

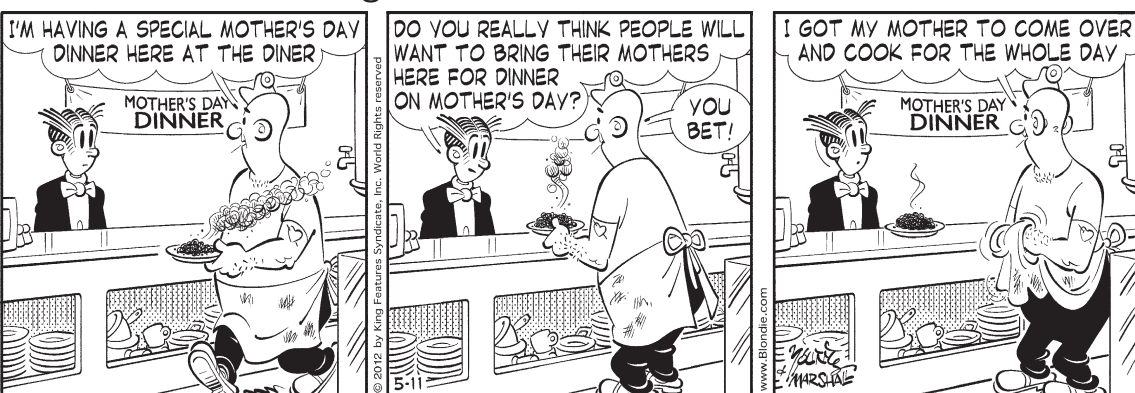
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



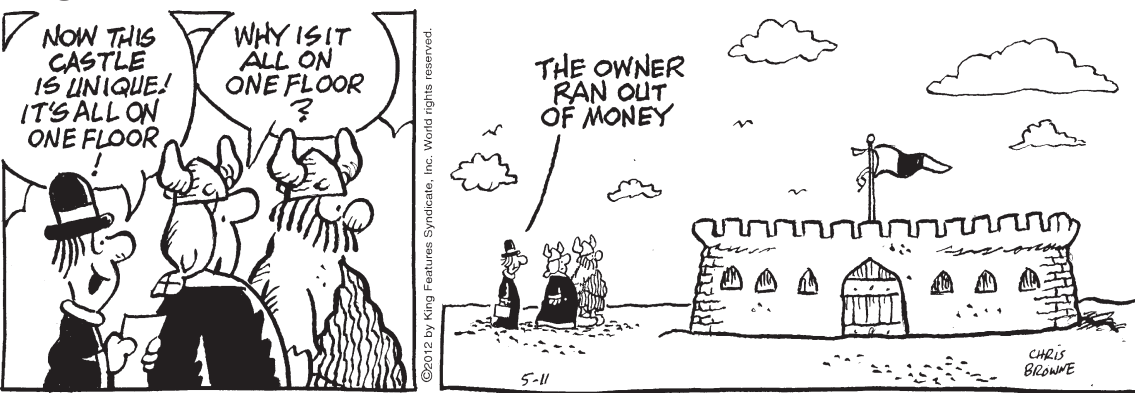
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



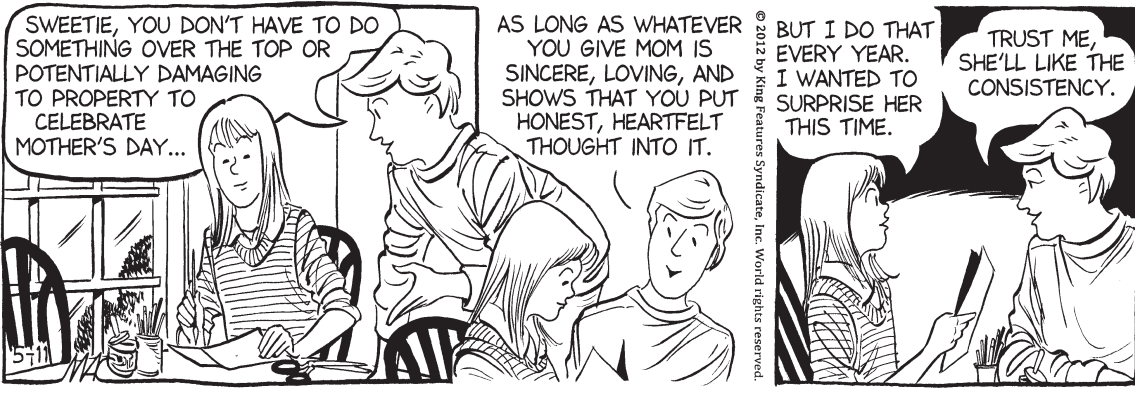
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Butter's best if refrigerated

Dear Heloise: I would like to know if butter has to be kept in the refrigerator. I buy a pound of butter, and I put a stick on a glass dish and keep covered on the counter. I put the rest in the refrigerator until needed. Is this correct? – A Reader, via e-mail

Great question! Well, yes, it's probably OK under certain conditions. If your kitchen is reasonably cool, so the butter stays solid and it's only a few days, you're probably OK. However, according to manufacturers, it is best for butter to be refrigerated until used. They recommend keeping it in the original container in the coldest part of your fridge, and not storing it in the door. Most packages will have a "use by" or "best by" date on them, so be sure to use it by then.

So, it's up to you! Butter is better if kept in the cold, but butter kept out of it is probably safe, as long as you don't let it get old! – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com
GIFT GOODIES

Dear Heloise: When my mom went to the hospital to have my baby brother, she had a gift for me to unwrap every single day that she was in the hospital. (In those days, they kept mothers about a week.) I can still remember the basket of gifts, each one wrapped individually in tissue paper, that I chose a trinket from each morning that she was gone. It was such a neat idea, and now I do it with our grandchildren when they come to stay. – Corinne Berkland in Texas

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I travel frequently on business. Hotel TV remote controls can harbor germs.

