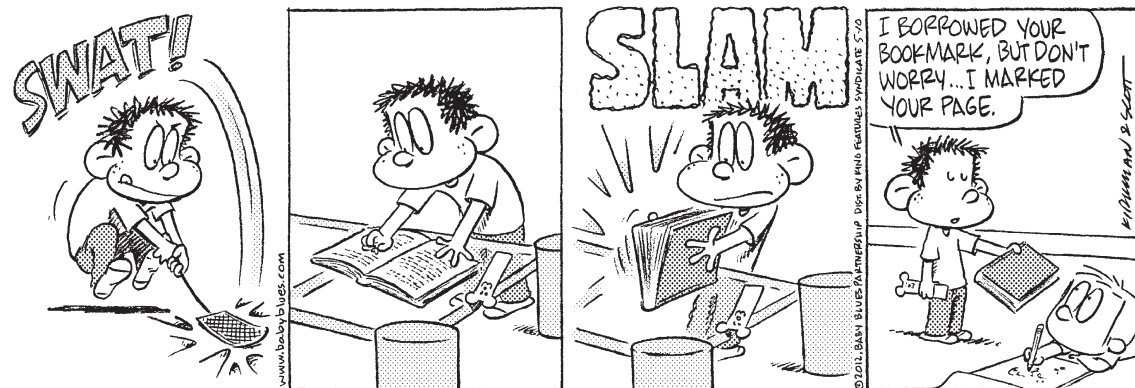


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



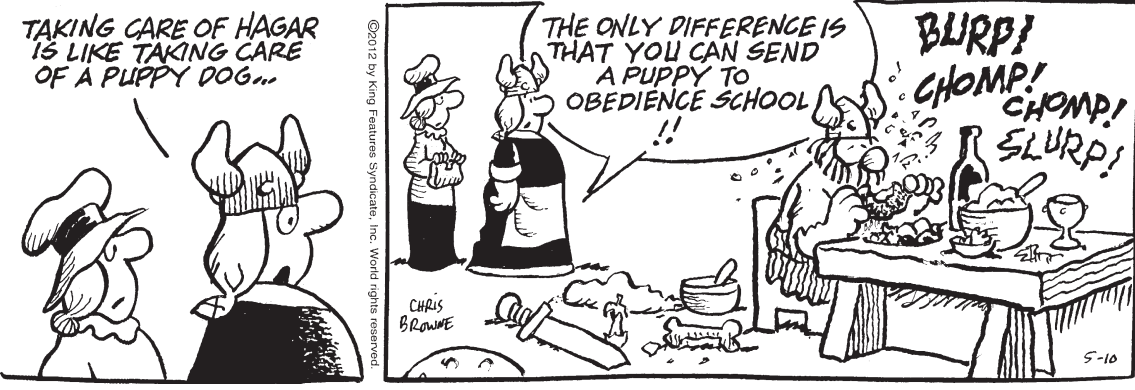
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



