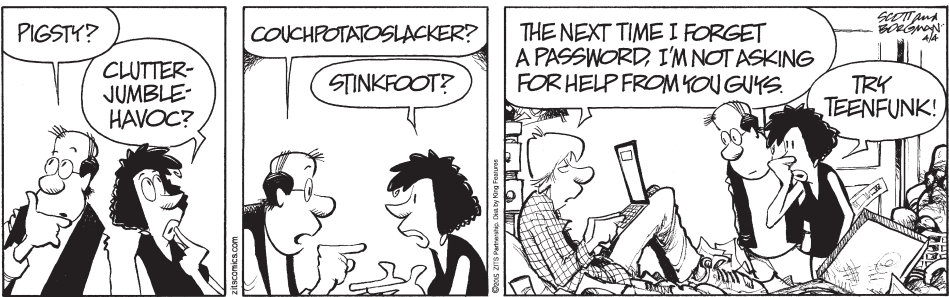


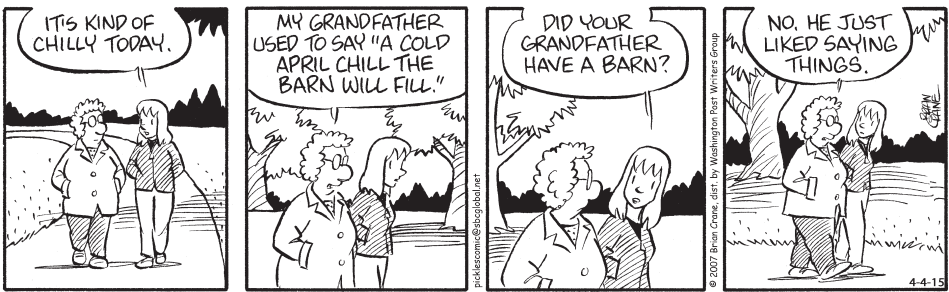
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



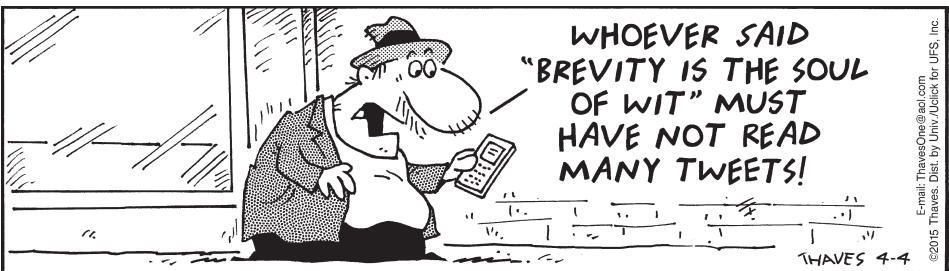
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



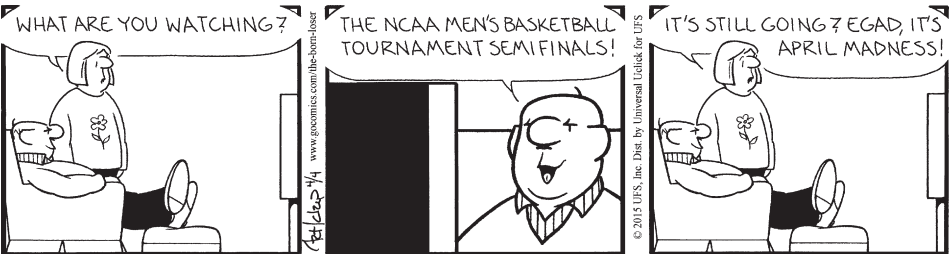
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



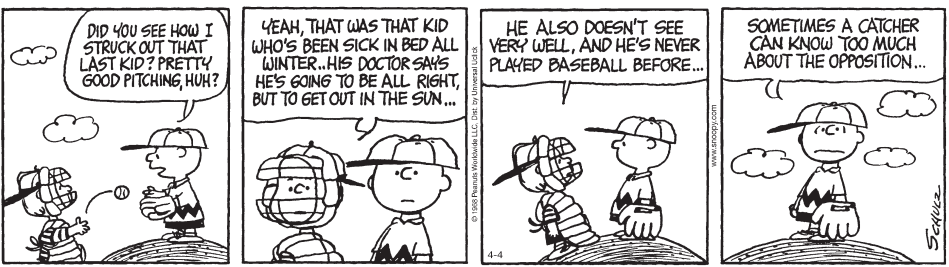
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



