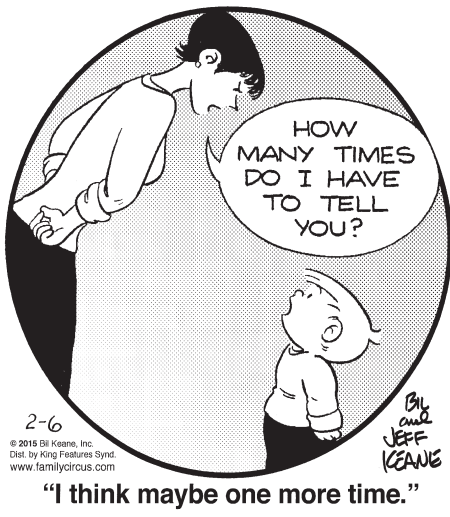
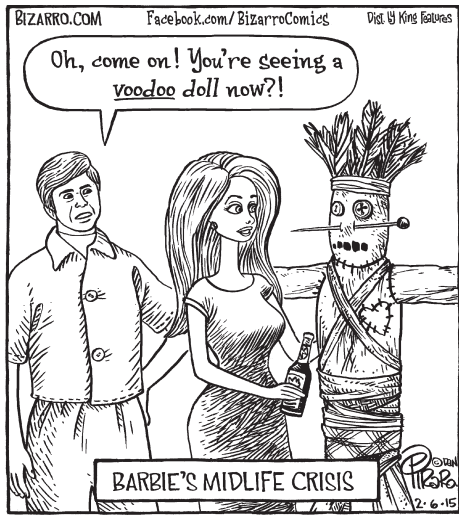


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



"I think maybe one more time."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



BARBIE'S MIDLIFE CRISIS

# Ignorance Of Dad's New Life Is Bliss To His Daughters

DEAR ABBY: I am a widower in my mid-80s and have met a lovely widow, "Diane," also in her 80s. What started as a "let's do lunch" friendship has developed into a close, affectionate relationship. Neither of us wants to take this to the next level, but we do want to spend as much time together as we can in the years left to us. We have a very active social life with friends and with Diane's family who live in the same town.



DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

My problem is Diane and I want to spend a weekend in the city in which my children live to attend the theater. We will be sharing a hotel room. Do we tell them our plans and that we would like to see them while there, or not? Diane isn't comfortable going behind their backs, but she also doesn't want to cause a rift in my family. Neither do I. What would you advise? — UNCERTAIN IN MARYLAND

DEAR UNCERTAIN: Your daughters have told you they don't want you to share what you do with your lady friend and where you go, and I am advising you to abide by their wishes. If word should get back to them that you were in town and they ask about it, be honest and don't lie. And please, live every moment of your life to the fullest in the time God allows, and don't permit your family to diminish one minute of it.

DEAR ABBY: My older sister and I are very close to our "Aunt Lil." She has always jokingly told us we are "her children, too" because she never had any of her own and was active in our lives growing up.

Aunt Lil is in her late 60s and in declining health. Now single, she smokes two packs of

cigarettes a day, but counts it only as one because they are slim. She also has high blood pressure, high cholesterol, etc.

The other day, while visiting with my mom, Aunt Lil started complaining about getting older and said how thankful she is to have my sister and me to take care of her when she's too old to take care of herself. The two of us gave each other the "Not me ... you!" look.

While we love her dearly, when the time comes, Aunt Lil will be off to a nursing home or have private home health care. Should we approach this with her now or wait and blindside her if/when it becomes an issue? — CAREFUL PLANNING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CAREFUL PLANNING: Having been so close to you and your sister since you were children, I can understand why Aunt Lil might have expected some kindness in return.

However, because the two of you aren't up to the task, she should be told now. It may provide an incentive for her to take better care of her health. Even if it doesn't, it may spur her to think about her assets and planning for her care or supervision should she need it in the future. Because you don't want the bother, suggest she involve another trusted family member or a social worker to watch out for her if she's no longer competent to manage her affairs.

