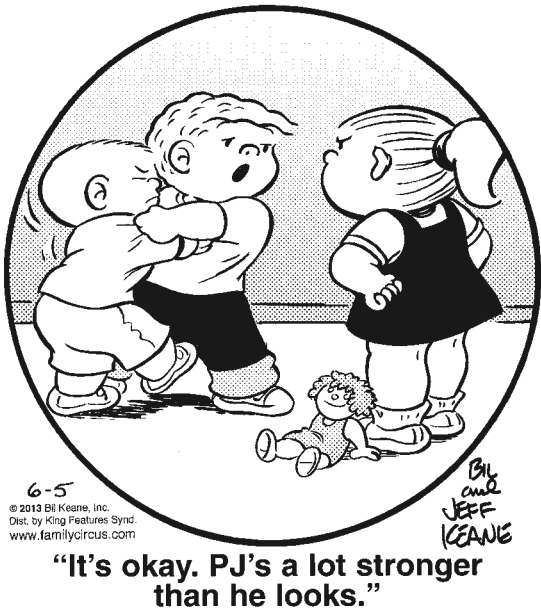


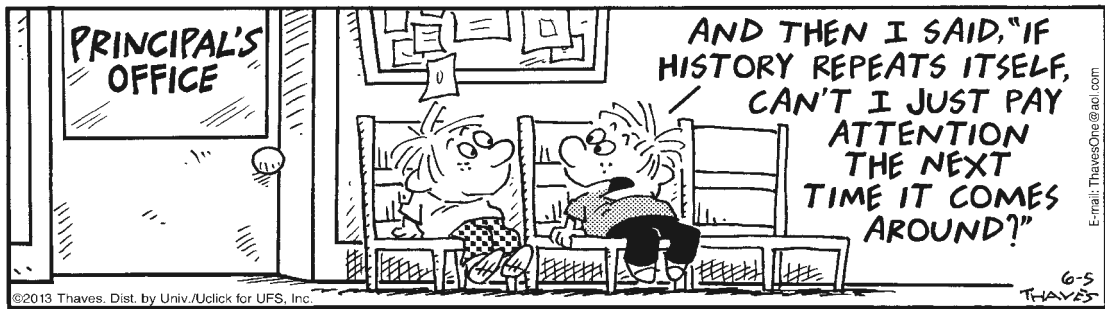
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



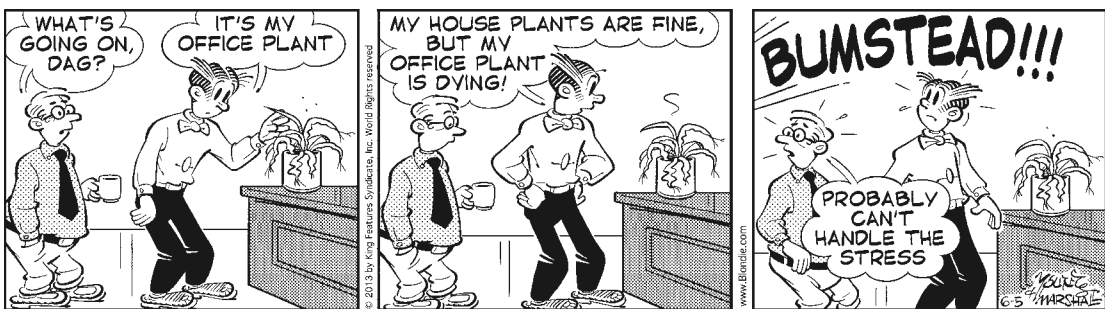
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



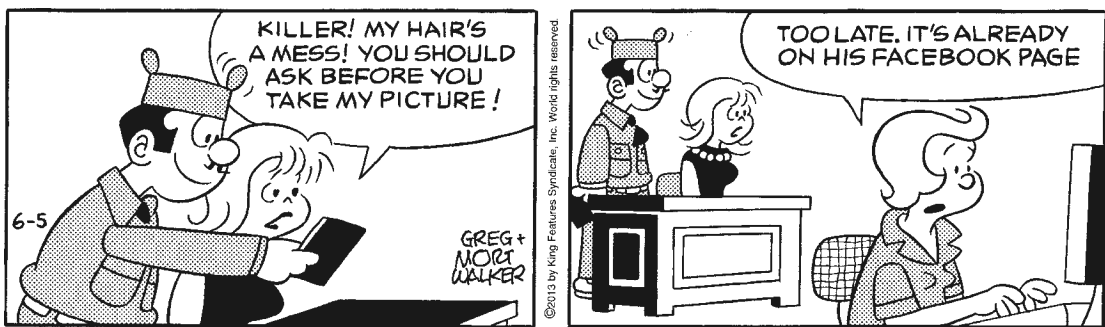
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



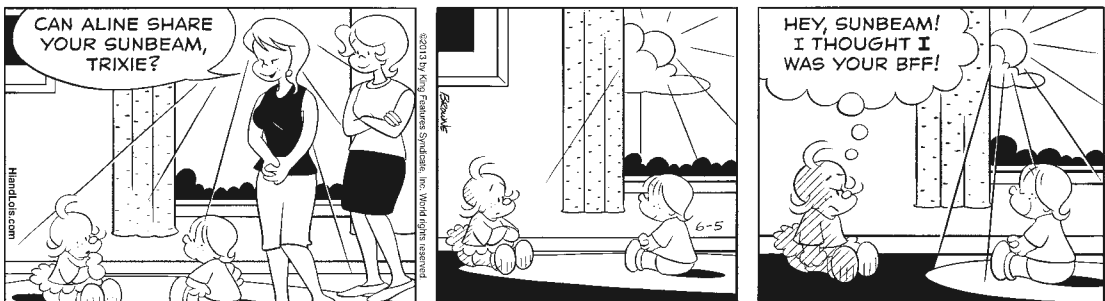
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Son Experiencing Puberty Needs A Word To The Wise

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single mother of two amazing boys, 16 and 12. While my older son has been private about coming into puberty, my younger son is very open about it, and we have had many conversations about it. Abby, I'll be honest. The subject makes me uncomfortable.

