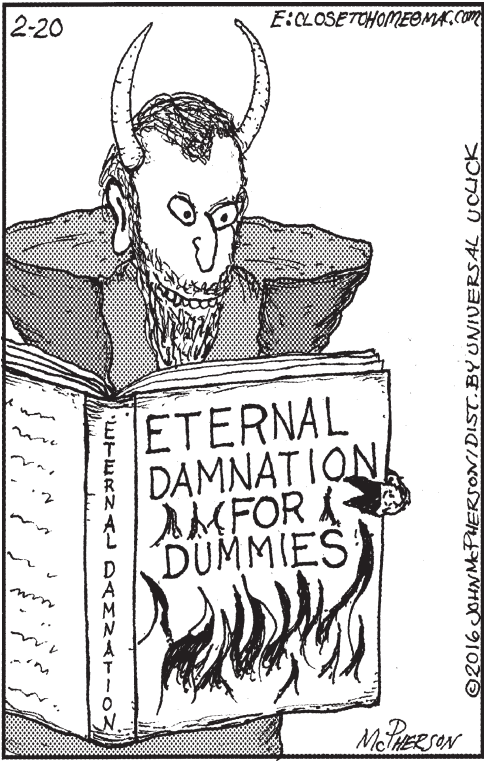


CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson




Wife wants payment sooner than later

Dear Abby: When purchasing concert tickets online for others, when should you expect reimbursement?

I say the charge hits your credit card immediately, and so should the payment you've advanced for that person.

My husband thinks it should be when the tickets are mailed to you — which can take two to four weeks — and you either bring the tickets to your friends or they pick them up. What do you think? — *Cautious Friend in Louisiana*



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

Dear Cautious Friend:

Your mistake was in not discussing payment arrangements BEFORE you bought the tickets. Unless immediate repayment was agreed upon at the time they were ordered, I agree with your husband that reimbursement when the tickets are delivered is appropriate.

Dear Abby: My boyfriend and I have been together for three years. We are both 29.

When we have a fight, the first thing he does is text message my parents and tell them everything.

I have asked him many times to please not involve them. We are adults and we should be able to handle our problems without interference from my parents.

I never have, and never would, complain to his mother about him. His response has always been, "I can involve whoever I want."

He knows I feel disrespected when he does this, and he still won't change. Is there anything else I can do? — *Hurt in Santa Maria*

Dear Hurt: Yes, you can change boy-friends.

Dear Abby: I'm a 26-year-old man, currently living in Boston and in my final year of grad school.

My parents help me out with finances because I have very little income.

One of the things they have done is keep me on the family phone plan. However, there's a catch: They recently announced that my "cost" for staying on their phone plan is

installing an app that allows them to track my location at all times.

In Boston, that's not a huge deal, but when I'm visiting them in Georgia on breaks, it's a point of contention, since I must let them know I'm taking a car.

This will alert them to the fact I'll be out, and remove any trace of privacy I might have while I'm there.

When I told them I'll pay my portion of the bill, their response was, "Would you prefer more texts and phone calls?"

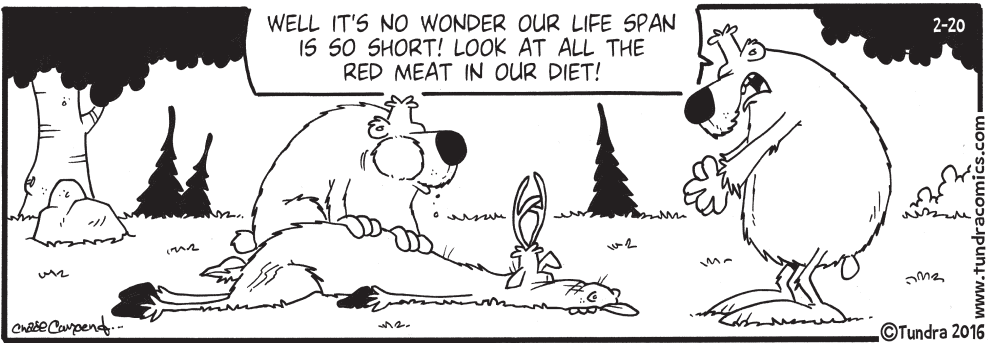
How can I deal with this situation? — *Needs My Privacy*

Dear Needs Privacy: Your parents are treating you like a child, although you are an adult and should be entitled to some privacy.

