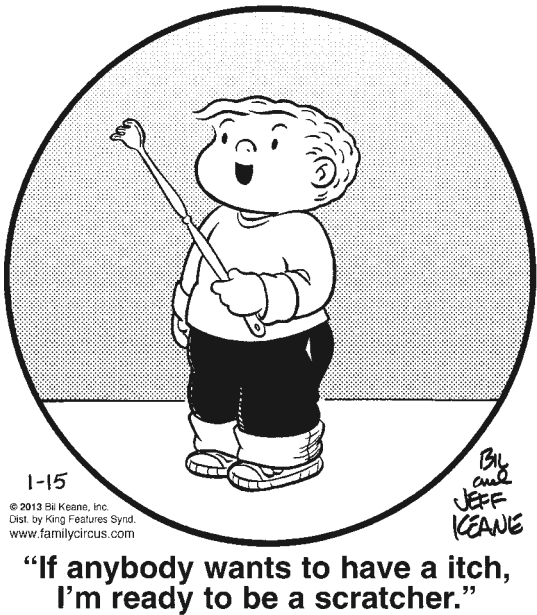
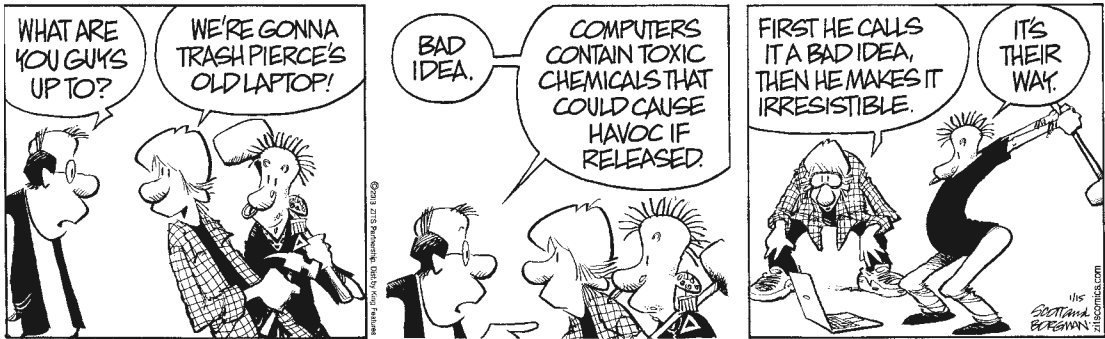


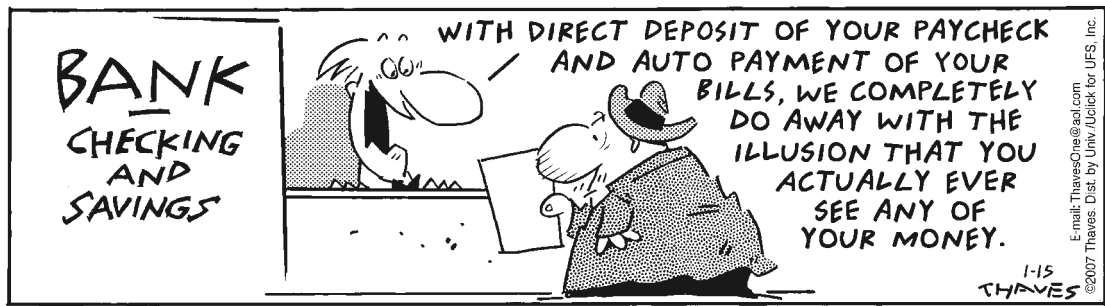
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



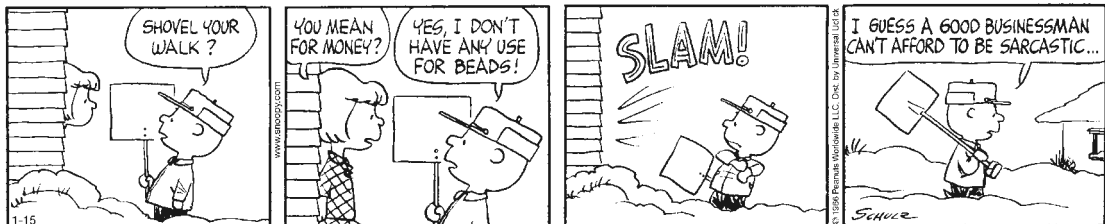
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



