

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE

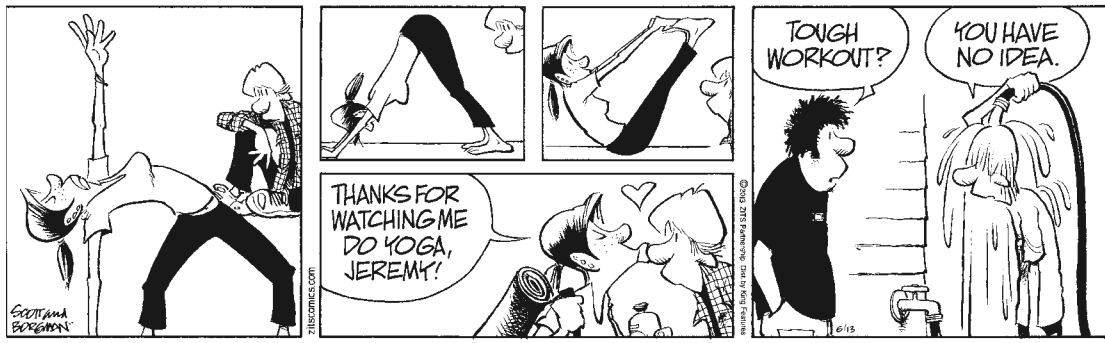


If you've noticed an improvement in the drawing, seven-year-old Billy is substitute cartoonist this week.

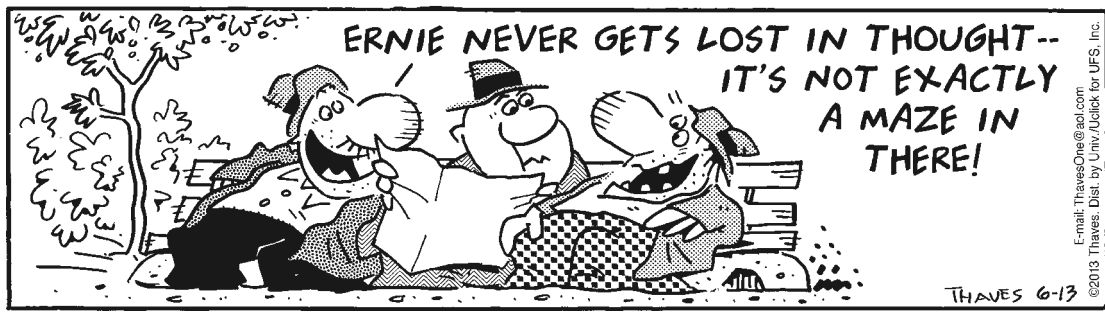
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



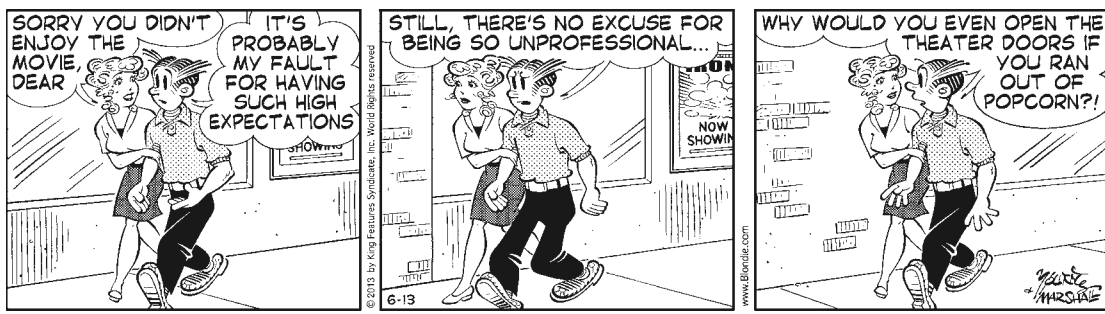
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



