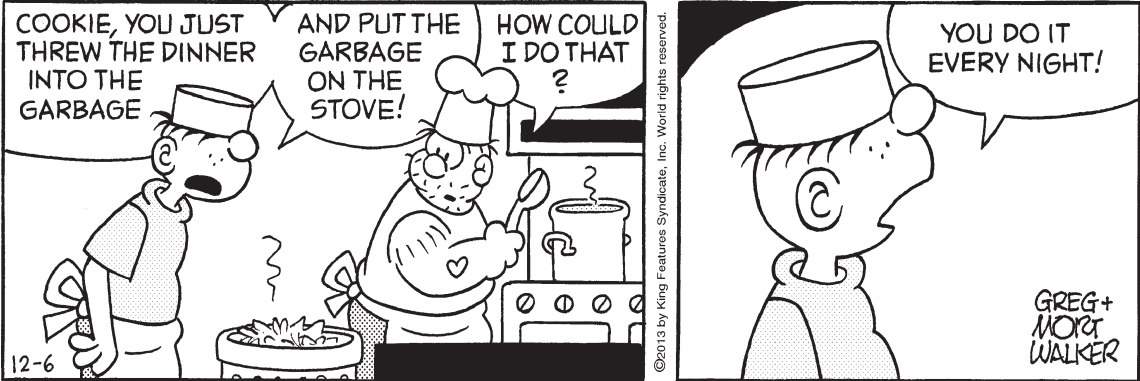


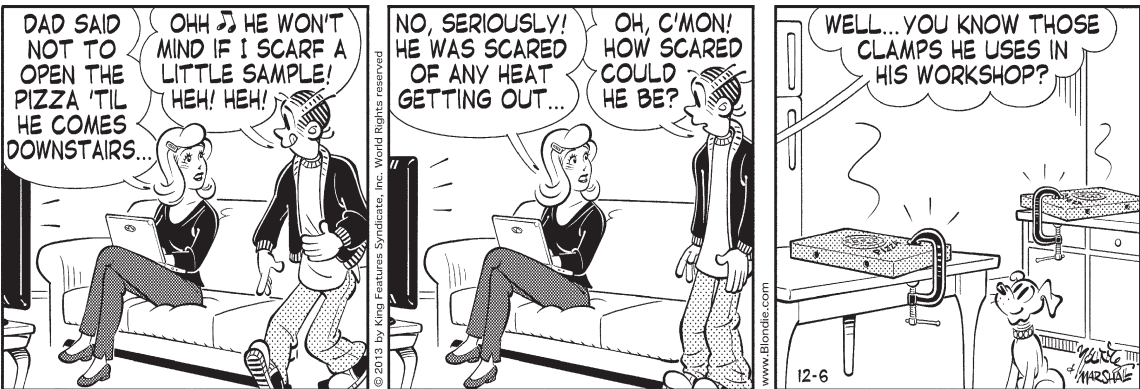
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



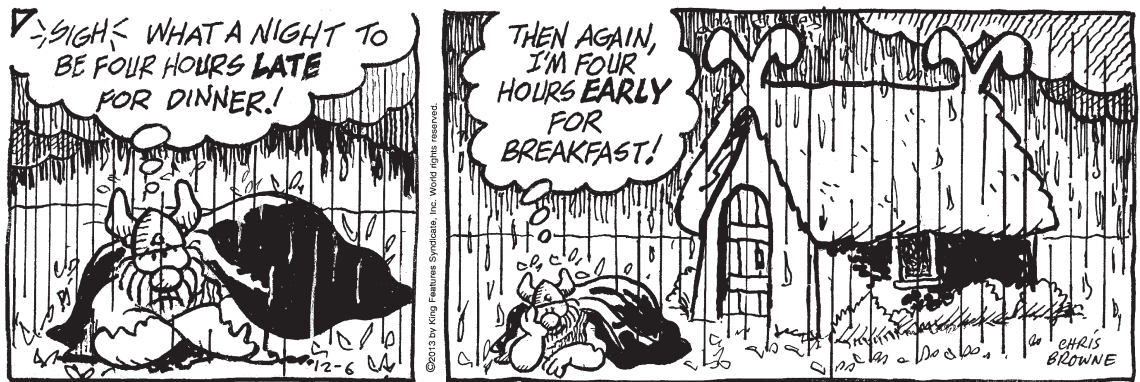
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



