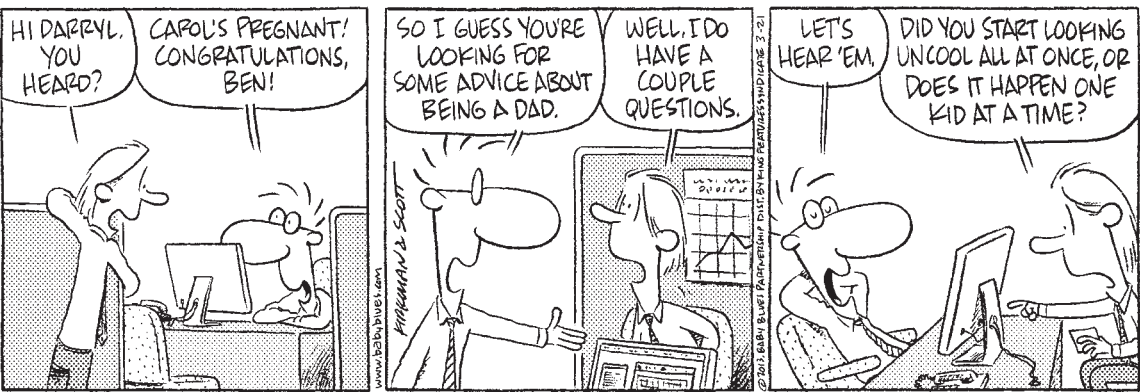


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



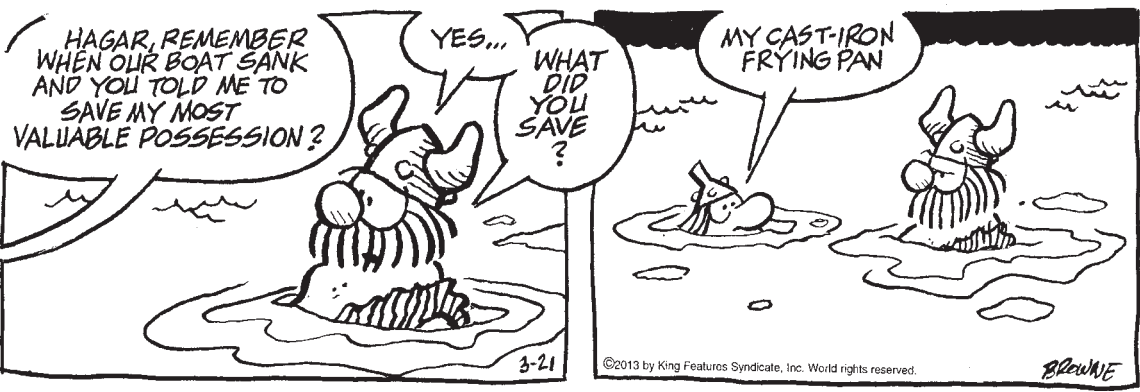
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



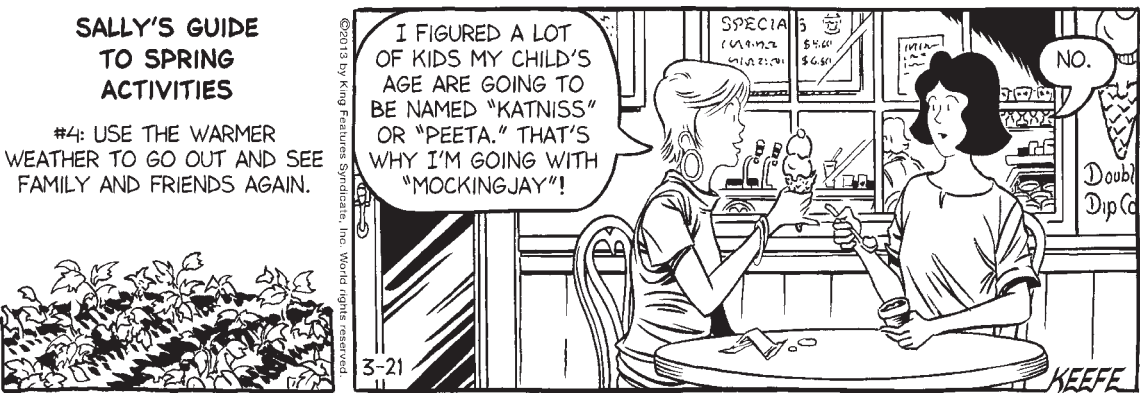
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



