

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Reader wants to avoid setting up shrine

Dear Abby: My husband passed away recently and I have some items of his I'm unsure how to tastefully display to honor his memory.

They are his Bible, a U.S. flag in a triangular display box (he was a veteran), a set of deer antlers, works he authored, his guitar and family photos.

I don't want to build a shrine, but I don't want to stick these things in a closet, either.

He was passionate about his pursuits, and his passion was contagious. I want to pay tribute to him without making others uncomfortable. I have a small house, so a grouping of the items takes up significant space. The way I have them set up now is kind of shrine-like, and it's emotionally wrenching both for me and for visiting family. Suggestions, Abby? — *Widow in Houston*

Dear Widow: I am sorry for the loss of your husband. Not knowing how many rooms



there are in your home, it's impossible to tell you sight unseen how to display this memorabilia.

However, to lessen the emotional impact, it might be better not to group these mementos all in one place.

Another option would be to display the items at different times, so not all of them will be viewed at once.

Dear Abby: There's a guy I go to a church with. We spent most of the day together with his family.

At first, it felt a little weird, and I was the one who broke the silence while we were at dinner.

We went to a dance afterward and he was a gentleman.

He helped me into the car, etc. He also taught me how to dance and we had a great time. He walked me to my front door at midnight.

When I got to church the following Sunday, I thanked him for coming to the dance with me and told him I had a wonderful time. His family knows I like him a lot.

I talked to my mom about it and told her

I was going to ask him out. She was fine with it, but when I said something about it to friends, they said it might tarnish our friendship.

Should I ask him out or wait for him to do it? I don't want to look dumb.

And what do I say to my friends? — *Texas Girl Who's Ready*

Dear Texas Girl: When a guy spends most of the day with a girl, it's a good bet that he likes her.

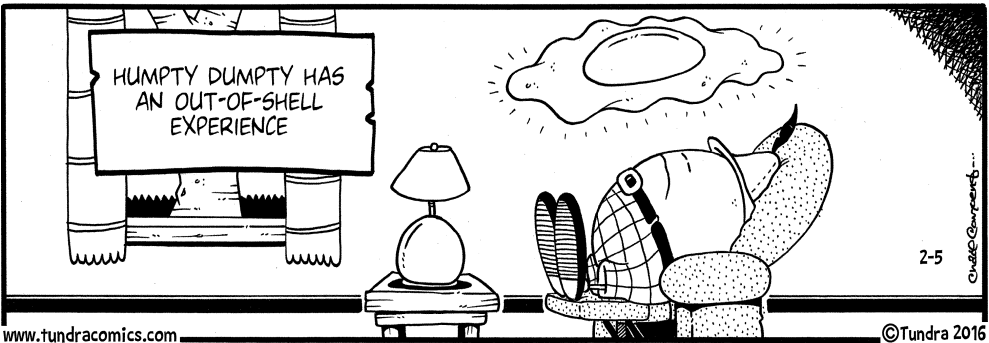
Wait a week or two before making your move, because he may ask you out in the meantime.

However, if he doesn't, then casually ask him to do something with you like go to a movie or sporting event or go hiking. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

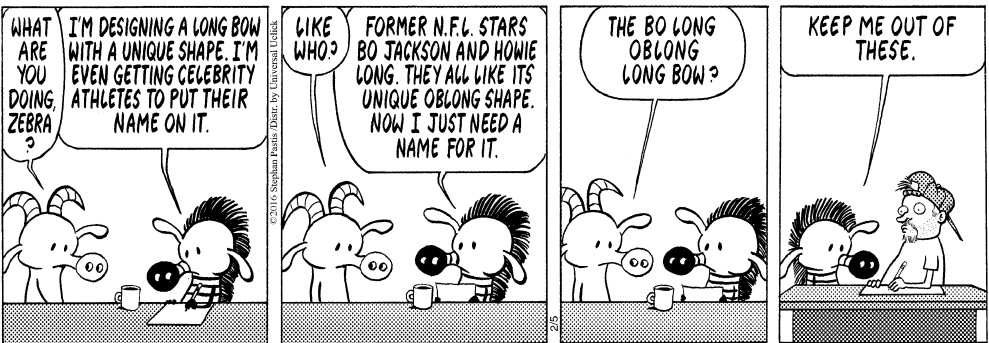
And as to what to say to your friends about it, I vote for keeping your mouth firmly shut.

