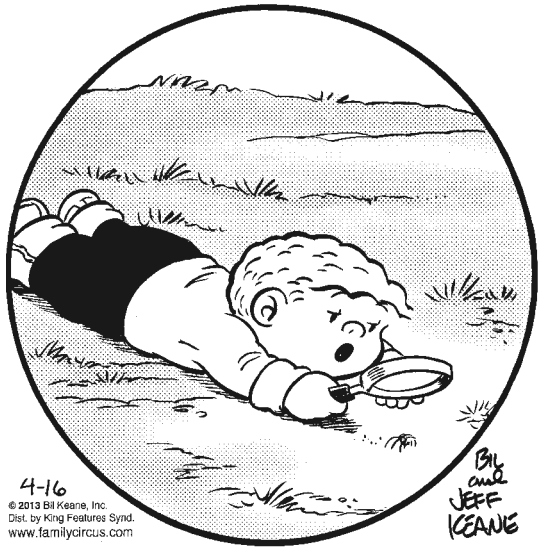
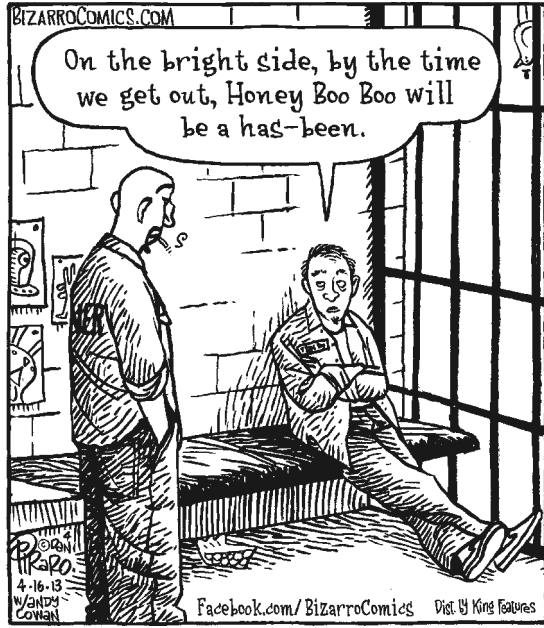


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



4-16
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www.kfsfamily.com
"With all those legs, how do spiders know which way they're going?"

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

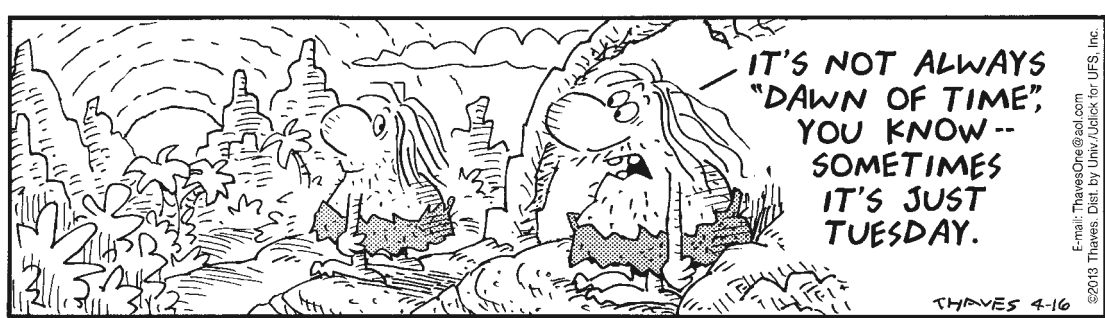


BIZARROCOMICS.COM
On the bright side, by the time we get out, Honey Boo Boo will be a has-been.
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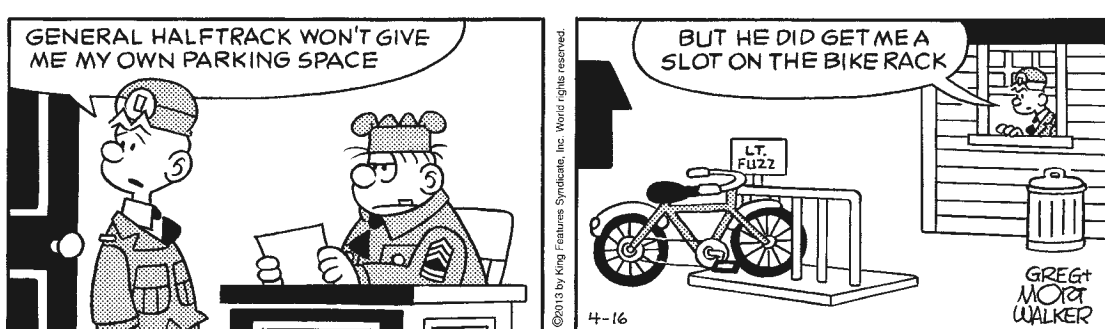
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



