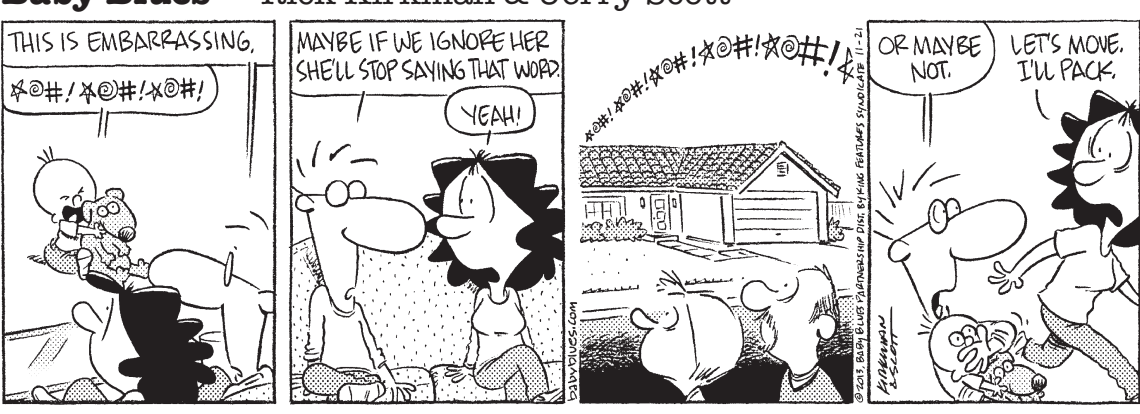
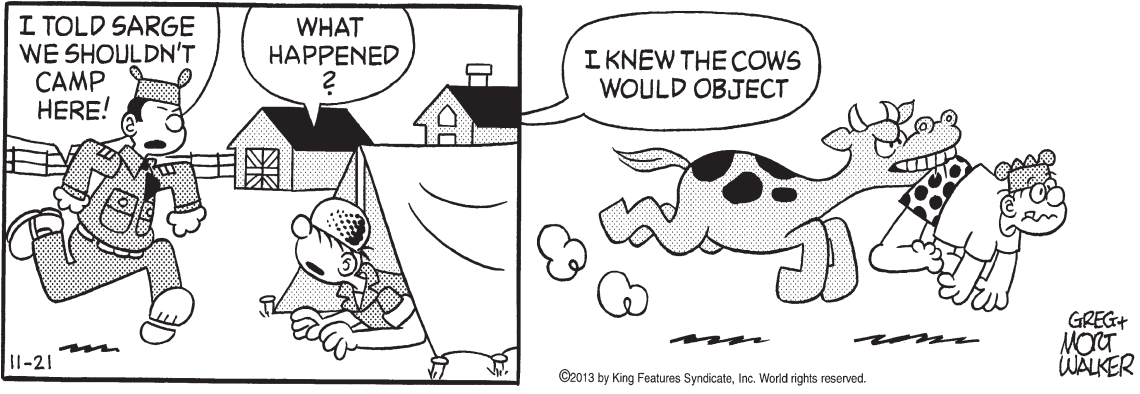


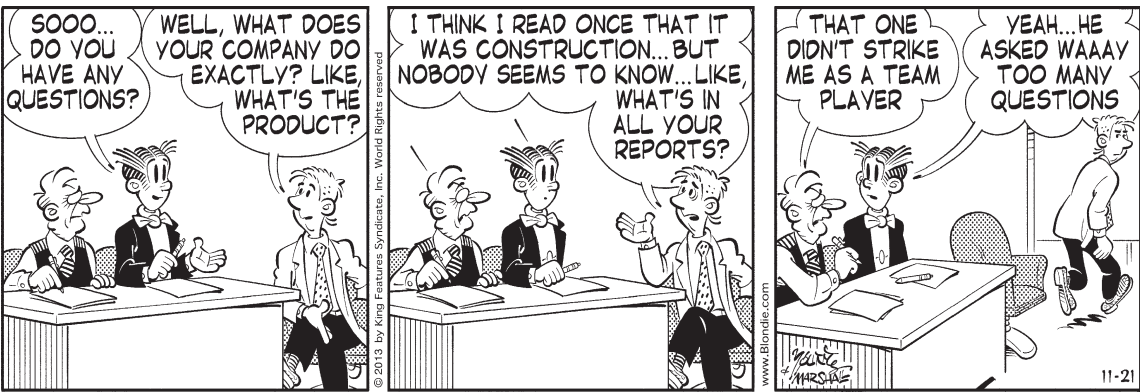
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