Last night I walked into my 12-year-old's room and interrupted him pleasuring himself. I was shocked, and I started to laugh because I was embarrassed. I did tell him he needed to be more private about his curiosity, to close the door and have a blanket over himself. But I was laughing when I was talking to him and literally could not stop.

I'm unsure what is the right course of action at this point. Where do I go from here? — EMBARRASSED MOM

DEAR EMBARRASSED: Masturbation is natural. Every healthy, normal person has done it. It is not depraved, a crime or harmful to one's health. Your son is now at an age when it is appropriate for Mom to knock before entering his room out of respect for his privacy. So: Apologize to your son for laughing. Explain that it was because you were embarrassed.

If your children's father is in the picture (or another male relative), a man-to-man talk about this could be helpful. If there isn't one, consult your sons' pediatrician for suggestions on how to discuss sexuality with both of your boys. If you haven't already done so, the time has arrived.

DEAR ABBY: My brother, three sisters and their husbands and children and I go to our parents' house for holiday dinners. My youngest sister's husband refuses to go because he doesn't get along with our family. (He also does not get along with his own family.)

Before my youngest sister leaves, she insists on taking a plate of food home for her husband who was

"unable to be there." I feel if he doesn't want to be with our family, he shouldn't be allowed to have takeout. Our mother is 82, and it upsets her that he doesn't want to be there. What do you think? — RESENTFUL

DEAR RESENTFUL: If your brother-in-law can't get along with the family, he is doing everyone a favor by not attending those family dinners. Because your mother finds his absence upsetting, it is up to her to put her foot down and tell your sister she doesn't want food taken to him. Until she does, food deliveries will continue.

DEAR ABBY: I, too, am disgusted with people who answer their cellphones wherever and whenever. I was at a funeral last week where this twit answered her cellphone while viewing the deceased in his casket. She was literally kneeling beside the casket when her phone rang, and she carried on a conversation with the caller for a full three minutes. I timed it!

I know some people may think this is funny or no big deal. I suggest that those who feel that way should learn manners. Unless you're a doctor or some other emergency caretaker, there is no reason to take a call while in the company of others. — MICHAEL IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.

DEAR MICHAEL: I agree. When attending a funeral or a memorial, cellphones should be TURNED OFF out of respect not only for the deceased, but for the others around you.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

© 2013, Universal Press Syndicate

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 Gemini and a Moon in Taurus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2013:

This year you discover that others really do want to understand you. Sometimes you are taken aback by a friend's requests. Your intensity might be a bit much for others, as you tend to respond with knee-jerk answers. If you are single, many people gravitate toward you. Be aware that you seem to attract suitors who are emotionally unavailable. If you are attached, share more of your authentic self with your sweetie. You will find that you are far more in tune with each other. TAURUS can be blunt. 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 might want to talk money and weigh a risk. Try to get as much information as you can, but understand that everything could change quickly. A partner you count on could become way too controlling for your taste. Tonight: Go shopping for a new item or two.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Be ready for nearly anything. You easily might become overwhelmed by everything that is going on around you right now. Maintain an even pace, and figure out what is needed. Don't push too hard. You seem to be a lucky charm for friends and loved ones. Tonight: As you like.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Pull back a bit and observe more. You might not be sure as to what you're hearing, so start asking questions. Is it possible that someone is being intentionally vague? Think positively, but remember to say little. Tonight: Get as much R and R as possible -- you're going to need it!

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter before expressing your thoughts. You could be out of sorts, emotionally. Are you revealing too much of your thoughts at the present moment? A partner could be controlling. Give him or her some space. Tonight: Where the action is.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Honor a boss's request, but know your limits. Focus on the here-and-now. You easily could be distracted, as an aspect of your daily life is subject to

change. You will want more space and the freedom to work on projects at your own pace. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ You'll ask rapid-fire questions and expect answers. What becomes obvious is that you know the answers -- you just haven't taken the time to realize it. Reassess a situation according to news that filters in. Return a call to someone at a distance. Tonight: Consider taking a trip.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Communicating on a one-on-one level with others will produce a stronger response than you might have thought possible. Evaluate what is happening behind the scenes that others might not be aware of. Consider sharing a secret with a close loved one. Tonight: Togetherness.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Your words affect others far more deeply than you thought possible. Take your time when thinking about how to approach someone without being so intrusive. A conversation will help you understand the mechanisms at work. Tonight: Go with someone else's suggestion.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ You could be full of ideas and as spunky as can be, but responsibilities call. Settling in could take a substantial amount of discipline. Lighten up in your dealings with a partner. This person often is a stickler. Tonight: Exercise, even if it is just walking the dog after dinner.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ While others might be dumbfounded, you'll come up with ideas left and right. Unfortunately, not everyone's mind works like yours. Someone could have difficulty digesting the information. Be patient and compassionate. Tonight: Tap into your imagination.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★ Getting your mind off a personal matter could be challenging, at best. Consider taking some time off to work through the issue in question. When you feel undermined in one area of your life, it can be difficult to focus on the rest! Tonight: Buy a favorite treat on the way home.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Keep communication moving. Even if you feel as if someone is being controlling, try not to make it an issue. Rethink your role in the present situation. You can close someone off quite easily, which might make others feel at a loss. Tonight: Hang out with your friends.

© 2013, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

