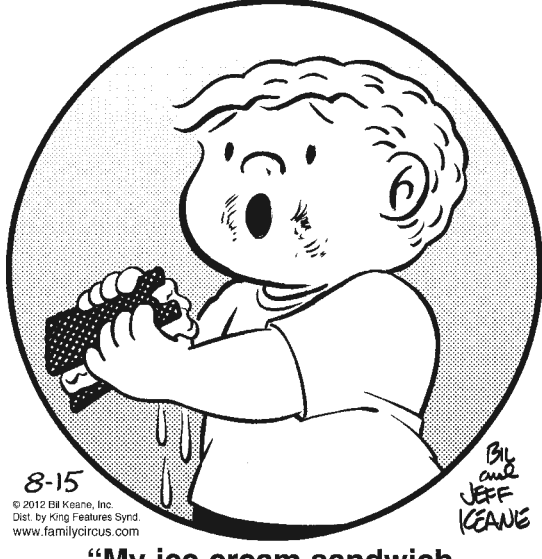
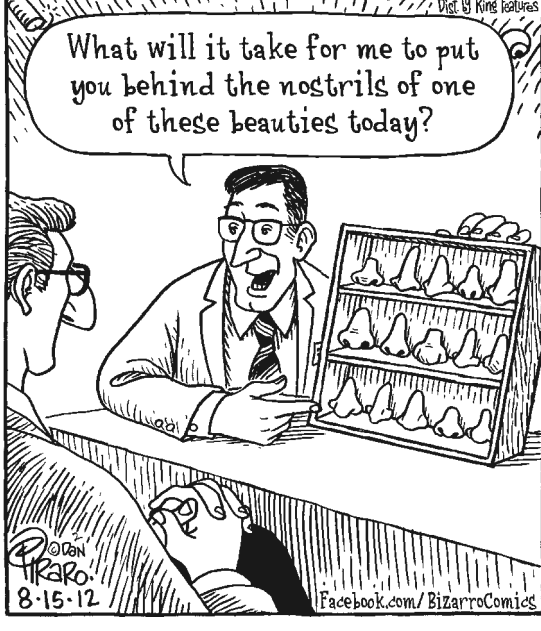


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



8-15
My ice cream sandwich won't sit still.

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

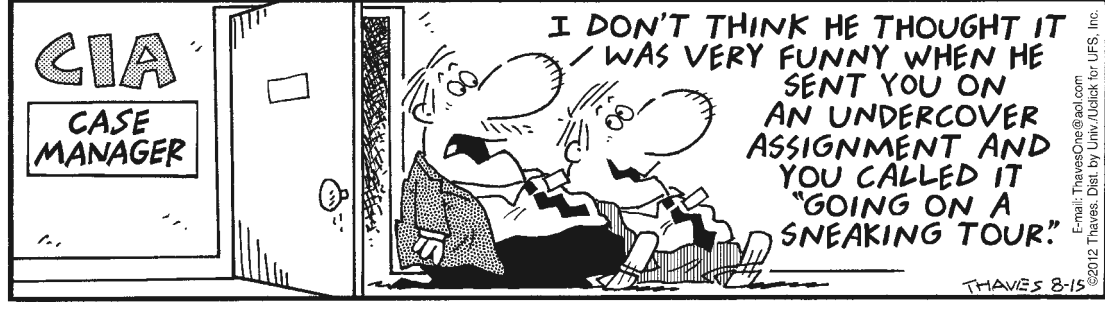


What will it take for me to put you behind the nostrils of one of these beauties today?

