

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

NEW

Traditional Anniversary Gifts for Couples with Kids

A CLEAN TV REMOTE

Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

STARTING THE DAY WITH A HEALTHY BOWL OF 'O's, BEETLE? GOOD!

SO IS SARGE

GREG + MORT WALKER

DOUGHNUTS DON'T COUNT

Blondie • Chic Young

ACCORDING TO THIS ARTICLE, AFTER A WHILE, MARRIED COUPLES TEND...

TO FINISH EACH OTHER'S SENTENCES

YES, AND...

NOT ONLY THAT, BUT

...EXACTLY! IT CAN GET PRETTY...

OH, I CAN SEE WHERE IT WOULD GET VERY ANNOYING AT TIMES, DEAR

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR WHAT HELGA SAYS WHEN I ARRIVE HOME UNEXPECTEDLY AFTER SIX MONTHS AT SEA!

I'M HOME, SWEETHEART!

BOY! DO YOU HAVE BILLS TO PAY!

Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

NOW THAT THEY'VE CHANGED EVERYBODY'S ZODIAC SIGNS, MY HOROSCOPE SEEMS TO MAKE A LOT MORE SENSE TO ME.

WHY, WHAT DOES IT SAY?

VOLCANO VIEWABLE FROM TOKYO, 19 ACROSS

RALPH, YOU'RE READING THE CROSSWORDS

WELL, I LIKE THIS BETTER

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

I'VE CALLED YOU TO ANNOUNCE YOUR JOBS ARE OFFICIALLY IN JEOPARDY. ONE MORE MISSTEP AND YOU'RE ALL FIRED.

YOU...YOU CAN'T JUST ANNOUNCE THIS OUT OF THE BLUE!

"OUT OF THE BLUE"? I'VE BEEN WARNING YOU FOR MONTHS THIS COULD HAPPEN!

BUT NEVER IN THREAT FORM!

I'D FEEL SORRY FOR YOU ALL IF YOU DIDN'T FEEL SO SORRY FOR YOURSELVES.

YOU PUT YOUR STAFF ON WARNING?

I FEEL HORRIBLE ABOUT IT. I COULDN'T PICK A WORSE ECONOMY TO THREATEN UNEMPLOYMENT.

SALLY, THEY BROUGHT THIS ON THEMSELVES. THEY'RE LAZY AND ENTITLED AND AN INSULT TO HARD-WORKING PEOPLE LOOKING FOR JOBS.

PLUS, THEY TRIED TO PASS OFF SOMEONE ELSE'S BIRTHDAY CAKE AS YOURS.

DIDN'T THEY THINK I'D NOTICE THE WRONG NAME AND MISSING SLICES?

Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

BARK! BARK! BARK! BARK!

BARK BARK WOOF YIP BARK

TODD! WAKE UP! YOUR NOSE WHISTLE IS ATTRACTING DOGS AGAIN!

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

SLAM!

I'M HOME.

REJOICE!

Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Can dry ice be kept on hand?

Dear Heloise: I would like to know how to keep DRY ICE on hand, just in case we lose electricity. I have had dry ice before, and it evaporates in the freezer. Is there a way to store dry ice for a long period of time, like six months or so? Thanks for any help. – Teri, via e-mail

No, there is no safe way to store dry ice for “just in case.” Dry ice is frozen carbon dioxide – colorless, odorless and much colder than regular ice. It does not melt, but evaporates into gas.

It is not recommended that you try to store dry ice in your freezer, because the dry ice will cause the temperature to get even colder and may cause your freezer to shut down.

If you lose electricity, dry ice is a good way to keep items cold for the short term, but as far as storing it in preparation for power outages, there is no way to store it as you would like. – Heloise

P.S.: Some, not all, food stores carry it, and it’s relatively cheap.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:  
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San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE  
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

TWO TRAVEL HINTS

Here are two travel hints from our readers:

I’ve been a Neighborhood Watch block captain since 1997. At a travel-safety presentation, a woman said she was detained for several hours at the airport because her luggage contained traces of explosives-making material. They eventually learned that she had stored her luggage in the garage near fertilizer or pesticides. – Leigh Westin, via e-mail

I used to travel with other women to conventions and out-of-town meetings. When sharing a room, there never are enough electrical plugs. I would pack an extension cord and a duplex outlet with me. I still keep these in my travel bag. – Nancy, Nixa, Mo.