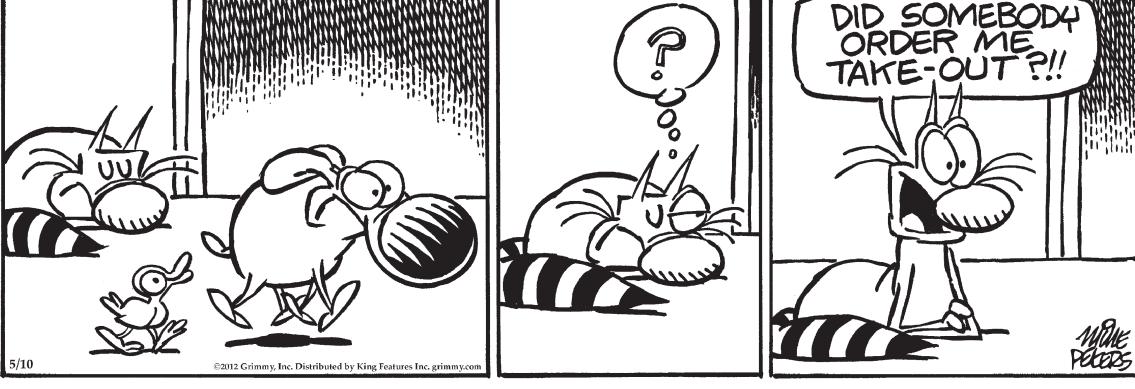
**Blondie** • Chic Young



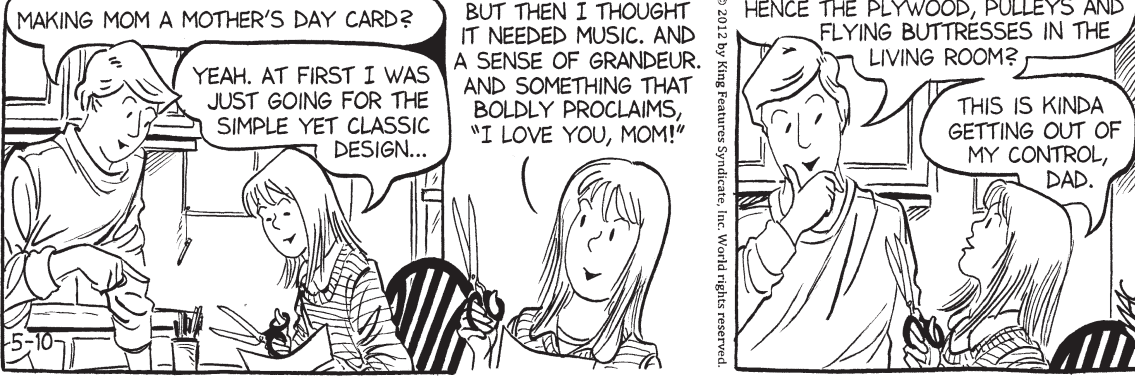
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



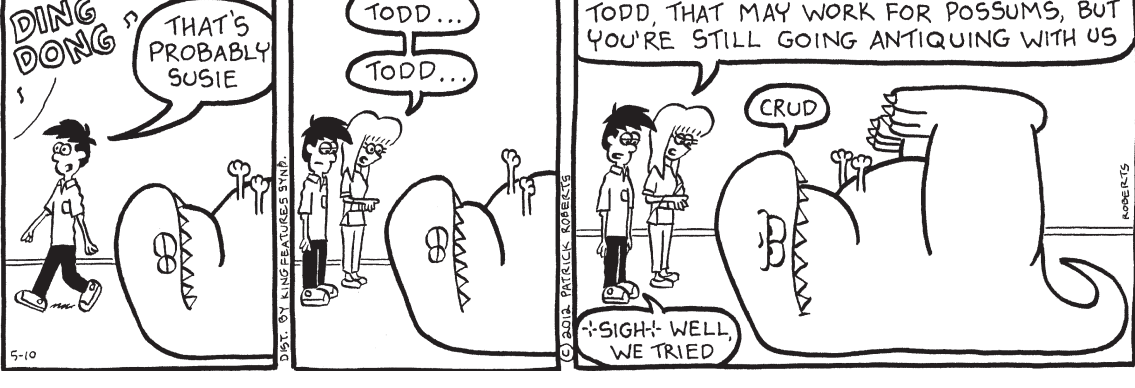
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



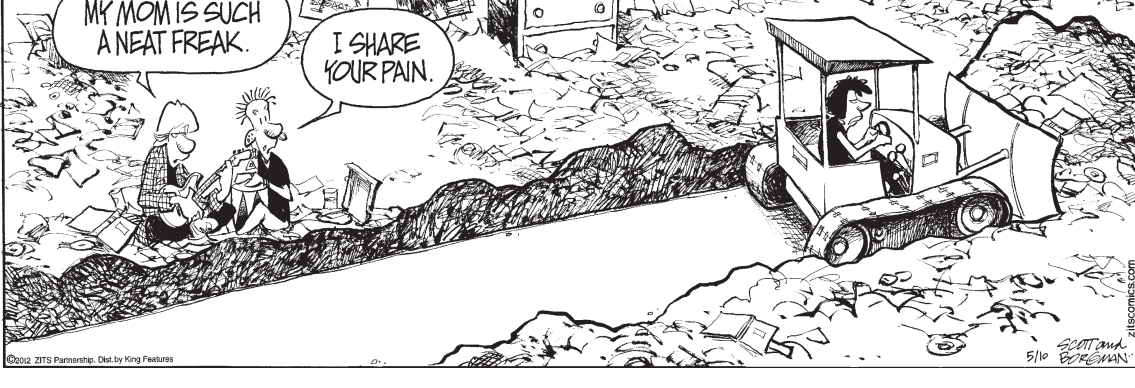
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Terry Kovel**