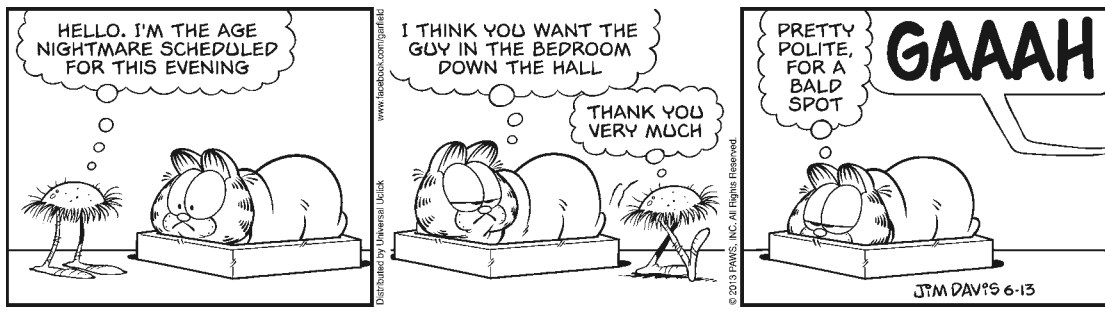
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



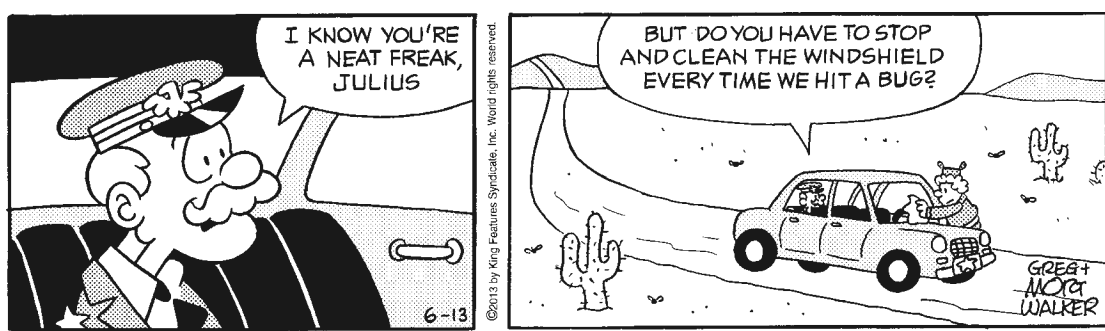
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Learn Signs Of Elder Abuse To Prevent It From Happening

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for all you do to keep our seniors safe. Saturday, June 15, is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. On that day, communities in the USA and all over the world will sponsor events to highlight the growing tragic issue of elder abuse.

Your readers — young and old — should know that the U.S. Administration on Aging estimates that as many as 5 million seniors are abused or neglected each year in the United States.

Elder abuse can be physical, emotional, financial and sexual. It also includes people who are neglected. Elders who are abused are twice as likely to be hospitalized, four times as likely to go into nursing homes and three times as likely to die.

Elder abuse can be prevented if everyone would learn the warning signs and report it to Adult Protective Services or the police if they suspect it is happening. — MARY TWOMEY, MSW, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-IRVINE

DEAR READERS: I was dismayed to learn that 90 percent of elder abuse happens at the hands of a family member or a caregiver. The descriptions of the kinds of treatment these elderly adults experience are frightening, and frankly, not suitable for readers of all ages. That is why I am urging readers to get more information on this important subject by visiting www.ncea.aoa.gov.

We can all stop this scourge if we know what to look for and are willing to speak up when we see the warning signs. There, but for the grace of God, go you and I.

DEAR ABBY: I was married to a wonderful man, "Ted," who was 20 years my senior. In social situations his adult children would introduce me as

"Dad's wife" or "Ted's wife." Sadly, my husband passed away, and his children no longer know how to refer to me socially.

I was recently asked by Ted's children how I wished to be introduced, but I'm not sure. I don't think "stepmother" is appropriate because I'm only four to seven years older than they are. Do you have any ideas as to what might be appropriate? — "MARILYN" IN NEW JERSEY



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.