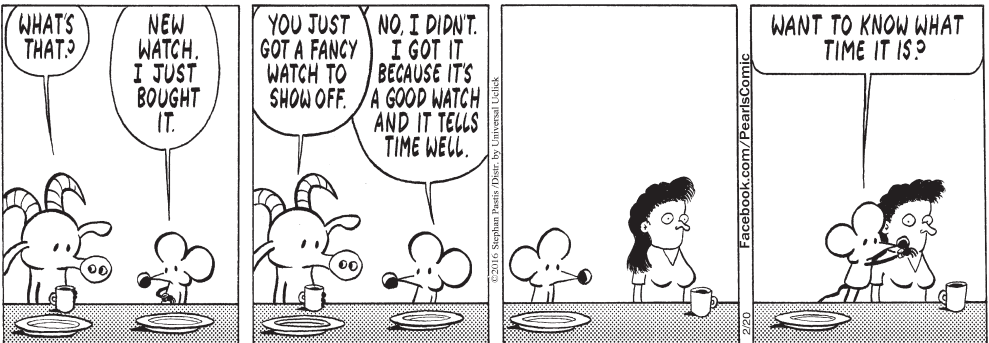
Look into ways of getting a reasonably priced phone plan, i.e., a prepaid phone. And when you visit them, refrain from using their car if it's an issue. (Perhaps your friends can pick you up and drop you off instead?)

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



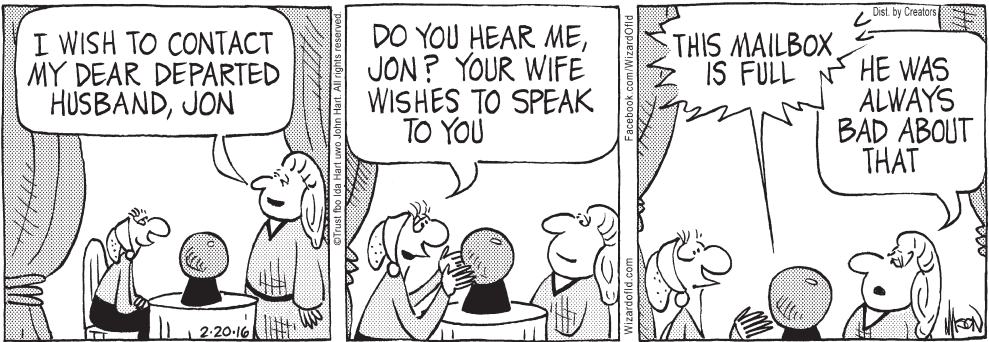
GARFIELD by Jim Davis



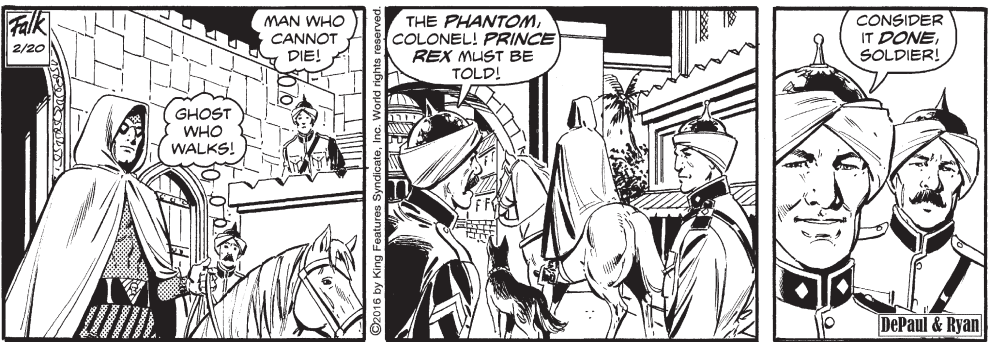
JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



