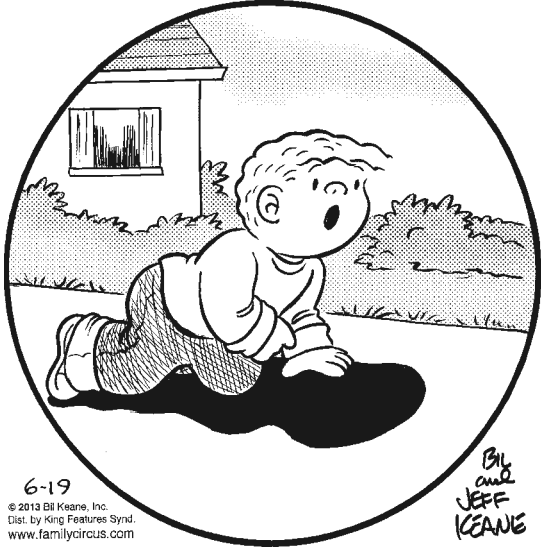


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



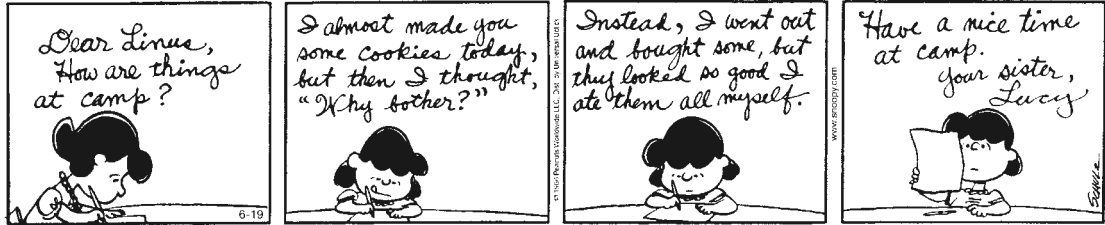
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



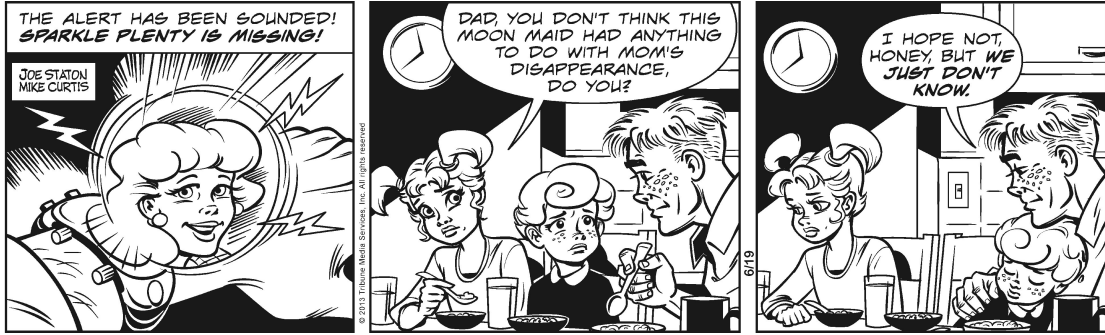
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



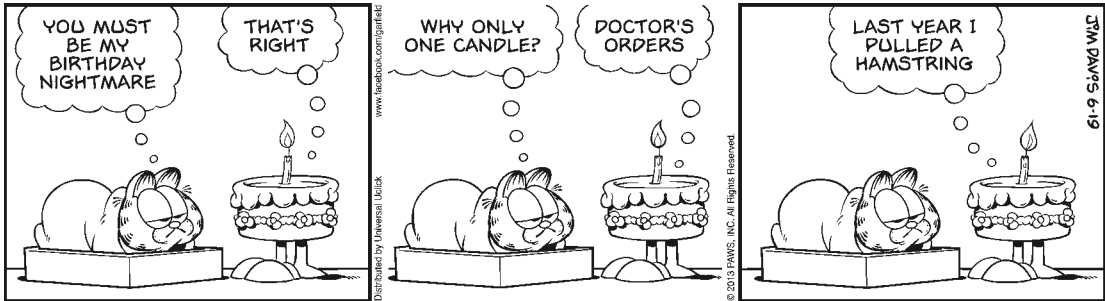
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