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.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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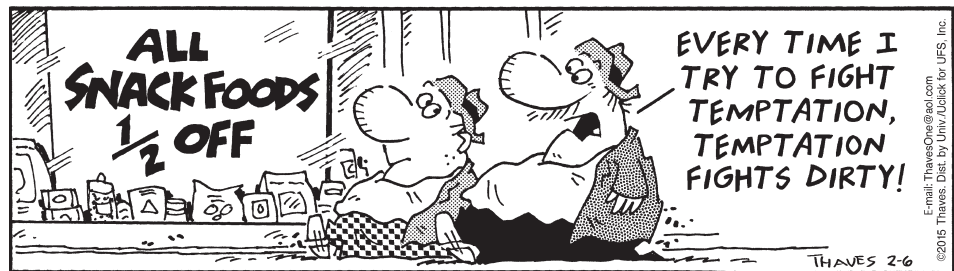
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PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



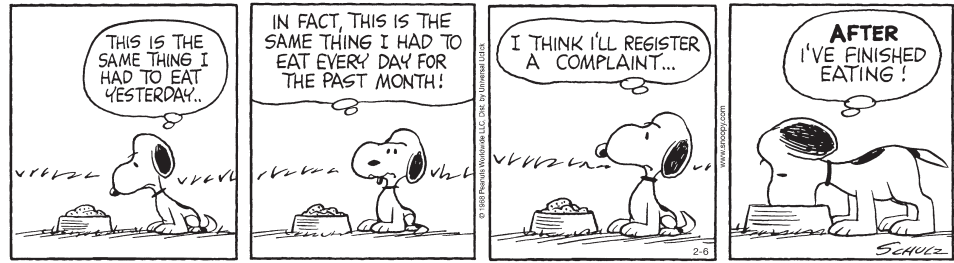
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



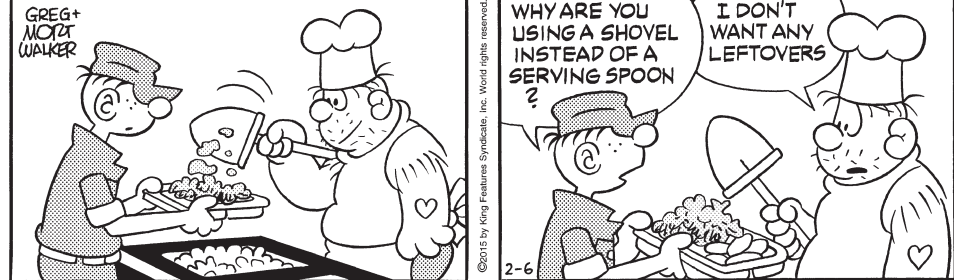
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



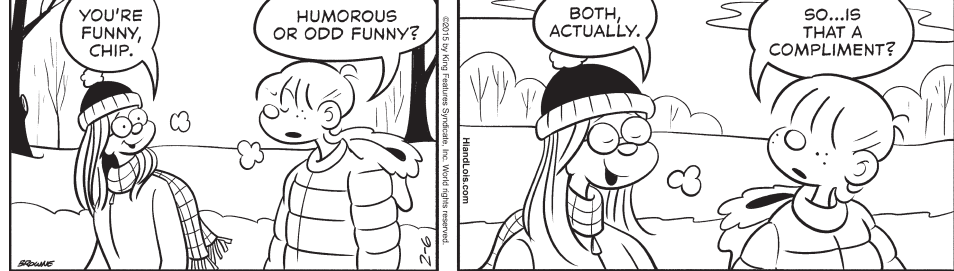
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



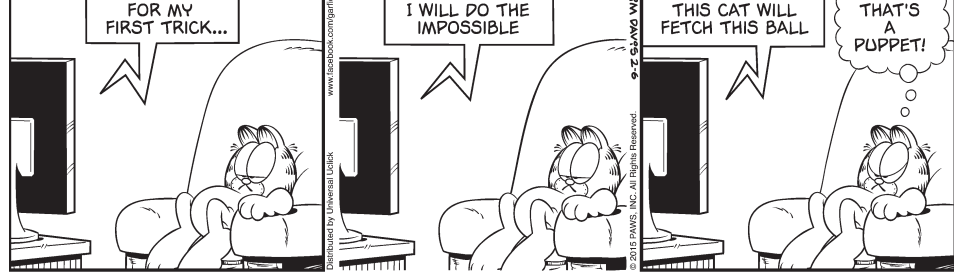
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



## 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.

of adventure could be different from those of a friend or partner. Know when to say "enough is enough." Sometimes, taking off is the solution. Tonight: All smiles.