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



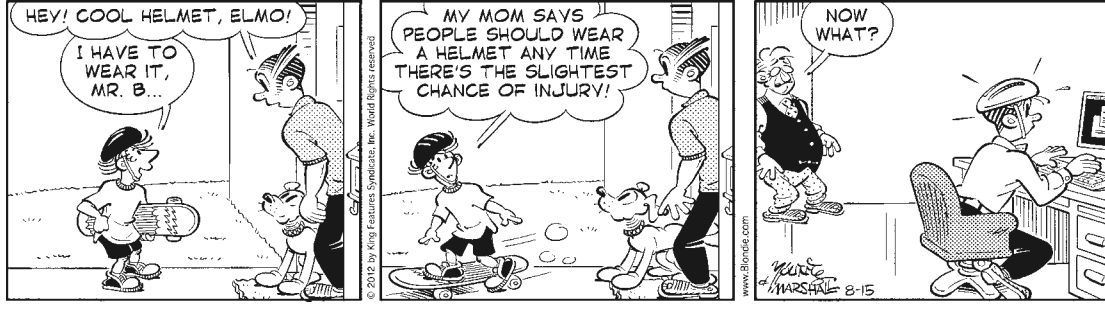
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



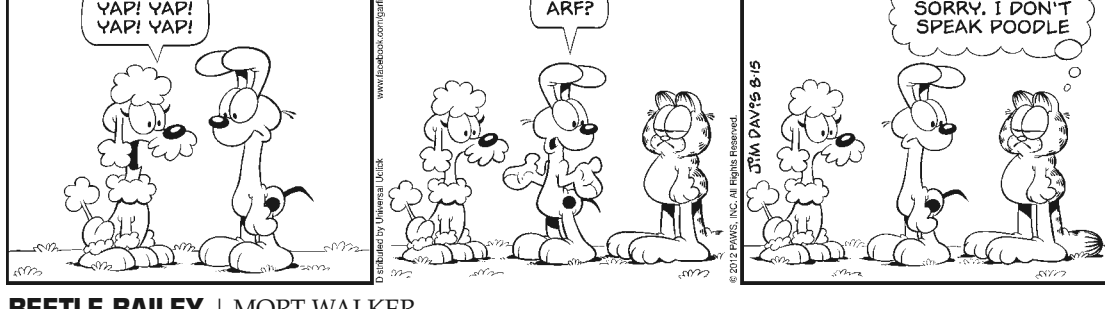
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSONO



Girl Abused By Grandfather Is Reluctant To Share Her Feelings

DEAR ABBY: My grandfather recently went to jail for having child pornography on his laptop. The lawyers and everyone else say he molested me and my sister. I almost had to testify.

I'm only 13 and have talked with people, but they don't get it. I don't want to talk to a therapist or anything, but my mom and aunt think I should. Should I? I feel really sad right now. I first learned about this two years ago, but it still hurts. I kind of feel uncomfortable talking about it to people other than my best friends. I write sad poetry to express my feelings and it helps some.

I don't know what to do. It's like I'm stuck in a rut. What should I be feeling? Do I need to talk to someone? Should I open up more? — UNSURE OF MY FEELINGS

DEAR UNSURE: If your grandfather is in jail, and "the lawyers and everyone else" say he molested you and your sister, then he probably did. The two of you may not have understood what was happening because he led you to believe what he was doing was normal behavior. (This is standard operating procedure for a molester.)

Part of the reason for your sadness may be that your trust was violated. Talking to a therapist is not a punishment. It's actually a privilege, and I hope that you and your sister will take advantage of it. A therapist can give you more insight than your friends can give you.

Your mom and your aunt have your best interests at heart, so please listen to them. A therapist can help you open up more, and your sadness will dissipate.

DEAR ABBY: I love my wife very much, but over the years we have drifted apart. At one time we considered separating, but we went to a marriage counselor and worked most things out.

My wife is the only woman in the world for me, but my feelings are at the bottom of her priorities. I give her nightly foot massages and tell her how much she means to me. She never returns any pleasures. She has told me that sex is not enjoyable for her and she does it only to please me.

I love her dearly, however the romance is gone. Is it possible to rekindle the long-lost fire? — LONELY, UNIMPORTANT HUSBAND IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR LONELY: I hate to appear negative, but the way you have described your marriage, I doubt it. I also have to question why you think a woman who is so withholding is the only woman in the world for you. You have described what she is getting from you, but what are you receiving in return besides passive rejection?