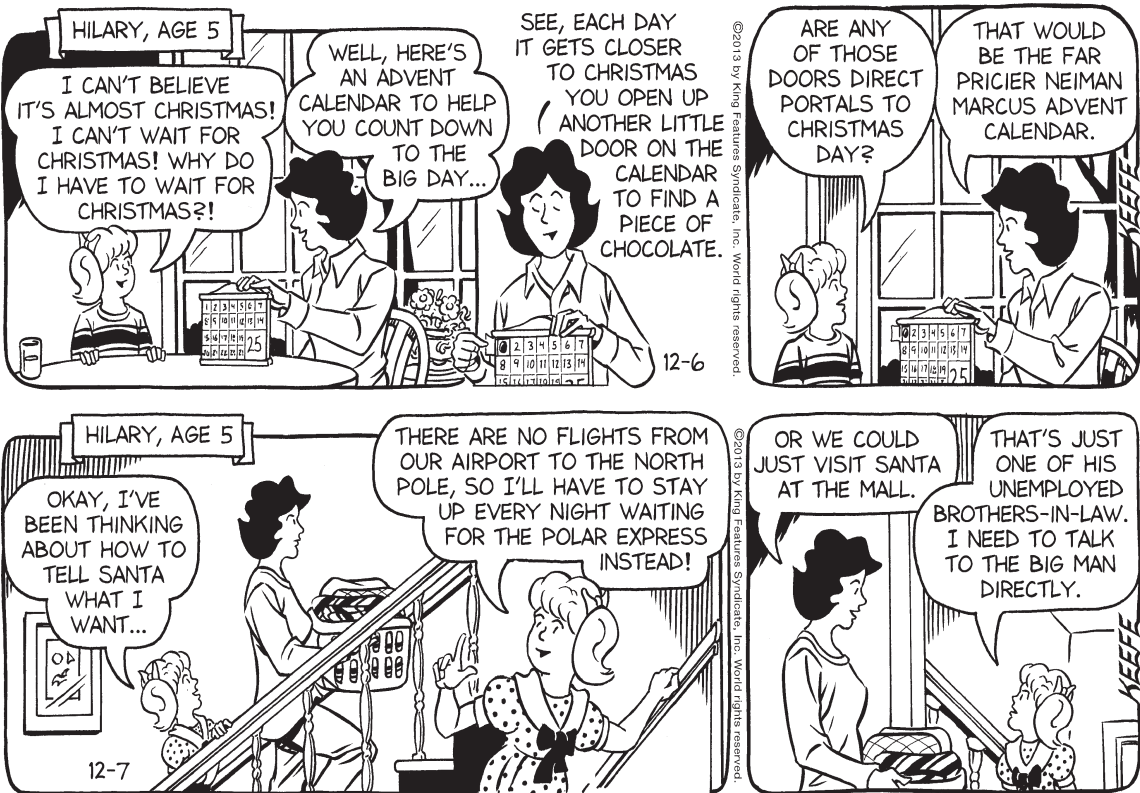
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



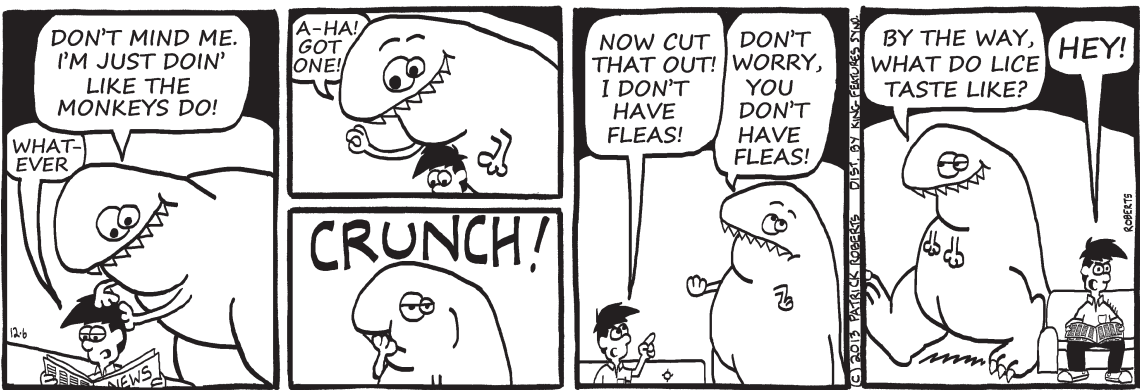
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



