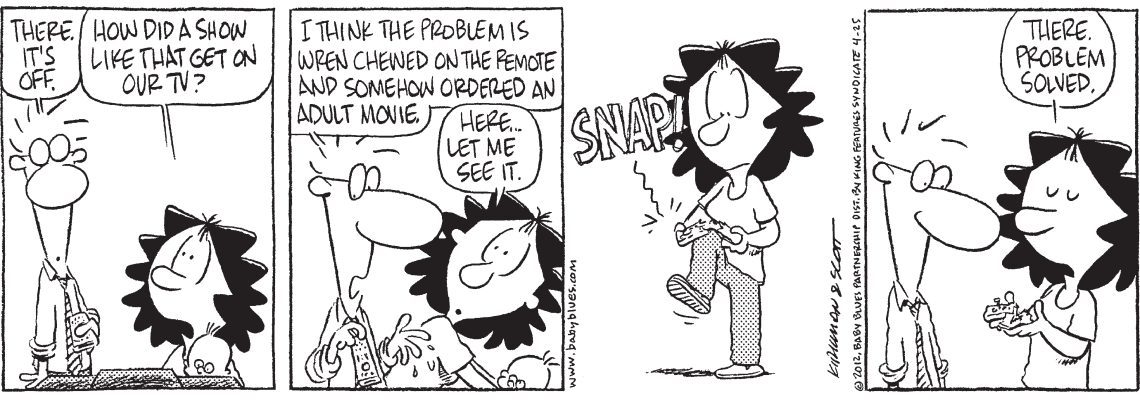
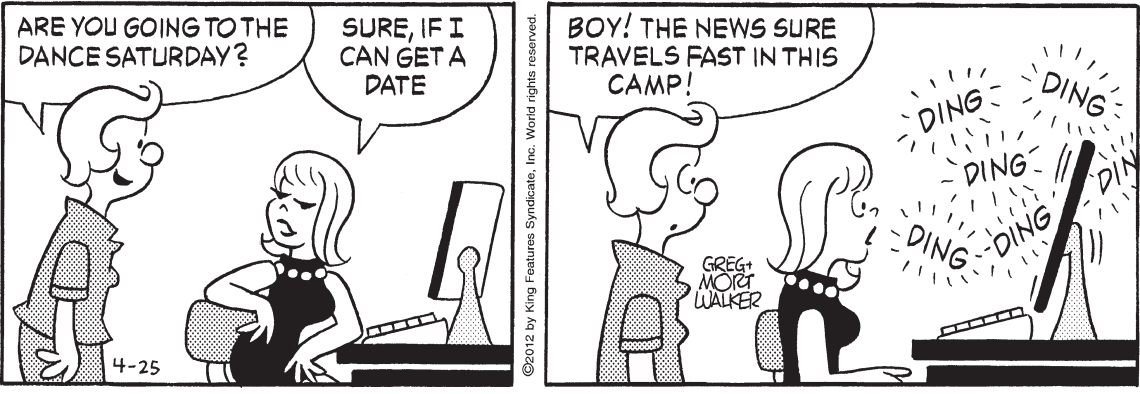