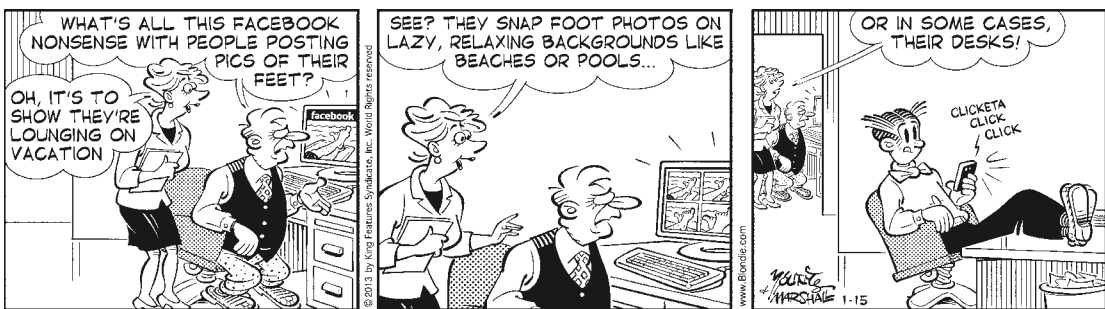
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



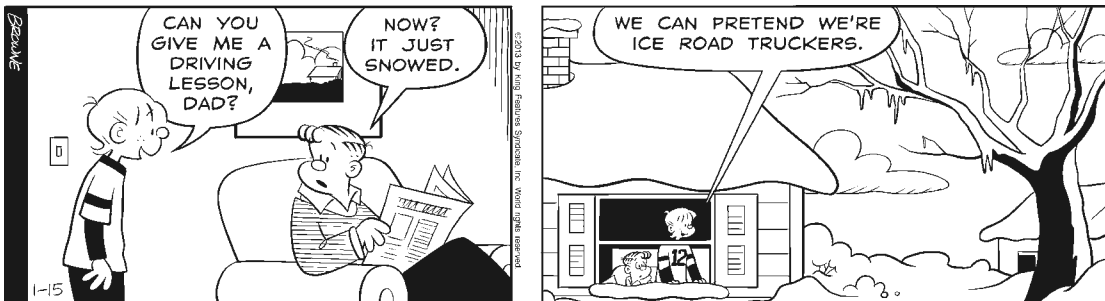
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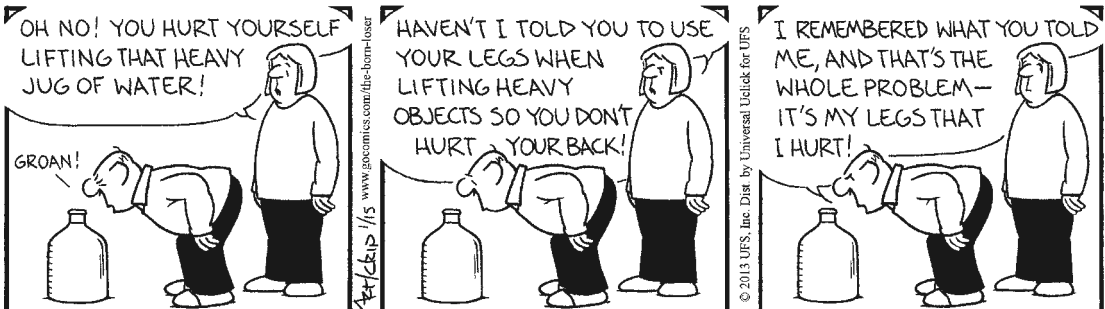
BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Angry Husband Leaves Home To Find A Friendly Welcome

DEAR ABBY: Recently my husband, "Byron," and I had an argument, and he took off in his truck. He didn't return until after work the following day. He had spent the night at our friend "Arlene's" house. She is divorced and lives alone.

Byron assures me "nothing happened" between them. I want to believe him, but ever since this incident, Arlene will not look me in the eye or speak to me.

I love Byron and trusted him until now. It hurts to think that our marriage may be ruined over a stupid argument. I know he was intoxicated, but why did he choose to go to HER home? — BROKEN-HEARTED IN WYOMING

DEAR BROKEN-HEARTED: He chose to go to her home (even drunk as a skunk) because he knew he would be welcomed. It's also the reason Arlene can't look you in the eye. Marriage counseling for you and Byron may help you put this to rest. If he refuses to go with you, go without him.

P.S. It appears Arlene has an agenda of her own — and Byron may be one of the items on it. You'd be wise to delete her from your list of friends.

DEAR ABBY: I have always been touched by the acts of kindness stories in your column. When I was 20, I went into New York City to attend classes. Upon my arrival, I was mugged in the bus station. It was rush hour and I was too scared to scream.