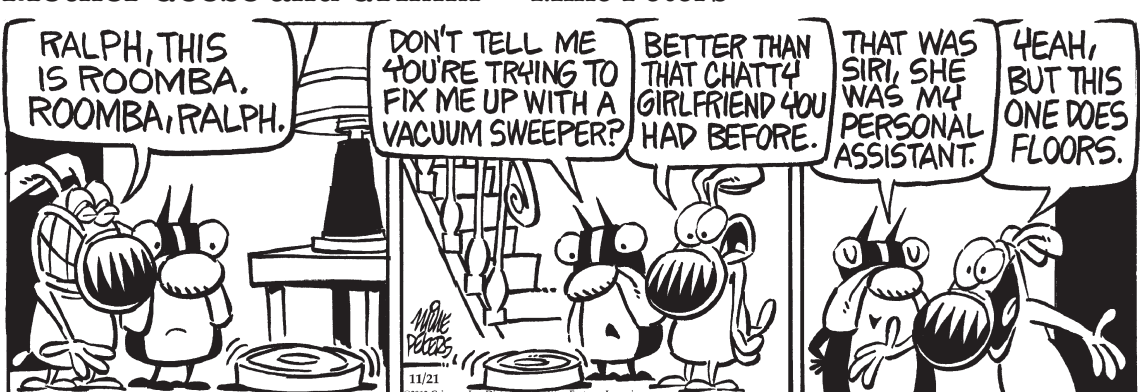
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



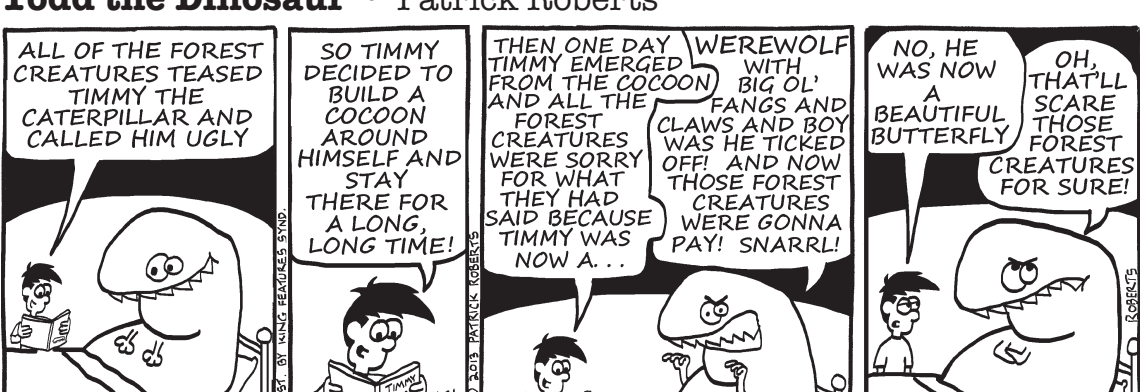
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



