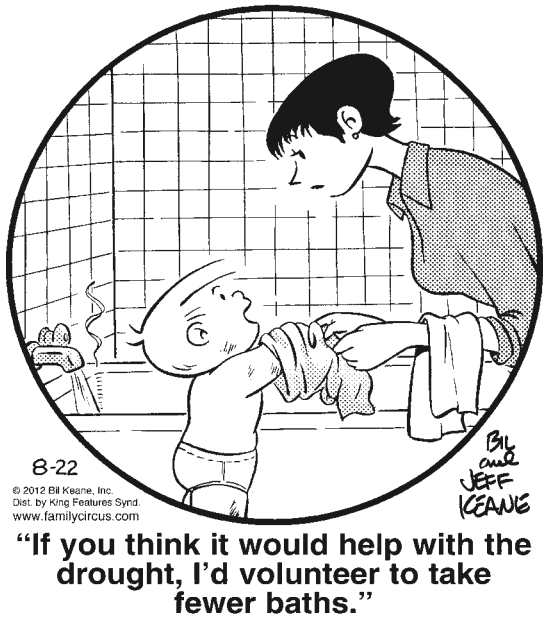


**FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE**



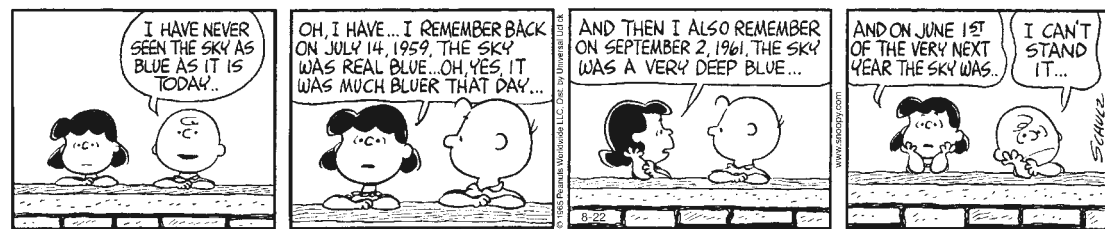
**ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN**



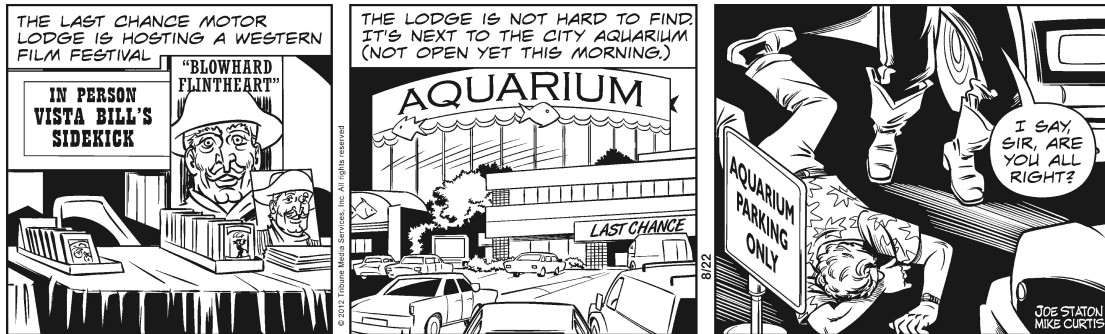
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**PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ**



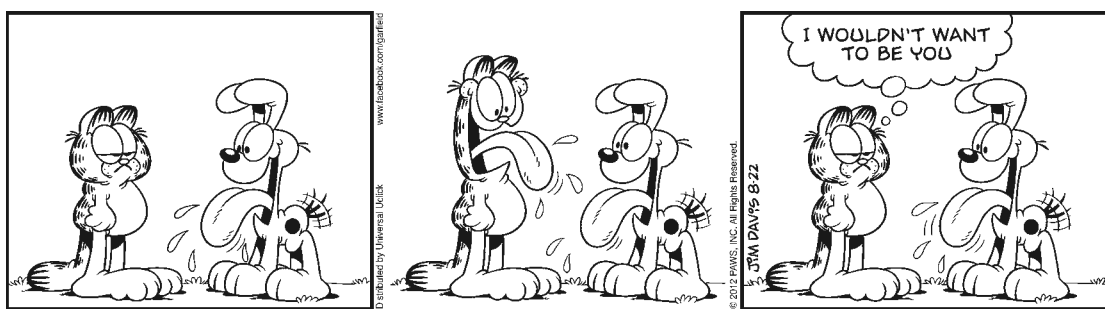
**DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS**



**BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE**



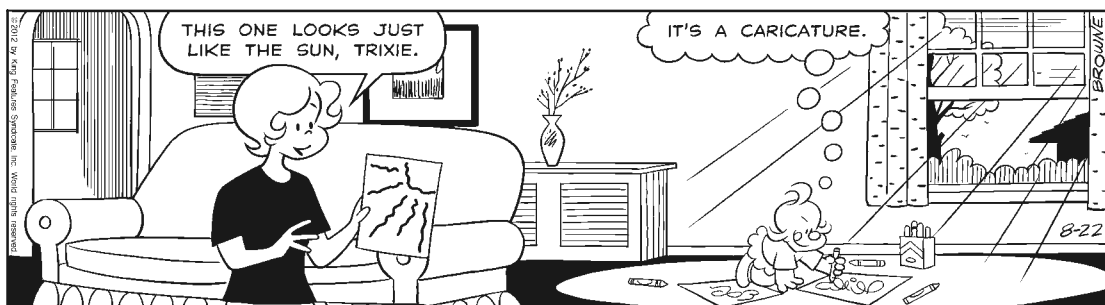
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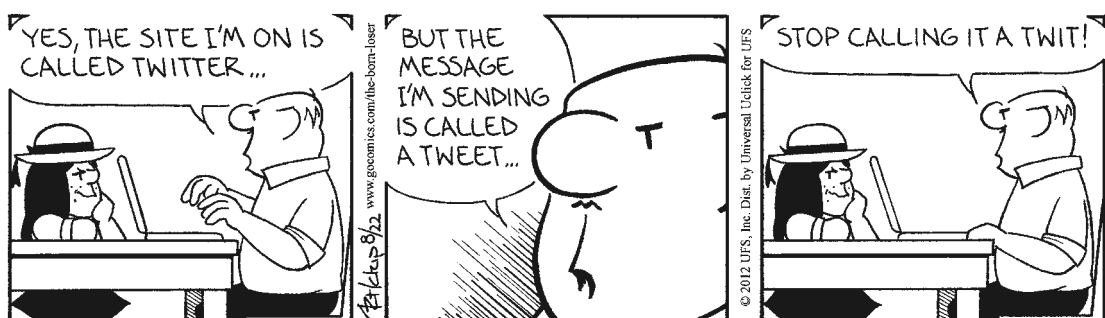
**BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER**



**HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER**



**THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON**



# Pointing Out Dressing Error Must Be Done With Discretion

DEAR ABBY: My friend was at a local event, a child's graduation. There was a woman whose rear end was exposed sitting in the row ahead. Several people took pictures and posted them on Facebook.

My concern is for the woman's family. My friend couldn't think of an easy way to tell her. My question is, how do you tactfully tell someone about her (or his) exposed buttocks without offending the person? — JUST ASKING IN ILLINOIS

DEAR JUST ASKING: The person who designed low-rise pants for women, frankly, should be taken to the stocks for public punishment. They flatter no one, particularly when the wearer bends or sits. If it's not the flesh drooping over the waistband, it's the Great Rift Valley visible from the rear.

Robert Burns, a Scottish poet, wrote in 1786 (I am paraphrasing) that if some power would give us the gift to see ourselves as others see us, it would free us from "many a blunder"! How right he was.

Had your friend informed the woman in the row ahead that her pants had slipped so low that people were photographing the view, she probably would have been less offended than embarrassed. The message should have been conveyed QUIETLY by another woman if one felt enough compassion to do it.

DEAR ABBY: I was married for 22 years. My husband was verbally, mentally and emotionally abusive to me. I took it for my kids' sake.

My daughter recently had a son, and my ex wants nothing to do with him. He says if we don't name the baby after him, the baby doesn't need him in his life. My heart hurts for my grandson. My daughter is not with the baby's daddy. All the baby

has is my daughter, my son and me. I don't know how a grandparent can't want to be a part of an innocent baby's life.

My ex is 45 and living with a 23-year-old. I just want him to at least give the baby a chance to know who his grandfather is. If there is no love there when they meet, we won't pursue a relationship. He is upset with me. I don't know why, because he's the one who asked for the divorce. What do you think about this? — CONFUSED IN PHOENIX

DEAR CONFUSED: Your ex-husband may be upset with you because he feels some guilt about the divorce, and rather than accept it, he is blaming you for it.

If you think this baby might somehow smooth over the years of abuse you experienced from him, please forget it. It is perfectly logical that your daughter wouldn't want to name her child for him after witnessing what he put you through for so many years — so please don't let her be coerced into it.