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



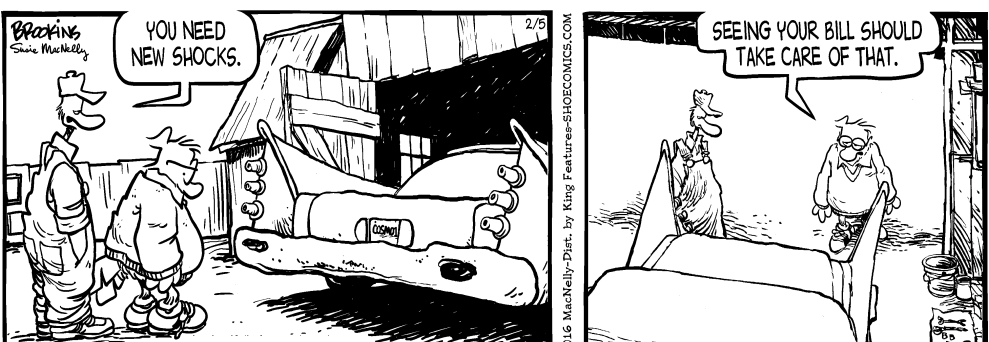
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



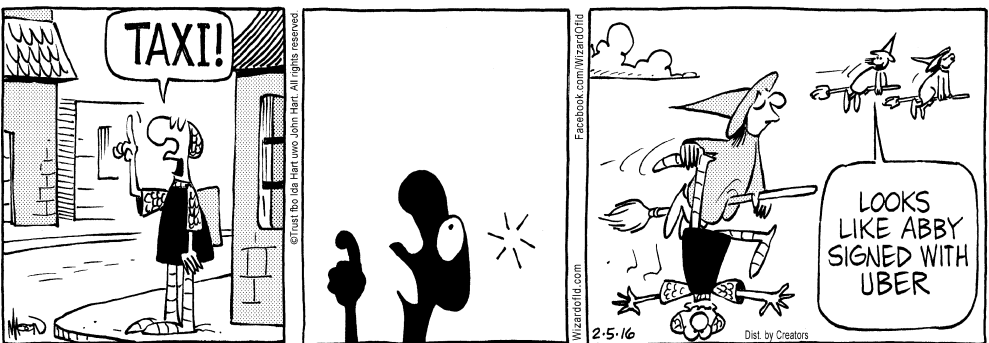
GARFIELD by Jim Davis



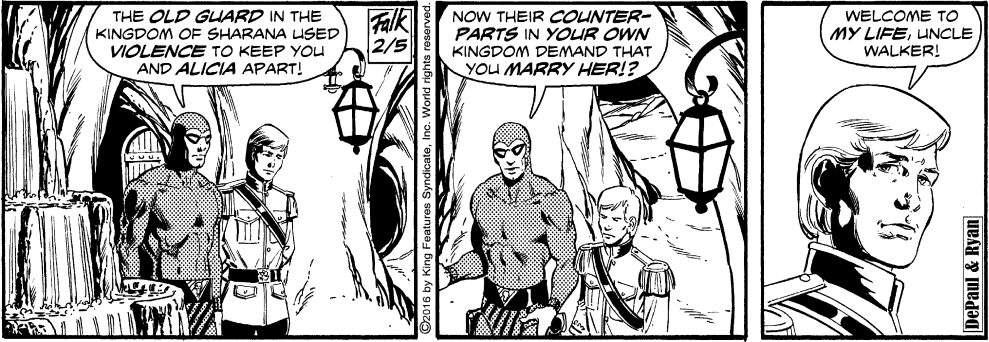
JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



