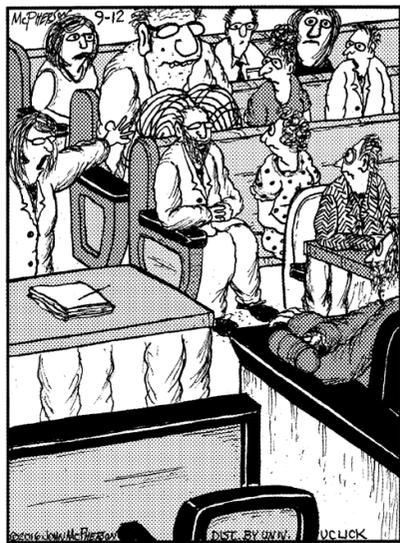


CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



"The prosecution calls Michael Ohler to the stand. Mr. Ohler lives next door to the UltraGro Fertilizer Company and can attest that they have been polluting local groundwater!"

Husband's request seems silly to spouse

Dear Abby: My wife of 15 years is a beautiful lady. I compliment her often, but her self-image isn't particularly good. She's a top-level executive — not your typical "girly-girl."

She has never been the sexy-dress type. She doesn't have to dress up for work on a daily basis and prefers wearing sweats at home, which is fine 99 percent of the time.

I have asked her for a special night out in which she would dress up for me, followed by some late-night fun at home. When I do, she laughs off the idea and says I'm silly.

I'm certainly not the only one who finds her attractive. How do I find another approach to this? Or am I being selfish? — *Hoping in Minnesota*

Dear Hoping: I don't think a husband telling his wife what he would like is selfish. The key to a satisfying marriage is communication. I do think it's wrong of her to belittle you by telling you your fantasy is silly. It's not. Many couples enjoy dressing up and role-

playing. Take her shopping so you can pick out something together, and perhaps you can arrive at a compromise.

Dear Abby: My mom gives my older brother an allowance because he's a fugitive from the law and lives in another country. I have told her repeatedly that he will expect it for the rest of his life, but she insists that "one day" he'll survive on his own.

She expects me to continue supporting him after she dies since I am the only legal child left. She says if she doesn't pay him, he'll be homeless, but he has already received his share of her estate because she has been paying for him for years and I haven't received any aid. What seems fair? — *The Other Sibling*

I have helped my brother a lot in the past, but inevitably he gets upset because he feels entitled. I don't want my brother to be homeless, but he has already received his share of her estate because she has been paying for him for years and I haven't received any aid. What seems fair? — *The Other Sibling*

Dear Other Sibling: What's fair is that you realize your mother's money is hers to do with as she wishes. Perhaps it's time you and your mother discuss setting up a trust for your

brother. An attorney who specializes in wills and trusts can help her do this.

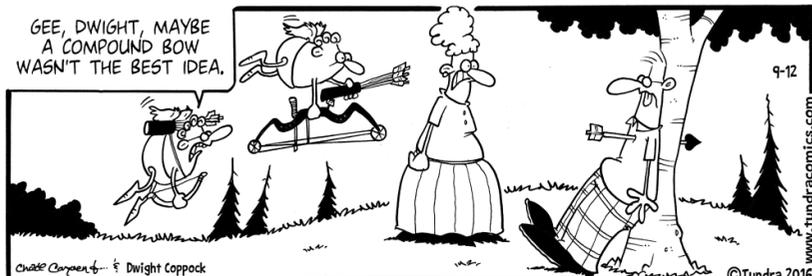
If you do, it may accomplish two goals: First, it will put your mother's mind at ease, and second, it will remove any responsibility for your brother from your shoulders, which should save you a world of aggravation. Please consider it.