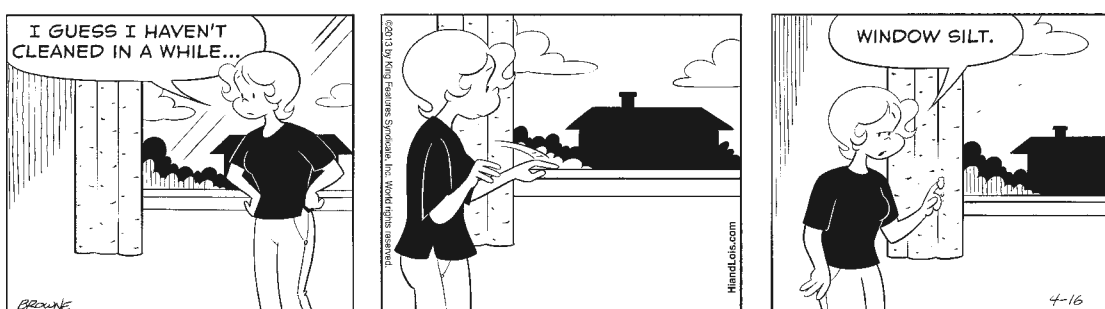
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



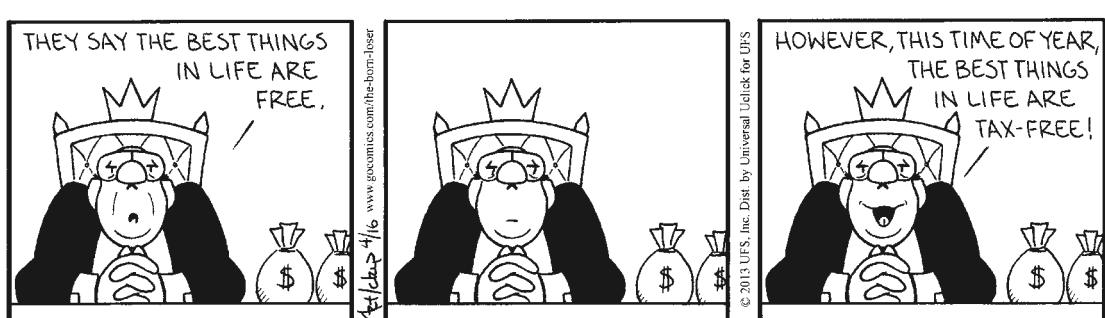
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Friend's Celebration Makes Woman's Birthday Unhappy

DEAR ABBY: I was raised that a person's birthday is his or her day to do whatever he or she wants, but my wishes are being ignored by a close friend I'll call Wade.

For the last 10 years I have ignored my birthday and tried to avoid all celebrations. I'll take a vacation alone and have a great time. My family understands how I feel and gives me no grief.

I met Wade five years ago. He's a co-worker who has become a good friend. Wade has made it his goal in life to make me celebrate my birthday. I have tried being nice about the presents and even a surprise birthday party one year, but I really prefer to be left alone. I never told him my birth date. He had access to HR records and found out on his own.

He says I am "rude" for not letting him celebrate my birthday. Other than this issue, he's a great guy. Advice, Abby? — NON-OBSERVANT IN FLORIDA

DEAR NON-OBSERVANT: Wade may be a "great guy," but he appears to be insensitive when it comes to respecting the feelings of others. Before your next birthday, "remind" him that you prefer not to celebrate or acknowledge it. A good friend should listen and respect the other person's wishes instead of trying to impose his or her will, and don't be shy about saying so.

DEAR ABBY: I am one of four sisters. Two of my sisters, their husbands and I want to plan a trip to Italy. We do not want to include our fourth sister and her husband. None of us like him or can forgive how he abused her in the past. For her sake, we tolerate him at family gatherings and holidays, but none of us want to be with him for an extended period. We also don't think his health would allow him

to do a lot of the things we want to do on this vacation.

How do we plan this trip while excluding our sister and her husband without hurting her feelings or causing a big family blowup? Should we just not mention it? Or should we tell her she's invited but not her husband? Please advise. — SIS IN A PICKLE

DEAR SIS: Secrets like this have a way of getting out. It might be a slip of the tongue by one of your sisters or their husbands, or some other relative who knows about the trip.

Surely your sister knows how you all feel about her husband, so it won't be a shock if you tell her she is invited but he is not. Under the circumstances I doubt if she will join you, and there will probably be hurt feelings. But sneaking this past her would be like trying to smuggle down past a rooster, and I don't think it would be long before she finds out anyway.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for nine years. I worked until 2010, and then quit to be a stay-at-home mom to our two small children.

