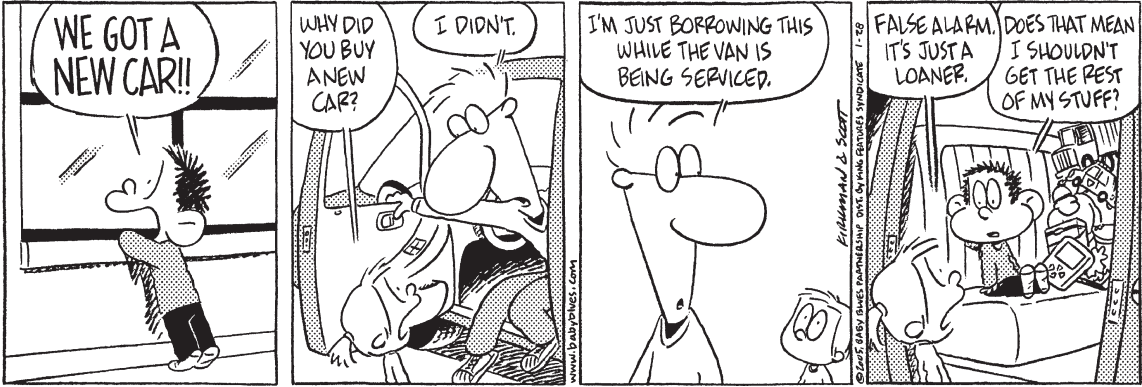
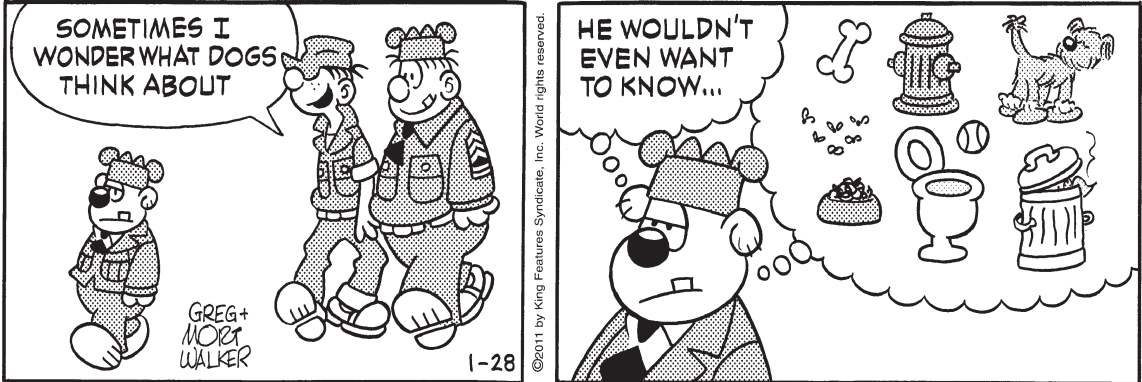


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



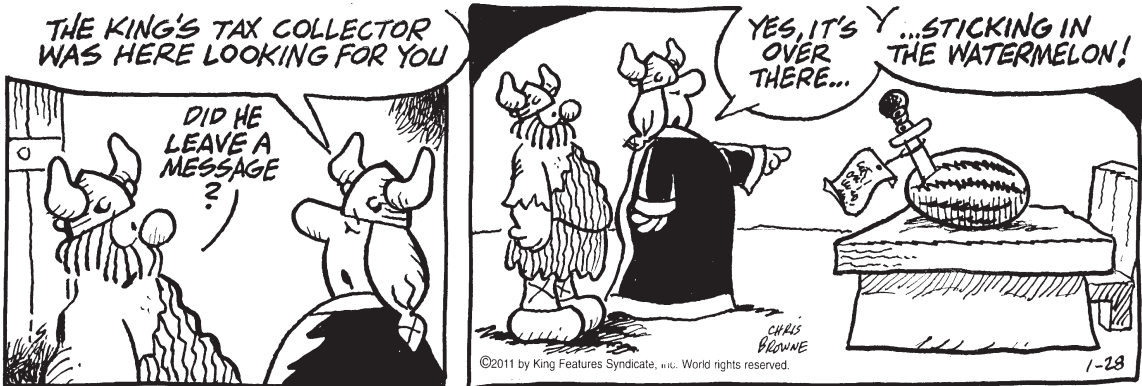
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



