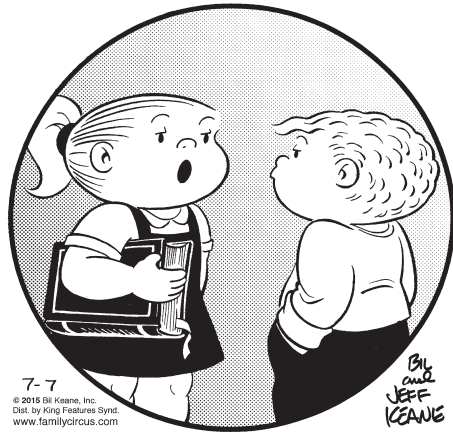
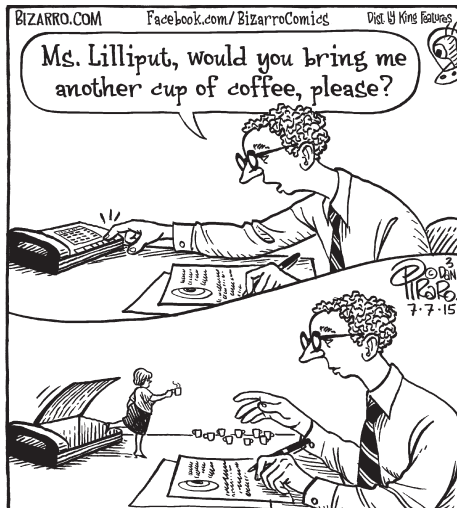


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



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7-7-15

Questioning Boyfriend Is Not Likely To Change

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Blake," recently broke up with me – again. He told me in the beginning that he was bi-curious, and that he wasn't sure he was completely heterosexual. When he broke up with me the first time, we stayed friends. Everyone seemed confused that I still wanted to hang out with him.

We started communicating long-distance again last summer. Blake broke it off again a few months later, stating that he is still questioning who he is.

Is it wrong that we're still friendly? Should I be angrier at Blake? – STILL THERE FOR HIM IN ILLINOIS

DEAR STILL THERE FOR HIM: I don't see why you should be angry with Blake at all. He has been honest with you from the start that he may be bisexual or gay. I can tell you from experience that gay men make wonderful friends. However, if you are ROMANTIC about him, I must caution you against trying to change him because you won't be able to do it. He is who he is.

DEAR ABBY: I'd like your opinion on something that is creating a rift between me and my sister. My 6-year-old daughter, "Mara," who is very sweet and mature, is used to spending the night away from me because she has been spending weekends with her grandparents since she was little. Now she wants to have overnights with "Uncle Bob," who is not a blood relative but a good friend who is like family.

I have no concerns about this even though Bob is a bachelor who never had children. Mara loves him, he loves her, and I trust him. My sister, who is childless, feels strongly that this is not right. She thinks a 6-year-old should only be with her parents and grandparents. She tells me I should ask a psychologist. I am asking you. – TRUSTING MOM IN MISSOURI

DEAR TRUSTING MOM: I'd be curious to know what Mara's father thinks of this. But since you asked me, let me point out that your little girl may be sweet and mature for her age, but at 6 years old she is also inexperienced,

trusting and vulnerable. Because she loves Uncle Bob, I can understand why she might want to stay overnight at his house. In 99 percent of the cases it would be OK. But in light of what we see in the news, it's your job as a mother to err on the side of caution, and I don't recommend it.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and her husband have successful careers, and I am happy for that. But now it seems that she's ashamed of us. We gave her the best we could and she graduated from college with no debt, thanks to us. We felt it was our responsibility.

Now that they earn lots of money, it's like we're not worthy of their company. I have talked to other mothers, and it seems they are treated the same way. (I would say it's probably seven out of nine parents.) I know they have busy lives, but I would like some consideration if I am sick or have surgery. Where did I go wrong? – ANONYMOUS MOM IN ALABAMA

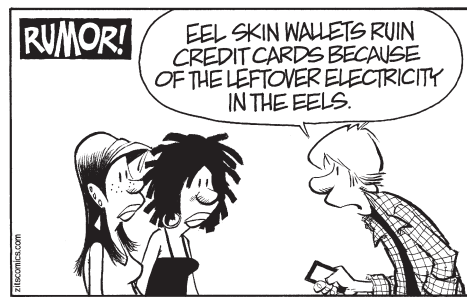
DEAR ANONYMOUS MOM: Not knowing you and your friends or their children, it's hard to say, but if I had to hazard a guess it would be that you gave too much and raised children who grew up with an overinflated sense of entitlement and no sense of gratitude.