CLEANING PORCH SCREEN

Dear Heloise: Is there any good way to clean porch screens? I do not want to cause it to sag by pushing a broom against it. Any suggestions? – Judy, via e-mail

Here is a cleaning method that should work. Mix 1 cup of sudsy ammonia with 1 gallon of water. After taking the screen off, lean it against a tree or anything that the cleaning mixture will not damage. Scrub the screen gently with a soft brush on both sides (wearing gloves), rinse with plenty of water and let dry in the sunshine. For a quick fix, you also can try using your vacuum brush attachment by running it over the screen and sucking up dirt, dust and bugs. Or grab a lint roller. – Heloise

NOTES ON CELL PHONE

Dear Heloise: I use the “notes” part of my cell phone to keep information that I can’t remember, such as the operating hours of stores that I frequent, my vacuum bag model number, and my makeup that is sold by numbers. – Susan in Orangevale, Calif.

Using this feature on your cell phone, there are so many pieces of “information” that can be handy when needed. – Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Hearts, and North leads the queen of diamonds. You win with the ace, play a club to the ace and ruff a club, both opponents following suit. When you next lead a heart to the jack — to which everyone follows suit — and ruff another club, South shows out, destroying your chance to establish dummy’s fifth club as a trick. How would you continue?

WEST

♠ A Q 8

♥ A K 10 9 8 7 4

♦ A 6

♣ J

EAST

♠ 9 5 2

♥ Q J 3

♦ K 8

♣ A 8 7 5 4

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the queen of clubs. The contract can be made regardless of how the adverse cards are divided. How would you proceed so as to assure at least nine tricks?

WEST

♠ A K 4

♥ Q 10 8 7

♦ K 9 5

♣ A 6 2

EAST

♠ Q 10 2

♥ 5 3

♦ A Q 10 6 3

♣ K 9 4

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Test Your Play

1. The slam is ice-cold, despite the unlucky 5-2 club division.

At trick six, you lead a heart to the queen, ruff the seven of clubs, then play a diamond to dummy’s king and lead the eight of clubs. But instead of ruffing, you discard the eight of spades from your hand! North wins but is stymied. He must either lead a spade into your A-Q or return a diamond, presenting you with a ruff-and-discard. Either way, you make the slam.

2. Win the club with the ace, cross to the ace of diamonds and lead a low diamond. If South follows low, finesse the nine. This assures nine tricks and the contract even if the nine loses to the jack. There is no combination of the cards that would allow the defenders to cash four heart tricks at this point. The worst that can happen is that you lose three hearts and a diamond.

If you don’t finesse the nine of diamonds, you will go down if South holds, say:

♠ J975 ♥ A64 ♦ J872 ♣ 73

You will score only eight tricks in this case. If you attempt to establish one more by giving up a diamond, South wins with the jack and returns a low heart, whereupon the defense collects four heart tricks to put you down one.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane

2-18

“Mommy! My hoop won’t hula anymore!”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/18

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

OBSMZ FGZ FRW NWWH MGVTO

RWQX FWNZFGZQ DF FGZ

ORZHBQG TBSF, MWVIH WSZ

MDII FGZT XQWSD MQWSBZO?

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: SHOULD PROSPECTORS ATTEMPT TO WEIGH THEIR SOLID GOLD NUGGETS WITH MINER SCALES?

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals R

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Memo-rized

4 Round Table address

7 Old hat

12 “... — on forever”:

13 Praise in verse

14 “American Idol” runner-up

15 Burst

16 “Forget it”

18 Mound stat

19 Steam room

20 Bronx cheer

22 Writer

23 Super-man’s alias

27 Golfer Ernie

29 Jaundiced

31 Zero-star movies

34 New Orleans stew

35 Ducks

37 Drunkard

38 Informa-tion

39 Triumphed

41 Region

45 Gulf money

47 Scratch

48 Raven’s word

52 Commotion

53 Farewell

54 Calendar abbr.

55 Stashed

56 — -over (thorough examination)

57 Med. approver

58 Exist

2 Old market-place

3 November birthstone

4 Half the offspring

5 Standards of perfection

6 Skit show

7 Legal worker, for short

8 Intent

9 Schuss

10 D.C. address

11 Conclusion

17 Grandson of Eve

21 Striped equine

23 Ungraceful one

24 Shade provider

25 San Francisco’s — Hill

26 Pair

28 W.W.II craft

30 Of old

31 Awful

32 Eggs

33 Encount-ered

36 Take to the pool

37 Caught

40 Type of switch

42 Nebraska city

43 Bottom point

44 Wear away

45 Pharma-ceutical

46 Singer McEntire

48 Run-down horse

49 Tokyo’s old name

50 Leon Uris’ “QB —”

51 Still, in verse

Solution time: 25 mins.

ALL	PYLE	PUNS
LEE	RAIN	ATOP
PAT	DOWNS	RANI
	DIM	GUNSHOT
SHOPPE	EON	
HOW	TAB	WIRES
ISNT	RUM	PUTT
AESOP	SAM	BAY
	REA	NEEDLE
IMPEACH	AGO	
REAR	HOEDOWNS	
ORSO	EURO	NIL
NESS	DRAW	SPY

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