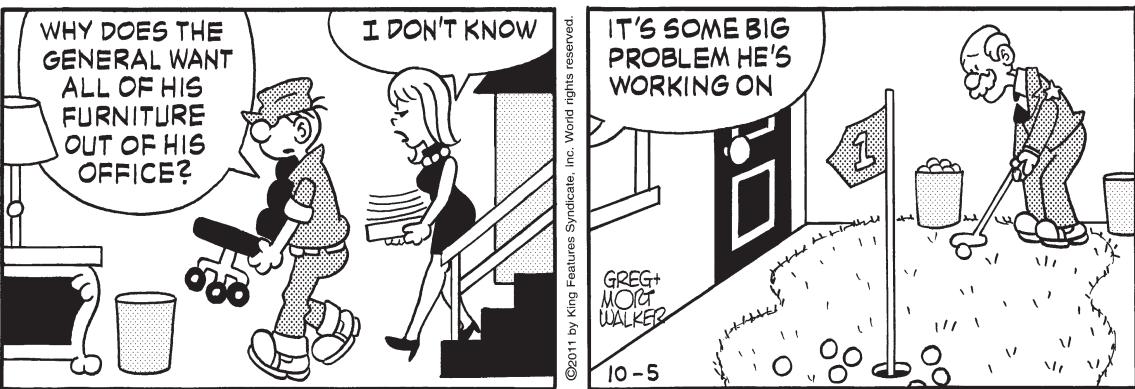


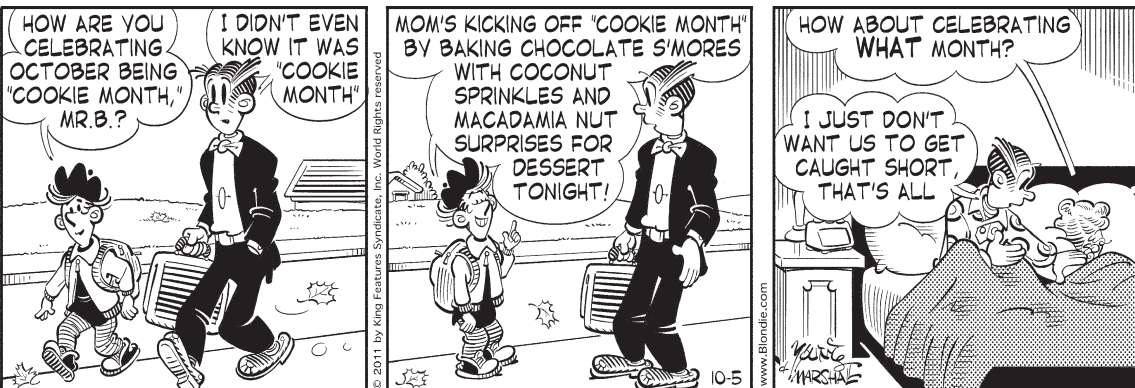
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



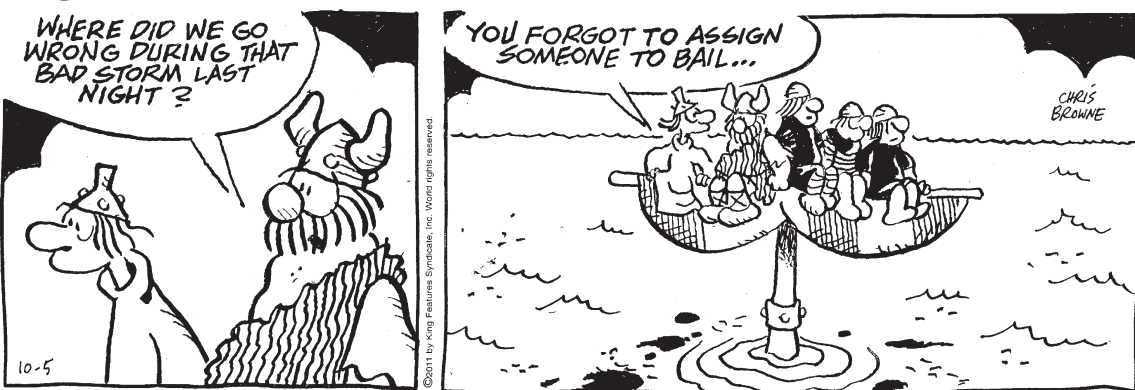
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



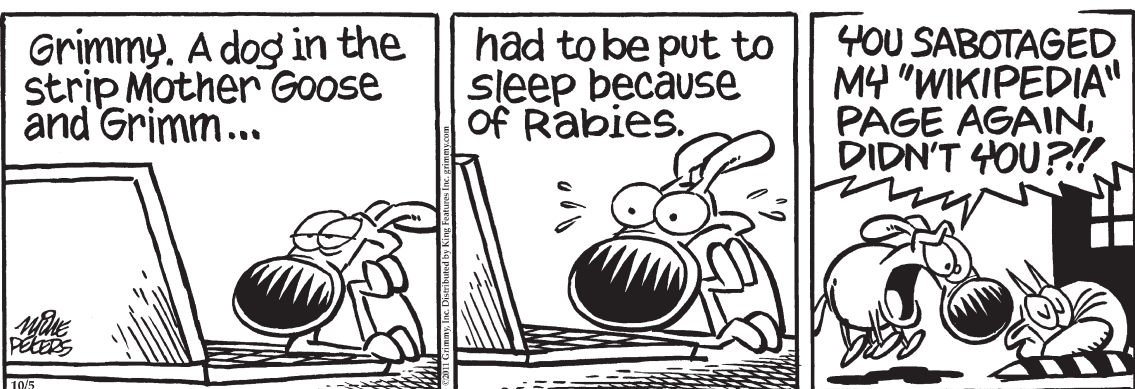
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



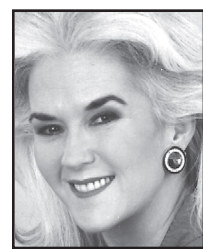
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Is kosher salt OK for bread?