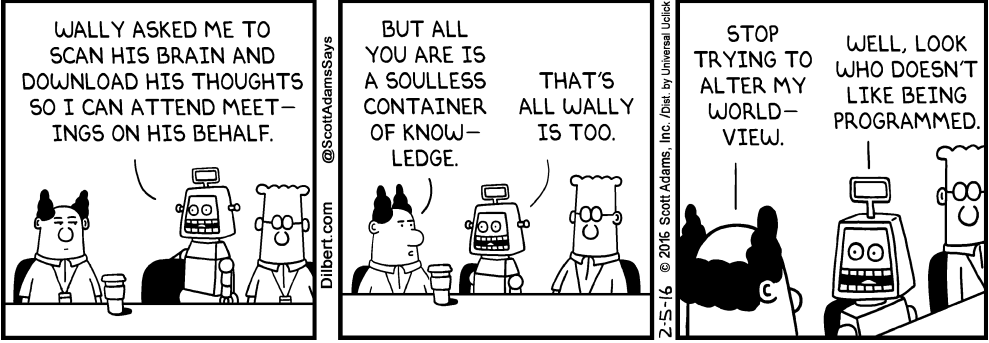
WIZARD OF ID by Brant Parker



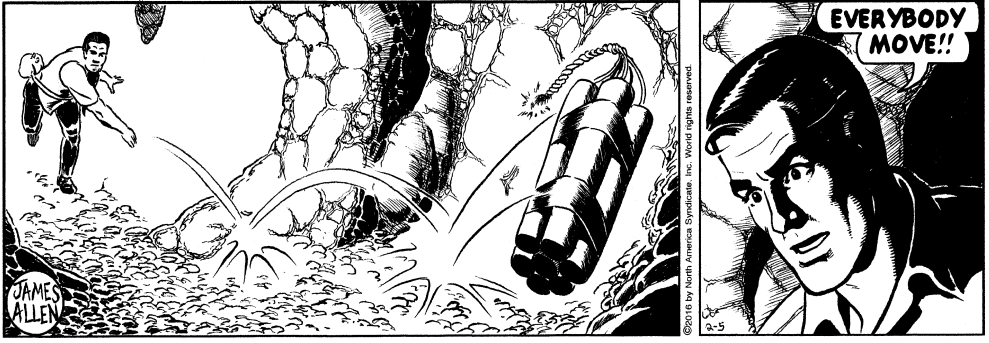
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



