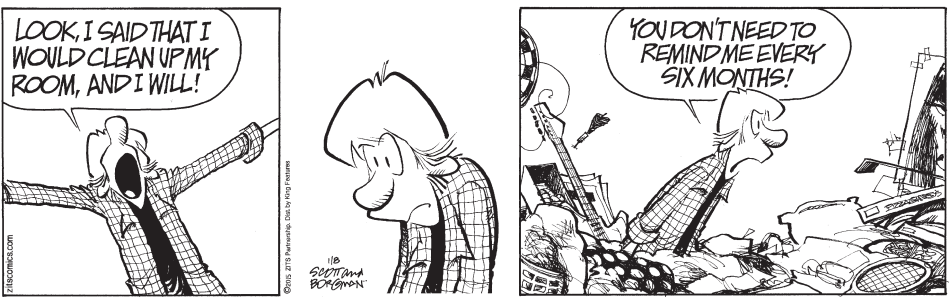


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



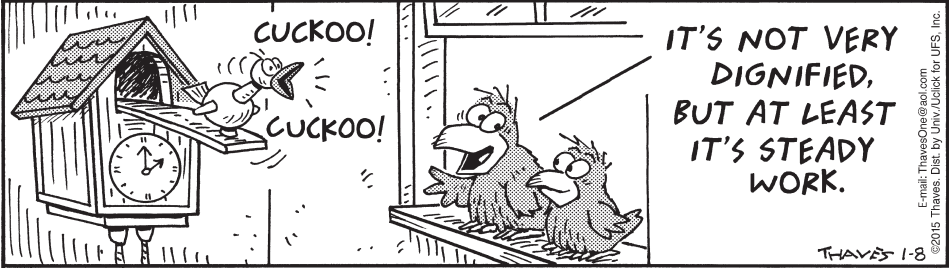
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



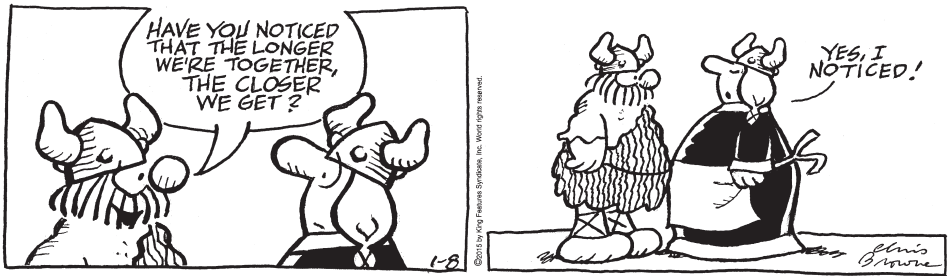
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



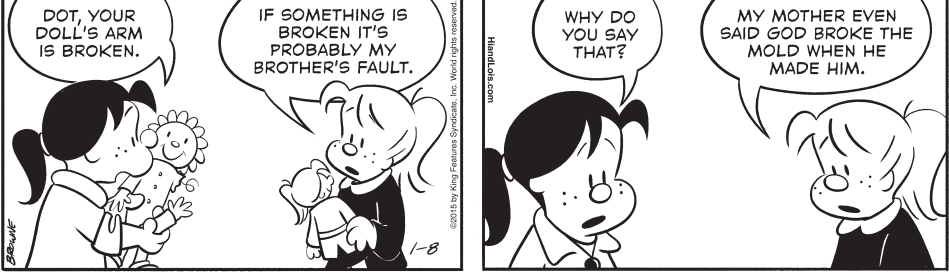
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



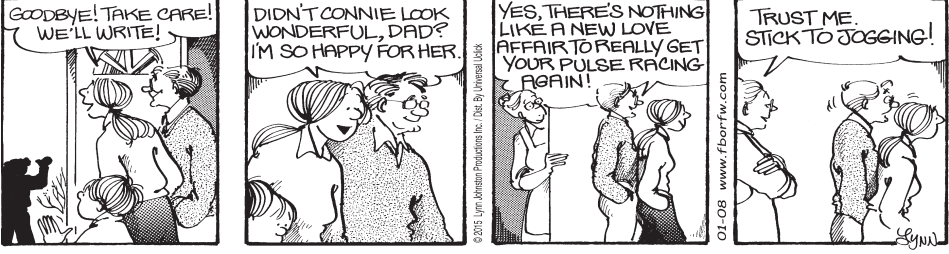
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



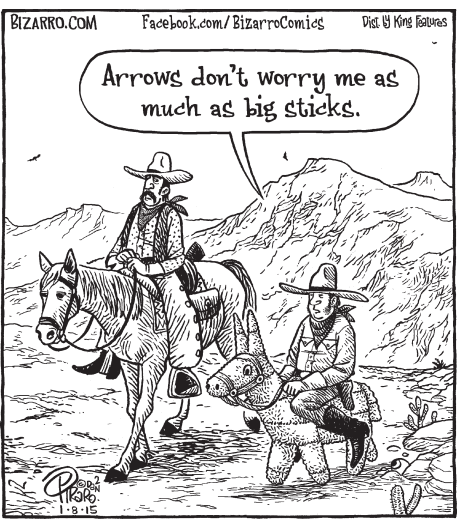
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Online Search Yields Shocking News About Live-In Boyfriend

DEAR ABBY: Recently, a member of the family suggested that my mother Google the name of my sister's new live-in boyfriend. (Another family member said he had done it months ago.) When Mom did, she saw that he is a convicted sex offender. We were all shocked as he has been very good to my sister and other members of the family.