On last week's trip, the remote was visibly dirtier than usual. I had some zipper sandwich bags with me, so I dropped the remote into a bag and zipped it up. The remote worked fine from inside the bag, and there was no more worry about germs. This hint might be handy at home, as well, to protect your remote when enjoying TV while eating messy foods. – Doug C., Palmdale, Calif.

Yes, it is handy at home, especially if there are family members who eat sticky food while watching TV! Glad you wrote. – Heloise

DIRTY HEADPHONES

Dear Readers: Headphones should be cleaned! Depending on the style, this can be tricky. If you use earbuds with a silicone tip, remove the tip and place it in a small bowl containing a few drops of dish soap in some warm water. Let soak for a bit. Remove, clean with a cotton swab, rinse and gently dry. Don't reattach until completely dry. If the earbuds do not have the removable tip, clean with a soft, dry cloth. You don't want to risk ruining them with moisture. – Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

NORTH

- ♠ A K
- ♥ A 10 8
- ♦ A Q 8 6 3
- ♣ Q 5 4

WEST

- ♠ J 10 9 8 5
- ♥ J 9 4
- ♦ J
- ♣ J 9 8 6

EAST

- ♠ Q 6 4
- ♥ 3
- ♦ 10 9 7 5 4 2
- ♣ K 3 2

SOUTH

- ♠ 7 3 2
- ♥ K Q 7 6 5 2
- ♦ K
- ♣ A 10 7

Test Your Play

Players who enjoy solving double-dummy problems should get a particular kick out of this one. South is declarer at Seven Hearts, and West leads the jack of spades. South is to make the contract against best defense by East-West. As in all double-dummy problems, you are permitted to look at all four hands in seeking the solution.

Answer: Win the spade lead with dummy's king and play a low diamond to the king. Then lead a low trump and finesse the eight.

Ruff the six of diamonds with the queen of hearts and return a low heart to dummy's ten. After ruffing the eight of diamonds with the king of hearts, cash the ace of clubs, then lead a trump to the ace and cash the ace of diamonds, discarding a club. This is now the position:

North

- ♠ A
- ♥ Q
- ♦ Q 5

West

- ♠ 10 9
- ♥ J 9

East

- ♠ Q 4
- ♥ K 3

South

- ♠ 7 3
- ♥ 7
- ♣ 10

Cash the queen of diamonds, discarding the ten of clubs. East cannot afford to discard a club on this trick because you could then ruff the five of clubs to establish the queen and make the contract. So assume East discards a spade.

West, in turn, cannot make a satisfactory discard. If he elects to let go of a spade, you cash the ace of spades and score your 13th trick with the seven of spades. If he discards the nine of clubs instead, you lead the queen of clubs from dummy, catching East's king and West's jack on the same trick and establishing dummy's five as your final trick.

Of course, if East doesn't cover the queen of clubs with the king, you simply discard a spade to make the grand slam.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



5-11

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"Mommy pretends she's looking at the size, but she's really looking at the price."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

5/11

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

Cryptoquip

NKH SNNC ZSNAY ZXYNT

VOKKOTV' ZJIAK TOQROJV

ITNG GZWU BRXCU GNQRO

XTRYRXV: "BOYOT BZWWOH."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT CONCESSION STANDS IN SPORTS STADIUMS, PEOPLE COULD DEFINITELY SAY THERE IS MUCH FAN FARE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Boar's mate
 - 4 Deteriorate
 - 7 Blender setting
 - 12 N.A. section
 - 13 GI's mail address
 - 14 Game venue
 - 15 Transgression
 - 16 Precursor
 - 18 Coop dweller
 - 19 Calamari
 - 20 Mideast nation
 - 22 Sailors' org.
 - 23 Existed
 - 27 Handle
 - 29 Alluring quality (Var.)
 - 31 Nome dome home
 - 34 Duck
 - 35 Escargots
 - 37 Strike
 - 38 Hybrid pooch
 - 39 —
 - 41 Region

- 45 Production number?
- 47 Japanese pond carp
- 48 Snack for Wimpy
- 52 Tractor-trailer
- 53 Pong creator
- 54 "Rocks"
- 55 Tray contents?
- 56 Knapsack part
- 57 Dance syllable?
- 58 Prepared
- 3 Would like to, colloquially
- 4 Bleacherites' calls
- 5 Not transparent
- 6 Doughnut shape
- 7 Picked up the tab
- 8 Grecian vessel
- 9 Rule, for short
- 10 Away from
- 11 Corn spike
- 17 Bob's longtime pal
- 21 Ring used in a throwing game
- 23 Matilda's dance
- 24 Flightless bird
- 25 Scepter
- 26 Before
- 28 Scale member
- 30 Wahine's accessory
- 31 Doctrine
- 32 Wildebeest
- 33 Long. crosser
- 36 Dino's tail?
- 37 Full of modern gadgetry
- 40 Reason
- 42 Gumbo ingredients
- 43 Din
- 44 Two-by-four?
- 45 Witticism
- 46 Vicinity
- 48 Owns
- 49 Lawyer (Abbr.)
- 50 Scratch
- 51 Underwear with underwire

Solution time: 25 mins.

PAR	DISH	FLEA							
EGO	ODIE	ROAM							
ROLL	CALL	ERSE							
	LET	KLEENEX							
HO	ODO	ORB							
ADV	RAP	AIDES							
TOES	TEA	ERIE							
ERROR	ADD	URN							
	LOX	ZOOMED							
UNBOWED	CAR								
SARI	BANK	ROLL							
EPOS	EDIE	LEO							
REST	CAPT	LEG							

Yesterday's answer 5-11

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	