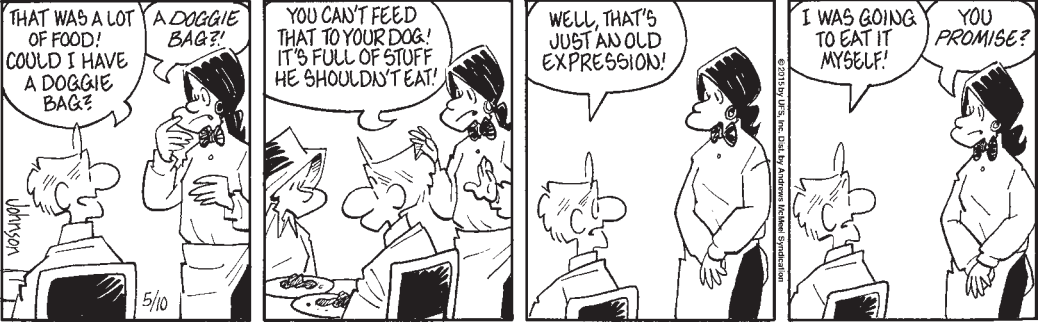
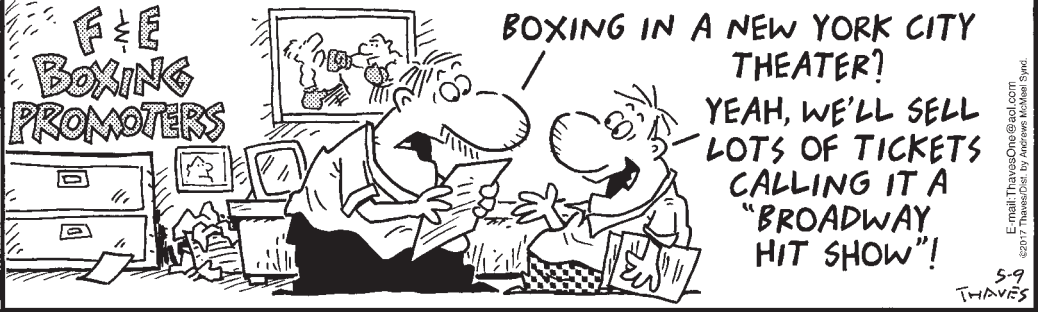


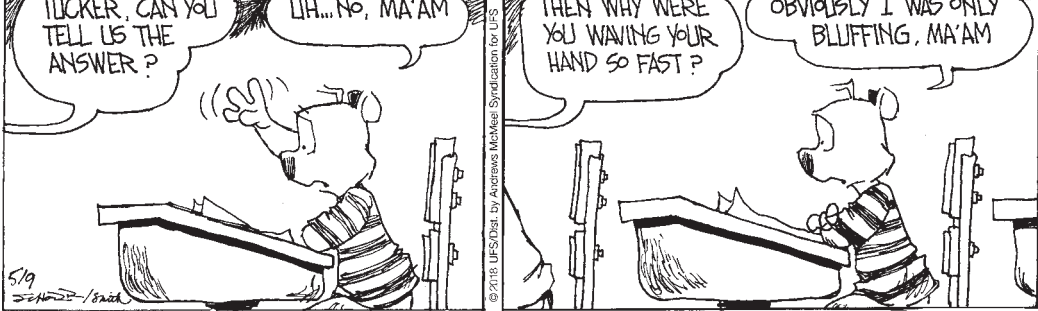
ARLO AND JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



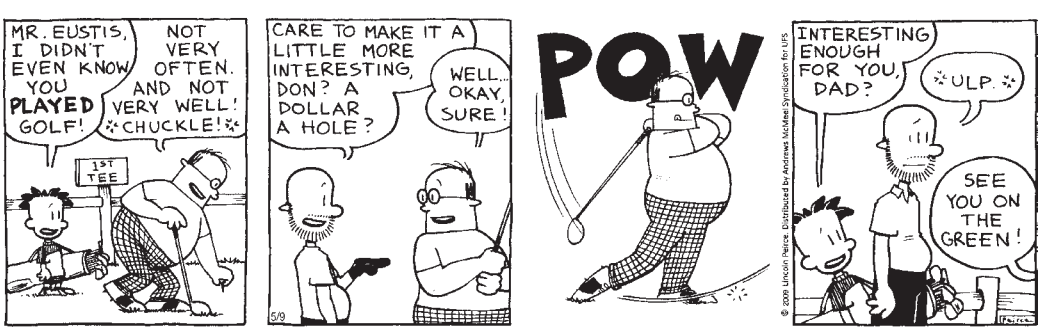
FRANK & ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



