

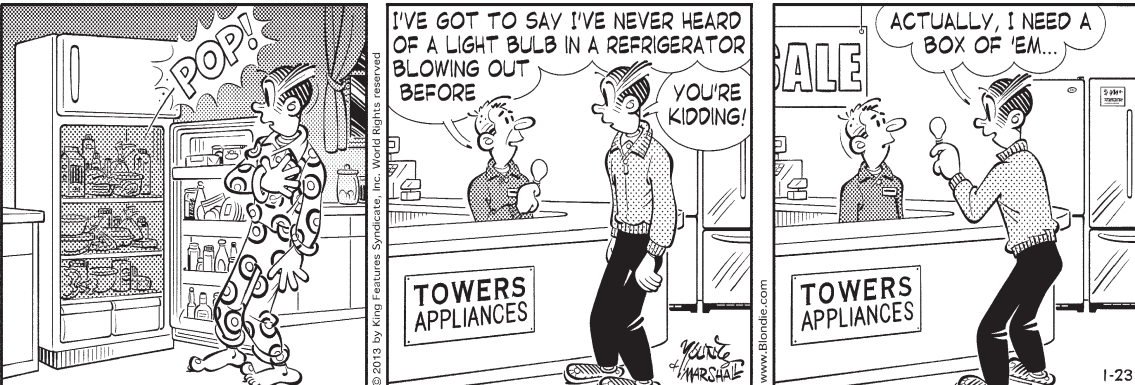
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



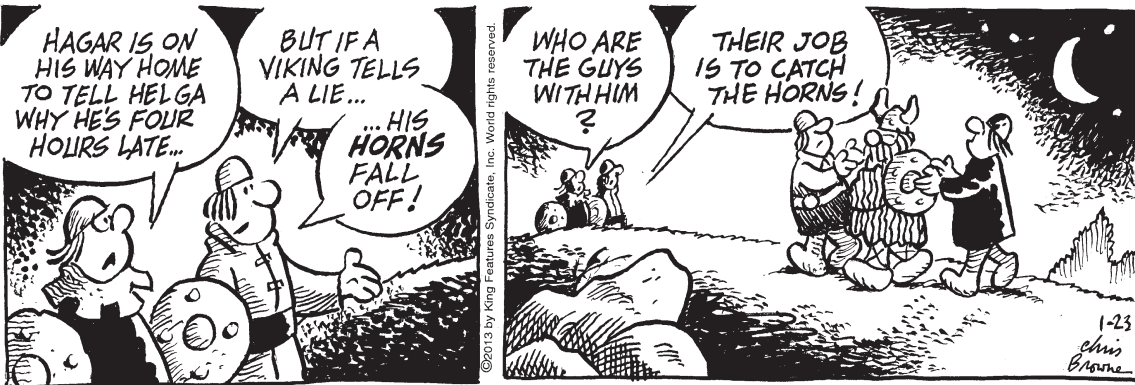
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



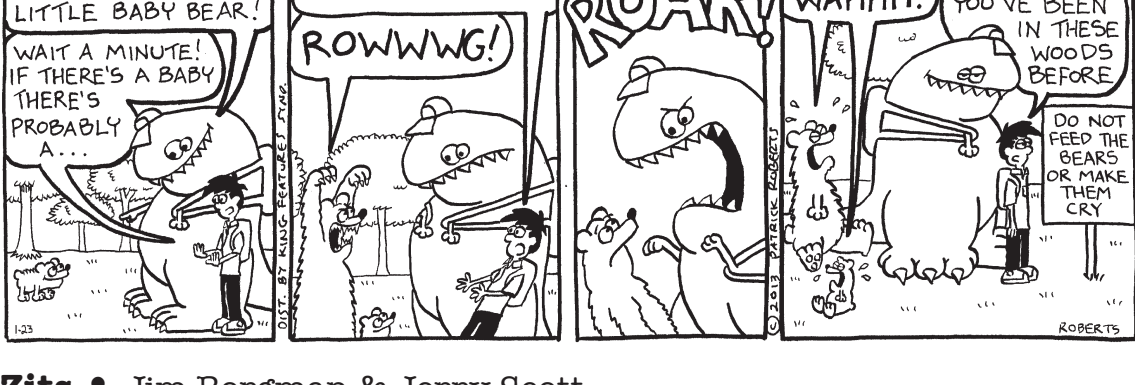
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Peanut oil's tops in turkey cooker

Dear Heloise: I read your hints every day. I appreciated the column on oils; however, you did not name peanut oil, which we use in our turkey cooker. What are your thoughts on peanut oil? – Jim C., Spokane, Wash.

In Texas, peanut is the oil of choice for frying turkeys. The United States Department of Agriculture actually recommends peanut oil for deep frying because of the high "smoke point" (how high a temperature the oil can be heated to before it breaks down).

