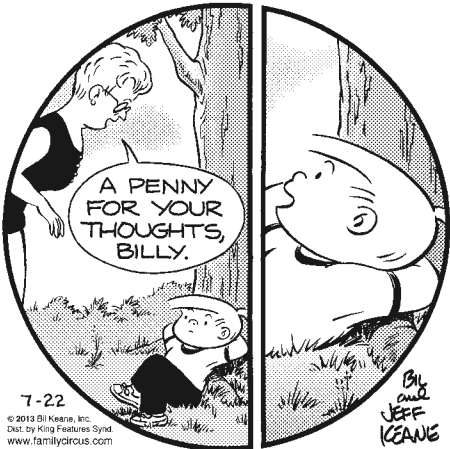
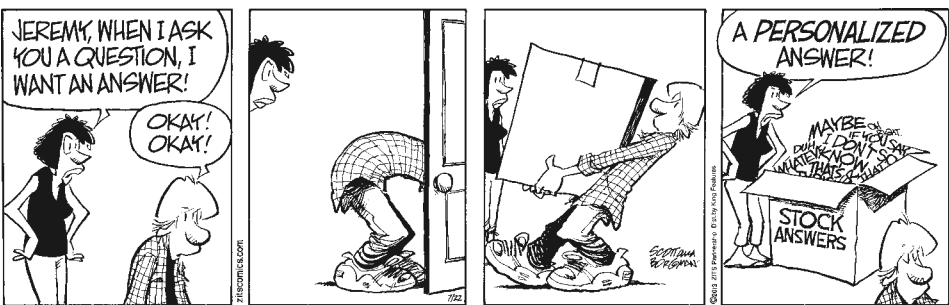


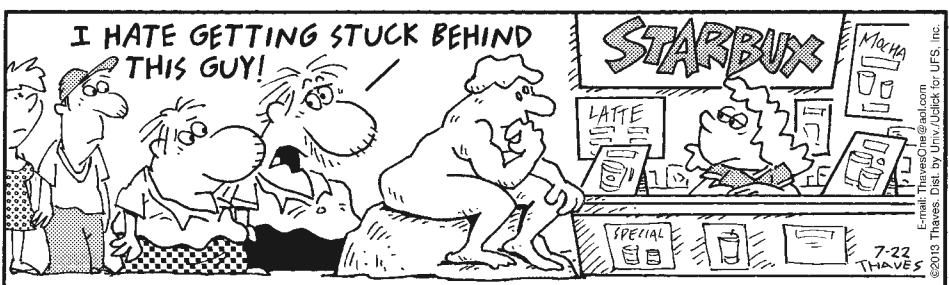
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



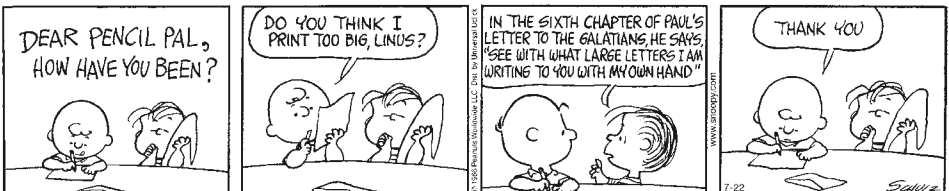
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



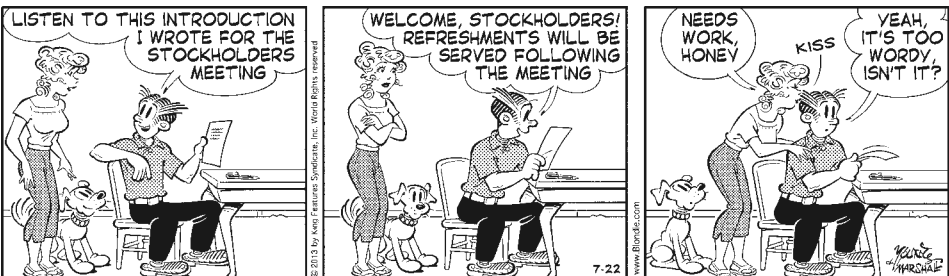
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