Dear Heloise: I've always wanted to know, since a lot of recipes call for SALT OR KOSHER SALT, what is the difference? Do the two salts differ in times of bread rising? Please explain. — Anna in Virginia

There isn't really a difference between types of kitchen salt, as the main ingredient is sodium chloride. However, there is a difference in the processing.

Table salt usually has calcium silicate added to keep it from sticking and clumping together. It can be bought either plain or with iodine added.

Kosher salt is named for the koshering process and has no added preservatives. With larger crystals than table salt, cooking with this salt means you can use less for the same salt taste.

What will affect bread rising is whether you use salt at all, since salt is used to flavor bread and slow down the yeast. If you don't add it, the bread will rise too quickly and may not taste as good. — Heloise

P.S.: Always check the recipe, and you can call your county extension agent (found in your phone book under "County Listings") for help.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

DISH-DRAINER CLEANING

Dear Heloise: Regarding the column where a woman said she uses a brush to clean her dish-drying rack: I put my dish rack and sink mat in the dishwasher. They come out clean and sanitized, though the setting needs to be for "no high-heat dry cycle." — Jane, Prescott, Ariz.

NOT THERE?

Dear Heloise: Just in case you need some funny stories: I had a case of the disappearing small, round hash browns. Being a bachelor with few culinary skills, I thought I would fix some. I got the cookie sheet, tore open a new bag of tots, sprinkled some and slid the sheet into the oven. About 15 minutes later, I opened the door and they were gone! The cookie sheet was there with nothing on it! What the heck? I checked the freezer. The bag was still unopened, but the new bag of crushed ice was torn open! I had sprinkled ice cubes on the cookie sheet instead of hash browns! — Steve, Hutchinson, Kan.

Steve, I don't know if I'd tell the story on myself — kidding! Glad you wrote it. Say "Hi" to my friends in Hutchinson, too! — Heloise

LEFTOVER VEGGIES

Dear Heloise: I found the leftover-vegetables hints interesting. I keep a bag in the freezer for any vegetables left over after a meal, and when cold weather arrives, use them in a stew. — Janie in San Angelo, Texas

(c)2011 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦AKQ5
♥752
♠Q9
♣AQJ9
EAST
♦76
♥1084
♠A10762
♣K105
SOUTH
♦J9832
♥AK6
♠J5
♣743
The bidding:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass
3♣ Pass 4♣
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Taking Care of Business

Over the long haul, defenders who play mechanically will not do nearly as well as those who play thoughtfully. Today's deal from a duplicate game provides a case in point.

The deal was played at eight tables, and at every table the final contract was four spades by South, against which West led the queen of hearts. At seven of the tables, declarer made 10 tricks — five spades, two hearts and three clubs. Since seven declarers achieved this result, and since 10 tricks seem to be there for the taking, this would seem to be the normal outcome. But it shouldn't be, as demonstrated by what happened at the eighth table.

First, let's see how the play went at the other tables. South won the heart lead with the ace, cashed the A-K of spades and led a spade to the jack. Declarer then tried a club finesse, losing the queen to East's king.

At this point, the defense varied. Some Easts shifted to a diamond, and after the defenders collected two diamonds, declarer had the rest, eventually discarding the heart six on dummy's nine of clubs. At the tables where East returned a heart, declarer similarly finished with 10 tricks.

At the table where the contract failed, East found a way to give South a chance to go wrong, and it made all the difference. Here, when declarer led a club to the jack at trick five, East did not take the king.

South naturally assumed (there was, of course, no way of telling) that West had the king, in which case repeating the finesse was necessary and might even yield an overtrick. So declarer crossed to his hand with the heart king and led a club to the queen. This time East won, and the defenders quickly cashed a heart and two diamonds to set the contract.

East's refusal to win the first club is a play that has much to gain and little to lose. All it takes is a bit of thought and a natural reluctance to play mechanically.

(c)2011 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Difficulty Level ★★ ★ 10/05

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★ 10/05

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.

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

Cryptoquip

WSNMFY MKE RVMMTXV OZM

OMFKE IFUBX WVXIFXTBKL

GKSL S GMGFKSV DSNX MW

RZSTRX: PUTDM RVMYPL

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HAND-HELD TWO-WAY RADIO THAT'S HUGELY POPULAR AMONG WISCONSIN POLICE: THE MILWAUKEE-TALKIE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 007 | 1 Goes up and down |
| 5 Swelled head | 2 Death notice |
| 8 Acknowledge | 3 NASA scrub |
| 12 Reed instrument | 4 Lower in rank |
| 13 Cattle call | 5 Ostrich's cousin |
| 14 Options list | 6 Obtained 7 Ahs' mates |
| 15 Bean spiller? | 8 Forcefully |
| 17 Curved lines | 9 Martini ingredient |
| 18 Left the chair | 10 Erstwhile (out) |
| 19 Nickelodeon spillages | 11 Wimpy sort |
| 21 Afternoon affairs | 16 Rhyming tribute |
| 24 Lennon's lady | |
| 25 Use a paper towel | |
| 28 Scorch | |
| 30 Can. neighbor | |
| 33 The whole thing | |
| 34 Aquatic flora | |
| 35 Kennedy or Koppel | |

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 10-5

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		