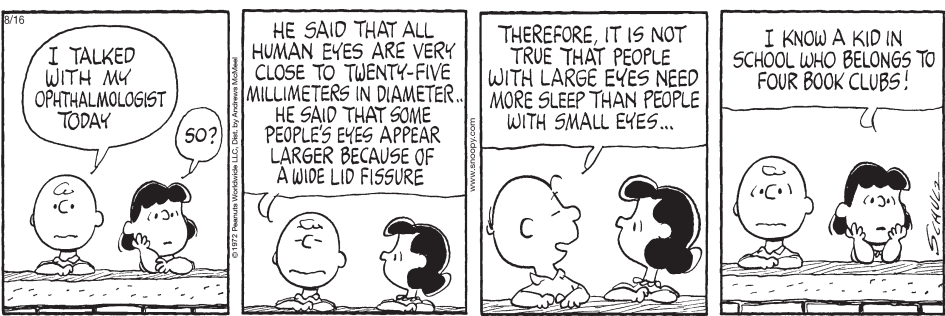


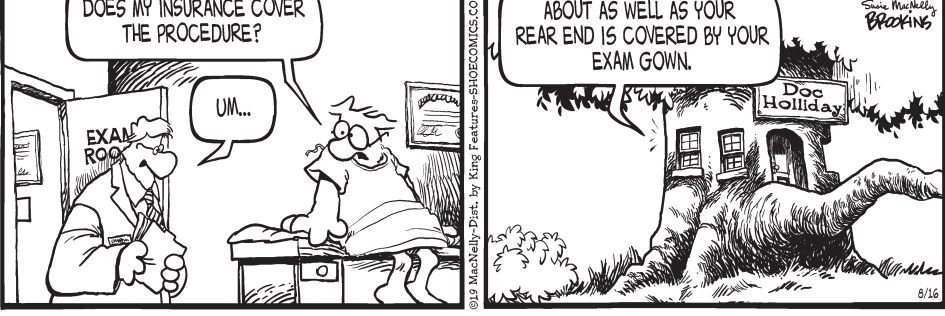
Peanuts



Hagar The Horrible



Shoe



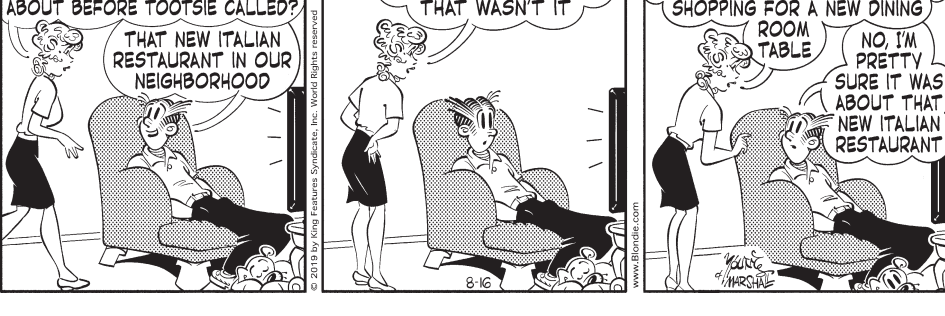
Garfield



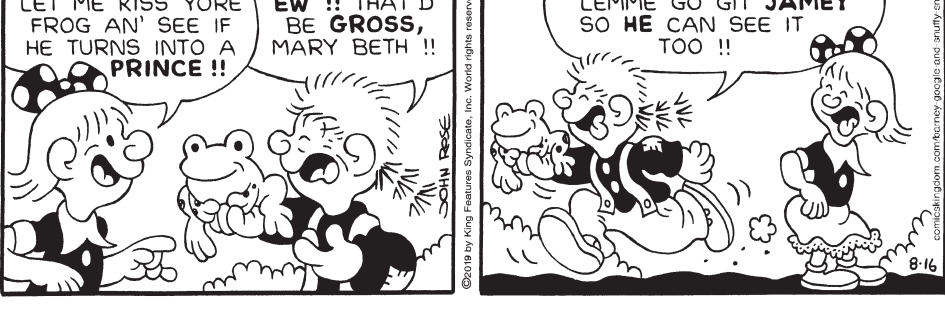
Frank and Ernest



Blondie



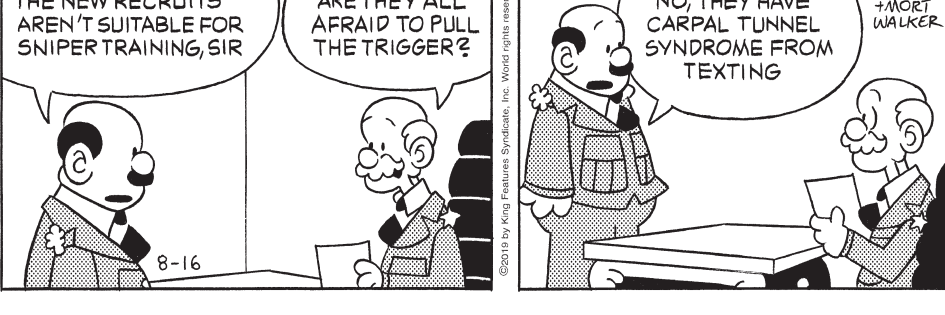
Snuffy Smith



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Arlo and Janis



Your Birthday today:

Stop the drama. Gravitate toward serenity, peace of mind and less stress. Be grateful for what you have and think about how little you really need. This is a year of transformation, change of priorities and personal growth. Fill your heart with love and surround yourself with positive people.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Opportunity is within reach. If you get out and mingle, you'll encounter someone or something that interests you. A partnership can help you reach your goal and change your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Take a leap of faith and make a personal change that will improve your emotional and physical health. Make a focused effort to look and feel your best through proper diet and exercise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - Surround yourself with people who share your concerns, beliefs and desire to make a difference. You'll encounter someone who sparks your interest and imagination. Romance is highlighted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) - Live and learn. Be a silent observer and recognize when you should take a pass. If you channel your energy into a creative or unusual pastime, positive changes will take place.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - Plan to have fun with a loved one. Refuse to let an emotional incident ruin your day. If someone tries to make you look bad, be prepared to defend your integrity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Look for a loophole or a way around whatever is holding you back, but do so using facts and figures to prove your point. A change at home will help improve family dynamics.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) - Embrace opportunity and show diversity in the way you deal with problems and people. Make plans to socialize or to spend quality time with a loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) - An emotional situation will spin out of control if you or someone else exaggerates or is indulgent. Channel your energy into helping others, not into disrupting your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - A change may be in order, but making the wrong move can also set you back. Take baby steps and put everything in place before you proceed. Romance will help ease a transition.