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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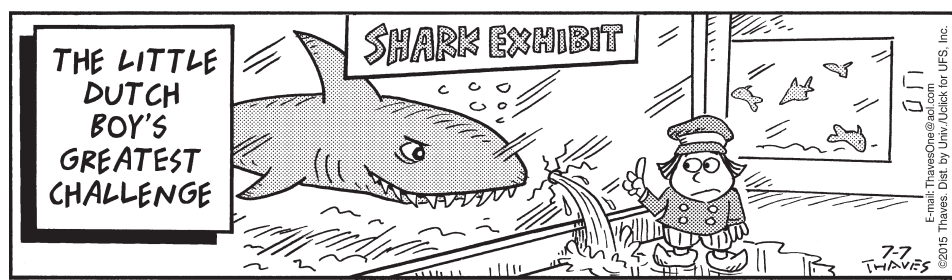
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



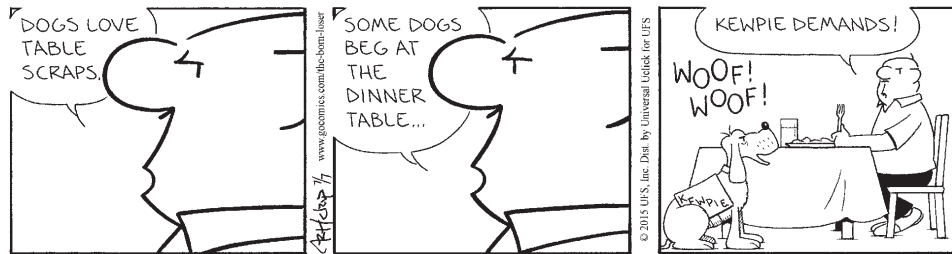
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



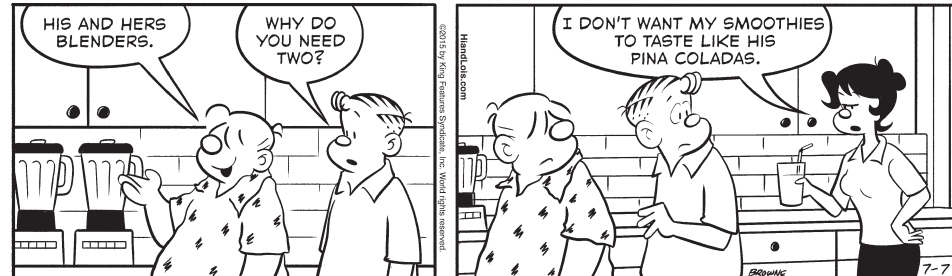
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



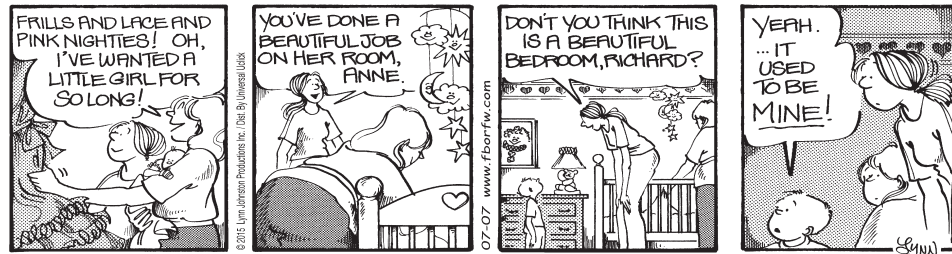
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



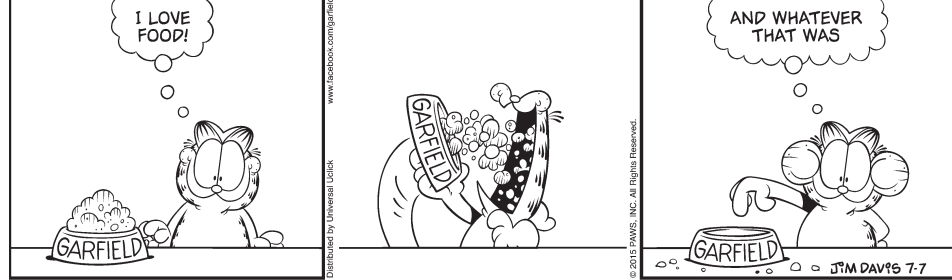
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



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 Pisces if born before 10:38 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Aries.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015:

This year you often see matters in a different light from that of your friends and loved ones. Others appreciate your unique perspective and abilities. You might decide to head in a new direction, but the path could be somewhat rocky. If you are single, someone very different suddenly could enter your life. You will enjoy the process of getting to know this person better. If you are attached, the two of you often are seen out in public together. You also might want to plan sufficient downtime together; you can't always be with crowds! ARIES can make you nervous.