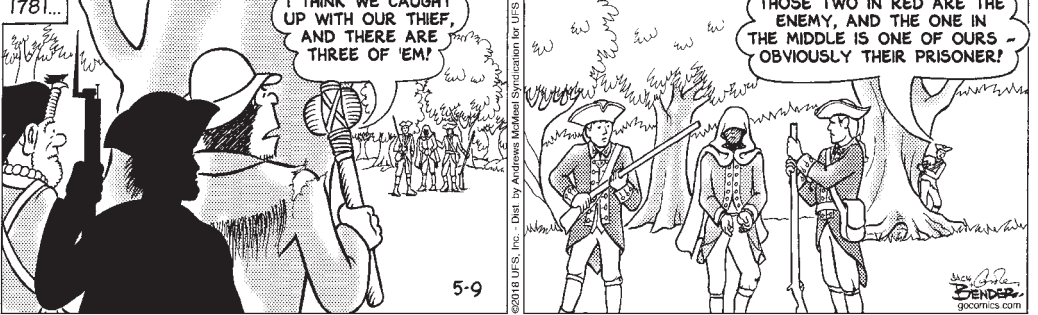
THE GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



BIG NATE® by Lincoln Peirce



ALLEY OOP by Jack and Carole Bender



SOUP TO NUTZ by Rick Stromoski



THE BORN LOSER™ by Art & Chip Sansom



HERMAN® by Jim Unger



REALITY CHECK® by Dave Whamond



SENSE AND SENSITIVITY
By Harriette Cole

Grandchild feeling left out by grandma

DEAR HARRIETTE: I am one of six grandchildren on my mother's side. My grandmother likes to spend a lot of time with her grandchildren, so we see her a lot. Throughout my entire life, I have always been the least close with my grandma. She has clear favorites, and I seem to rank last on the list. It has gotten to the point where on my birthday I don't even receive a birthday card, whereas my siblings and cousins get endless gifts and cards. It hadn't bothered me until now, and I want to speak to her about it. Do you think I should talk to my grandmother and tell her how I have been feeling?

-- Left-Out Grandchild, Milwaukee

DEAR LEFT-OUT GRANDCHILD: If you feel strong enough emotionally to address this with your grandmother, go for it. Chances are, you will get the best answer if you ask yourself. Be mindful not to put her on the defensive, though, because she may retaliate rather than explain whatever is in her head. Approach her gingerly. Tell her you want to ask her a question. Ask her if you have done something to offend her, or if something happened that made her not care as much for you. If she rejects your feelings, tell her that you feel like she ignores you, while at the same time doting over her other grandchildren. Point out the most recent birthday snub as an example. In the end, tell her that you wish you had a closer relationship.

DEAR HARRIETTE: My husband and I have been trying to start a family for about a year. We have had some trouble conceiving, and I have suffered

two miscarriages. My husband and I want a child, but maybe now is not the time for us. My husband insists that it is and wants to keep trying. How do I suggest to him that maybe we should take a break?

I don't want to come off as not wanting to start a family with him, but at the same time, I am emotionally and physically drained from all this baby stuff!

-- Pause Starting a Family, Wilmington, Delaware

DEAR PAUSE STARTING A FAMILY: Now is a perfect time to bring your doctor into the picture. Schedule an appointment where you get a checkup on your health and guidance on when it is advised to start trying to conceive again. Tell your doctor about your trepidation, and ask for support. You may want to see a psychologist who can help you through the trauma of the two miscarriages.

I went through a miscarriage, and it was devastating for me. Even though it also upset my husband, honestly, there was something about the physical and emotional havoc that it wreaked on me that was unfathomable for him -- at least on some levels.

It may take you longer to be ready to try again. Your husband may need a lot of support in understanding what you are going through. Therapy for both of you can be beneficial.

(Harriette Cole is a lifestyleist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.)

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

1 Water slide
6 Provided capital
12 Fuse unit
14 Roughly
15 Stained-glass art
16 Cook's smidgens
17 "Mad Max" Gibson
18 Ivy Leaguer
19 TD passers
21 Tummy muscles
23 Grunts of surprise
26 Take to court
27 Hotfoot it
28 Port near Kyoto
30 Above, to Tennyson
31 Zoologists' mouths
32 Room under a roof
33 Destroys

35 Gym pad
37 Opposite of post-
38 Doctrine
39 Slalom run
40 — take forever!
41 Pfc. boss
42 TV spots
43 Add- — (extras)
44 Craven or Unsel
46 6th sense
48 Coup
51 Reliable
55 Loath
56 Caught a wave
57 Less aggressive
58 Pointed remarks

DOWN

1 Machine part
2 Med. plan
3 FedEx rival

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	H	S		O	D	E	S		K	L	E	E
B	A	T		M	O	O	N		Y	I	P	E
B	R	O		E	D	N	A		O	M	A	R
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G	A	D	S		L	A	S	S		I	R	E

4 Squads
5 Canal of song
6 Loses color
7 Eurasian range
8 Most prying
9 "Obviously!"

10 Hydrocarbon suffix
11 Tooth fixer's deg.
13 Cream puff
19 Lines
20 Sea off Alaska
22 Grinned
24 Bonnet securer
25 Avoids, as an issue
26 Organize
27 Throw a party
28 Hearty breakfast
29 Did great
34 Computer system
36 Impose taxes
42 Autumn flower
43 Musical drama
45 Falling that
47 Injure a toe
48 Plow into
49 Day before
50 Geese formation
52 Chad's cont.
53 Chaperoned one
54 Fabric meas.

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books
at QuillDriverBooks.com

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4-19

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