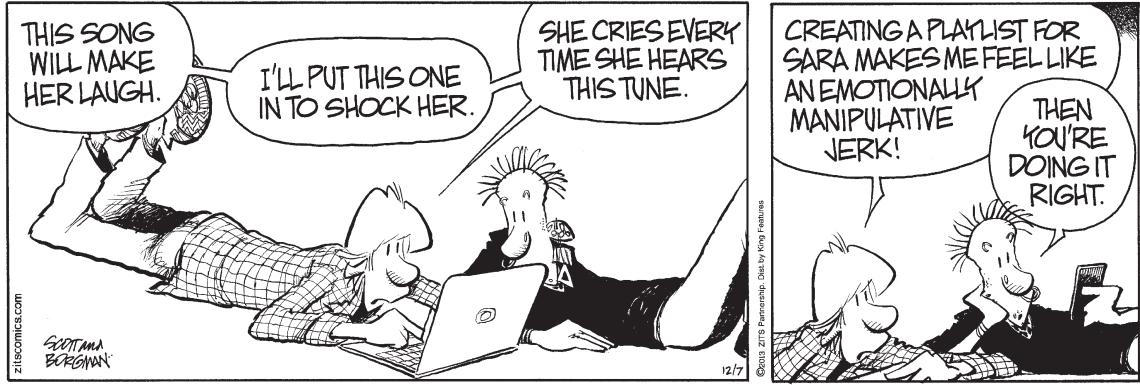
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Keep names of charities short

Dear Heloise: This is not a household hint, but a suggestion for the good-hearted people who arrange fund-raising drives for worthy causes: Keep it simple. Make it quick and easy for donors to write and send their checks. Use a brief, easy-to-remember single word – two to three at most – that will easily fit on the line for “pay to” on checks. Avoid using an elaborate address that can’t be easily passed by word of mouth or has the possibility of mistakes. Arrange for a temporary post-office box. Sadly, a local cause is not receiving support because the name is much too long, with an equally lengthy address. Banks that set up accounts for donations need to realize the importance of simple names. Thanks for spreading the word. – Helen R., Manhattan, Kan.

Happy to help! Your hints are spot-on and will help many charities, especially smaller ones, increase donations. Make it easy for your “customers,” and they will donate more! – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I went on a two-week cruise and was shocked to discover how expensive Internet service was. A suggestion was to email messages onshore using free Wi-Fi at restaurants. But everyone else had the same idea!

I decided to pay the ship’s fees for the smallest amount of minutes. I typed my messages as documents and then cut and paste them into email. Within minutes, I could log on, send my messages and be off quickly. No wasting minutes or money! – L.W., via email

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Dear Heloise: In case of an emergency, we need to be prepared. My mother made a notebook in which she keeps important information for my brother and me that we might need. Insurance and loan information, a copy of her will, car title, etc. – anything needed in the event that something happens to her. It’s not a subject people want to talk about, but it is important to be prepared. Searching for that information is not what you want to be doing at a time like that. – A.S. in Texas

Good advice! Take note, readers! – Heloise

DRYING CAR

Dear Heloise: For those who still wash their cars by hand, I thought I would share this helpful hint. It took me a while to figure it out, although it is common sense. When I am at the point of drying the top of the car, which is hard to reach, I open a door and stand on the side of the seat. – Adam H. in Illinois

TOILET TURMOIL

Dear Heloise: My son decided to throw one of his bath toys in the toilet one evening. Now we use only large toys in the bath. Even if you keep the toilet lid closed, for safe measure, toys that are not able to be flushed by mischievous kids should be the only toys in the bathroom. It would have saved my husband and me lots of money and headaches. – Penny in Florida
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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the seven of hearts, on which South plays the ten. How would you play the hand?

