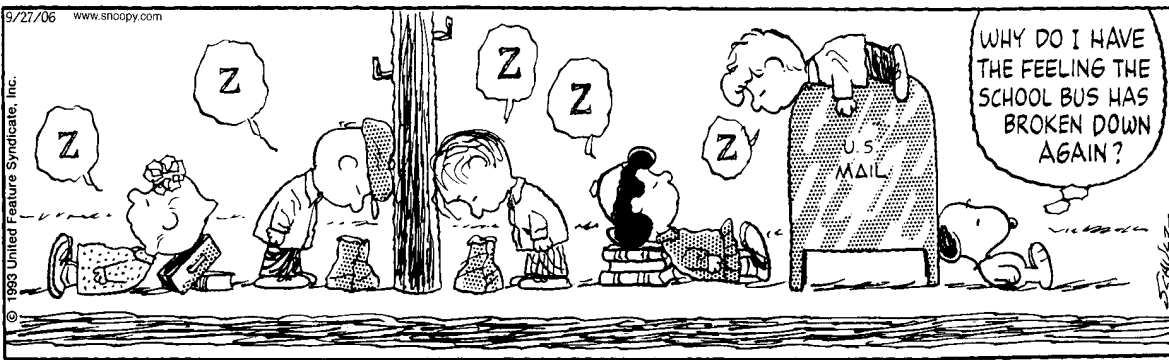


# Comics

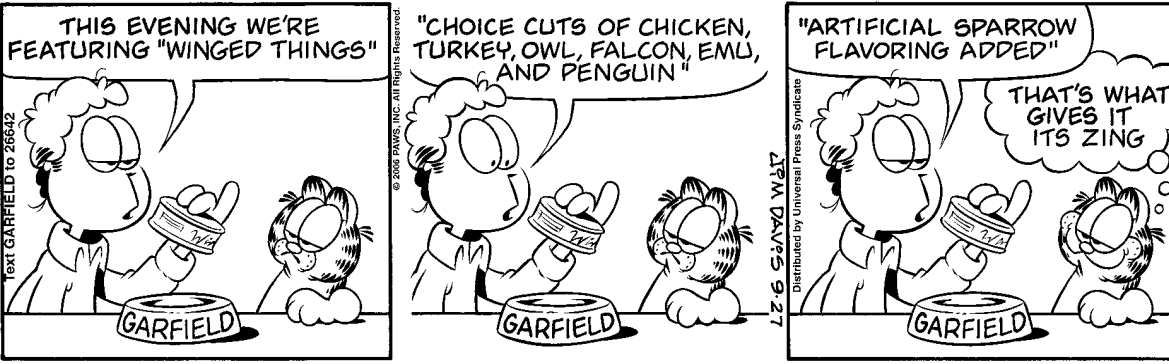
## Peanuts

by Charles M. Schulz



## Garfield

by Jim Davis



## Frank and Ernest

by Bob Thaves



## Big Nate

by Lincoln Peirce



## Soup To Nuts

by Howie Schneider



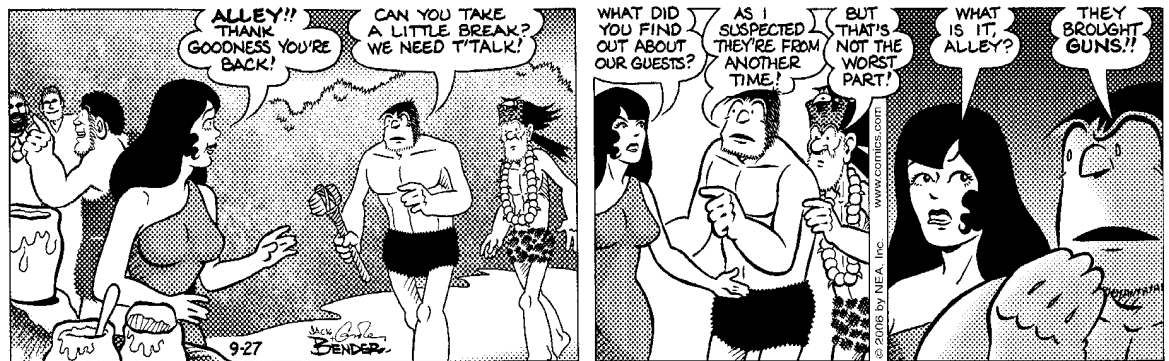
## The Born Loser

by Art and Chip Sansom



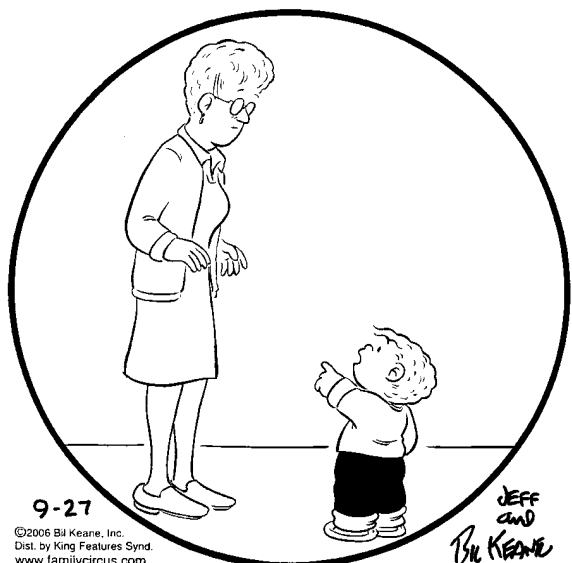
## Alley Oop

by Dave Graue



## The Family Circus

by Bil Keane



## Kit 'N' Carlyle

by Larry Wright



# Health

BY PETER GOTT, M.D.