Because I no longer work, I watch what I spend, but my husband never lets me forget that he is the wage earner. When I want to spend money he always says, "What's in it for me?" or "What do I get?" I feel like this degrades me. Why does he do this to me? — STAY-AT-HOME MOM IN GEORGIA

DEAR STAY-AT-HOME MOM: Your husband may say it because he feels stressed or resentful that he is the sole wage earner now. The first time it happened you should have responded that "what's in it for him" is that his children have a full-time mother, which the majority of children today don't have, and "what he gets" out of it are offspring who have a mother rather than a caregiver raising them.

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Aries and a Moon in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2013:

This year you can swing from being too rigid or restrained to suddenly becoming a "wild thing." Others often might react strangely, as your behavior could catch them off-guard -- they never know what to expect! If you are single, your moodiness sometimes works against you. Some people can't tolerate your swift emotional changes, but trust that the right person will. You could meet someone significant after July 1, 2013. If you are attached, be kind to your sweetie, as he or she might need some indulgence. CANCER loves to be by the water.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

★★★ Listen to news with an open mind. You could be surprised at what needs to be done in order to complete the final product. Your creativity flows. Self-discipline will be necessary in order for you to face and deal with the unexpected. Do not overreact. Tonight: Head home.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Speak your mind, and know full well that it could trigger some less-than-desirable reactions and/or responses. A partner might pull back rather than talk about what is bothering him or her. Expect the unexpected with this person. Tonight: Touch base with a neighbor.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Be willing to go a little overboard and indulge someone you care about. A sudden change involving a meeting or a friend initially could surprise you. Adjust your thinking, and try to understand where this person is coming from. Avoid a power play at all costs. Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You beam in any situation -- even if there is a disruption. The unexpected is likely to affect your work, an older relative or a commitment. Know that nothing is written in stone; changes could occur often. Remain confident. Tonight: Go for what you want.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Sometimes the less said, the better. In the future, you might want to keep more information to yourself.

In light of new information, re-evaluate a recent decision you've made. Listen to news as a cynic. You could gain a powerful insight as a result. Tonight: Not to be found.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Put your ear to the ground, and listen to the inner workings of a situation. Your perspective will transform as a result. You might be worried about a personal matter, or an unexpected development could shake you up. Tonight: Hang out where there are crowds.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You know what you want, and you know what you expect. Stay level, as many responsibilities seem to drop on you. Understand where you are heading with a personal matter. Know when to say "enough." A partner or an associate becomes flaky. Tonight: In the limelight.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You need to follow someone's lead, even if you would prefer not to. You might be quietly or overtly cynical, but make an effort to follow through as this person might want. You will gain understanding and a new insight as a result. Tonight: Refuse to get into a power struggle.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You might want to reconsider a suggestion involving a loved one. A child could cause a problem, depending on how rigid you are right now. If you are single, be careful around someone you meet today -- the unexpected could occur. Tonight: Make time for a special person.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You need to honor a change within your immediate circle. People seem to want different things. Understand what is happening, and know that nothing is written in stone. Honor a change on the homefront. At least your life isn't boring! Tonight: Go with a pal's suggestion.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

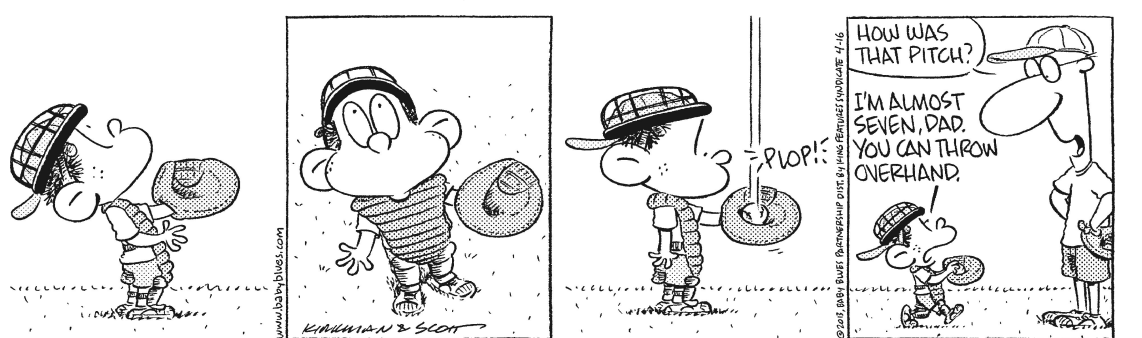
★★★★ Focus on getting the job done. You could be distracted by calls, an unexpected development and/or a possible change of plans. A boss or higher-up might notice how distracted you are. Pull back and get focused. Tonight: Visit with a co-worker or a friend.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Allow your creativity to flow. Sometimes you take yourself far too seriously. Lighten up, and understand that you can't go wrong if you follow your intuition. Use care with your finances. You never know what will happen next. Tonight: Add more spice to your life.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

