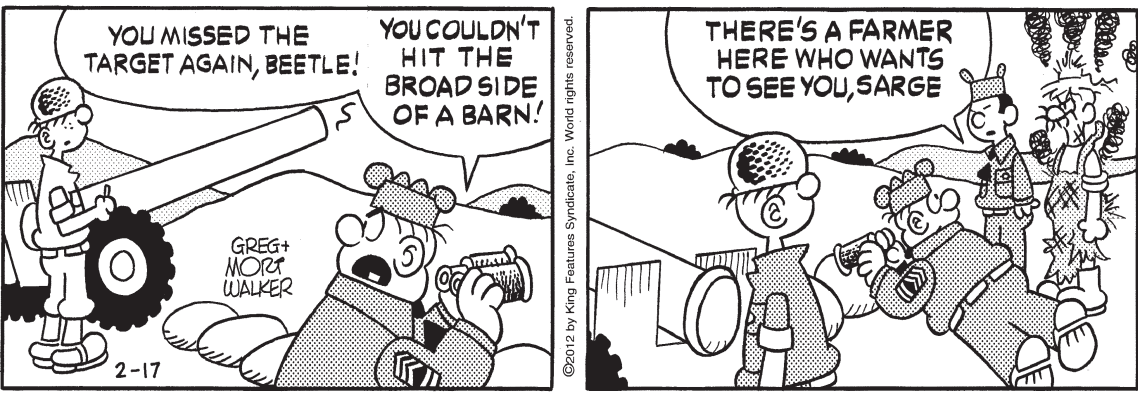


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



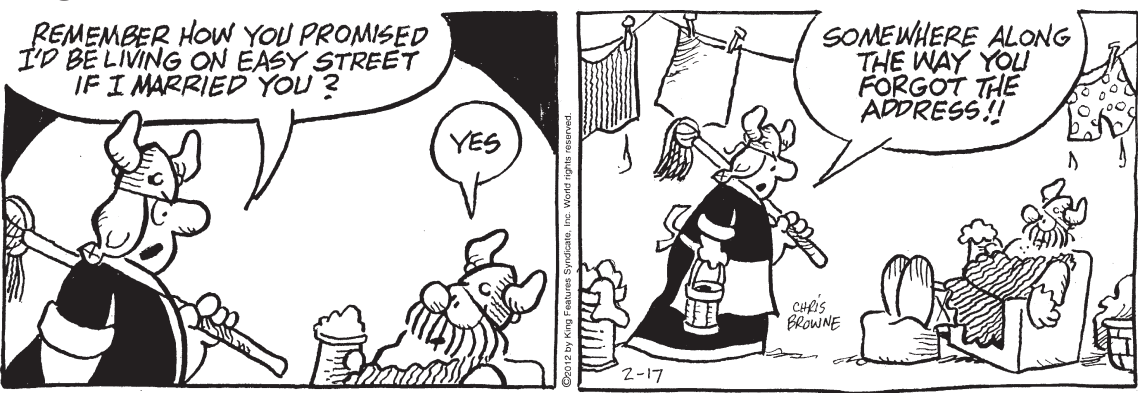
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



