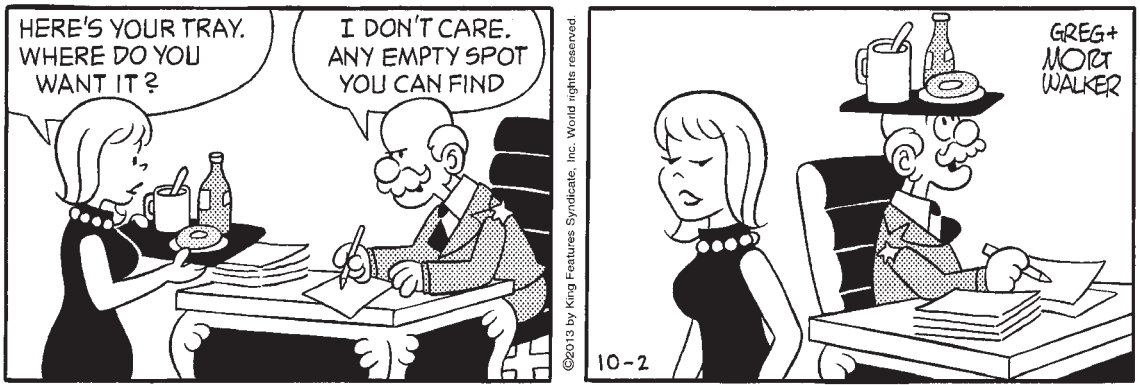


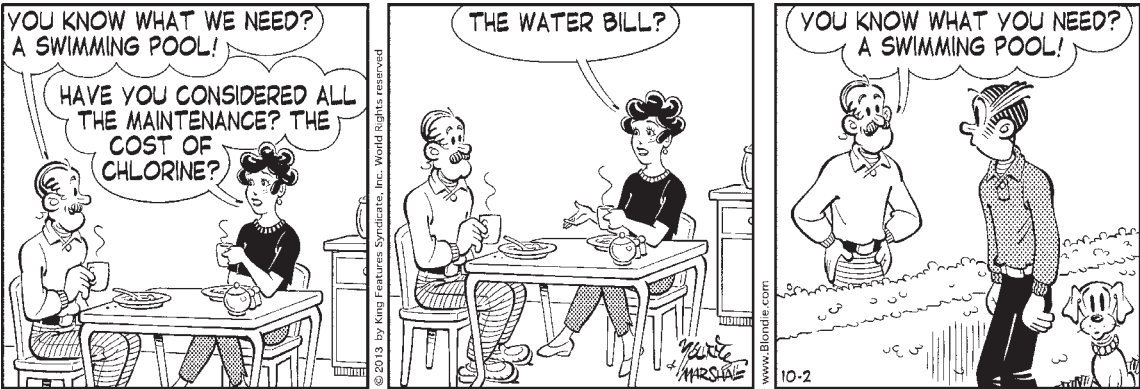
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



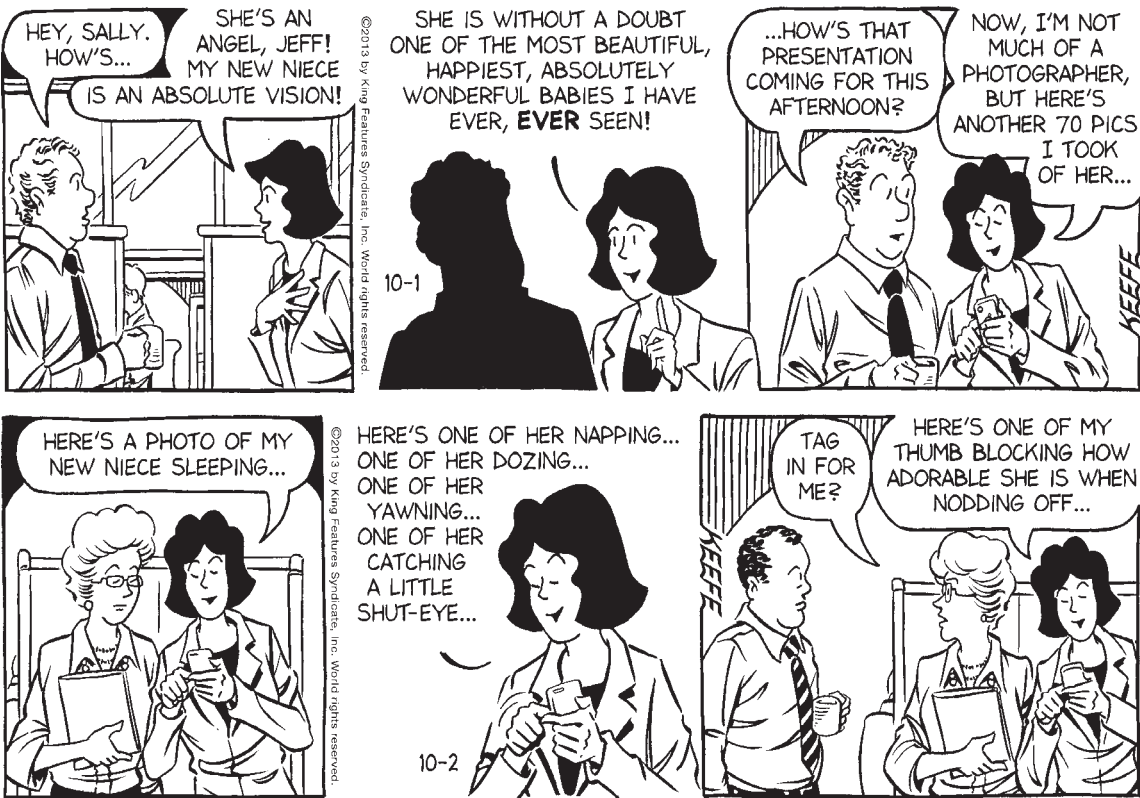
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