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

So far, we haven't said anything to my sister or her boyfriend, and I am unsure what to do. I have a small child and it makes me nervous. I don't know if my sister knows, and I don't know how to bring it up. I am upset with my family member because he didn't say anything immediately after finding this information. I'm upset at my sister if she knows and hasn't been honest with us, and I am upset with this man. What should I do? - UPSET IN VIRGINIA

DEAR UPSET: First let me tell you what NOT to do. Do not remain silent and stew. Tell your sister everything you have written to me and ask if she's aware that her live-in boyfriend is on a sex offender website. If his offense concerned a minor child, it is possible that he is not supposed to be around children - and if he has been that the authorities would like to know. But first, discuss this with your sister who may - or may not - be able to put your fears to rest.

life instructions he described. He's in good health. I figure he has 25 years - or more - life expectancy before the big event.

Realistically, shouldn't I expect more than second best in his world? Is there a time limit for grieving, or does the deceased get to control her hubby from the other side? - WAITING AND WONDERING

DEAR WAITING AND WONDERING: Realistically, this has less to do with what you should "expect" than conclusions the widower must arrive at on his own. Ask him in a non-confrontational way how he FEELS about carrying out all of his deceased wife's wishes - and whether he thinks it is fair to himself or you. Be prepared to discuss it without becoming emotional. His answers will tell you everything you need to know about a future with him.

P.S. If your relationship with him is good, why not focus on the present and not worry about what happens to his body when he's gone? However, if this is a deal breaker, then don't invest any more time.

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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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.

the day. Investigate options more openly with an eye to positive change. Someone might be a little too serious for your taste. Tonight: Buy a gift.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You might feel off in the morning, but later in the day -- when the Moon enters your sign -- you'll feel like the lead player. Investigate opportunities that appeal to you. If a family member appears to be closed-off, give him or her some space. Tonight: As you like it.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Pressure builds, and some of you could be easily antagonized by a child or loved one. You might need to take a walk and commit to saying nothing for now. Focus on the big picture and on the bonds that tie you together. Tonight: Let off some steam.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Defer to others, rather than find yourself in the midst of a public squabble. If you can keep your eye on the big picture, you will land perfectly. Remain centered. You could feel uptight about a key issue that seems to be undermining your dealings. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance whom you care about but might be irritated with. Understand what is happening; you might want to pull back rather than trigger a reaction. Emotions could run high, though you aren't likely to show them. Tonight: Make it an early night.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Deal with someone directly, and know that this person will be quite touched by your time and attention. Make a point of connecting with a friend at a distance who cares a lot about you. If you feel depressed or unhappy, share your feelings. Tonight: Get ready for some TV bingeing.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Others will demonstrate their caring, but not in the way you might expect. In fact, you could be too irritated to be gracious. Try your best to be appreciative, because you will not be able to mend a broken bridge quickly. Zero in on what you want. Tonight: Out late.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You'll be more on edge than you realize. Part of the problem could be that you seem to be holding on to your uglier feelings more than you have in the past. As a result, you'll be more prone to getting the flu and other such ailments. Tonight: Choose a favorite stressbuster.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 8, 2015:

This year you will experience many changes in your daily life. You have the spirit to not let this situation bother you, and you have what it takes to cruise right by it. You will have a tendency to swallow your feelings and withdraw. Make it OK to express your less-pleasant feelings, and you will feel better. If you are single, you could meet someone very special from August on. If you are attached, the two of you seem to have a psychic connection. Plan a special time away where you can enjoy the intensity that exists between you. VIRGO is much fussier than you are.

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)

★★★★ Someone close to you will push hard to achieve what he or she wants. Others will react, and what started out as a peaceful, normal request could explode into quite a fight. Try to prevent this from happening. Moodiness seems to be everywhere. Tonight: A chat is inevitable.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Your imagination seems to be going haywire. A brainstorming session could help take you in a new direction. Don't allow someone to push you away because of a seemingly unresolvable problem. Tonight: Let loved ones know how much you care.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Make calls in the morning, when others appear to be more responsive. Someone's temper might encourage you to retreat later in the day. Words spoken cannot be taken back. The less upset you create, the less you'll have to resolve. Tonight: Remain secure.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You'll want to focus on completing an important project. You could decide to deal with someone's anger, or you might opt to walk away from the volatile situation. Timing will be everything. Tonight: Invite a loved one to join you for dinner at a favorite spot.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by everything that is going on. How you handle a volatile friend will define how you feel for the remainder of

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