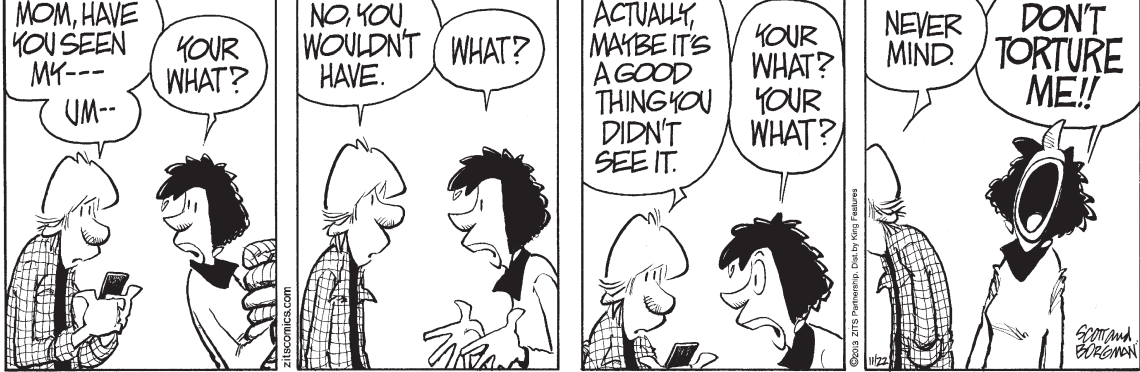
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Billiards table converts to sofa

Q: My brother left me his "Brunswick Home Comfort Table" that dates from about 1908. It's a combination billiards table and sofa. The tabletop folds over to form the back of the sofa, which has leather tufted upholstery on the seat and back. A metal label on the table says "Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co." History and value?

A: John Moses Brunswick founded the J.M. Brunswick Manufacturing Co. in Cincinnati in 1845. After mergers, the company was renamed Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co. in 1884.

Today the company, still in business, is named Brunswick Corp. It manufactures a variety of products, including billiards tables and bowling equipment.

Your convertible sofa-billiards table was patented in 1910 by Jacob N. McIntire of New York. He assigned the patent to Brunswick, which made your unusual piece of furniture. It's advertised in a 1911 Brunswick catalog as "a very popular design especially adapted for use in a den." It sold then for \$150 to \$175. If yours is in excellent shape, it could sell today for close to \$10,000.

Q: Is there any value to a Disney World 25th Anniversary cup still in its box?

A: Walt Disney World opened in Orlando, Fla., in 1971. A variety of mugs and drinking glasses were sold to celebrate its 25th anniversary in 1996 — too many to make any one of them worth much today. The mugs and glasses, with or without an original box, sell online for \$2.50 to \$10.

Q: I inherited six place settings of Normandie pattern Depression glass in iridescent marigold color. While I have always loved them and display them, I seldom use them. What about using them for everyday? I have put several pieces through multiple cycles in the dishwasher with no obvious bad effects.

A: I haven't tested them in the microwave yet and would appreciate any thoughts you have on the safety of that. I'm more concerned about health effects than damage to the luster.

Normandie was made from 1933 to 1940 by the Federal Glass Co. of Columbus, Ohio. The pattern was made in amber, pink and crystal, as well as Sunburst, which is the name of your iridescent glass made during the 1930s and is sometimes mistakenly listed as a Carnival glass pattern called "Bouquet & Lattice."

Iridescent glass is made by spraying a molded glass piece with metallic salts and then re-firing it. Since the first microwave ovens weren't common until the late 1960s, your dishes weren't made to be "microwave safe." The metallic salts in the iridescent glaze might cause sparking in a microwave oven, and that could damage the dishes or the microwave even if it doesn't affect your health. Washing the dishes in the dishwasher eventually will remove the luster. If you enjoy using the dishes regularly, wash them by hand.