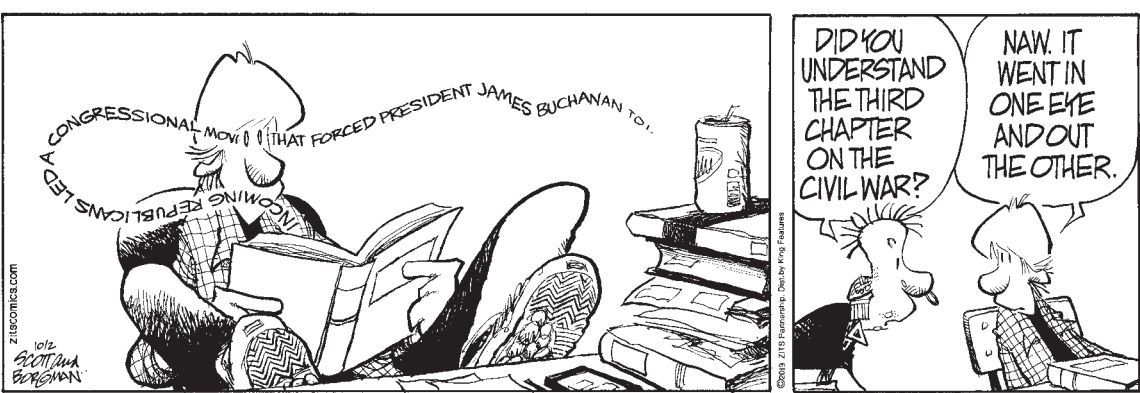
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Apricots make good preserves

Dear Heloise: I remember a recipe of yours for Heloise's Apricot Preserves. Could you reprint it, please? – Edith S. in Tennessee

Absolutely! Heloise's Apricot Preserves recipe uses one 8-ounce package of dried apricots, 1/2 cup of sugar and half of a fresh lemon.

Place 4 cups or so of water in a pot with the apricots and sugar. Slice the lemon into very thin slices and then into pieces. Add to the pot and stir. Cook for 30 minutes over medium heat (without a lid).

After 20 minutes, use a potato masher and give the mixture a good mashing, but leave some pieces. The chunks are what make it like Grandma's.

Stir again after a few minutes to see if it is thick. If not, cook just a little bit longer. Once thick enough, take off the heat and let it sit until it cools. Place in jars and keep in the refrigerator. This recipe and more can be found in my Heloise's All-Time Favorite Recipes pamphlet, which you can receive by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (66 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Recipes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. With only 17 calories per apricot, they are yummy as a quick snack, and are great with oatmeal. Use these preserves on waffles, pancakes and as an oatmeal topping. – Heloise

FLAVORED OIL

Dear Heloise: I have started saving the leftover oil from jars of marinated artichoke hearts, minced garlic, sundried tomatoes and roasted red peppers. I save the oil in the refrigerator. I put the oil on salad, vegetables or pasta for added flavor. – Linda P. in New Mexico

Love it! That "oil" is flavored, and you have already paid for it, so use it for other things! Try pouring it over cream cheese as a tasty appetizer. – Heloise

STICKY SITUATION

Dear Heloise: When enjoying a nice, icy-cold drink on a hot summer day, condensation builds up on the outside of the glass. If the glass is placed on a napkin, the napkin sticks to the bottom of the glass when you pick it up. To avoid this, generously sprinkle salt on the napkin before sitting the glass down. No more sticking, and it works like a charm every time. – Jan W. in Florida

This is a Heloise classic hint that I love! It works for paper coasters, too. – Heloise

PIE DISHES

Dear Heloise: In our area, there are an increasing number of charity pie auctions. My wife buys used glass baking dishes at thrift shops for a dollar or two. She bakes a pie in the glass dish and then donates both as one package. – Don and Sharon Short in Arkansas