DEAR ABBY: Some friends are in the process of adopting two children internationally. Early on, they had a garage sale with the proceeds going toward the adoption. I was excited for them and wanted to help. However, this was soon followed by more requests — for yard sale donations, two more garage sales, the "opportunity" to buy expensive coffee online, a fundraising dinner, and then a solicitation for me and others to provide a "virtual shower" of plane ticket money.

Each time I am notified about another fundraiser, I feel less and less charitable. I have never been asked for money for the same thing in so many different ways in such a short time. While I'm thrilled with their desire to adopt, I am increasingly disgusted and put off by their continued pleas for money. Am I wrong to be so upset about this? — A LITTLE TICKED OFF

DEAR TICKED OFF: It appears your "friends" are taking advantage of your generosity. It will continue for only as long as you permit it. Because the requests for help are continuous, are you absolutely sure this couple is really in the middle of the adoption process and not using the money for some other purpose? Before donating anything else, you should find out.

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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 Gemini and a Moon in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013:

This year you'll use your creativity to move forward. Wherever you apply this energy, it naturally seems to work. Your artistic talent emerges as well. If you are single, you have more than your fair share of admirers, so have fun dating! Know that your charisma is hard at work. If you are attached, the two of you become more present as a couple, whether it is in your circle of friends or in your professional life. LEO knows how to flatter you.

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 will sense some volatility in the air; however, you should note that this energy most likely is coming from you. Though this might surprise you, do your best to keep communication moving. You'll enjoy the series of calls that come in. Make plans. Tonight: Think "weekend."

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

You might be taken aback by people's behavior and, consequently, what you learn about them. Stay even and direct in how you deal with this volatility. Note your reaction, but choose not to visibly react. Think positively instead. Tonight: Make a family-favorite meal.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Do not stand on ceremony with someone. Simply call that person and make plans. If it is concerning a professional matter, you might want to schedule a meeting. If the other party is not enthusiastic, simply drop his or her participation in a project. Tonight: You'll find the right words.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Your instincts are working overtime. Why not test them out, and then keep track of how often you are right? No one needs to know if you are uncomfortable sharing. Use care with your spending — you could be misreading someone. Tonight: Treat a friend to drinks and munchies.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

Be more in touch with someone's feelings. You would prefer to know up front if there is something on

this person's mind. A call from a distance could result in a change of plans, and it also might cause you to rethink a personal matter. Tonight: Find your friends and join them.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

You might enjoy some downtime, in which you feel less pressured by others. The real issue has to do with how much you are willing to give. Stay in touch with a key friend or an associate. This person often play devil's advocate for you in situations like this. Tonight: Get plenty of rest!

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

Close friends make all the difference. They give you feedback, and they encourage you. You don't have to incorporate their ideas, but it's nice to have them behind you. News comes in that could cause you to reconsider an important decision. Tonight: Music, fun and friends.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

You might want to rethink a personal matter that could be driving your professional or outside life. A friend, family member or loved one might be trying to run interference. Listen to this person's insight and feedback, if you trust him or her. Tonight: In the limelight.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Reach out to an expert or someone at a distance. The more you know, the better your decisions will be. A loved one could be provocative, yet he or she has ingenious ideas. Your creativity will surge as a result of dealing with him or her directly. Tonight: Mix relaxing with fun.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

A partner holds the key to a change in your life. The issue lies in how well you relate to this person and whether you can see eye to eye. Only time will tell. If you can be reflective, you will respond in a very different way. Tonight: Join a friend or loved one for dinner.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

Move forward in a positive manner. You might need to dodge an emotional wall that someone has constructed in order to achieve the results you desire. Stay calm when dealing with the unexpected. Others will seek you out, so make time for them. Tonight: Fun with a loved one.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

Pace yourself, as you have a lot of ground to cover. If you feel lucky, take a bit of a risk. Buy a lottery ticket, or express feelings to a loved one that you have held back. Consider making exercise a part of your daily life. Know that it will happen naturally. Tonight: Run errands.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