Dear Abby: I have been wondering for a long time if there is any rule of etiquette about who should greet whom first when a co-worker arrives at the workplace. Should the working person greet the incoming person first, or the other way around? — *Curious George*

Dear George: In cases like this, the more outgoing co-worker usually says hello first — not because any rule of etiquette demands it, but because of his or her personality. If you are standing on ceremony waiting to be greeted, speak up or you will appear to be unfriendly.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

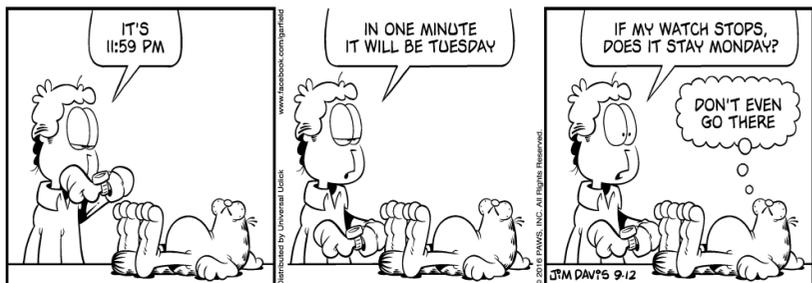
TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



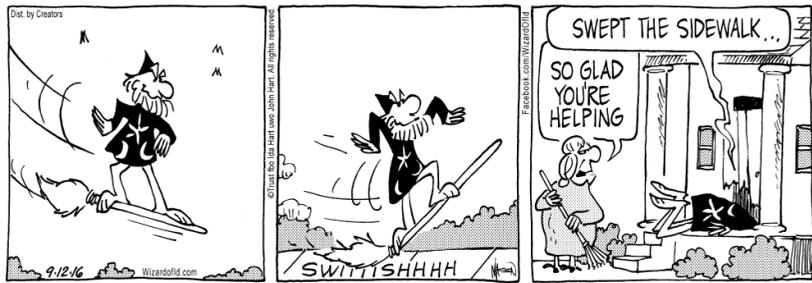
GARFIELD by Jim Davis



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



WIZARD OF ID by Brant Parker



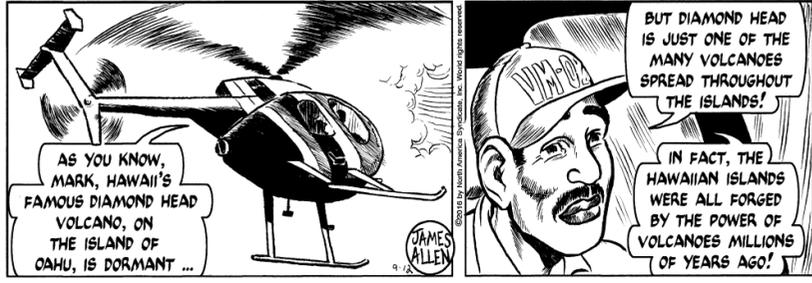
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



