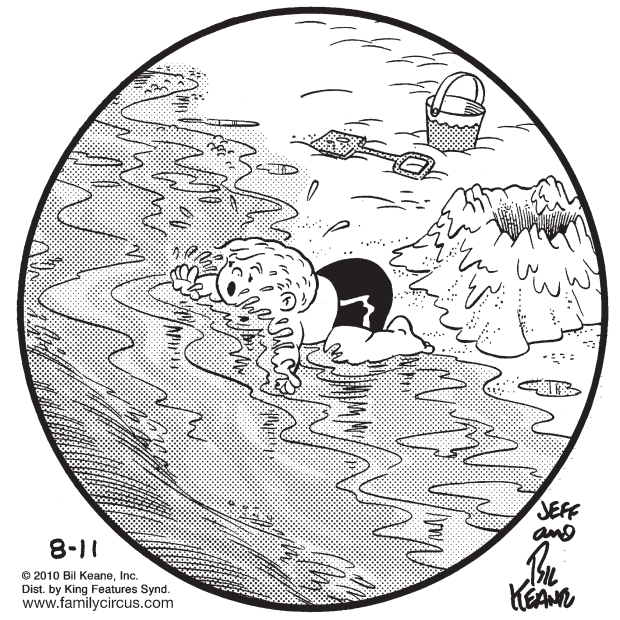
But West soon found out that his seemingly innocent play had cost him the contract. After declarer won the heart with dummy's king, he played the queen of trumps.

East took the queen with the ace and returned a diamond, forcing South to ruff, but declarer then cashed the K-J of spades and all of his clubs to come to 10 tricks.

Of course, had West been able to see South's hand — especially the concealed five-card club suit — he would have put up the ace of hearts and led another diamond, leaving declarer no way to get home safely.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



8-11

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"NO! NO!"

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

O H B W Y M V X C P Q N  
S B I P O N P Q W . V . U I N V O M N R P ' V  
U I N S N I N I M V N X V B R O R J Q N I F  
H X V U I B F X F Y C B - I N X J X R - B .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE THE NOBLEMAN IS STANDING INSIDE AN EGYPTIAN TOMB, I'D CALL HIM A PEER AMID A PYRAMID.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals U

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- 1 Venomous
- 5 Schedule abbr.
- 8 Jeans-maker
- 12 Vegetarian's
- 13 Navigator's aid
- 14 Way out
- 15 Publicity
- 17 Church area
- 18 Striped antelope
- 19 Cash in
- 21 Ova
- 24 1960s hallucinogen
- 25 Carriage
- 28 Aquatic plant
- 30 Charged bit
- 33 Plague
- 34 "The rain in — ..."
- 35 Pair
- 36 Drill sergeant's syllable

**DOWN**

- 1 "So be it"
- 2 Alluring
- 3 One of the Three Bears
- 4 Hot
- 5 Ostrich's kin
- 6 Pitch
- 7 Mimic
- 8 Starring roles
- 9 Speed up
- 10 Workbench
- 11 Detail
- 16 Droop
- 20 Verve
- 22 Stare
- 23 Dispatches
- 25 Ms.
- 26 Debtor's letters
- 27 Atoned
- 29 Heart of the matter
- 31 Pussy-cat's partner
- 32 "To be or — ..."
- 34 Terrier type
- 38 News-writer's credit
- 40 Despots
- 42 Every last bit
- 43 Vessel's team
- 44 Split violently
- 45 Ms. Moore
- 47 Passed, and then some
- 48 Actress Sorvino
- 49 Teeny particle
- 52 "Sun King" Louis
- 53 Snoop

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 8-11