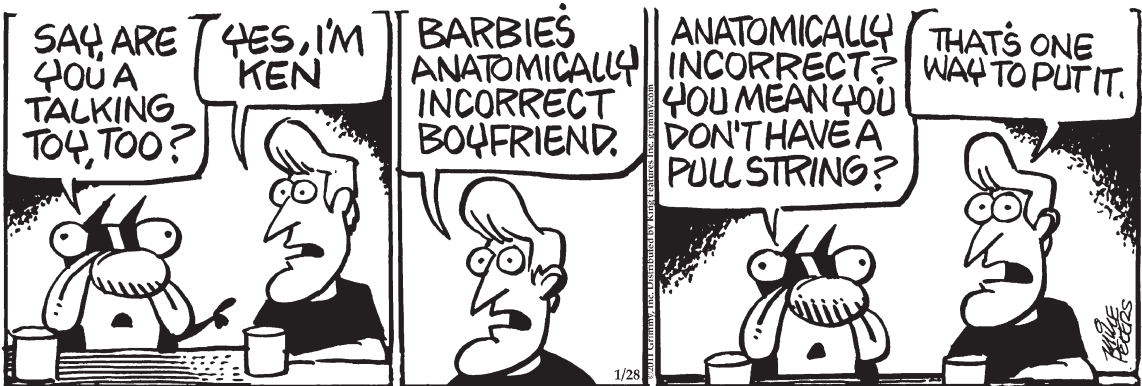
Blondie • Chic Young



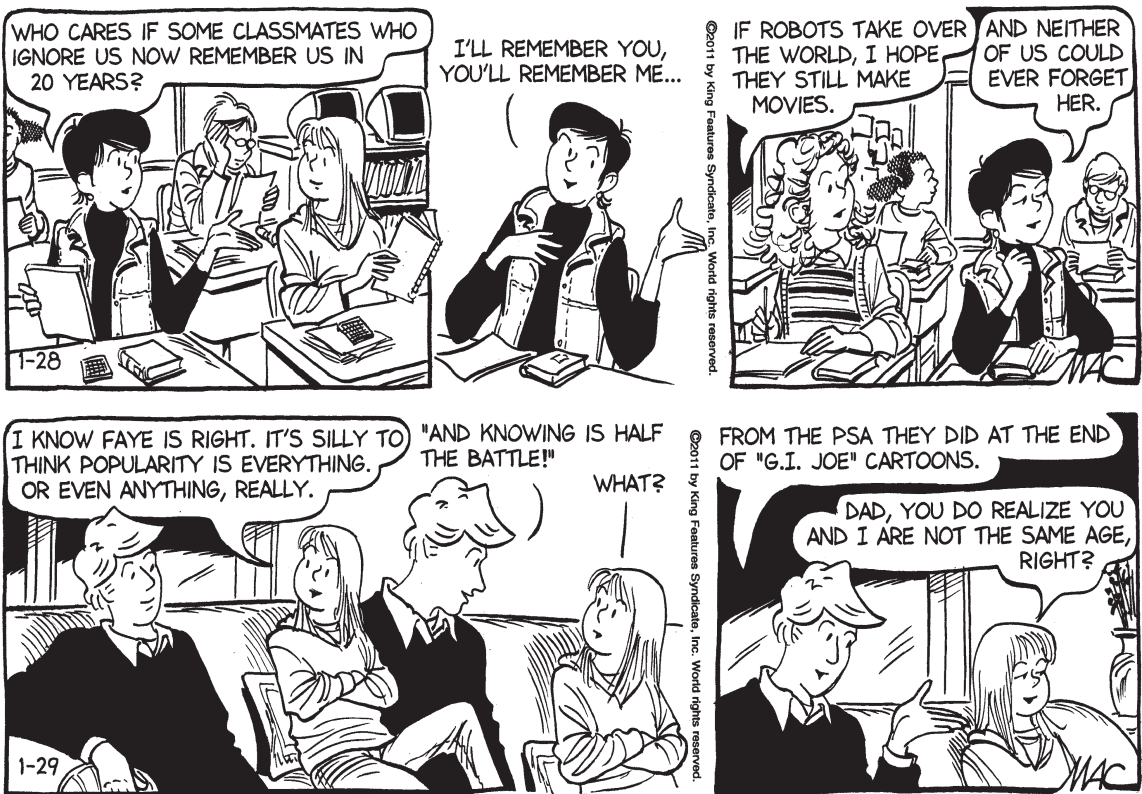
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Hints can smooth cruise

Dear Readers: A CRUISE can be a fun way for the family to visit many different places. Here are some hints for packing for a cruise:

- Bring a small carry-on bag (even if you check luggage) that has travel documents, change of clothes, swimsuit, medications, your camera, etc. The luggage sometimes take a while to get to your room, or may even be delayed a day or two.
- To take perfume or cologne, dab some on cotton balls and put them in a plastic zippered bag (or use a contact-lens case) so you don't have to take the whole bottle.
- For on board and on shore: Bring a hat, sun-screen, reusable water bottle and some good walking shoes.
- Some nights may be cool. Pack a lightweight jacket, wrap or scarf.
- Don't forget a good book or magazine, but the ship library has a lot of books, and you usually can trade out books.
- Clothes can get wrinkled from traveling. Take a spray bottle of wrinkle remover so you don't have to iron everything. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

LETTER OF LAUGHTER

Dear Heloise: I read your letters every day in The Orange County (Calif.) Register, and I love the ones from parents with small children who say the funniest things. I had to tell you what my 5-year-old grandson said to his mother. He and my daughter were having a conversation when my daughter told him, “Ryan, do not get smart with me.” He responded with “Why, are you stupid?” – A Reader in Lake Forest, Calif.

