

FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



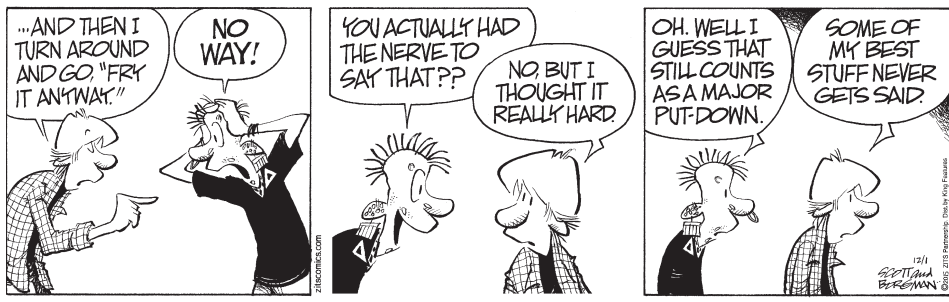
"We're just talkin' 'bout what Christmas was like when we were little."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

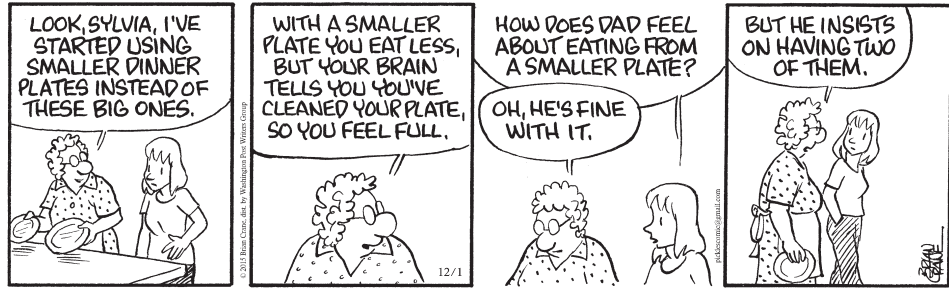


"I'm sorry, sir, but we have a strict dress code."

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



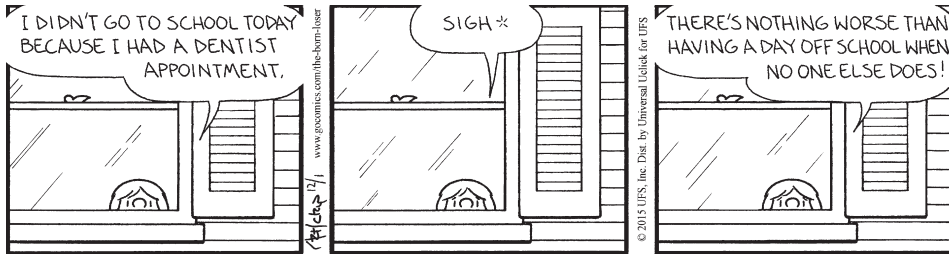
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



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



HIV Is Treatable, But Only If You Know You're Positive

DEAR ABBY: Today, Dec. 1, is World AIDS Day. With effective treatment, people with HIV can live as long as those without HIV. Fear, shame and ignorance remain barriers to testing and treatment, which can be more deadly than HIV itself.

People with HIV who are in treatment need never develop advanced HIV (formerly full-blown AIDS). Please encourage your readers, regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation, to get tested, and if positive, to get treatment. HIV can affect anyone. — MARY IN FREDERICK, MD.

DEAR MARY: I'm glad you wrote. Knowing one's HIV status is extremely important because, unlike in years past, the disease can be controlled. But in order to do that and not spread it to others, it is essential that sexually active individuals get tested.

Readers, you can be a healthy HIV-positive person and control it IF you know you have it AND get treatment. Ask your doctor about being tested, if you have one. If you don't have a doctor, contact your county health department about how to find testing and treatment in your community, or visit www.freehivtest.net for information about free tests in many areas across the nation and abroad.

DEAR ABBY: I am retired, divorced and never had children. My two sisters have four adult children between them. Their kids are all married and have children themselves.

Every Christmas there is a gift exchange, which I don't attend because I stay in Florida during the winter. At this stage in my life, I dread the holiday because it is expected that I spend a minimum of \$50 per person for two dozen people.

I own some properties I am desperately trying to prepare for the market. At my age, I no longer need or want anything. It has reached a point where the "preferred" gift is money, which isn't the idea behind the Christmas holiday. How can I politely stop

this habit? — MRS. EBENEZER SCROOGE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR MRS. SCROOGE: You politely stop the habit by telling your sisters in advance that you are trying to prepare your properties for sale and money is limited. Therefore, you will be buying Christmas gifts only for your younger grandnieces and -nephews from now on (if you choose). Be sure to send the adults lovely holiday cards, however, so they know they are remembered.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Besides the usual snoring most wives tolerate, I have had to endure something worse. At least once a week for the last few years, my husband will make a fist while asleep and swing it across the bed, striking me. The last time, it caused a tooth to chip, and frankly, it scares me to death.