Because your ex is the kind of person he is, it would be better for all of you if the little boy DOESN'T get to know him. You married a self-centered, selfish, controlling individual. Consider yourself lucky that he's not pushing for involvement, because if that happens he will continue to treat all of you exactly the way he used to.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding 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 Leo if born before 10:07 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Sun will be in Virgo. The Moon goes from Libra to Scorpio at 12:54 a.m. (PDT).

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22, 2012:

You will approach life with far greater intensity than in the past. You will do whatever you need to do to root out an issue. A key partnership plays a much stronger role in looking at some of life's basic issues. The superficial has no role in your life. If you are single, you will have zero tolerance for playing games, or even courtship. Realize that this attitude could be a liability, especially if you are attached. Try to be less judgmental and more accepting. SCORPIO might have deep thoughts but could be hard to deal with. 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)

★★★★ You have a lot of panache, and you do not hesitate to display your passion and core feelings. By midday, you might decide to focus on a project, even if you are by yourself. Your creativity emerges no matter what you do. Tonight: Return calls and emails.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You easily get sidetracked, no matter what you are doing. Honor your priorities despite others inadvertently breaking into your plans, in need of your help. You juggle this burden with sensitivity to others. A child or loved one steals the scene. Tonight: Be responsive to a friend or family member.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Focus on completion and getting the job done. You could be overtured or withdrawn. When you become inspired, you feel like anything is possible; however, it will be your tremendous effort that makes a difference. It is you who makes a situation change. Tonight: Relax.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Understanding comes from getting past a self-imposed restraint. Also, be willing to verbalize your goals and desires. An associate lets you know that he or she has had a change of mind about a detail, but not the whole idea. Tonight: Express your naughty side.

### LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You could be far more possessive than you think you are. Try to be more self-aware, and listen to a partner's feedback. You might want to break a bad habit, especially if it encumbers your interpersonal communication.

tion. Tonight: Curb a desire to go on a spending spree, if possible.

### VRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You have a strong reaction, which is unlike your normally logical stance. You let others know if they cross you. Someone close to you might not be sure of what is going on, and could test this newfound assertiveness. Confirm meetings and any information that does not sound correct. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You definitely know what you want, but getting someone to respond as you'd like could be a different story. Once more, you are reminded that you can control only yourself. Remain diplomatic yet clear. This person needs to know where you are coming from. Tonight: Go shopping for that special item.

### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You seem to be in your element; however, someone else might not be on the same mental plane as you. You cannot seem to get your point across. It is as if this person's mind is impenetrable. Demonstrate compassion, but don't put all your eggs in one basket. Tonight: Choose a high-energy activity.

### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Understand that you are in a reflective stage right now that will not last much longer. Gather all the information you need in order to make a solid decision about a project. You do not always need to be fiery when expressing your feelings. Subtlety works, too. Tonight: Do not swallow your anger.

### CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Aim for more of what you want, and focus on the more social aspects of your life. Be willing to verbalize more of what you desire, and you will manifest just that even more easily. Others work with you. Tonight: A friend could be too assertive.

### AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ When you take charge, others step back. You could have some difficulty sorting through a knot of confusion. You might need to go past that point to achieve the results you desire. You are fiery and direct in your word choice. Tonight: A must appearance.

### PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

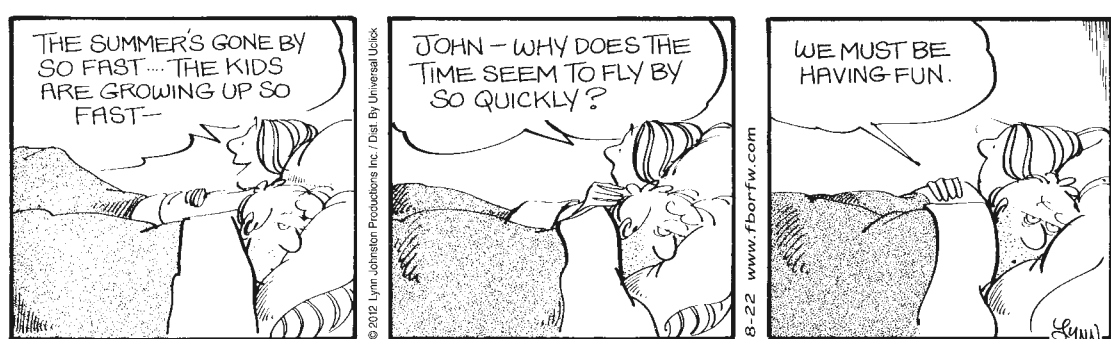
★★★★ Your ability to incorporate many different perspectives to resolve a problem comes forward right now. Listen to your sixth sense about a misunderstanding. There might not be a way to sort it out immediately. Consider letting it go. Tonight: How about some blues?

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**BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT**



**FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON**



**MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS**