DILBERT by Scott Adams



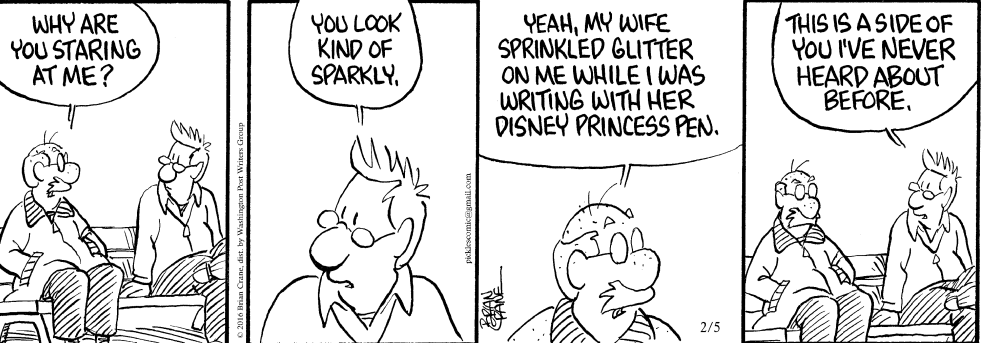
MARK TRAIL by James Allen



PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



PICKLES by Brian Crane



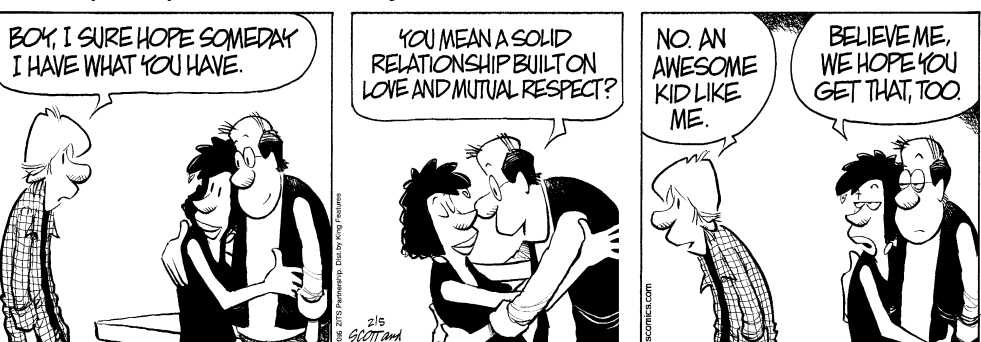
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



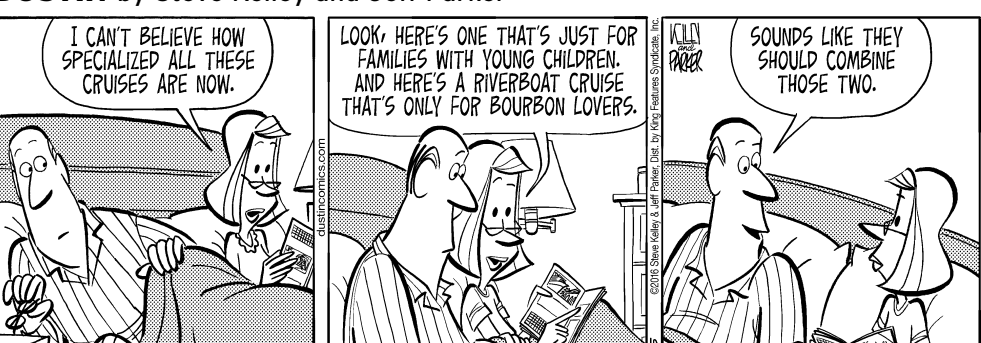
BABY BLUES by Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



ZITS by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Everyone needs attention. There are those around you who seem to need it more than others and for some strange reason that makes you less likely to give it to them. It's human nature. You'll use the principle to your advantage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The conversation you really need to have is between you and you. The topic is, after all, a secret no one else really needs to know right now. You're entitled to your private world. They may want in, but you don't owe that to anyone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The thing that makes a bell a bell is its sound. The thing that makes a pen a pen is that it can write. As for you, you are a far more complex being and there is not one thing that you need to do to be who you are.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're friendly, which will serve you well now since you don't know the ones you need to know to get the job done. When in doubt, introduce yourself. The one who can help you best is close at hand.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Maybe you didn't mean to, but you tipped your cards, showing the fondness you feel for another through good-natured teasing or lighthearted banter. There's a unique bubble of fun around the two of you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you want to laugh hard (and possibly clean up a horrible mess later) just assume that the rest of the world

has the same ideas as you do about what's appropriate to the situation at hand.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Stand your ground. You can afford to be cheeky at this point. Plus, you'll be endowed with the trust of the group for being strong in who you are. Of course, you're basically interested in impressing that one certain person.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You can lay all the groundwork perfectly and set yourself up with a fully functioning track to happiness. But still there are no guarantees. Doing the work isn't enough. You also must take a risk.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). While seeking the very best that's out there, you may just find there is nothing but the best to choose from. Much depends on the fit and how well you know the particulars of what you need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The idea that begins in brilliance will end there, too, as long as you know to get out when the brilliance is still happening. You have several weeks to work this through.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your issue will become a non-issue in a matter of moments. You have the answers and know how to apply them, so all you have to do is methodically walk yourself through this.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You need more support. The person who is busy patting himself on the back isn't going to have a hand free to applaud your achievement. You'll get it when you actively seek friendship with modest and attentive people.

