## **CLOSE TO HOME** by John McPherson



'Seriously? A clerk at the store told you that goldfish crackers are high in omega-3s and you believed him?"

## Woman's affair makes reader uneasy

exciting time in our lives has been met with lems will be resolved. some difficulties.

We recently learned Rick's mother has been having an affair, which makes for a very uncomfortable situation. My future mother-in-law doesn't know we know. Rick's father came to us for help.

I avoid her because I don't want any part of it. It's hard JEANNE to ignore because we live with PHILLIPS Rick's family. He believes we DEAR ABBY should say nothing. I spoke to our priest about it and was told

to "pray for them." I'm worried this will be a negative influence on my fiance and me, and that by remaining quiet we have become part of her lie. What should I do? — Clean Conscience in the East

Dear Clean Conscience: Listen to the advice you received from your priest. Pray for your almost in-laws, but do not involve yourself. If

Dear Abby: My fiance, "Rick," and I have Rick's father approaches you again for help, tell been together for years and recently got engaged. him that he needs to discuss his suspicions with We are over the moon about it. However, this his wife because that's the only way his prob-

> Dear Abby: I lost my favorite cat a year ago to kidney disease. I had noticed she wasn't doing well, but when I told my parents, so we could take her to the veterinarian, they insisted she was fine. They said she didn't need to see the vet because her ailments were just age. They refused to have her examined until it was too late, and by then, the vet's attempts to help her only weakened her. She died in my arms.

> I am devastated. She was my therapy animal and she helped me combat my anxiety disorders for over seven years. When she died, my family seemed to be suddenly struck with grief, even though they ignored her most of the time. This makes me angry because I feel their hesitation to take her to the vet and refusal to listen to me are what killed her.

still feel upset and angry toward them whenever announcement. I see my cat's picture by her urn on my memory Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or shelf. Am I wrong for feeling this way? — Not P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Feeling Purrfect

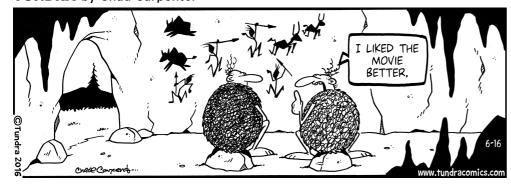
Dear Not Feeling Purrfect: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your cat. What happened to her is regrettable, but holding a grudge won't help. What might help would be for your parents to get you another therapy cat, and I'm advising you to suggest it.

Dear Abby: My daughter recently had her first child (my first grandchild), and I am wondering if there's any protocol regarding the

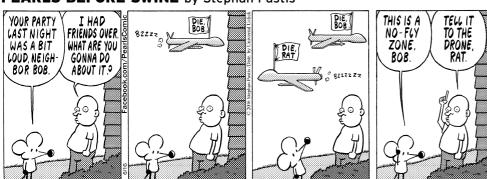
Should I wait until my daughter invites me, or should I just tell her I want to come? I'm afraid it would be rude to just invite myself before she's ready to show off her newborn. - Baby Steps in Virginia

Dear Baby Steps: Give your daughter some time to rest and for her and her husband/partner to establish a routine, and then ask when it would be convenient for you to come and if she'd like you to help out in any way. I'm sure I've forgiven them for what happened, but I that approach would be better received than an

**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







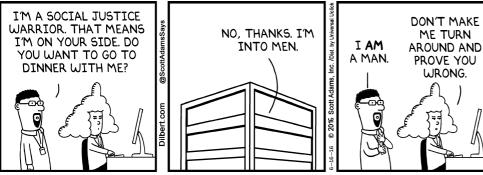
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



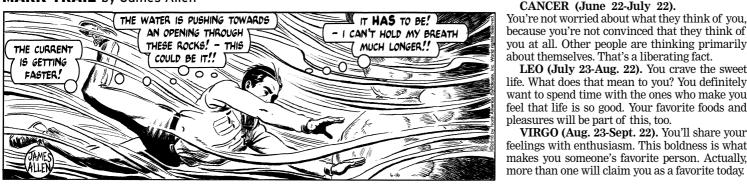




**DILBERT** by Scott Adams

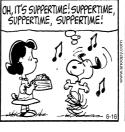


MARK TRAIL by James Allen



## **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



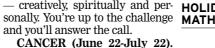
**Daily Horoscope** 

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You might be afraid that if you accept help, it will indebt you to a person. That's not the case today, so go ahead and let others do some of the work when they

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). No one said you had to be easygoing all of the time. You

have needs that might put you into the "high-maintenance" category. So what? You're not always like this. Loosen up, and let off some

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Remember that every difficult situation is an environment to grow creatively, spiritually and per- HOLIDAY sonally. You're up to the challenge



CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're not worried about what they think of you, because you're not convinced that they think of you at all. Other people are thinking primarily about themselves. That's a liberating fact.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You crave the sweet life. What does that mean to you? You definitely want to spend time with the ones who make you feel that life is so good. Your favorite foods and pleasures will be part of this, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll share your feelings with enthusiasm. This boldness is what makes you someone's favorite person. Actually,

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Check your own motives. You thought you were in a situation for one reason, and you'll likely figure out that it was only the start of it. Your needs go deeper than you think. Success depends on understanding what motivates you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Do not underestimate your opponent. People are capable of more than you think, and that includes you, too. Also, if you have the choice, play the long

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're almost ready to break out of the pattern that was holding you back. The only thing is, there's something warm, familiar and comfortable in this that you still need. You'll need to develop new coping mechanisms.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Write it down; write all of it down. These are the details you won't want to miss. Plus, you're not likely to keep it straight and stay on task unless you get it down on paper — "old school" style.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your dedication will pay off eventually. Right now, you'll feel the muscle strain that comes with putting in more work. There's no shortcut. You'll know it was enough work when you see the result.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have talents that the others can't appreciate; it's true. That's why you need to meet new people — people who truly get who you are. You deserve to be deeply appreciated, not merely tolerated.