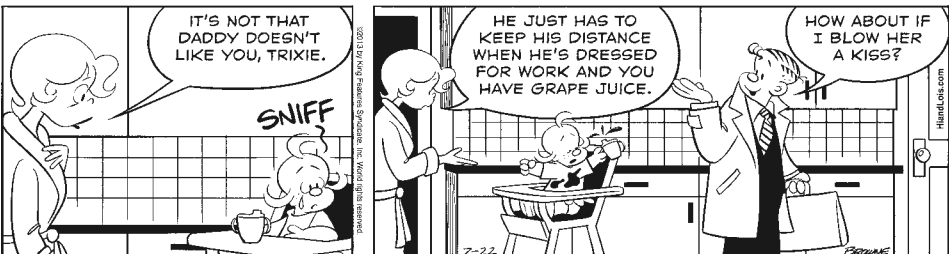
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



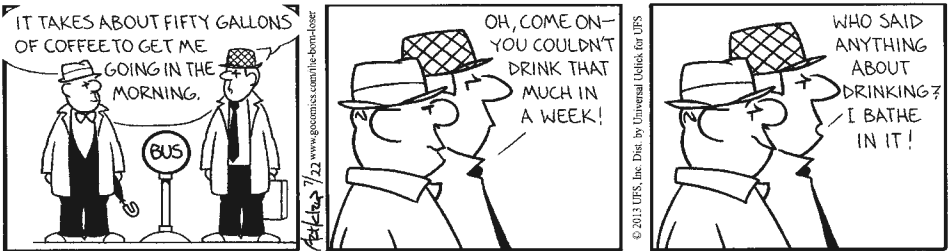
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Beach House Is No Picnic For This Stressed-Out Wife

DEAR ABBY: My husband retired and we thought we were fulfilling our lifetime dream when we moved to the beach, but our dream has turned into a nightmare. Our family never wanted to visit us this often before.

When they come, no one even brings along so much as a bottle of water. My grocery bill has skyrocketed, and I'm sick of playing the role of cook and maid while they have a wonderful time.

I'm ready to move back to our hometown. At least there I had a life besides cooking and cleaning. My husband wants to live here because it's his dream, but I can't take another year of this. The workload is killing me.

I have been a fool for putting up with everyone having a care-free vacation at my expense. I'm so angry I'm ready to leave my husband with his dream. The last three years have been hell. When friends and family ask why I left, should I tell them, or keep my mouth shut and build a peaceful life by myself? — RUNNING FOR MY LIFE

DEAR RUNNING: Leaving your husband is not the solution. Telling the individuals who are taking advantage of your hospitality that the rules have changed is. Set rules before guests arrive. If it's not convenient for you to entertain, speak up and say so when the relatives call to say they're coming. Make it clear that they will be doing their own laundry, buying their own groceries, etc.

And while you're at it, understand that the reason this has gotten out of hand is partly your husband's fault. He's retired; he can lend a hand.

The Good Lord gave you the gift of speech. For the sake of your sanity and your marriage, I'm suggesting you use it.

DEAR ABBY: Seven years ago, I was in a relationship with a man I thought was my

soul mate. (I'll call him Louis.) We were together for two years and had planned on getting married right after college. Louis ended up breaking the engagement and six months later married another woman. I was shocked and heartbroken. We went our separate ways.

Louis contacted me recently. He apologized for the past and said he was out of his mind for losing me. He also said he was recently divorced and wants to see me to "catch up."

I have healed from the heartache and moved on, but I am not currently in a relationship. I am content with my life. The problem is, my curiosity and my heart are tripping me up. I'm wary of falling back in love with Louis and don't want to reopen any old wounds.

