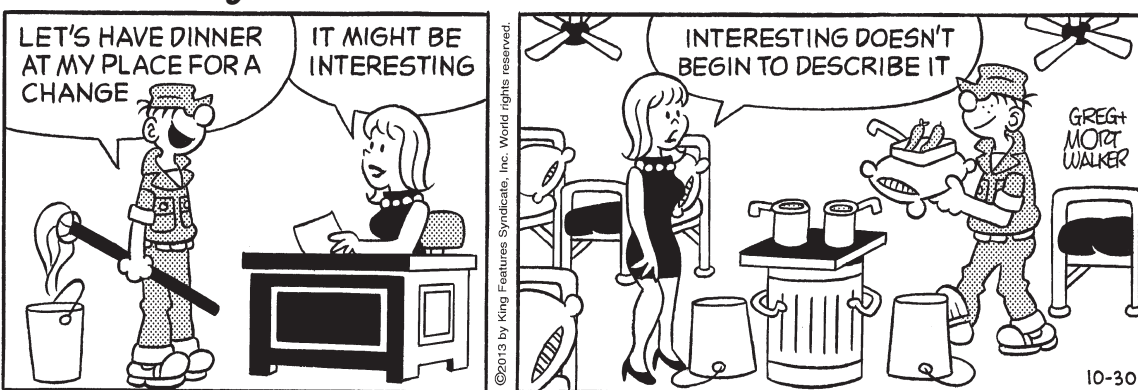


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



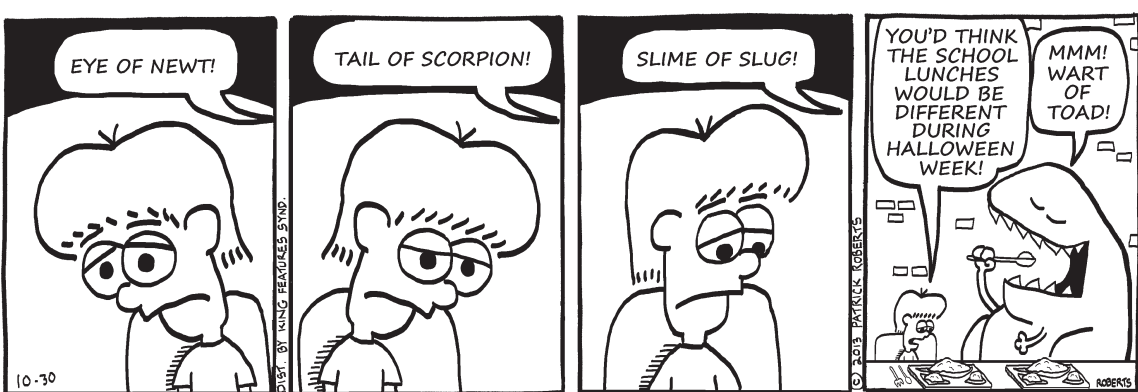
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Stay peanut-free for safe holiday

Dear Heloise: I am an emergency-room nurse. I would like to inform all of your readers to buy all peanut-free treats to offer at Halloween or at any party given in your home, church function or other gathering for adults and children. There is no shortage of peanut-free food products, and it is the only way to be 100 percent sure that you do not cause a death.

Remember when you were a kid? Children returned home from trick-or-treating and it was common to "trade" treats with siblings or neighbor children. Hundreds of people die from food allergies per year, and many are from peanut products. — Maggie M. in Ohio

Thank you for a very important reminder! Parents, watch out, especially if your child has peanut allergies. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

RAISIN PRESERVATION

Dear Heloise: We buy raisins in the 20-ounce box, which has no liner. They tended to dry out toward the bottom of the box until I started doing this: Cut the rim off the plastic lid and use this tight-fitting cover inside the next box you buy, pressing down to keep the air out. When the product nears the bottom, you might have to use a fork to take out this inner "cover." It works for round or square boxes. I keep one of each on hand and throw them into the dishwasher between uses. — Wanda A., Hickory, N.C.

Clever! Here's a hint: Put the whole box in a large, plastic zippered bag, or pour the raisins themselves into the bag and then put back into the box. — Heloise

HOLIDAY PANCAKES

Dear Heloise: One of my favorite things to do for my kids is make different-colored pancakes. For Halloween, I mix red and yellow coloring to make them pumpkin-colored pancakes. Not only do they get into the holiday spirit, but this adds variation to our morning routine.

At Christmas, the kids really enjoy red and green mini pancakes! — Jenny L. in Indiana

STORAGE SOLUTION

Dear Heloise: With leftovers, I use only the rectangular storage containers. When they are all the same shape, it is easier to arrange and stack the containers. This makes the storage space in my fridge more efficient. — T.C. in Oklahoma

HARD-BOILED EGGS

Dear Heloise: I just read your hint on distinguishing hard-boiled eggs from raw ones by adding food coloring to the water. Did you know that can be determined by just spinning the egg? A hard-boiled egg will spin fast. A raw one, slowly. Try it. — Ursula in Lincoln, Calif.