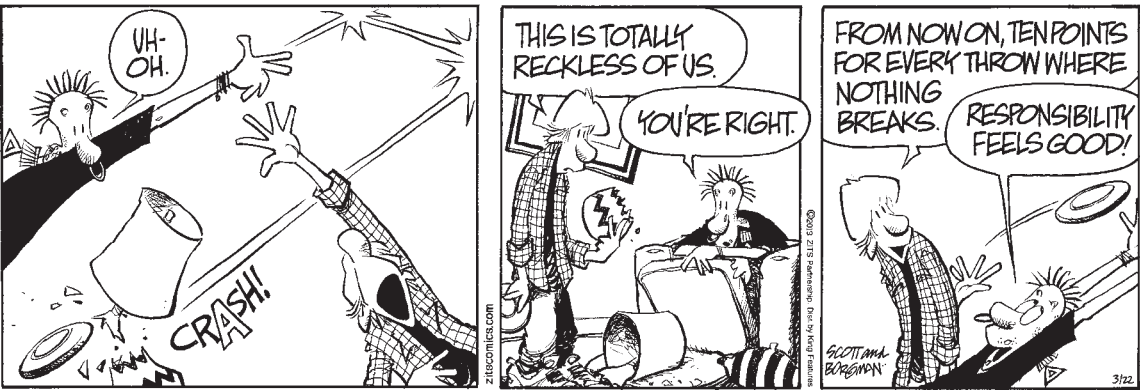
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott





**Terry Kovel**

- Antiques and Collecting

Plate celebrates Indiana hotel

**Q:** We have an 8-inch gold-rimmed plate with a painting of a large hotel on it. At the bottom of the plate is the phrase, “New West Baden Springs Hotel, West Baden, Ind., The Carlsbad of America.” It’s marked on the back, “Hand Painted, the Jonroth Studios, Germany.” We don’t know how old it is, but my mother is 93 years old and she recalls that her mother bought it on one of the family’s trips to West Baden when she was a little girl. Can you tell us its approximate age and value?

**A:** The “new” West Baden Springs Hotel was built in 1902, after the original hotel burned down. It was advertised as “The Eighth Wonder of the World” because its main circular building is topped by the world’s largest dome. It was called “The Carlsbad of America” because of nearby mineral springs, similar to those in Carlsbad, Germany.

Jonroth Studios was a name used by an American importing company, John H. Roth & Co., founded in 1909, that imported china from Germany, Japan and England. Your plate probably was made in the ’20s and is worth about \$30.

**Q:** I have a lithograph published by Associated American Artists. I’ve seen some sell for thousands of dollars. Can you tell me something about this group?

**A:** During the Depression, most people couldn’t afford art, so Reeves Lewenthal founded Associated American Artists in 1934 to provide art for the middle class. He hired well-known American artists, including Thomas Hart Benton and Grant Wood, to make lithographs, which were reproduced and sold in department stores.

Later, the art was sold in the Associated American Artists gallery in New York City and by mail. Watercolors, oil paintings and other works, including home furnishings, were also sold.

Prints originally sold for \$5 unframed and \$7 framed. Today, some sell for hundreds or even thousands of dollars, depending on the artist.

**Q:** My father was always buying stocks and bonds. When he died, I inherited two certificates for 100 shares of stock in Cobalt Silver Queen Ltd. They are dated Dec. 12, 1908. Can you tell me anything about this company, and what the value of these certificates might be?

**A:** Cobalt Silver Queen Ltd. was organized in 1906 in Cobalt, Ontario, Canada. Silver was discovered in the area in 1903. Cobalt Silver Queen mined silver and cobalt. Stock in the company was offered for \$1.50 per share in 1908. By the 1930s, most of the mines had closed. Stock certificates for companies no longer in business may be redeemable (ask your library for help) or collectible. Collectors look for certificates with historical value, elaborate engraved designs, interesting graphics or the signature of a well-known person. The hobby of collecting old stock and bond certificates is called “scripophily.” Certificates are bought and sold online and at auctions.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A 9 6  
♥ A K 8 4  
♦ A Q  
♣ K 9 5 2

**WEST**  
♠ 10 7 3  
♥ Q 6 3  
♦ J 10 9 5 4 2  
♣ 8

**EAST**  
♠ 8 5 4 2  
♥ J 9 5  
♦ 7 3  
♣ Q 7 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q J  
♥ 10 7 2  
♦ K 8 6  
♣ A J 10 4

The bidding:  
East 1 ♣ South 1 NT West 1 ♥ North 6 NT  
Pass 1 NT Pass 6 NT  
Opening lead — jack of diamonds.