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



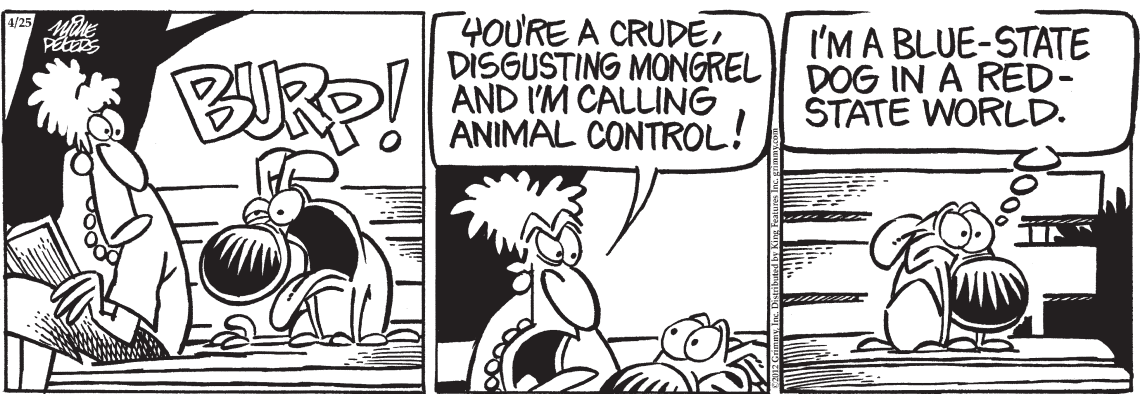
Blondie • Chic Young



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

Roaming hens give special eggs

Dear Readers: Certain eggs are labeled "free range" or "cage free" – what does this really mean?
According to our friends at the American Egg Board, free-range eggs come from hens that are either raised entirely outside or are allowed outside when the weather is good. These hens ideally would have access to plants and insects, but the time spent outside can vary, depending on the producer.
Cage-free eggs come from hens that are kept inside, roaming around the floor of a large room or open area of a barn, and are not typically let outside at any time.
Both free-range and cage-free eggs are considered to be specialty eggs, so expect to pay a higher purchase price. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 210-HELOISE
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

TASTY OATMEAL
Dear Heloise: As I sit here eating my hot bowl of oatmeal, I recall a school morning when my kids were little. I prepared oatmeal, but we were out of milk. I found that a scoop of vanilla ice cream was a wonderful treat on hot oatmeal. It was delicious, and I still enjoy it now and then when I am not counting calories. Thank you for all your practical hints. – Jane from Texas

SURPRISE MEATLOAF
Dear Heloise: My wife Kim worked as a nanny for more than 20 years. One of the families she worked for would make an unusual meatloaf. They'd take out a pound of hamburger and put it in a mixing bowl. Then they'd open up the fridge and start grabbing leftovers like rice, barley, veggies, an egg or two, and anything else they could find, dumped it all in and mixed well. All this was then cooked up as a meatloaf.
The first time Kim made meatloaf this way, I thought she had totally lost it. I had to eat some humble pie, because the meatloaf turned out really good. – Kevin from North Carolina

Kevin, you never know when crazy-sounding ingredients will work together! – Heloise

BASIC BUTTERMILK
Dear Heloise: When I need buttermilk for a recipe, instead of buying a whole quart, I mix half sour cream and half milk. No leftover buttermilk to store. We always seem to use up the sour cream. This has not failed me yet, even in cake recipes. – Linda C., Howland, Ohio

CITRUS BAGS
Dear Heloise: With citrus in season, I buy it in plastic-net bags. When empty, I cut off the labeling to leave a tube, turn each end inside and twist a twisty around the middle. It looks like a puffy bow. It makes a wonderful scrubbie! – Carolyn in Kerrville, Texas

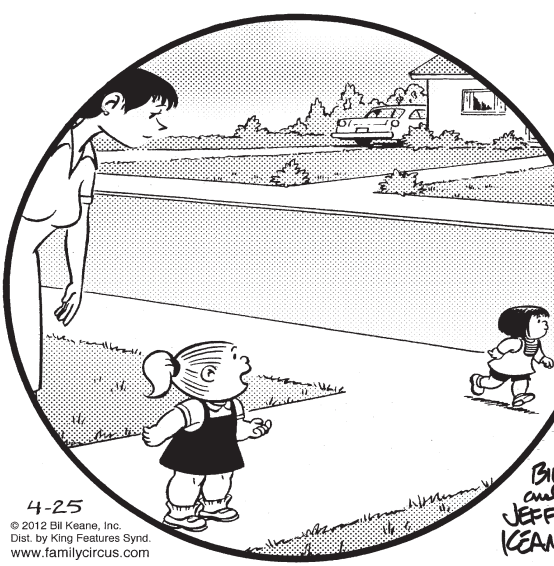
RANCH DRESSING
Dear Heloise: Ranch dressing can be substituted for mayonnaise on sandwiches or in tuna salad. My family prefers it. – Reader, via e-mail
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Bridge • Steve Becker
East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 8 5 3
♥ 7 3
♦ K 10 6
♣ A Q J 9 2
WEST
♠ Q J 7 3
♥ 9 6 2
♦ 7 3 2
♣ 7 6 4
EAST
♠ A K 10 9 4
♥ A 4
♦ Q J 9 8 5
♣ 3
SOUTH
♠ 6 2
♥ K Q J 10 5
♦ A 4
♣ K 10 8 5
The bidding:
East South West North
1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥
Pass 4 ♥
Opening lead — queen of spades.