West: ♠Q 8 2, ♥K J 8, ♦Q J 10, ♣A 10 6 3
East: ♠A K 3, ♥6 2, ♦A 9 5, ♣K J 9 7 4

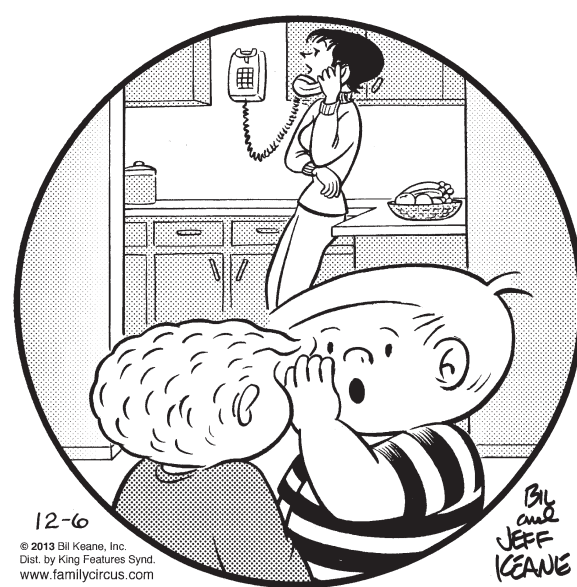
2. This is a double-dummy problem. South is declarer, clubs are trumps, and West leads the king of hearts. How can declarer win six of the seven remaining tricks, assuming best defense by East-West?

North: ♠—, ♥9 3, ♦K 10 6 4, ♣—
West: ♠—, ♥K Q 7, ♦A 5 3 2, ♣—
East: ♠10, ♥8 6 5 4 2, ♦J, ♣—
South: ♠3, ♥—, ♦Q 9 8, ♣J 10 5

Test Your Play

1. There is no way to be certain of the location of the missing queen of clubs, but it is easy to assure the contract by exercising reasonable care. All you have to do is to win the first trick with the heart jack and lead a low club to dummy’s king, planning to take a club finesse through South next. If the finesse wins, you are certain of 10 tricks. If it loses, you are still sure of nine tricks, whatever North returns. South is the defender you can’t afford to have on lead, since he might be able to do you in with a heart return through your K-8. You therefore play the clubs so that if you do lose a trick to the queen, North will wind up on lead. 2. Declarer ruffs the heart lead and returns the queen of diamonds. West cannot afford to take the ace, which would greatly simplify declarer’s task, so he plays low. South overtakes the queen with the king, ruffs the nine of hearts in his hand and leads the nine of diamonds. Again West must follow low, whereupon South overtakes the nine with the ten and ruffs dummy’s last heart. Now South leads the eight of diamonds. West has the A-5 of diamonds at this point, while dummy has the 6-4. Whatever West does, declarer wins one more diamond trick to fulfill his mission. (c)2013 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



“It must be Grandma on the phone Mommy’s giving out our sizes.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 12/06

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 12/06

Cryptoquip

OSHRT VQHAGR HX XAQQ

YKOTQ BKBBKZR YTQT GZKLWMV

WM K YSHZZL RWZZL YKL

WO YKR HOOTQ MHMRTMRT

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: I LIKE TO THINK A CERTAIN SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLIC’S PHONE BOOKS LIST SURINAME’S SURNAMES.

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: W equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Grass-hopper’s rebuker
 - 4 The Bee —
 - 8 Dull sound of impact
 - 12 Witness
 - 13 Nervous
 - 14 Deserve
 - 15 Force
 - 17 Talkative starling
 - 18 Maximally
 - 19 Grail
 - 21 Existed
 - 22 Choice
 - 26 Attack from all sides
 - 29 Modern navigation aid
 - 30 Buddy
 - 31 Leaf angle
 - 32 Cohort of Larry and Shemp
 - 33 Japanese soup
 - 34 Brooks or Blanc
 - 35 Chic, in a 1960s way
 - 36 Buffalo
 - 37 Director’s call

- 39 Heavy weight
- 40 “Ostentatious?”
- 41 Jinx
- 45 Grate
- 48 Response, on “Jeopardy!”
- 50 Chills and fever
- 51 One
- 52 Phi-psi link
- 53 Shoe part
- 54 Dumbo’s “wings”
- 55 “Guinness Book” suffix

- 2 Immediately upcoming
- 3 Abound
- 4 Tries to prove
- 5 Redacts
- 6 Id counterpart
- 7 Faint
- 8 Lure
- 9 Meal for a horse
- 10 Coffee vessel
- 11 Parent-age proof
- 16 Wheel on a spur
- 20 Boom times
- 23 Long-legged bird
- 24 Roughly
- 25 Midday
- 26 Crimson Tide
- 27 One of the brass
- 28 Bank deposit?
- 29 Deity
- 32 “Precious”
- 33 North Dakota city
- 35 Cattle call
- 36 Raises
- 38 Urge
- 39 “... — finest hour”
- 42 “Galloping dominoes”
- 43 Aahs’ mates
- 44 Not procrastinating
- 45 “Go, team!”
- 46 Time of your life?
- 47 Jane’s “Glee” role
- 49 Italian article

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday’s answer 12-6