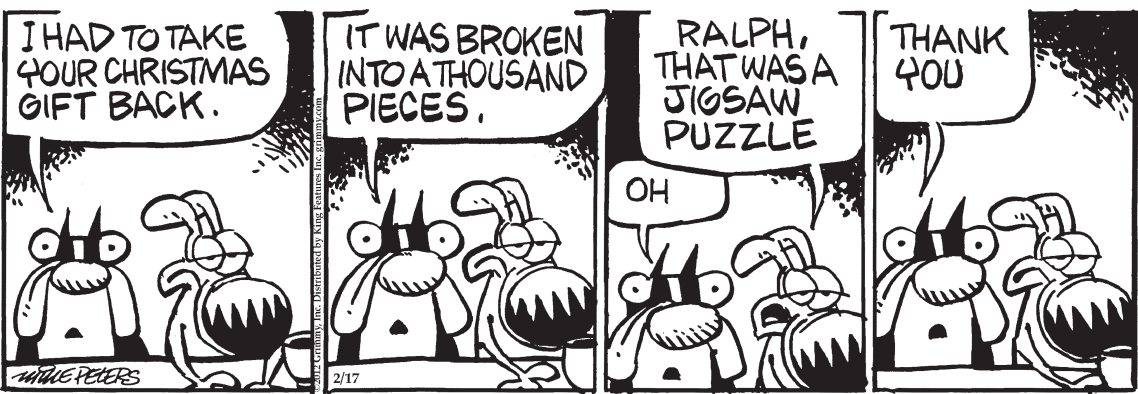
Blondie • Chic Young



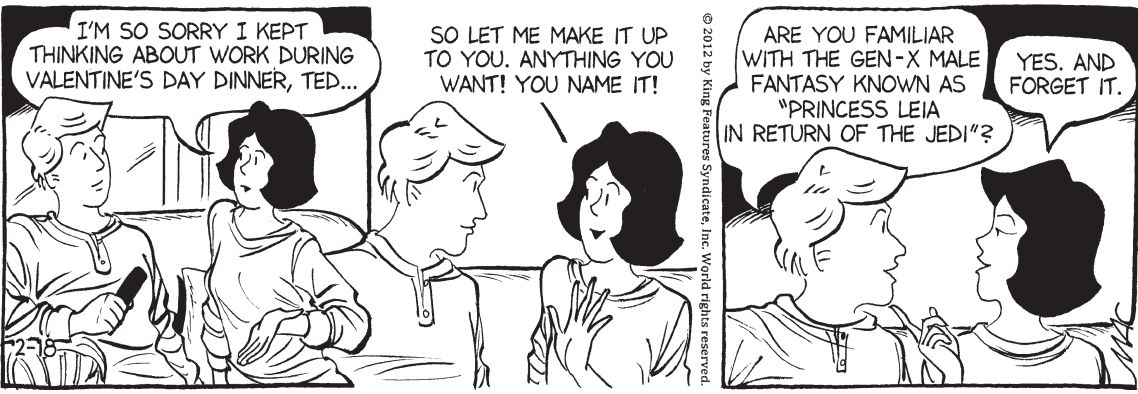
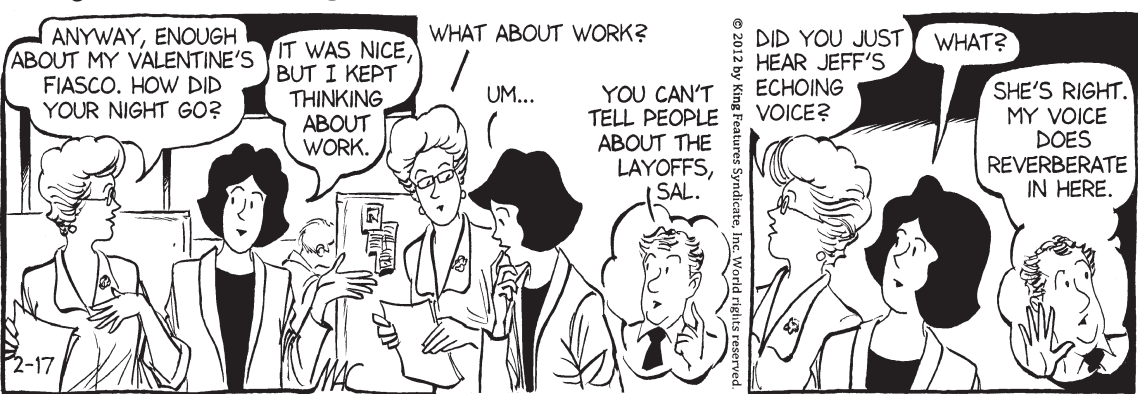
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