DEAR ABBY: I am torn between two decisions. I am a 40-year-old teacher, but I have always wanted to be in law enforcement. I didn't pursue my dream because my fiancée would not marry me if I went into police work. I have done well over the years, but my heart will not let go of being in law enforcement. My wife gives me the "you have a good job and you need to save for your kids" speech. I feel if I don't at least try to pursue my dream it will always bug me.

Should I suck it up, do my time and be unfulfilled for the next 10 years? I feel like the old "you can be whatever you want to be" speech is an injustice to children if you as a parent can't live up to this rule. What do you think about all this? — LIVING A LIE IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR LIVING A LIE: I think that at age 40 you should be allowed to do what you want with your life. HOWEVER, if you decide to pursue police work, you should make certain your family will be well-provided-for in case something happens to you in your high-risk new career.



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

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

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 Leo and a Moon in Cancer if born before 11:05 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15, 2012:

This year you could feel everything intensely — more than you have in a long time. You also might tend to get angry far more easily. You might be dealing with a low-level depression. If so, make a point to see the appropriate person for help. Why carry around extra baggage if you don't need to? If you are single, screen the people you meet and take your time getting to know a potential suitor. Remember, time is your ally. If you are attached, the two of you need private time as a couple. CANCER makes a good healer for you.

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)

Deal with a personal matter. You easily could be overwhelmed by what is on your plate. A partner or close loved one could become withdrawn. You cannot change this person's mood — only he or she can. Do not push so hard to get your way. Tonight: Let your inner child out.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Important communication needs to take place in the morning. In the afternoon, you'll want to concentrate and could close the door if you are at the office. If you are retired, you might indulge in a lengthy nap. In any case, be sure to slow down. Tonight: Relax.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Make sure you stay on top of your finances. They could go up and down rather quickly right now. By midday, you'll discover your voice and the power of your words once more. Know that you do not need to settle. You have a lot going for you. Tonight: Hang out.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

You flourish in the morning. You might even want to take off in the afternoon and do some shopping. Take time to browse around at a favorite store for a great card or gift to let someone know how much you care. Tonight: Indulge a little.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

You feel empowered by midafternoon, though you might have had several difficult and challenging peo-

ple to deal with prior to that. Problems and hassles wash over you like water. You might want to gather a group of people together or use a meeting to establish boundaries. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

VRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Use the daylight hours to the max. Be careful with your anger — it could cause you to overspend or overindulge right now. Strong communication between you and someone else marks the afternoon. You might discover that the outcome will break down barriers. Tonight: Not to be found.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

You could be oversensitive or difficult, even into the afternoon. You might not realize that you are testing your limits. You will find that you have a lot to smile about if you could just relax and be yourself. Tonight: Where the action is.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

Make an important call in the morning. What you did not count on is a brainstorming session emerging from an obstacle you encounter. Two minds work better than one, especially in this case. Accept responsibilities. Tonight: Could go into the wee hours.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

A close friend, loved one or associate demands a lot of your time and attention. Curb an element of frustration that could mount when in a meeting or while dealing with someone whose issues are stopping you from getting to a key call or conversation. Tonight: Tap into your imagination.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

Others seek you out in the morning. You might have a grumpy response like "I'm busy." In the afternoon, spend time working through an issue with someone who is instrumental to your work and/or well-being. Tonight: Spend quality time with a loved one.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

Throw yourself into your daily routine, and focus on clearing out as much as possible. By midday, others will seek you out, one after the other. You might call it a form of networking, but really you are responding to others' requests. Tonight: Break into more fun.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

Your imagination assumes the lead, no matter what you do this morning. Maintain a sense of humor. You might be overserious in dealing with someone you perceive to be a difficult person. Treat him or her normally. Tonight: Dinner with a favorite person.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