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)

★★★★ You'll feel energized in the morning, and even might attempt to complete a project. A call from a key person in your life could turn your thoughts to other matters. Know that you can handle whatever drops on your plate, no matter what happens. Tonight: An intense conversation.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Use the early part of the morning for handling any matters of importance. Making plans for the weekend could be crucial too! Later in the day, a money matter is likely to come up in a discussion. Understand that someone could nix your idea. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ A gesture in the morning will mean a lot to a friend. You will bring smiles into the day. A meeting allows you to express ideas that are not being valued at the moment. Though you might receive a negative reaction at first, the tune will change later on. Tonight: With a loved one.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Consider different points of view, and do some research. You could find that others are quite connected and caring when discussing an important matter. Ultimately, you will make the final decision. Do not hesitate to do what you feel is necessary. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Detach, and you'll be able to soar past

an issue that you have been stumped by as of late. A conversation concerning your domestic life could fall flat. The other party appears to be closed down right now. Make plans for a getaway soon. Tonight: Let your imagination make the call.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ A dialogue seems inevitable between you and a loved one. Let it happen early, as the conversation will be easier then. Touch base with someone who cares a lot about you. Much more will be accomplished with a one-on-one conversation. Tonight: Let the fun begin!

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You might be emotional or dragging this morning. Later on, someone will light a fire under you. Once you get going, you could be unstoppable. Evaluate what is happening, and know how you feel about a personal situation that is important to you. Tonight: Say "yes."

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Others come toward you. You will have no problems deciding what to do and when. There might be one conversation you would prefer to keep private. Make sure that situation is as you wish, or suggest another location for the task at hand. Tonight: Try not to distance yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You might want or need to deal with personal matters right now. With any luck, by noon you will be free to do what you choose or go back to work. Someone whom you deal with on a daily basis could have a lot to say. You will like what you hear. Tonight: Be a bit spunky.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Settle in and remain steady when dealing with a child or loved one. Be careful with a creative venture. If you are not at the helm of the ship guiding your project, it probably will not come out as you would like. Sometimes you do need to be controlling. Tonight: Head home.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

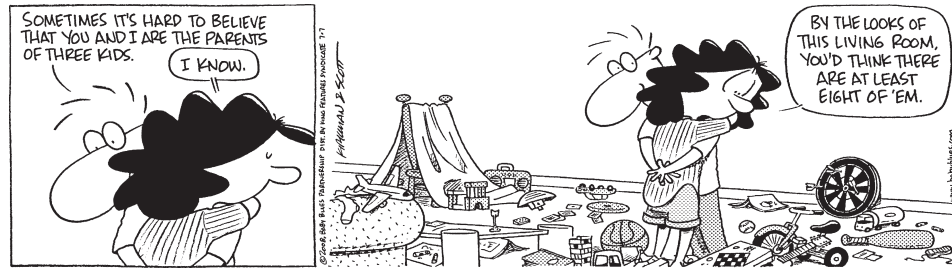
★★★★ You could be stubborn in the morning. An important goal needs to be delegated in the afternoon, when you are more willing to open up. A conversation with a respected person in your life could cause you to withdraw. Know that the choice is yours. Tonight: With a friend.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

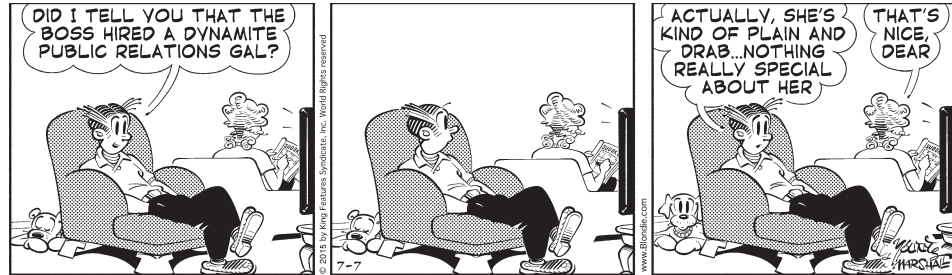
★★★ You might be withdrawn in the later afternoon. You will want to stay close to home, handle your bills and return some calls. Someone at a distance might call you, but the conversation could be difficult. Be aware of a resistance to a particular topic. Tonight: Be a duo.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