WIZARD OF ID by Brant Parker



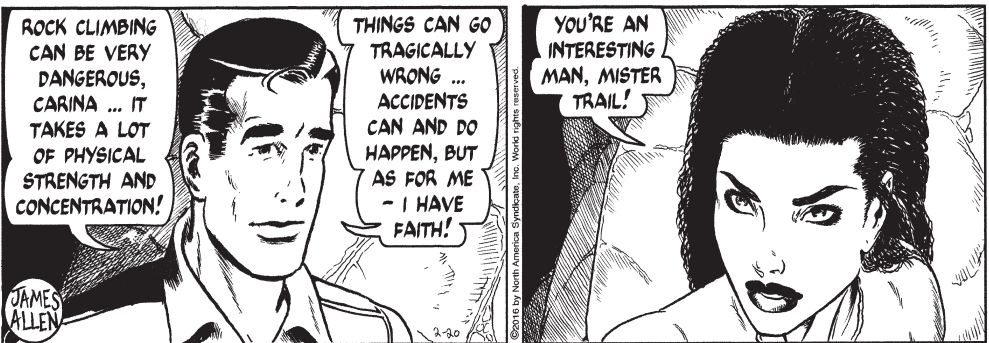
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



DILBERT by Scott Adams



MARK TRAIL by James Allen



PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



PICKLES by Brian Crane



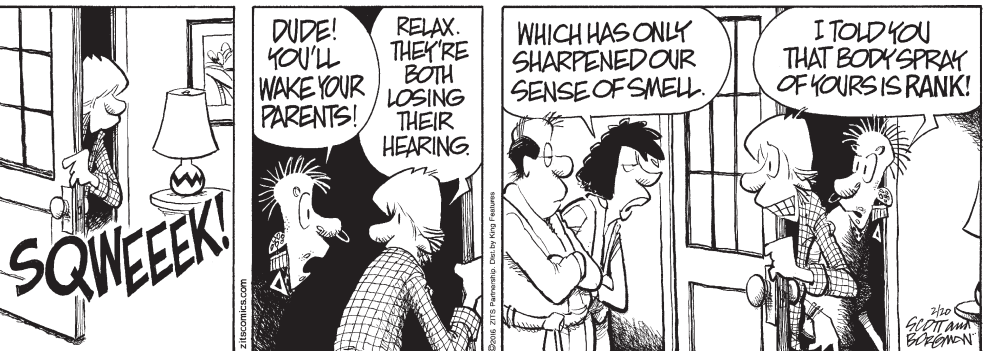
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



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). You don't need to travel the world to know the value of what you have at home. You appreciate the many gifts of domestic life, and outside influences only enhance your knowledge and appreciation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The way to security is through insecurity. Maybe feeling insecure is a good thing. It means you're doing the things that help you seek the confidence and emotional tools you need to succeed in different arenas.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The conditions around you are dominated by the dominant and most assertive character in the group. So, what do you think of what's happening? If it doesn't suit you, it's time to consider a coup.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Praise does something to your spirit to help you grow into the form you'd like to take in this world. As you soak up the high praise presented to you you'll also be learning how to give such a gift to others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Is wishing foolish? Only if you leave it at that. And your mind is practically incapable of leaving it at that! Once a wish crosses your mental screen, part of you begins unraveling the mystery of it and figuring out what it will take to bring it to fruition.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your love of the truth is what makes you funny today. You're not trying to make anyone laugh; it's just the pleas-

ant byproduct of your attempt to sort through the muck and get to what's real.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're not exactly seeing eye-to-eye with a loved one, but this might just be the blessing that keeps you from arguing with one another. "For if, by ill luck, people understood each other, they would never agree!" — Charles Baudelaire

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You won't be able to do exactly as you like, but this will keep you on a good path, the one that draws up your highest and best. You'll be surprised at how much fun you can wring out of this.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Whatever the popular opinion is, you can bet that it's not well-founded, and there's a variety of other reasons that make it a dangerous thing to join into.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). In order to take advantage of the opportunity at hand, you might need funds, you might not. Stay open minded about this. Be ready for either way. If you don't have the money, start thinking of how you might get it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Figuring out what you really want will take some time, but it will be well worth your while to consider, point by point, the things that might make you happy. You're likely to get much from your list.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've given much to someone who may, at this time, be incapable of returning the energy. The boomerang of karma sometimes comes back from a different direction than the one in which it was tossed.



HOLIDAY MATHIS