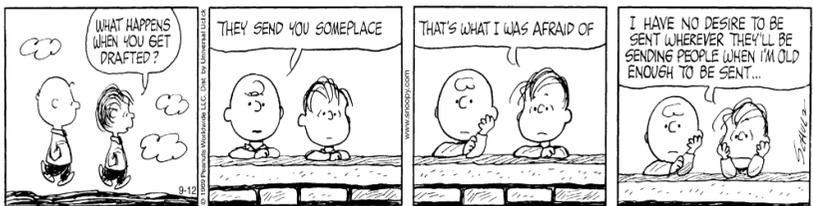
DILBERT by Scott Adams



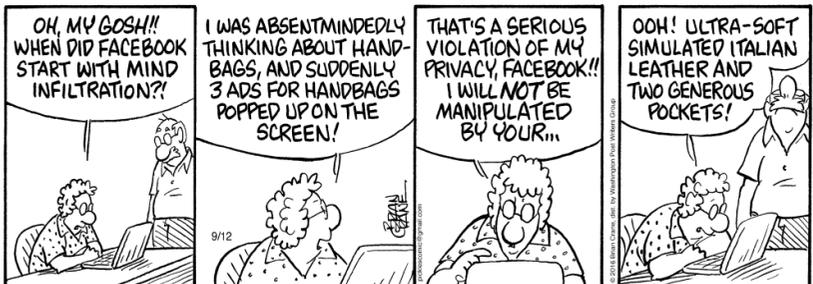
MARK TRAIL by James Allen



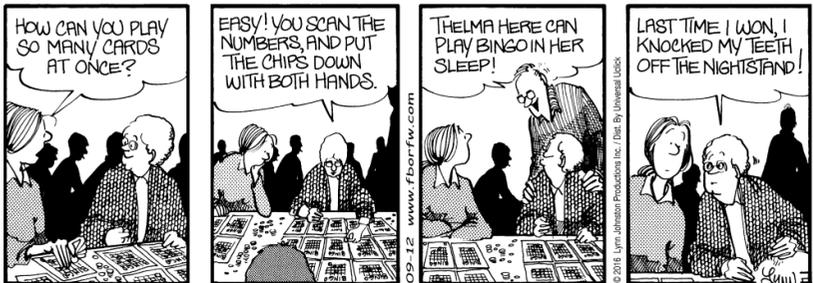
PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



PICKLES by Brian Crane



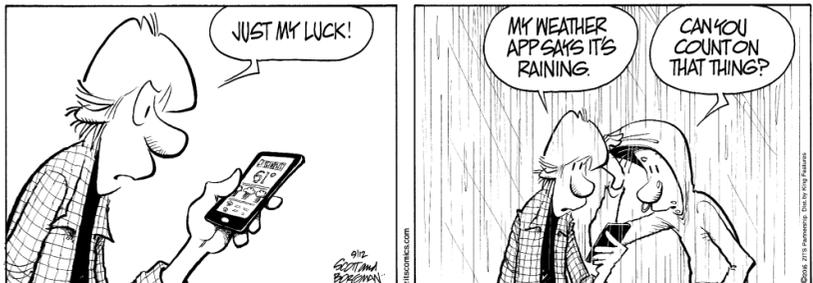
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



BABY BLUES by Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



ZITS by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Since you really believe in something, all you have to do is talk about it and you'll sell it a million times and much more convincingly than someone who doesn't believe but is employing every sales method known to man.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll prove your worth through discretion while others try to prove it by spilling all they know. Just guess who will win the trust of others? The spoils go to the one with the cool factor — so you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Solitude will appeal to you now, as you're not in the mood to lead and neither do you feel like following. If you have any social inclination at all it is to walk beside one who can do either and has no preference.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll experience a change that seems trivial, but the way you handle this little surprise will be indicative of how you'll handle the big boom of an action the "triviality" will set off. Stay on your toes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When you have no idea what they're talking about, just say so. Take the quick shot of embarrassment in stride and quickly get yourself up to speed. The know-it-alls live for these moments, after all.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Some say that true love needs no words to explain it, and yet without those words how will the other person

know? And won't those words help to solidify the feeling and the connection in this bond? Don't let it go unsaid.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). In a professional setting, the priority is how well you fit the job, not how well you "do you." First you'll strip away any factors that might distract others from seeing you in the role. Then you'll advance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The ones you helped want to show you some gratitude and may go overboard or just in a wrong direction to this end. You get the intention, and the effort will make you smile if the result doesn't.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). While it might be exhausting to spend your hours in the grip of some emotion, it's also what makes this day a great motivational source for you and the springboard for some astounding creativity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People have to sort through the information they are given, and this can be an awful lot of work. That's why in today's important moments, giving less information will be better than giving too much.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The project you've been building is at a frustrating point. Part of you wants to chuck the whole deal and start from scratch. Hold that impulse at bay. A change will soon happen to make you understand the big picture.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). At this point, plan B would make you just as happy as plan A, if not more so. Plan C is not so bad, either. Brainstorm to your heart's content: You have everything to win and nothing to lose.



JEANE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY



HOLIDAY MATHS