## Tuneless humming increases with hearing loss

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have an elderly relative who hums frequently and for long periods of time. She doesn't hum a tune, just random tones. She has done this for about 10 years or so, and it has increased in frequency. It's a soft, mild hum. She has pronounced hearing loss, which has progressed over time. She has hearing aids but wears them very infrequently. The majority of the humming is done during inactive times, like riding in a car or sitting at the table. She hums briefly while walking to a car, etc.



By Peter Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Deaf people often hum. I don't know the reason for it — perhaps it is because such people can't hear the humming — but it is harmless and would probably disappear if your relative were to use her hearing aids. Or, if you are concerned, have her examined by an otolaryngologist.

DEAR DR. GOTT: About your no flour, no sugar diet: Does the sugar mean granulated sugar, and does it include sugar in fruit? What about honey?

I am elderly and desperately need

to lose weight because of health problems. I feel my diabetes medication has caused a steady gain no matter what I have cut out. I am not as active as I used to be because of arthritis but have tried 1,200- to 1,500-calorie diets, and the scale doesn't show a significant weight loss.

DEAR READER: My no-flour, no-sugar diet allows for natural fruit sugars but prohibits cane sugar and other high-calorie sweeteners.

I also suggest that you purchase my new book "Dr. Gott's No Flour, No Sugar Diet." It's an in-depth look at my diet and contains meal plans, food lists, recipes, and much more. You can purchase the book directly from the publisher online at [www.quilldriver-books.com](http://www.quilldriver-books.com) or by phone at (800) 605-7176. It is also available online at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or at Barnes and Noble. Your local bookstore can even order it for you.

DEAR DR. GOTT: How serious is a malignant tumor in the bladder? How is it taken care of?

DEAR READER: Some bladder tumors grow slowly, while others are aggressive. Your urologist can answer your specific question once he or she knows the microscopic characteristics of the cancer.

As a general rule, bladder tumors are removed surgically, and the patient thereafter undergoes annual bladder examinations.

# Bridge

BY PHILLIP ALDER

North 09-27-06  
 ♠ 7 5 4 2  
 ♥ 6 2  
 ♦ 6 4  
 ♣ 9 8 5 3 2

West  
 ♠ Q J 10 8  
 ♥ K 4 3  
 ♦ A 10 5  
 ♣ 7 6 4

East  
 ♠ 9 6 3  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ Q J 9 8 3  
 ♣ K Q J 10

South  
 ♠ A K  
 ♥ A Q J 10 9 8 7  
 ♦ K 7 2  
 ♣ A

Dealer: South  
 Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
2 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 NT	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ Q

North responded two diamonds, weak. South rebid two hearts, promising at least a five-card suit. North continued with two no-trump, showing 0-4 points. (In the tournament world today, North would rebid three clubs as the double negative. Then, if three no-trump is the best final contract, it will be declared by the stronger hand.) Since three hearts would have been nonforcing, South jumped to game.

You have nine tricks: two spades, six hearts and one club. You might get very lucky and drop a singleton heart king, but that will happen only 12.5 percent of the time. Better is to try to ruff a diamond on the board. Suppose, though, that you lead a low diamond at trick two. If the defenders are on the ball, East will win and shift to his trump, killing your contract with this layout.

You should try to force West to win the first diamond trick — at trick two, play the diamond king from your hand. Here, you are now safe. West may win and lead a low heart, but you win in hand and continue with another diamond. If West takes the trick and plays another trump to stop the ruff, you lose no heart trick. And if East wins the second diamond trick, he does not have a trump to lead. Either way, you are home free.

Often the opening lead decides the fate of a contract, but this deal centers on a later lead. If you were the declarer in four hearts, how would you plan the play after West leads the spade queen to your ace?

South opened two clubs, strong.

# Your Birthday

BY BERNICE BEDE OSOL

A large ambition and some smaller desires you've harbored — but haven't been able to fulfill in the past — could become realities for you in the year ahead. An associate you meet might give you the formula that will make them possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — A friend of yours may come to you for some advice. It will be important to this person that you take the time to hear him/her out. Be realistic in your suggestions, but sensitive as well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Recognition for a job well done is within achievable range. Acknowledgement for your efforts may come in the form of a promotion, but more important to you will be the respect attached.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Spend some time concentrating on ways to further your personal ambitions and interests. Realistic deliberation on your part will result in constructive means that fit the formula.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Secrecy enhances your possibilities for success regarding a matter of serious significance to you. If you need to discuss it in order to see things clearly, do so only with those involved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — A social acquaintance you recently made could begin to take on greater significance to you. What develops between you will create a valuable and binding relationship.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — With encouraging sup-

port, an assignment that would normally have been a laborious task could now turn into one that is relatively fun to do. The right ally is what makes the difference.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — A delicate matter that could have serious ramifications if handled poorly should be discussed one step at a time. If you don't ignore the sensitivities involved, you can resolve the situation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — If you are able to come to terms with other people's views, you'll find you'll be able to relate better to a transaction now taking place, making it possible to finalize a good contract.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — A project in which both you and your mate are collectively involved has excellent chances of exceeding your expectations — if you keep in mind each other's idealism.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Mix practical and prudent procedures, along with the spirit of service expected by others, and your financial affairs will have much more punch to them, resulting in greater earning power.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You're presently caught up in something complicated that involves friends, but it can be sorted out to everyone's satisfaction by remembering to keep goodwill in the relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You might not get everything you want, but, when the bottom line is tallied, you should come out on the plus side of the ledger. Being grateful, and not greedy, makes this possible.

# Sudoku

			7					1
1				9		6		
	8	2	1					5
	5		8		3			2
			9		7			
7				2				4
4					8			
2	7				4			
			6	9				3