Yep! However, it's fun to have colored eggs in the refrigerator. — Heloise

NO PARSLEY

Dear Heloise: Here is a hint for celery leaves: I use them in place of fresh parsley. You can add the chopped leaves to homemade salsa or soups and stews. — Samantha Q. in New York
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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 9 7 4
♥ Q 10 8 7
♦ A K Q 10
♣ 4

WEST
♠ Q 3
♥ A J 5 4 2
♦ 7 4
♣ J 10 8 3

EAST
♠ 10
♥ K 6
♦ 9 8 6 3 2
♣ A 7 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 8 6 5 2
♥ 9 3
♦ J 5
♣ K Q 9

The bidding:
1 South Pass North Pass
2 South Pass North Pass
Opening lead — jack of clubs.

The One and Only Way

Just as declarer sometimes must assume that the opposing cards are divided in a certain way in order to make his contract, so must the defenders assume that their cards are distributed in a way that will allow the contract to be defeated.

Consider this case from a team contest, where first one defender and then the other had to make just such an assumption. West led the jack of clubs to East's ace, and East paused to take stock of the situation.

In view of dummy's good trump support, strong diamonds and singleton club, it was clear that the only hope for the defense lay in the heart suit. Essentially, if South had the ace of hearts, the contract could not be beaten.

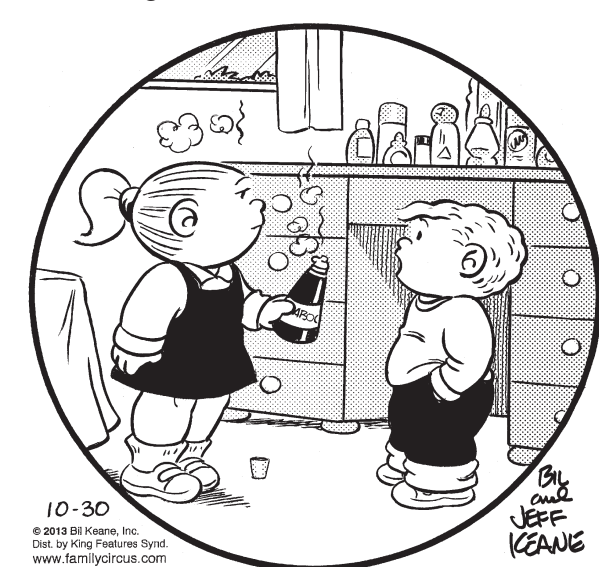
East therefore had to assume that his partner had the ace of hearts, in which case a ruff might be negotiated. So at trick two East did what any red-blooded East would do: He laid down the king of hearts and, when it held, he continued with a heart to West's ace.

It was now West's turn to do some prognosticating. Both East and South were out of hearts, so there seemed no point in continuing the suit, since declarer could overruff East. But with no further tricks available in any of the side suits, the defense could not prevail without scoring a trump trick.

Since declarer was virtually certain to hold the A-K of spades, there was only one legitimate hope — that East had the ten of spades. So at trick four, West returned a heart, East ruffed with the ten, and, just like that, West's queen of spades came into its own as the setting trick.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



10-30
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www.familycircus.com

"No, not that one either. If it doesn't smell like cookies, I'm not gonna like it."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/30

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.

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

Cryptoquip

BX XZF MKBOYPU KDPXFMX.

XZF UZDMX AZD VBPBFUM XD

MXBOXHF XZF VDMX RFDRLF

AYPM XZF NDD OYNNDP.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINGER WHO WORKS AT A SUCCESSFUL SIDE JOB DESIGNING FASHIONABLE PINS FOR JACKETS: PATTI LAPEL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals P

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Uppity sort 59 Bridge coup 22 Unkempt one

5 Baseball ref 39 A Bobbsey Twin 23 Sweat outlets

8 Micked 41 Persian leader 2 Cat feet 25 Comic Leno

12 Met melody 43 "Anchors —" 3 Eat in style 26 Census statistic

13 Menagerie 46 Semi-diameters 4 Cowboy's seat 27 In coastal Maine

14 Not pre-recorded 50 Burden 5 Submachine gun 29 Dog owner's ordeal

15 Trachea 51 Eurus, in Greek myth 6 Swab the deck 31 Court

17 Tournament format 54 Other-wise 7 Verse 34 "Pow!"

18 Coasters 55 Smart-phone download 9 "Shh!" 40 Staffers

19 Their work is in vein 56 Chantilly, e.g. 10 Always 42 Skill

21 Speech impediment 57 Small salamanders 16 Omega precursor 44 Fairy tale villain, often

22 Foundation 58 Snoop 20 Mountain goat 45 Pile

28 Earring location 30 Possess 33 Earlier 34 Cleaning agent

35 Trouble 36 Evergreen type 37 Help a law-breaker

47 Use an old phone 48 Bygone Peruvian

49 The same, in bibliographies 52 Spring mo.

53 Bond, for one

Yesterday's answer 10-30

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		