He is by no means violent when awake. Other than sleeping on the couch, what can I do? — BLACK AND BLUE IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR B AND B: Before your husband causes you any more physical harm, schedule an appointment for him with a sleep disorder specialist. For both your sakes, please don't put it off. Your doctor or medical insurance carrier should be able to refer you to one.

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 Sagittarius and a Moon in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 1, 2015:

This year you are open and happy. Others enjoy being around you, and as a result, many doors could open up. Your creativity keeps bursting forward as you deal with different life situations; use it well. If you are single, your romantic life will be like riding a roller coaster. You might not meet Mr. or Ms. Right, but you will have a ball anyway. If you are attached, the two of you will add more romantic moments to your life. Your imagination plays a big role in what occurs. LEO enjoys you, especially when you express your love of adventure.

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)

***** The unexpected presents you with many opportunities. You might discover that a far-out idea can go a long way. You'll want to test out this idea on others. Confusion surrounds a talk. People might not be as focused as you would like them to be. Tonight: Play devil's advocate.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

***** Stay centered, especially as others seem to be all over the place. You will observe how someone gains ground through a process that seems rather far-fetched to you. A conversation with an associate allows you to make needed changes. Tonight: Happy at home.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

***** You have pushed beyond the norm. You might be feeling tired yet inspired. A meeting could be more important than you realize, as you are likely to experience a meeting of the minds with a friend. Brainstorm away. Note what comes up. Tonight: Hang out with loved ones.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

***** How you see a situation could change once you talk to a friend or family member. You should expect the unexpected. Confusion surrounds finances. Make no major decisions, no matter how informed you are. Tonight: Treating yourself well doesn't mean breaking the bank.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

***** Your energy is high, so be willing to test out your choices. News that comes in from

someone at a distance will put a smile on your face. Look at the application of your choices, but know that nothing is a given, no matter what you would like to think. Tonight: Out late.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

*** You will relate to a loved one directly and get strong results. You might be surprised by what this person says. Do your best not to internalize these comments, especially as he or she is very likely to change his or her mind. Tonight: Schedule some togetherness time.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

*** You'll verbalize what you think and feel. On the other hand, you might want to listen more carefully to news that heads your way. A close friend or loved one might be fiery and somewhat unpredictable. Ride the wave that his or her reaction creates. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

***** You'll want to rethink a decision; you might not be as comfortable with your position as you would like to be. Don't make it a big deal. You can make changes and still maintain a strong influence over others. Act on what you know and feel. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

***** Keep reaching out for more information, especially if you see an element of the unpredictable playing a role in a situation. You might feel as if you don't have enough information. Listen to what a friend or associate has to share. Tonight: Take a leap of faith.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

***** One-on-one relating might be the source of a shocking piece of information. Proceed with caution, as you could be witness to a skeleton walking out of your closet. Communication with a respected friend will allow more give-and-take. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

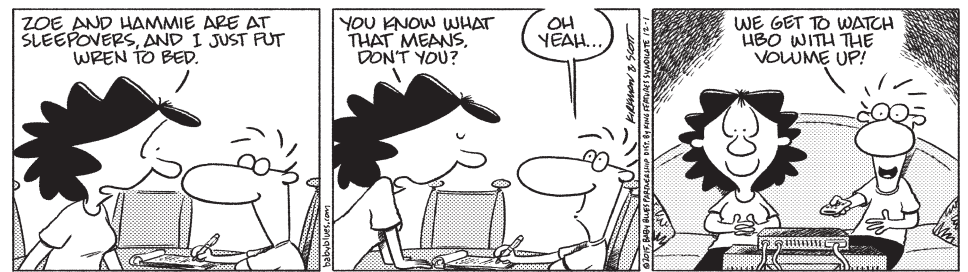
*** You'll hear more than your fair share of what is important. Others seem to use you as a sounding board. However, you could have a sudden reaction to what you are hearing that could shock them. Try to explain your rationale clearly. Tonight: Go along with the program.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

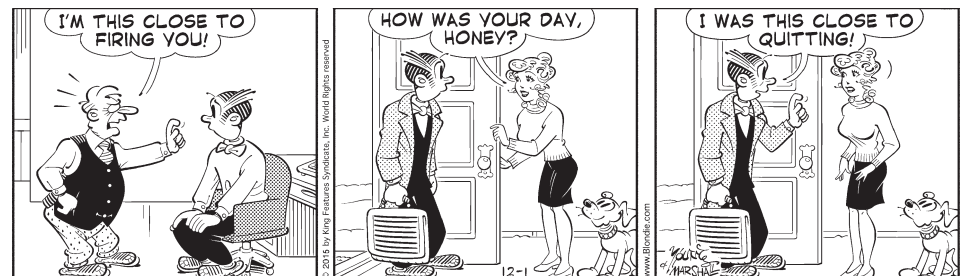
***** You could be in a position where you want to do something very differently from how you have in the past. Your ability to explain why seems to be lost; you just feel that you need to head in a certain direction. Trust yourself. Tonight: Run some errands on the way home.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