Tip: Do not store vintage fabrics or clothing in plastic or cardboard boxes. The boxes attract bugs. Natural fabrics like linen or cotton need oxygen and can't be in airtight boxes. And white fabrics will yellow if kept in plastic.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ A 10
♥ K 8 3
♦ Q 10 8 7 2
♠ A J 5

WEST
♥ 7 2
♦ J 6 5 4 2
♠ K 6
♣ 9 7 6 3

EAST
♥ K 9 8 6 4 3
♦ Q 7
♠ A 4 3
♣ 8 2

SOUTH
♦ Q J 5
♥ A 10 9
♦ J 9 5
♠ K Q 10 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♦ 1 ♠ 2 ♣ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — seven of spades.

Keeping in Touch

A declarer can sometimes run into serious trouble if he lacks adequate communication between his own hand and dummy. Being able to enter either hand at will, for whatever reason, is an important factor in the play.

The defenders frequently have a similar problem, but because they can't see each other's hands and because they usually have fewer high cards than the declarer, they must often handle their resources with even greater care in order to stay in touch with one another.

Consider this deal where East had to make an unusual play to defeat the contract. West led a spade in response to East's overcall, and declarer played the ten from dummy.

Had East taken the ten with the king, South would have made the contract easily. Whatever was returned, declarer would have established his diamonds and scored at least nine tricks. East's spades would no longer have been a threat because he could not establish and cash them.

Foreseeing this difficulty, East signaled with the nine of spades at trick one instead of taking the ten with the king. The high-spade play directed West to lead another spade if and when he gained the lead. East had to hope that West had a diamond entry as well as another spade to lead.

East's refusal to take the first trick proved highly successful. South won the trick with the jack and led the nine of diamonds, but he was fighting a losing cause. West went up with the king and led another spade, dislodging dummy's ace as he established his partner's suit. South could then do no better than cash his eight high-card tricks, and the contract eventually went down one as a result of East's farsighted play.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I couldn't help it. My hand got carried away with itself."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/21

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.

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

Cryptoquip

G R E A W I D W I K D J H K K R K J R Q O
O M R Q R J R Q P V W G S R H Z M Q
P W W S O . M A D Q ' V D X Z P H M
P W V A D - G R Z E W Z O X G I M H W Z .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HEAR THAT DOCTORS MIGHT START TOUTING A TOFFEE CANDY BAR BECAUSE IT HAS MANY HEATH BENEFITS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals P

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Carrot companion?
4 Quasi-mod'o's concern
8 Yuletide refrain
12 Aviv lead-in
17 Writer James
14 Skilled
15 The whole time
17 Tower city
18 Piercing tool
19 Saw
21 Ill will
24 Tit for —
25 Discoverer's cry
26 AAA task
28 Layered rock
32 Fasting period
34 Feathery neck-piece
36 Somewhere out there
37 Nerd

DOWN
2 Moray, e.g.
3 Isolated show
4 Bolshoi
5 Swelled head
6 Camera part
7 On the up-and-up
8 Flam-mable
9 Last write-up
10 Besides that
11 Pioneer
16 Shock and —
20 Fuel
21 Auctioneer's call
22 "That was close!"
23 San Francisco's —
27 Stir-fry pan
29 Despite the circumstances
30 Secular
31 Formerly
33 Quite wearying
35 Atmosphere
38 Halloween shout
40 Mile High City
43 Work-manship
45 Average guy?
46 Pinnacle
47 Harbor structure
48 Pealed
49 Wading bird
53 Eggs
54 Zodiac sign
55 Legisla-tion

Solution time: 25 mins.
L A P T R E K M E L T
T L L R U B Y A R I A
M O A O B B L I G A T O
B E N J I E S P
U K E S M I D D Y
O B S T A C L E E U R O
P R O S H A N T M A R
T A L C O B D U R A T E
S T O O P S O R E
S E A K M A R T
O B A M A C A R E H A W
A U T O T H E Y E G O
R Y E S S A I G S M A S

Yesterday's answer 11-21

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
32			33		34		35		36	
37			38		39		40		41	
			42		43		44		45	
46	47	48			49		50			
51					52		53			54
56					57				58	
59					60				61	