After the mugger ran off, I picked up the few belongings that had fallen out of my handbag, walked across the street and down the stairs to the subway. It was then I realized I had no money to buy a token. I started crying and couldn't stop.

A middle-aged woman with a friendly smile arrived and stayed at my side until the authorities arrived. She calmed me down and wouldn't leave until she knew I was in safe hands. Before she left, she slipped some money into my pocket.

After Sept. 11, I heard people say how "surprised" they were that New Yorkers "came together." Not me, Abby. I have known since the day I was mugged that there are only a few bad apples in the Big Apple. I hope my good Samaritan will see your column and realize what her compassion and generosity meant to me that day and ever since. — STILL COMMUTING IN NYC

DEAR STILL COMMUTING: Thanks for an upper of a letter, which proves that kindness is universal — and not limited to any one area of the map.

DEAR ABBY: Please help me and thousands of other payroll administrators with a public service message. I will be sending out W-2s this month to current and former employees. Last year, I got back about 10 percent of these W-2s because employees have moved and left no forwarding addresses. Often the phone has also been disconnected.

Please remind anyone who has changed jobs and moved in the past year to make sure their former employer has their new address so their W-2 will arrive on the first try. I have a stack of these forms that have never been claimed by former employees and no idea how to contact them. — PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR, FORT PAYNE, ALA.

DEAR ADMINISTRATOR: I'm pleased to pass along your message. The W-2 is proof the government needs to verify what someone has been paid and what has been withheld by the employer. Employers are required to provide one.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter 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 Capricorn and a Moon in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 15, 2013:

This year you develop a new hobby or interest. Though you might have flirted with the idea of trying this pastime before, it wasn't until recently that you decided to become informed on the subject. With this mental expansion come new friends of a different mindset. Their energy invigorates your life. If you are single, you have a unique opportunity to enrich your inner circle and meet someone very different. You actually might decide to change "types." If you are attached, as a couple, you will socialize more and share more with each other. PISCES knows how to draw you out, even if you are reluctant.

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)

★★★ Your responses could be instinctual. Embrace them, and they will guide you through a sticky situation. You might not be as confident as usual. Do not undermine the process you are going through, even if you are uncomfortable. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Zero in on the possibilities that surround a friendship. Though you could be distracted, do not miss a scheduled meeting. It is important for you to focus right now. Detachment will help you see the bigger picture. Get some much-needed feedback. Tonight: Not alone.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Deal with people directly. As uncomfortable as you might be, you'll be able to visualize a new situation that could be better for you. Make it OK to experience some risk-taking. Everyone gets cold feet, but it's important to take a leap of faith. Tonight: A chat with a trusted friend.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★★ Your ability to see past the obvious usually kicks in when that skill is needed. Though others still might act dominant, you'll feel as if their suggestions or plans are on target. Detach, and you'll better understand your resistance. Tonight: Try something different.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You will be in sync with a key person in your

life. You might have been wondering which way to go in a very intense matter. After a discussion, your questions will dissolve, revealing what is possible. Take action when you feel sure of yourself. Tonight: Be with a special person.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Listen to news more openly. You might have mixed feelings about a situation. Others think they are open, too. Challenging them will not help; instead, try opening them up through conversations. Do nothing halfway. Listen to your instincts. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Pace yourself, as you have a lot of ground to cover. On some level, the thoughts running through your mind might distract you from the here and now. You could be a little off-kilter and give an odd response. Be clear about your long-term goals. Tonight: To the wee hours.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might want to handle a situation in a more creative way. You still need to keep those involved in the loop. The importance of communication cannot be underestimated. In a sense, you are opening up their thinking, too. Tonight: Time for some healthy play or exercise.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ An investment opportunity comes forward, and you might feel as if you have no choice but to take a risk. The issue revolves around a personal and/or a real-estate matter. Others might want to discuss the situation, but you could be unusually closed off. Tonight: Head home.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★★ You might want to think through an offer that easily could be too good to be true. Share your thoughts with a trusted adviser and friend. By the time you finish talking, you will know which way to go. Check out a potential problem area in your house. Tonight: Hang with a friend.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You could be overtired and withdrawn. Your mind has been working overtime regarding a financial matter. Sort through the risks, if there are any, and make a choice accordingly. You might need some personal time, if you can take it. Tonight: Take a hard look at your budget.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★★ A friend or loved one whispers information in your ear. This person feels that these facts are important for you to know. Even if you do not agree, express your appreciation. A meeting could be more important to your life direction than you realize. Tonight: Make yourself happy.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