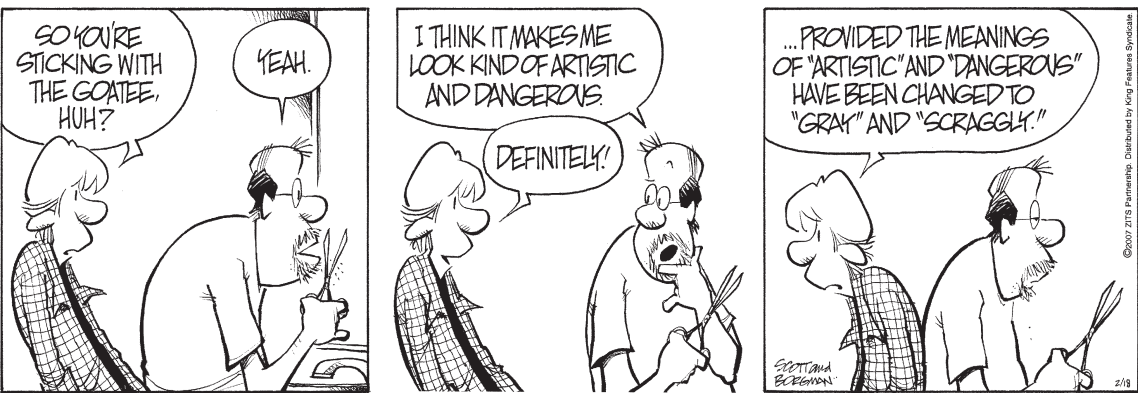
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Windshield needs cleaning

Dear Heloise: I can't seem to CLEAN MY AUTO WINDSHIELD. I have tried vinegar and ammonia, to no avail. When the morning sun hits the glass, I cannot see out. Any suggestions? – J.H., via email

Cleaning the windshield is important, because you do need to see out! Heloise Central checked a few automobile owners manuals and spoke with an auto detailer. They all recommend using ordinary household window cleaner, with a soft cloth, followed by drying with a microfiber cloth. This works for both inside and outside the vehicle, and is best to remove smoke and dust film. If possible, leave windows open to circulate the air. Don't use chlorine-based and disinfectant-type cleaners. They can damage defoggers, electrical conductors and radio antenna pieces. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

GARAGE-DOOR OPENER

Dear Readers: Before you leave on a long trip, disconnect your garage-door opener. There is the possibility that a crook could have an opener that will open your door! – Heloise

NO WRAPPING

Dear Heloise: I had a bunch of leftover rectangular wicker baskets. One day, I needed to wrap a birthday present and couldn't find a box or bag. Then I spied the baskets. I pulled one out and used it with some tissue paper. It made a lovely package, the gift fit perfectly, and the receiver loved it! – Joanne from Texas

CLEAN PLANT POTS

Dear Readers: When reusing pots for plants, always wash with hot water and a couple of drops of liquid dishwashing detergent. Use a solution of chlorine bleach and water (1 part bleach to 8 parts water) and let soak for 20 minutes. Once dry, they are ready for use. – Heloise

STINKY OINTMENT

Dear Heloise: I hated putting the medicated ointment on my husband's sore muscles because it left my hands smelly and hot! Washing them didn't always remove the residue. One day at the store, I saw some inexpensive disposable gloves and thought I could use them with the ointment. So, I bought a box, and now everything is great! – G.R. in Atlanta

CLUTTER BUSTER

Dear Readers: Have a family member making news in the paper? Clip the article, and don't forget the date and the name of the newspaper. Store the piece in a clear plastic scrapbook page, or have it professionally laminated. You also can have it matted and framed. – Heloise

NAPKIN RINGS

Dear Heloise: Cookie cutters make cute napkin holders! I like the idea, because you can use cutters to match the holiday that is coming up, and your guests can leave with a small gift. The cutters are inexpensive. – Ruth A., Rockport, Texas

EXTRA BUTTON

Dear Heloise: I stitch an extra button into the hem of my favorite shirts for work. If I have a button at the ready, it's no problem to replace! – Susan in North Dakota

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Bridge • Steve Becker

Assume you're declarer with the West hand at Six Clubs, and North leads the queen of diamonds. How would you play the hand?