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

★★★★ You'll feel empowered, though you inadvertently could trigger quite an argument. Be aware of your limits when dealing with a friend who constantly distorts reality. Find a unique way to open the door for this person to see this distortion. Tonight: Do your own thing.

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

★★ You could feel as if something is off. Whether you aren't seeing a situation clearly or someone else keeps changing his or her opinion, it would be in your best interests to say little and observe more. You might want the feedback of a trusted friend. Tonight: Make it OK to vanish.

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

★★★★ You know what you want. You will be upfront about your desires, but others still might not follow through. If you want something to unfold a certain way, you'd better plan do it yourself. Otherwise, you could be disappointed. Tonight: A new friend intrigues you.

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

★★★ You might feel as if someone is pushing you into a money matter or some other kind of agreement that could affect you financially. Extremes mark your spending habits. Take an overview and detach before making any major decisions. Tonight: Out late.

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

★★★★ You might want to put terms on a situation, because you are more comfortable when you feel totally in control. Try not to give in to this impulse. If you step back, you will open up new possibilities, some of which might really please you. Tonight: Go to a hip spot for music.

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

★★★★ You like your freedom, but sometimes you must bend in order to make a relationship work. A little discomfort won't hurt you, and ultimately, it will allow you to relax more. Curb spending today, as you could unwittingly go overboard. Tonight: Get to know someone better.

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

★★★★ Friends and loved ones will be full of suggestions, all of which seem to appeal to you. You might not be as sure of yourself as you would like to be. Take note of the confidence others have in you. You make good choices; count on that ability. Tonight: Dance away frustration.

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A baby born today has a Sun in Aquarius and a Moon in Virgo.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 6, 2015:

This year you will have energy and direction. Take a class in communication, and learn how to think and speak more positively. Curb a tendency to get into arguments. Exercise and meditation will help you have the self-control you desire. If you are single, carefully check out anyone you meet prior to September; people might not be what they seem. If you are attached, the two of you have a tendency to overspend. Be careful not to withhold thoughts that could affect your relationship. Share, but choose the right words. VIRGO often can be uptight.

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)

★★★★ Watch what happens when you let go of your need to control. You could be surprised by several offers that come forward as a result. If a friend or acquaintance goes on the warpath, do whatever you can to avoid him or her. Tonight: Squeeze in some kind of exercise.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You have unusual creativity. What makes your ideas unique is how grounded and practical you are when implementing them. Others often seek you out for advice because of this quality. You might need to set boundaries with someone. Tonight: Start the weekend in style.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Many of your friends could be taken aback by your decision to play it low-key. You might not be in the mood for TGIF celebrations. Focus on what you must, but opt for a quiet evening at your place. Address your concerns a different day. Tonight: Make a favorite dinner.

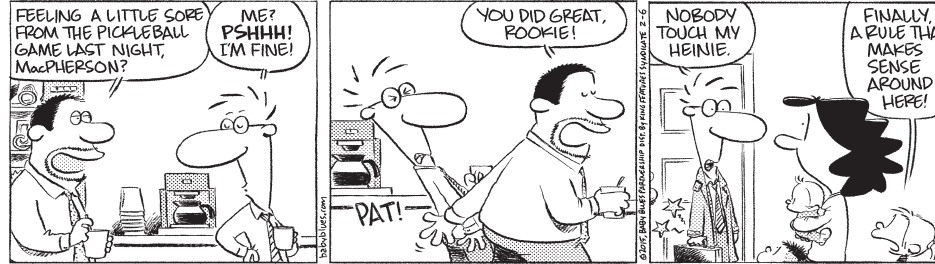
### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Speak your mind early in the day. A partner is likely to become controlling, regardless of whether you choose to stay mum. A financial matter could be more costly than you originally had thought. Decide how important this venture is. Tonight: Hang out with a pal.

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

★★★ Take a hard look at your budget before you make any plans. Your feelings about the costs

## BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



## BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