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Listen to complaints and suggestions before you make a decision. Offer help for the right reason, not because you want something in return. Someone's actions or words are likely to disappoint you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - Live and learn. Put your experience to good use when dealing with anyone who tends to play with your emotions. Refuse to let others mistreat you. Offer peace and love.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Go after your dreams. If you embrace the future with optimism, you'll attract people who are aligned to your way of thinking. Personal change will be beneficial.

DEAR ABBY



Advice written by Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My brother-in-law passed away six months ago, and my mother-in-law, "Grace," is understandably grief-stricken. My husband and son have been very supportive of her. My father-in-law passed away nine years ago. I have tried to be supportive as well, but Grace and I have always had a contentious relationship, and she really wants nothing to do with me.

The problem is, my husband and son have all but disowned me. They spend an enormous amount of time comforting and consoling her to the point that there's no affection or time left for me. I have tried talking to them about it, but they tell me I'm being selfish.

I realize my mother-in-law has had an enormous loss, but she refuses to interact with anyone else! Other family members have tried to console her, but she only wants my husband and son. I thought it would be for a short while, but this seems to be permanent. They have shut me out of their lives.

I have begun going out with my own friends and living my life on my own, but I miss my family. My parents and brother died some time ago, so they are all the family I have. Am I selfish, and should I let this continue? How do I just live my life alone now? - **LONELY IN THE EAST**

DEAR LONELY: While I sympathize with your mother-in-law, it appears there is more going on here than the fact that she's grieving. That Grace has shut out her other relatives and has allowed herself to become dependent upon your husband and son to the extent that it is harming your marriage isn't healthy for any of you. If this continues, counseling may be in order for ALL of you - grief counseling and support for "Mama" and marriage and family counseling to save your relationship with your husband and son. Please don't take what I am advising lightly.