• Antiques and Collecting

**Patriotic poster has good value**

**Q:** Please tell me what my World War II poster is worth. My father got the poster from his bank in 1942, which is why I know it's an original. It's 39 by 60 inches and pictures a close-up of a pilot. The wording on it is: "You Buy 'Em, We'll Fly 'Em, Defense Bonds, Stamps." The poster is in excellent condition and I have kept it framed under glass.

**A:** World War II patriotic posters interest many collectors. Your poster, featuring art by Norman Wilkinson, was made in at least three sizes. Yours is the largest. We have seen a small one sell for \$100, so yours would sell for more.

**Q:** The pair of king and queen figurines my parents owned for years are now mine. The bottom of each is marked "Made in Occupied Japan." I figure that means they were made after World War II, but I'd like to know more.

**A:** You're asking a timely question, since the end of the Allied occupation of Japan after World War II ended 60 years ago, on April 28, 1952. The "Made in Occupied Japan" mark on your figurines was used between February 1947 and April 1952. But that particular wording was required only until August 1949. Later the rules were relaxed a bit. After August 1949, exported ceramics could be marked as your figurines are or, simply, "Occupied Japan," "Made in Japan" or "Japan."

**Q:** I have owned an old heating stove for years. The name on it is "Warm Morning." Can you give me any history?

**A:** "Warm Morning" was a trade name for heaters made by the Locke Stove Co. of Kansas City, Mo. The heaters were first sold in the early 1930s and remained popular through the '40s. They were made to burn different fuels - wood, coal, gas or oil.

**Q:** More than 50 years ago, my husband and I bought a silver-plated melon-shaped serving piece with a removable silver insert and a second pierced silver insert below it. The dish is 15 inches high by 8 inches in diameter. The top rolls back and is decorated with an ornate coat of arms. The bottom is marked "Mappin & Webb, 7577 & 78 Oxford Street, Building City, London." Can you tell me the history of this piece and its value?

**A:** You have what probably was marketed as a "bun warmer" or "breakfast warmer" designed to keep rolls or other food warm on the table or buffet. Mappin & Webb is still in business. It's one of England's oldest jewelry retailers and is known for its high-quality silver. The firm dates back to 1774, when Jonathan Mappin founded his own silversmith workshop in Sheffield, England. George Webb joined the Mappin family in the business in 1858 and the company's name was changed to Mappin & Webb. A Mappin & Webb silver-plated warmer like yours sold at auction last summer for \$85.

Need prices for collectibles? Find them at Kovel.com, our website for collectors. You can find more than 900,000 prices that can help you determine the value of your collectibles. Access to the prices is free at Kovel.com/priceguide.

Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. Write to Kovel, (Name of this newspaper), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

East dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ K 7 3  
♥ A 6  
♠ 9 8 5 2  
♣ A Q 10 7

**WEST**  
♦ J 5 4 2  
♥ 4  
♠ A K 4  
♣ K 6 5 3 2

**EAST**  
♥ 10 9 8  
♠ J 9 8 3  
♦ Q 10 7  
♣ J 9 4

**SOUTH**  
♦ A Q 6  
♥ K Q 10 7 5 2  
♠ J 6 3  
♣ 8

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♥ Pass 2NT  
Pass 4♥  
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

**The Pessimistic Approach**

The expert lives in a constant state of fear, ever worried that the worst is about to happen. He assumes that the situation may not be as tranquil as it might seem, and that anything that can go wrong will go wrong.