Thrust and Counterthrust
When disaster seems imminent, it is natural to do everything possible to avoid it. South did exactly that in this deal, and had it not been for excellent play by East, he would have wound up making his contract.
West led the queen of spades, and East judged that there was very little hope of stopping four hearts if he adopted a passive line of defense. He therefore overtook the spade queen with the king and returned his singleton club.
East's plan was to take the ace of hearts as soon as declarer led a trump, lead a low spade to West's (presumed) jack of spades, then ruff West's club return and so defeat the contract. But East's intentions were not lost on declarer, who realized what would happen if he made no attempt to spike this plan.
South therefore took the club return in dummy, cashed the A-K of diamonds and led dummy's ten of diamonds. When East played the jack, South discarded a spade in order to prevent East from putting his partner on lead for the club ruff.
Declarer should have been rewarded for finding this fine countermeasure to East's defense. But East, his original plan having been thwarted, now shifted his attack by leading a fourth round of diamonds. This forced South to ruff with the ten in order to prevent West from scoring the nine of trumps.
When South then played the king of hearts to force out the ace, East won and led his last diamond. South had the Q-J-5 of trumps at this point and West had the 9-6. Whether South ruffed high or low, West could not be stopped from scoring the setting trick with his suddenly powerful nine, and the contract went down one.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"There goes Elizabeth, but we call her Liz or Beth or Lizzy or Elie or Lisa or Betsy or ..."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/25
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

DGXNH CNAKLXYO AY RAWH
VKOXYO DGXLH DKLHV, WKYB
AC LGH OTBR DHVH CATYM
OTXNLB AC VKCL-MAMOXYO.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I ACTUALLY SAW THAT PERSON STEAL THE FRUIT COBBLER, SO I'LL PROBABLY TESTIFY AS A PIE-WITNESS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Houston acronym | 1 Mr. Gingrich |
| 5 Chic, 1960s-style | 2 Gel in a Petri dish |
| 8 Greenish-blue | 3 Ganges garment |
| 12 "Zounds!" | 4 Supplement |
| 13 Bobby of hockey | 5 Lost in thought, maybe |
| 14 Robust | 6 Eye, poetically |
| 15 Clothing | 7 Frock |
| 17 Vicinity | 8 Long recliners |
| 18 Son of Poseidon | 9 "Get rid of junk" event |
| 19 Muffet's bugaboo | 10 Sheltered runners |
| 21 Umenyiora of the NFL | 11 Approach |
| 22 Back talk | 16 Got up |
| 23 Doo follower | 20 Faux — |
| 26 Conclusion | |
| 28 Sordid | |
| 31 "Sad to say, ..." | |
| 33 Workout site | |
| 35 — gin fizz | |
| 36 Canoe material | |
| 38 Lister | |

Solution time: 21 mins.
I L K C A R C H O P
R A N T A G E R A V E
E M I R B A H A J A R
S A T A N R A S P
P E A B I S T R O
P L A S T I C S H O O K
E A C H D O C S H O O R
E T H O S B A Z O O K A
P E Y O T E W I T
T Y R O P E O N Y
I D L E U S A R H E A
T I E R P L Y S I A M
S P A S T O E O P S

Yesterday's answer 4-25 download

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
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		