You can safely reuse peanut oil three to four times, if it is free of spices and seasonings. Let the oil cool down, then strain it through cheesecloth. I tested this using a paper coffee filter with vegetable oil, and it worked just fine. Place the oil in an airtight, sealed container, and store it in a cool, dark place for up to six months. Make sure to heat the oil to above 350 degrees Fahrenheit before putting food in it. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

Dear Heloise: To keep the tray in the toaster oven clean and looking good, I use aluminum foil. However, I came across some old foil I had used for doing highlights in my hair. These are pre-cut, pop out, and fit the toaster-oven tray perfectly. No more guessing the size. It saves time and is inexpensive. – Brenda E., via e-mail

Brenda, most people do the same with aluminum foil. However, manufacturers say no to doing this because of the possibility of overheating. – Heloise

PIZZA CUTTER

Dear Heloise: I've used tortillas in place of dumplings for several years. One day, as I reached for a knife, I noticed my pizza cutter and tried it. Much to my surprise, it did a better job and was much easier. If it begins to get dough on it, I just wipe a tiny bit of cooking oil on the blade and continue cutting. – Jim D. in Arkansas

STORING CILANTRO

Dear Heloise: Here is my hint for keeping cilantro fresh (parsley and mint, too) for up to two weeks. Bundle the stems together with a rubber band and stand the bunch upright in a small, heavy container filled with water. Loosely cover the rest with plastic wrap or a plastic bag. Stand the container in the fridge, and you can use the herbs for much longer than the usual three to four days. – Betsy W., Spokane, Wash.

This is a tried-and-true hint. You also can snip off 1/2 inch or so of the stem every few days, and you need only about 1-2 inches of water in the container. – Heloise

GRAPEFRUIT SPOON

Dear Heloise: I found that the fastest way to remove the seeds and membranes of jalapeno peppers is to scrape them out with a grapefruit spoon. Its narrow and slightly jagged edges quickly cut loose the unwanted portions of the peppers. – Keith M., via e-mail

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 3
♥ J 7 5 4 3
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A 10

WEST
♠ J 8 7 5 2
♥ 10 6 2
♦ Q 10 8 3
♣ 5

EAST
♠ AK 10 6 4
♥ A 9 8
♦ J 5
♣ 8 7 3

SOUTH
♠ 9
♥ K
♦ AK 9 4
♣ K Q J 9 6 4 2

The bidding:
East 1♠ South 5♣ West 3♠ North 4♥

Opening lead — five of spades.

Razzle-Dazzle Defense
Once in a blue moon, a defense must make three good plays in a row to defeat a contract. East did exactly that in today's deal to prevent South from making five clubs.

West led a spade, won by East with the king. It seemed unlikely on the bidding that South had another spade, so East made his first good play when he shifted to a trump.

Without the trump return, declarer would have made 11 tricks very easily. With a spade continuation, for example, South would ruff and lead the king of hearts, rendering East helpless whether or not he took his ace.

Declarer won the trump return in his hand and led the king of hearts. Again East made the winning play when he ducked. Had he taken the ace, South would have been able to discard two diamonds on the Q-J of hearts.

Declarer could now do no better than lead the A-K and another diamond. He was hoping to find the diamonds divided 3-3 or, failing that, to ruff his fourth diamond in dummy if the suit divided 4-2.

West won the third diamond with the ten — but only for a moment. East ruffed the ten, even though it was his partner's trick, and returned his last trump. This play put the final nail in South's coffin. He had to lose another diamond and go down one. Of course, if East had failed to ruff the diamond ten and lead a trump, South would have gotten home safely.

East's defense was surely of the highest order. Three times he recognized a danger, and three times he found a way to counter it. It was truly a defensive tour de force.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

1/23

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★

Cryptoquip

BMRY CMR GZYQ ZYYJDYNRQ

AC BJDOQ YJ OJYERK GR

EATAYE OATR CJDKP, BZP

CMZC QAP-NJYNRKCAYE YRBP?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOOPS PLAYER WHO PROBABLY ENJOYED DANGEROUS SWERVING WHILE DRIVING CARS: CAREEN ABDUL-JABBAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Grand story
 - 5 Recipe meas.
 - 8 Slender smoke
 - 12 Stereo precursor
 - 13 Conger or moray
 - 14 Opposed to
 - 15 Sit on eggs
 - 17 High-lander
 - 18 Rib
 - 19 Off the path
 - 21 Thing
 - 24 Golf prop
 - 25 Related
 - 28 Sandwich shop
 - 30 Shock and —
 - 33 Lair
 - 34 Duck down
 - 35 Vast expanse
 - 36 Pouch
 - 37 Male
 - 38 See 37-Across
 - 39 Eggs
- DOWN**
- 41 Unrivaled
 - 43 Legendary
 - 46 Adult insect
 - 50 Sahara-like
 - 51 On an angle
 - 54 Rinky—
 - 55 Use the micro-wave
 - 56 Unrivaled
 - 57 Long story
 - 58 Flightless bird
 - 59 Tackles' team-mates
 - 1 Send forth

2 Corn concoction

3 Erstwhile Peruvian

4 Family member

5 With 6-Down, cups and saucers and such

6 See 5-Down

7 Entreaty

8 Haste result

9 Enlarge

10 Old portico

11 Compassion

16 Wager

20 Use a swizzle stick

22 Fix a manuscript

23 Olympics prize

25 Billboards

26 Mauna —

27 Arriving

29 Toy block name

31 Teensy

32 Listener

34 Jacob's brother

38 End

40 Bullshot ingredient

42 Zero

43 Crazy

44 Operatic solo

45 Dimension

47 Any time now

48 Neuter

49 Rhyming tributes

52 "Platoon" setting, for short

53 Innards of a PC

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

Yesterday's answer 1-23

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		