WEST
♠ K J 7
♥ K J 6
♦ A
♣ A J 7 6 4 2

EAST
♠ A 4 3 2
♥ A 4 3 2
♦ —
♣ K Q 9 8 3

Test Your Play

This excellent problem, published in the British Bridge Magazine many years ago, was comprised by Paul Lukacs, Israeli expert.

West should begin by ruffing the queen-of-diamonds lead in dummy (it would be wrong to discard a spade or a heart). He then draws both missing trumps, ending in dummy, and leads the deuce of spades.

If South follows suit with the five or six or shows out of spades, West plays his seven and is sure to score the rest of the tricks regardless of which suit North returns after winning the seven of spades.

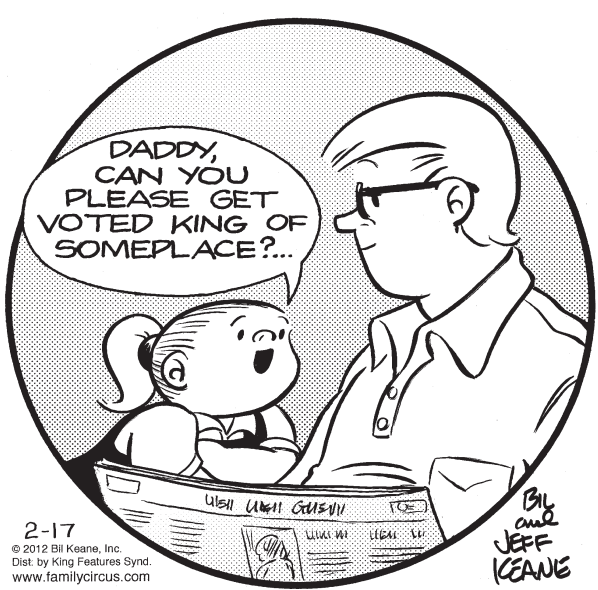
If South produces the eight, nine or ten of spades on the deuce lead from dummy, West wins with the king, returns to dummy with a trump and leads the three of spades toward his hand, planning to play the jack if South follows low.

By adopting this line of play, declarer makes the contract in each of the following six cases:

1. If South has no spade higher than the six.
 2. If South errs and plays the five or six of spades on the first round of the suit when he holds the eight, nine or ten.
 3. If South has the queen of spades, in which case the number of spades he was dealt makes no difference at all.
 4. If North has either the singleton or doubleton queen of spades.
 5. If the six spades held by North-South are divided 3-3.
 6. If the potential heart finesse -- taken as a last resort after the spades fail to divide favorably -- wins because South was dealt the queen.
- Only if all six chances go wrong would declarer fail to make the slam on the recommended line of play. If they all did go sour, declarer could easily be forgiven if he decided to give up the game for a while.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/17

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

RO TA O B R O F Q A U U A S T U M

A Z P G M U G A S , B M N M L

T L X X M T A T Q R H N F Z T U S M X M B T

P G M M T A U M L T A T O Z R Q H Z R Q ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FEELING HUNGRY
PAST ITS BEDTIME, THE BIRD OF PREY SET OUT
LOOKING FOR A MIDNIGHT SNAKE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Sort
 - 4 Part of UCLA
 - 7 Rice, on a Mexican menu
 - 12 Army rank (Abbr.)
 - 13 Raw rock
 - 14 007
 - 15 Debtor's letters
 - 16 Zodiac sign
 - 18 Small salamander
 - 19 14-
 - 20 Bronx cheer
 - 22 Long. crosser
 - 23 Long story
 - 27 Lamb's dam
 - 29 Hostage taker
 - 31 Spy
 - 34 Neat
 - 35 Per — income
 - 37 A Bobbsey Twin
 - 38 Trudge
- DOWN
- 1 Less friendly
 - 2 Bath sponge
 - 3 Inept one
 - 4 "Livin' la Vida —"
 - 5 Sooth-sayer
 - 6 Partitions that may be "deviated"
 - 7 Eastern bigwig (Var.)
 - 8 Sinbad's bird
 - 9 Aussie hopper
 - 10 Boston rink legend
 - 11 Buddhist sect
 - 17 Campus mil. org.

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-17

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		