CARDBOARD CARRIER

Dear Heloise: When taking food somewhere, I take a flat piece of cardboard and cover it with aluminum foil. The cardboard is like a platter for carrying dishes, and the foil protects it from spills so I can reuse it. – Gayle W. in Wyoming

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Bridge • Steve Becker

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH			
♦	A K 9 2		
♥	K 10 9 8		
♦	Q 7 5		
♣	6 5		
EAST			
♦	Q 10 8 4		
♥	6 2		
♦	9 6 2		
♣	10 7 4 3		
SOUTH			
♦	7 6 5 3		
♥	A Q J 4 3		
♦	8 4		
♣	A Q		

The bidding:
West North East South
1 ♦ Pass Pass 1 ♥
Pass 3 ♥ Pass 4 ♥
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

The Art of Card-Reading

There are some deals where declarer can tell exactly how the missing cards are divided and, as a result, can achieve the maximum result possible.

Declarer has two main sources of information that guide him in working out the composition of the unseen hands. One is the bidding; the other is the plays already made, which nearly always shed valuable light.

Consider this case where South winds up in four hearts after West has opened the bidding with one diamond. West leads the king of diamonds and shifts to the jack of spades. South sees that the contract is easy to make if the spades are divided 3-2, since he can eventually establish dummy's diamond queen and his fourth spade to come to 10 tricks. He therefore begins to think in terms of what he might do if the spades turn out to be divided 4-1.

After taking the first spade with the king, he plays the A-K of trumps and then leads the eight of diamonds. West wins with the ace and returns a diamond to the queen, on which South discards a spade. But when declarer next cashes the ace of spades, West shows out, leaving South with the prospect of losing both a spade and a club for down one.

Declarer can, of course, attempt a club finesse, hoping to find East with the king, but this is a bleak prospect, since West is virtually certain to have the king for his opening bid.

It is this clue, gained from the bidding, that saves the day for declarer. Instead of trying the tempting club finesse, South plays the ace of clubs followed by the queen.

West wins with the king but is stymied. He is forced to lead a diamond or a club, and, whichever he chooses, South ruffs in dummy and discards his last spade to bring home the contract.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"It depends on where you think we're going."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

10/02

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★

Cryptoquip

B I Z J L Y Q R ' V W F Z X

D P J V F V X V V P N Z N R P U U P P W

L X X E L O Z N F J Y L H Q V Z H Z J X

V I P B V , F V I Z D L E J F O L N - P Q V ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOPING IT WOULD HELP TO STOP HIS STUBBORN COUGH, THE MECHANICAL MAN DOWNED SOME ROBOT-TUSSIN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 37 Elevator name | 59 Catch sight of | 10 Poet Teasdale |
| 1 Small songbird | 38 Information quantity | DOWN | 11 Coaster |
| 5 Army rank (Abbr.) | 39 PC linking system | 1 Sharpen | 16 Discoverer's cry |
| 8 "New Girl" role | 41 Trans-action | 2 Mature | 20 Simple |
| 12 Employ | 43 Hot (Sl.) | 3 Ms. Brockovich | 22 Move like a butterfly |
| 13 Man-mouse link | 46 Active folks | 4 Get snug and cozy | 23 Luke-warm |
| 14 October birthstone | 50 Incite | 5 Stylish, to Austin Powers | 25 "Alice" role |
| 15 Like soap operas, e.g. | 51 Delivery room shot | 6 "Entourage" role | 26 Eve, originally |
| 17 Green land | 55 Joan of — | 7 — Frost | 27 Literary coda |
| 18 First extra inning | 56 Slugger Sammy | 8 Baby kangaroos | 29 Church section |
| 19 ATM feature | 57 Undo a dele | 9 Sudden realization | 31 Garfield or Heathcliff |
| 21 Hay there? | 58 Trigger's rider | | 32 CBS logo |
| 24 Fire residue | | | 34 Region |
| 25 Gratis | | | 38 Woman's top |
| 28 Meadows | | | 40 Watchful |
| 30 High card | | | 42 Toss in |
| 33 Back talk | | | 43 Lather |
| 34 Very quick | | | 44 Jog |
| 35 Unfavorable vote | | | 45 Approach |
| 36 Japanese sash | | | 47 Cupid's alter ego |

JUG	I	R	E	N	E	M	A	S
A	M	I	D	E	M	O	N	A
M	A	N	N	E	Q	U	I	N
			E	A	U		S	E
G	A	M	B	L	E	Y	A	
A	L	A	S	S	T	D	E	T
I	S	N	T	T	O	M	S	O
L	O	T	U	S		Y	O	R
			I	C	E	D	U	N
B	A	C	K	E	R	T	W	O
A	G	O		M	A	N	H	A
H	U	R		E	E	M	E	R
S	E	E		D	A	D	D	

Yesterday's answer 10-2

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									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			