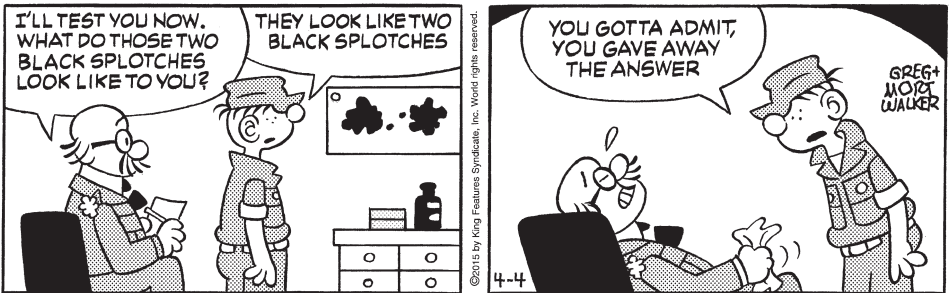
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



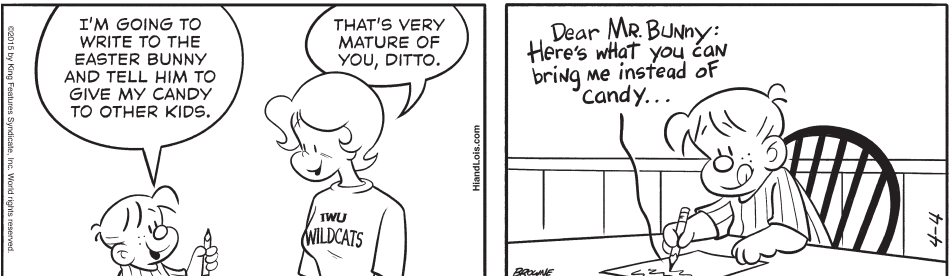
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



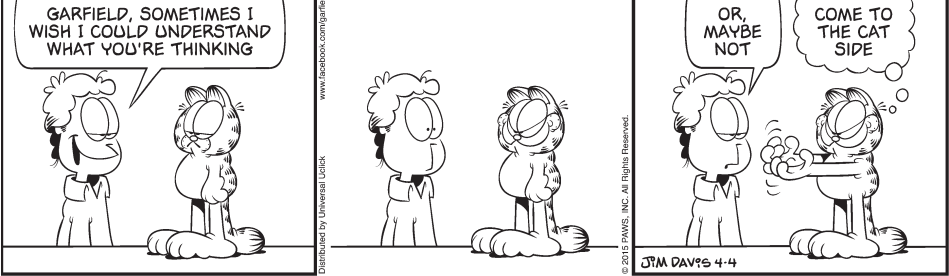
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



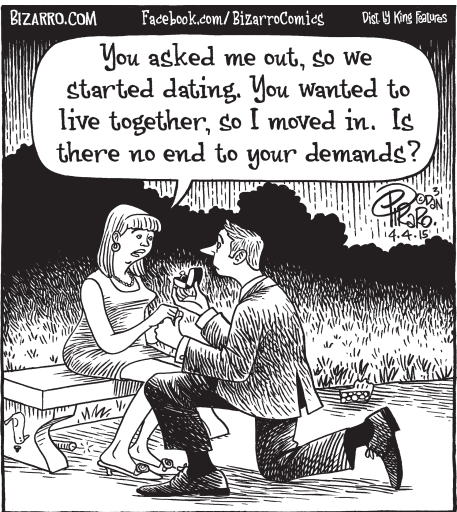
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Couple Overcomes Objections, Celebrates 56th Anniversary

DEAR ABBY: I read the letter (Jan. 19) from the young woman who is concerned about dating someone significantly older. In 1958, when I was 17, I met a man who was 34. He was handsome, easygoing, quiet, and I fell in love. He was a widower with two children — a 13-year-old girl and a 9-year-old boy. They lived with his mother.

His mom was not at all happy about our relationship, nor were his sisters, my parents and his kids. We wanted to get married, but my parents refused to sign. I felt like the whole world was against us. But I loved him dearly.

In March 1959, I turned 18. We were married on April 4 against everyone's wishes. We had four more children. My dad did not set foot in my home until my first child was born.

My mother-in-law finally told me she loved me and knew I was good for her son on our 10th anniversary. All our children are close, and his two call me Mom. His daughter was a great help with our babies and cried when she got married and left home.

We have had our ups and downs, but we have also had 56 wonderful years of marriage. Age really IS just a number! — JANET IN INDIANA

DEAR JANET: In many cases that's true. In others, couples with such a large disparity in age have been known to grow apart instead of on a parallel path. Because you and your husband's relationship turned out to be a soul match, you are not only lucky to have found each other, but also blessed to have enjoyed such a long marriage. My congratulations to you both as you celebrate your 56th anniversary today!

DEAR ABBY: I recently walked in on one of my boys' 12-year-old friends watching YouTube videos that were extremely foul-mouthed and even raunchy (he had separated himself from the other boys while viewing them). His parents are under the misconception that they have control of his online activities.

When I was young, my friends' parents would reprimand me when necessary, but parents these days reject outside advice or input. What's the proper response to this? Talk directly to the boy? Turn him in to his parents? — BURNING EARS IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR BURNING: Have a talk with the boy.