NEWSPAPER COMMENTS

Dear Heloise: Many newspaper websites carry a comment section. I've found that some require logging in first, and some do not. Sometimes the login fails, and then my comment that I have already typed is lost. Now, I highlight my comments and copy them to my clipboard. That way, my opinion is saved if the login fails. – Diane Smith, Baytown, Texas

GARAGE SALE

Dear Heloise: I have a hint for people putting up garage-sale signs. If the location is in a private yard, please knock on the door and ask for permission before just marching through the grass and pounding a stake into the yard.

I live on a popular sign-placement corner, and I've never said no to anyone who asks. However, I will tear down a sign that's put up without my permission. The individual who put it there was trespassing. – A Reader, via e-mail

PACKING FOR KIDS

Dear Heloise: My daughter-in-law was getting ready to have another child, and we took care of the two little ones. She prepared bags of clothes for the boys. In gallon-size bags, she put underwear, socks and a matching outfit. She had a separate bag for each day with their names on it. – A Reader in Louisiana

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are East, defending against Three Notrump, South having opened one notrump, raised by North to three. Your partner leads the four of spades. You cover dummy's five with the seven, and declarer wins with the queen. South leads the jack of diamonds, which you win with the queen. What would you play next?

NORTH
♠ 10 9 5
♥ K J 2
♦ K 9 8 3
♣ K 10 2

EAST
♠ 7 2
♥ 9 8 4 3
♦ Q 4 2
♣ A Q J 5

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Spades. North leads the king of hearts. How would you play the hand?

WEST
♠ A K Q J 5 3
♥ —
♦ A K Q J
♣ 7 4 3

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

Test Your Play

1. The correct return is the five of clubs! This play will almost certainly defeat the contract.

Judging from declarer's play, it is highly likely that your partner has the ace of diamonds. South could have something like: S AKQ H AQ65 D J10 C 9863. That would be consistent with his opening notrump bid and the play to the first two tricks. He can scarcely have the ace of diamonds and attack the suit without cashing the ace first.

Once West is credited with the ace of diamonds, his spades cannot be good enough to justify a spade return. South's weak spot is obviously in clubs, and that is the place to attack. Note that in the given case, the five must be led, not the queen or jack. When West wins the diamond ace, his club return sets the contract.

2. Ruff the heart high and cross to dummy with a trump. Assuming both opponents follow suit, which is likely, ruff another heart high, return to dummy with a trump and ruff still another heart. Then play a club to the king and ruff dummy's last heart. This runs you out of trumps in your hand, but dummy still has one.

Now lead a club to the ace and cash the ten of trumps, discarding your club loser. Then claim the last four tricks with the A-K-Q-J of diamonds.

This method of play succeeds whether the trumps are divided 2-2 or 3-1. In all, you score seven trump tricks (four heart ruffs in your hand, plus dummy's 10-9-8), four diamonds and two clubs.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“That tree’s smart. It keeps its clothes on in the winter.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Cryptoquip

MHEVKCH O SZUA STH

BHUUZN O NVC NOUA VMZKS

TOC HUHESFOE EHUUC, NVC

STVS MVSSHFL BUVSSHFL?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A GROUP OF CONVICTS IS IN ATTENDANCE FOR A SHOW, I GUESS THAT'S A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37 Unrepaired	2 Greek vowel	22 Clear the tables
1 Dublin-born dramatist	38 Trousers	3 Phases	24 MGM motto
6 Sony rival	41 A mere handful	4 Adolescent	26 Barely perceptible
9 Treasure-hunt aid	43 Cauldron	5 Beetle Bailey's boss	28 Garden shelter
12 Bewildered	44 Authentic	6 Theater district	30 Month (Sp.)
13 Self expression?	45 From the beginning	7 Mama — Elliot	32 Paving material
14 Grackle's cousin	47 Malign	8 Pump up the volume	33 Carnival city
15 Tabloid	49 Quickly	9 Donny's sister	34 Bygone flier
16 Painkiller	52 Female deer	10 Inner self, to Jung	36 Arouse resentment
18 Marx collaborator	53 Brooch	11 Languished	38 Madrid museum
20 Fourth dimension	54 Worth	17 Home of Odysseus	39 Man of morals?
21 Regis and Kelly's network	55 Chances, for short	19 Top	40 Scruffs
23 Second ph.	56 Al Jaffee's magazine	21 Literary collection	42 Make on a loom
24 Winning	57 Cosmetician	Solution time: 25 mins.	45 Largest of the seven
25 "Phooey!"	Lauder		46 Hot tubs
27 Hooded slitherer			48 Spinning stat
29 Take for granted			50 Prompt
31 Hollywood statuary			51 Shoe width
35 Downstairs			

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
				35			36		37	
38	39	40				41		42		43
44					45			46		
47				48				49		50
52				53				54		
55				56				57		