**The Investigative Process**  
Assume you’re in six notrump and win West’s diamond lead with the queen. Your sure winners are three spades, two hearts, three diamonds and two clubs -- a total of 10 tricks, so you need two more.

Obviously, your best chance of picking up two additional tricks lies in clubs, where you have a two-way finesse for the queen. If you knew the location of the queen, it would be easy to trap the damsel by finessing in the right direction, and your troubles would be over. Locating the queen deserves your closest attention, because misguessing which way to finesse could cost you 1,740 points.

However, it is much too early, after only one trick has been played, to make what will amount to an irrevocable decision in the club suit, since you know next to nothing about the East-West hands. You therefore begin an investigative campaign in the hope of learning more about the opposing distribution.

Accordingly, at trick two you cash the ace of hearts and then lead a low heart from dummy. West takes your ten with the queen and returns a diamond to dummy’s ace.

You cash the king of hearts, and, when the suit proves to be divided 3-3, you also cash dummy’s eight, pitching a club after East discards a spade. You then play the A-K-Q of spades and king of diamonds, dummy and East both discarding clubs.

All your worries are now over, because you have obtained a complete count of the hand. West is known to have started with six diamonds (East showed out on the third round of the suit), three spades and three hearts. He therefore began with at most one club.

So you lead the ten of clubs to the king and finesse the jack with total confidence on the way back. That’s all there is to it!

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

3/21

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

3/20

Cryptoquip

GORT VRKMJ IT “DOR IEE

FINWKR” OYPT’D RYDRT VIIE

VIL Y GOMKR, M RJWRFD OR

X R D P N T X R L W Y T X P.

**Yesterday’s Cryptoquip:** THAT EAGLE’S HUGE CLIFFTOP NEST GIVES ME GOOSE PIMPLES. I’VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AN EERIE AERIE.

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: E equals D

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**

1 Last few notes

5 Med. approval org.

8 Fall into a beanbag chair

12 Last write-up

13 Valentine mis-spelling

14 Actress Turner

15 Missing

16 Past

17 Spore cases

18 Pour wine

20 Time of discontent?

22 Calf’s mama

23 Fresh

24 1/4 bushel

27 Not steadily

32 Vast expanse

33 Play with robots

34 Anonymous Richard
- 35** Discontinue

**38** Nervous humor

**40** Candle material

**42** Chemical relative

**45** Discount store

**49** Ms. Moore

**50** Blunder

**52** Green land

**53** Mideast nation

**54** Cartoonist Browne

**55** Kvetches

**56** Queue

**57** Chances, for short
- 58** Jog

**DOWN**

1 Frigid

2 Reed instrument

3 Record

4 Have at

5 Platy-helminth

6 Used a shovel

7 Acknowledge

8 Shaved a board

9 Debate closer

10 Previous-ly

11 Duo

19 “Forget it!”

21 Hostel
- 24** Next-to-last letter

**25** Still, in verse

**26** Role for Julie, Eartha, Lee, Michelle, Halle or Anne

**28** Rapa — (Easter Island)

**29** Museum pieces

**30** Visibility hindrance

**31** “30 Rock” star

**36** White weasel

**37** Catcher’s place?

**38** Range

**41** Symbol for gold

**42** “American —”

**43** Big rig

**44** Start over

**46** Storyteller

**47** Therefore

**48** Criterion

**51** Tear

Solution time: 25 mins.

49	Mis-	snovel	28	Hapa-	
	Moore	7	Acknowl-	(Easter-	
50	Blunder		edge	Island)	
52	Green	8	Shaved a	29	Museum
land			board		pieces
53	Mideast	9	Debate	30	Visibility
nation			closer		hindran-
54	Cartoonist	10	Previous-	31	"30 Rock
Browne			ly		star
55	Kvetches	11	Duo	36	White
56	Quow-	12	"Forget		waggle-

Yesterday’s answer 3-21

tent? for short **21** Hostel place?

**22** Calf's mama **38** Range

**23** Fresh **41** Symbol

**24** 1/4 bushel for gold

**27** Not steadily **42** "American —"

**32** Vast expanse **43** Big rig

**33** Play with robots **44** Start over

**34** Anonymous **46** Storytel

Richard **47** Therefore

**48** Criterion

**51** Tear

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

**Yesterday's answer 3-21**

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12						13				14		
15						16				17		
18					19			20	21			
24	25	26				27	28	29			30	31
32						33					34	
35					36	37					38	
42	43					44			45		46	47
49												
						50	51			52		
53							54				55	
56							57				58	