Explain that the language in the video is not permitted in your home, and you prefer he not watch it while he is there. If he agrees, do not take it any further. However, if it happens again, talk to his parents, and limit the time your sons spend with him.

DEAR ABBY: I sold women's shoes for 35 years.

Men, when a lady asks if you like the shoe she's wearing, she doesn't care if you like the shoe! She wants to know whether it looks good on her, makes her ankles look fat, etc. It's

like if a man buys new floor mats for his car or truck. He buys them to make his vehicle look better, not just to have floor mats.

Wise up and think. If you do, shopping with your lady will make more sense! — DAVID IN PHOENIX

DEAR DAVID: I love your analogy. Of course, you are correct — and it applies to more apparel than shoes. One caveat: Men, when you're asked, be diplomatic or you may find yourselves in serious trouble.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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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 Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2015:

This year you hear many different opinions regarding your actions. Juggling feedback and being polite could be difficult at times. Establish stronger boundaries. If you are single, you attract quite an assortment of admirers. You will like dating a lot, and might not want to commit for a while. Know that you could miss relating to someone very special if you don't keep an open mind. If you are attached, the two of you open up to a new beginning because of a willingness to understand where the other person is coming from. As a result, you'll gain greater respect for each other's choices. LIBRA knows how to make you smile.

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)

★★★★ Others surprise you with their unpredictability. You'll enjoy the excitement, even if the behavior causes a hassle. An older person or relative could become cold and controlling if you decide not to do what he or she requests. Tonight: Party the night away.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Others might notice a gentleness about you. You might not even be aware of this quality, as you could be involved in completing a project or preparing for a get-together. You will have a sudden realization that needs to be aired. Have a discussion quickly. Tonight: With friends.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You could be very tired from a discussion that keeps recurring. You might be wondering what it would take to put the issue to bed. Your creativity and charm remain high. Make peace with this issue; the alternative is not worth it. Tonight: Charm the socks off others.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You love being home, and you'll decide to invite others over. You could hit a point of frustration, as you might feel isolated doing all the cooking and preparing. Your expectations are not likely to be met when dealing with a friend or loved one. Tonight: Flow with the moment.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Know that you can and will guide a

conversation away from negativity. You might be in the mood to shoot the breeze with friends, whether you're watching a sports game or off at a favorite haunt. Tonight: With a favorite person -- you choose the spot.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Sometimes, even when you're being practical, you need to worry less. Many of you could opt to indulge in a costly pastime. Keep your limits in mind, but give yourself more leeway than usual. Don't be surprised if a friend goes along for the ride. Tonight: Treat a dear friend.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You'll be keeping up with the hectic pace, but you could be overwhelmed by one person's constant chatter. Put yourself in a situation where talk is not necessary. Try going to a movie or concert. Everyone will emerge with a smile. Tonight: As you like it.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ You might choose to maintain a low profile right now. Your finances could demand your attention. File your taxes if you haven't by now. You'll be more effective once you work to clear out some back-burner projects. Tonight: Be mysterious about your plans. Say little.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Consider rejuvenating your outlook by taking a day trip to go off and explore a new area, or perhaps by catching an art show. It might be important to change your patterns a bit in order to reflect who you are. Return a long-distance call quickly. Tonight: Try a new spot.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Listen to news with a bit of cynicism, and you won't be disappointed. You might need to venture out to prevent yourself from spending too much time alone. A friend whom you have not seen in a while will reach out for you. Plan to visit soon! Tonight: Make it your treat.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Reach out to a loved one at a distance. What you hear could force a discussion that might go on for a while. Know that answers won't be immediate. Use caution with your funds, whether you're doing taxes or buying a new item. Stay within your budget! Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

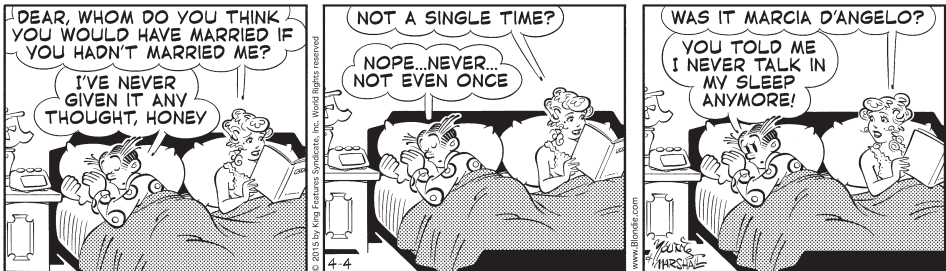
★★★★ A parent or older friend seems to be very hard on you. Try not to make plans around this person. You need to take better care of yourself. Get a head start on doing your taxes, if you haven't already, or make adjustments to your budget. Tonight: Let someone else treat.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