What do you think, Abby? Should I meet him and see what happens, or let the past stay where it is? — OVER HIM? IN NEW YORK

DEAR OVER HIM?: Louis may be a cad — or he may become more mature in the last seven years. Because you are cu-

rious, I think you should go. But if he starts wooing you again, do not get serious unless you have had couples counseling. It's important that you clearly understand what went wrong in your romance the first time so it doesn't happen again.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

■ Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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 Cancer and a Moon in Capricorn if born before 11:07 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Sun will be in Leo and the Moon will be in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, JULY 22, 2013:

This year will be nothing less than a dynamic year. At times, you'll slow down and become more philosophical. You often consider what would make your life work even better. You can tinker around only so much with a difficult situation. Consider letting it go. Something better is coming your way, but not until you take care of this. If you are single, check out anyone you meet with care, as some people might not be what they appear. If you are attached, the two of you will benefit from taking several weekends away together. Treat your sweetie as your best friend. AQUARIUS can push your buttons.

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 pace will change according to the dynamic of your present circumstance. Though you might head out the door with the intention of running a lot of errands, your focus will shift to a creative opportunity instead. It is clear that your strengths are needed. Tonight: As you want.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Be sure that there are alternatives to what you are doing. Someone's attitude could become annoying. The real issue is how to handle the situation. Explore different possibilities before automatically reacting; you will be empowered by the process. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ How you see a personal matter could change with more information. You are gaining more clarity about the past few months. Err on the side of caution with spending, even if a risk seems extremely appealing. It just won't be worth it. Tonight: Relax. Play a game or surf the Web.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Your ability to understand others allows you to have greater give-and-take. Understanding evolves only if you know full well what you want to happen. Your emotions behind a decision could change. Sit on your feelings, as difficult as that might be. Tonight: Share with a loved one.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You might walk out the door feeling insecure, yet return in the evening as an empowered

individual. You could be weighing the impact of a Full Moon as you look at relationships and their possibilities. Recognize how much you have going for you. Tonight: Toss away insecurity.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You might want to use the morning to the max, especially when dealing with others. The afternoon would be best for doing research or for working on an independent project. You are processing a lot, and you might not be sure where you will land. Tonight: Make it yours.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ At first, you might be dragging your heels, but by midafternoon, you will feel energized and ready for anything. Solutions seem to emerge, and you finally might be able to approach a loved one with whom you have had a rift. Tonight: If at first you don't succeed, try again.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Someone at a distance will be encouraging you to do something differently. How you approach a matter could change dramatically. You might want to have a long-overdue chat. You could be surprised to find that you are not so vested in the outcome. Tonight: Happy to go home.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Use care with your finances. You might be taken aback by everything that is occurring around you. Return calls and emails. Remain sensitive to a vulnerable person who is close to you. You might feel as if you have too much to do. Tonight: Juggle your plans.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You'll feel some kind of shift midday, and you might wonder where it is coming from. Try not to question what is happening within your immediate circle so much -- you will find out soon enough. A financial risk might not pan out for you right now. Say "no." Tonight: Your treat.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

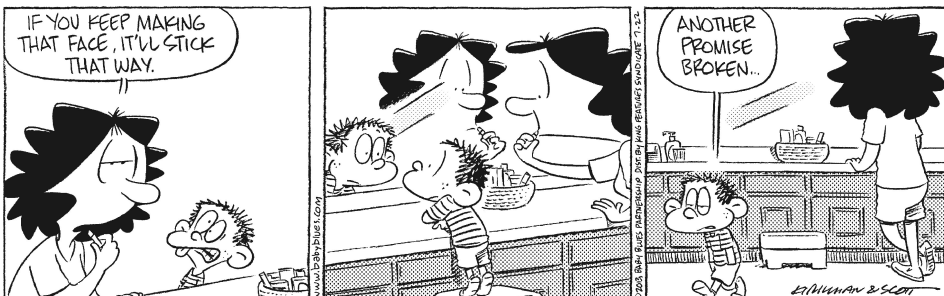
★★★★ You'll perk up and take a different approach. Your originality could cause some strong responses, and perhaps even a minor hassle with a relationship. Know that this, too, will pass. A boss or someone you feel you need to answer to could be closed down. Tonight: As you like it.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ The early hours are significant. You soon will come to a fork in the road, where you need to make a choice. You will know what to do. The morning is better for interpersonal matters, whereas the afternoon points to getting more done. Tonight: Keep it a secret.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