This state of mind, though perhaps a bit paranoid, can pay excellent dividends. The expert's worst fears sometimes materialize, and, because he has prepared for them, he manages to avert a budding catastrophe.

Here is a typical case. West leads the K-A and another diamond. East wins with the queen and returns the ten of spades.

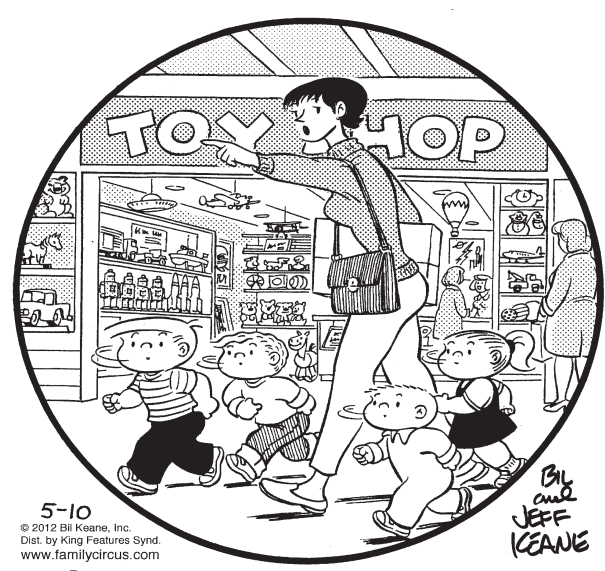
Most declarers would win the spade and start to draw trumps by cashing the A-K. After West showed out on the second trump lead, they would then find it impossible to avoid losing a trump trick, and they would go down one.

But our pessimistic declarer - a more cautious soul - would make the contract. Upon winning East's spade return with the ace, he would start worrying about a bad trump division. He would then try to guard against East's having started with the J-x-x-x of trumps by playing a club to the ace and ruffing a club, followed by the K-A of hearts and another club ruff.

At this point, South's hand would consist of the Q-6 of spades and dummy's king and play the established nine of diamonds. Whether East ruffed this trick or the next one, his J-9 of trumps would succumb to South's Q-10, and his seemingly sure trump trick would go up in smoke.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/10

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

**Cryptoquip**

ZK SDQSWYYEDQ YKZQBY EQ

YRDJKY YKZBEMTY, RWDRPW

SDMPB BWAEQEKWPX YZX

KFWJW EY TMSF AZQ AZJW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PLANT-SPROUTING NOVELTY FIGURINE IN THE SHAPE OF A VERY FAST AFRICAN FELINE: A CHIA CHEETAH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals I

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Standard
  - 4 Plate
  - 8 Dog's annoyance
  - 12 Id counterpart
  - 13 Garfield's pal
  - 14 Wander
  - 15 Attendance check
  - 17 Gaelic
  - 18 Allow
  - 19 Tissue brand
  - 21 Jinx
  - 24 Sphere
  - 25 Pt. of speech
  - 26 Knock
  - 28 Staffers
  - 32 "Piggies"
  - 34 Afternoon affair
  - 36 Pennsylvania port
  - 37 Glitch
  - 39 Do sums
  - 41 Coffee shop vessel
  - 42 Bagel topper
- DOWN**
- 2 Past
  - 3 Reinvest savings
  - 4 Medic game item
  - 5 Mrs. McKinley
  - 6 Lustrous fabric
  - 7 Conversation piece?
  - 8 Sample
  - 9 For-
  - 10 Relaxation
  - 11 Visa
  - 15 Leftovers
  - 16 P.D.
  - 17 Journey segment
  - 18 Historic period
  - 19 Loathe
  - 21 Apiece
  - 22 Small
  - 23 Feedbag tidbit
  - 27 Shell game
  - 29 Lead-in to "Ta-da!"
  - 30 Hibernia
  - 31 Transmit
  - 33 Helpless one?
  - 35 Wood-shaping tool
  - 40 List of court cases
  - 43 Mediterranean sailing ship
  - 45 Rowing need
  - 46 -friendly
  - 47 Scruff
  - 48 Family business abbr.
  - 49 Arp's style
  - 53 Pinch
  - 54 Shelter
  - 55 Journal

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-10

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				60					61		