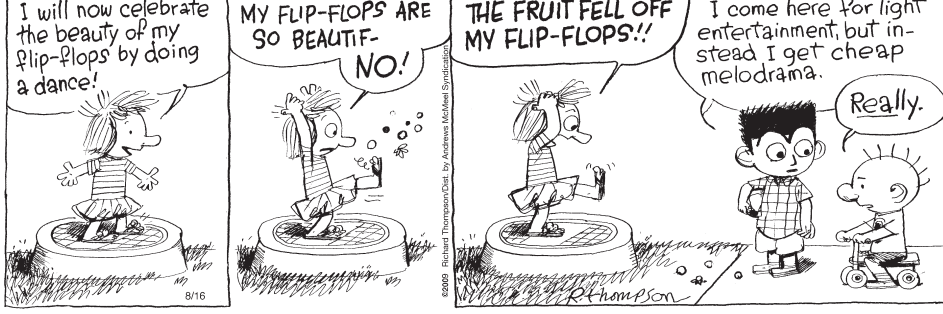
DEAR ABBY: Recently, my elderly father and his girlfriend threw a wedding for themselves. Invitations were sent with requests that included: dinner was to be a potluck, guests were asked to provide singing and music for the entertainment, and a note was enclosed that read, "In lieu of gifts, a monetary donation for our honeymoon fund would really make our day."

Now, weeks later, I have found out it was a huge charade. There was no wedding. What do I say to them? More than 50 friends and family attended this joke ceremony. Bear in mind, the bride and groom have been married multiple times before, and I now question the validity of those marriages. - **DUPED IN THE MIDWEST**

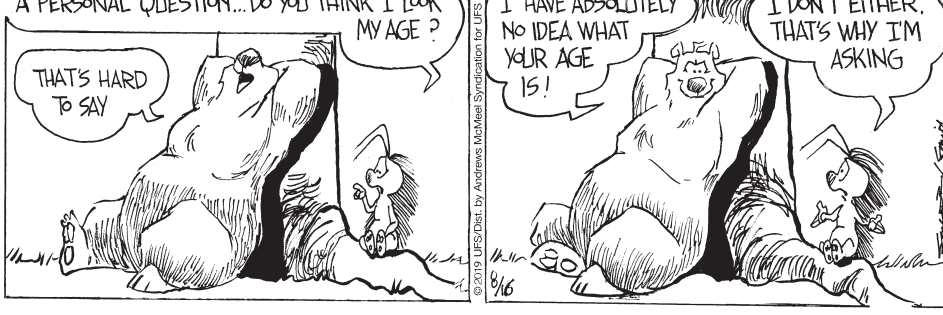
DEAR DUPED: If guests traveled a long distance to attend the "wedding" as well as contributed money toward the "honeymoon," I can see why they would be upset about the fraud. I can also see why in the future the happy couple will have lost credibility and will have trouble attracting a crowd to their next performance.

What should you say to them? If you think anything you might say would shame them, forget it. They are without shame. And if you are invited to another shindig, just say NO.

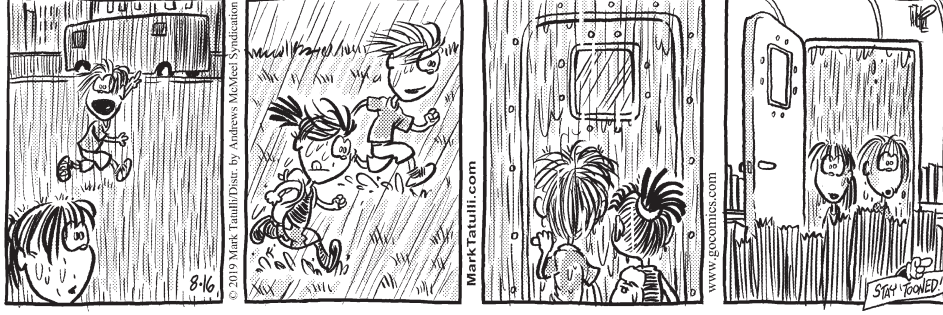
Cul De Sac



Grizwells



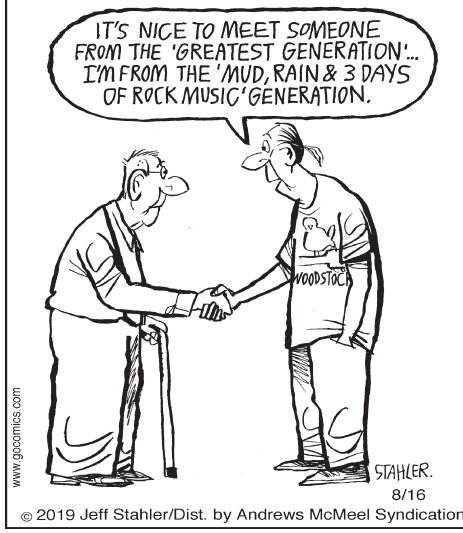
Heart of the City



Herman



Moderately Confused



Born Loser