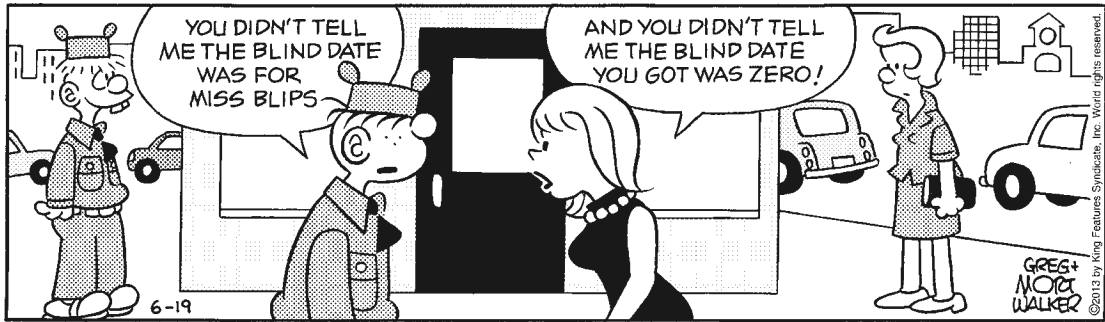
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



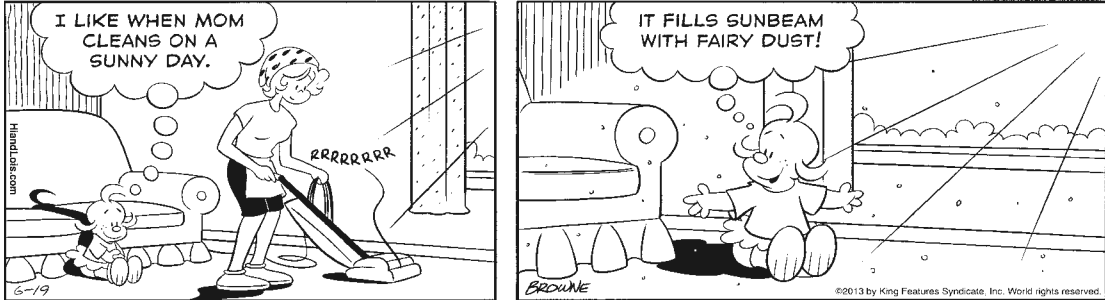
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



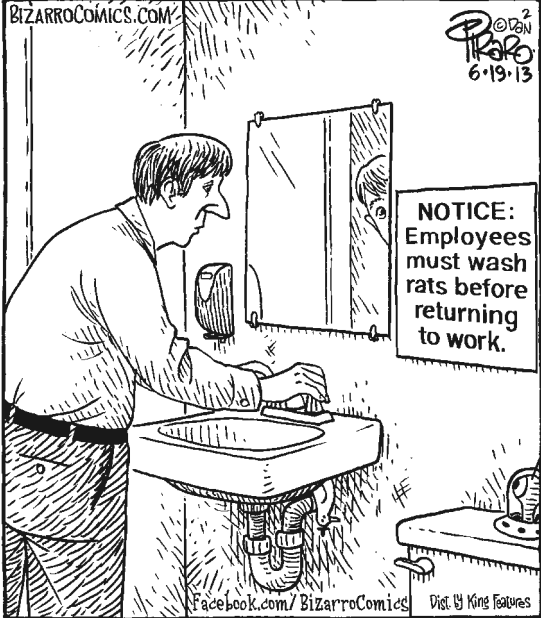
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Grandma On The Sidelines Would Like To Join The Game

DEAR ABBY: My son married a sweet girl three years ago, and I thought we would become a close family. I haven't bothered them at all. Since then, she has become cold and distant to me. My son rarely calls or comes around.

They are expecting their first child soon. I have been left out of all the excitement of the baby. She has not invited me to the baby showers or to see the nursery, etc. I know it's not all about me, but I would like to be included.

My side of the family doesn't seem to matter to her or my son. Because he doesn't stand up for me, I fear I will never get to be close to my grandchild. I don't want to upset them, but how do I handle this? — SAD GRANDMA-TO-BE

DEAR SAD: Talk to your son about your feelings, and ask if there is a reason for his wife's behavior. Then ask if he WANTS you to be a part of his child's life, because the way things are going, it doesn't appear to be the case. That you haven't been invited to the baby showers is terrible, but nothing will change until you bring your concerns out into the open.

I'm sad to say your problem isn't unusual, and it usually happens in marriages where the husband is afraid or unwilling to talk about uncomfortable subjects and prefers to avoid confrontation.

DEAR ABBY: I have been a widower for 15 years. I had kids at home, so restarting romantic life wasn't a priority after my wife died. Ten years later, I realized I was no longer interested in women, and my love life since then has been with men. While I have never been vocal about it with family and friends, I assume they all probably know.

A couple of months ago, one of my male friends

— much younger than I and from my poker group — came to my home to take me to lunch. I had always assumed he was gay. I made a pass and ended up seducing him. He was a great sex partner, but he changed his mind about going to lunch afterward. He has never shown up for poker since and no one has heard from him.

I feel bad, but I am not ashamed and I would never say anything that would lead anyone to know what happened. Should I contact my former friend and reassure him? He's a good man and I worry about him. — MISSING A FRIEND IN MIAMI

DEAR MISSING: The man you seduced may not have been as comfortable with gay sex as you assumed he was. Try to contact him once, but if he wanted to see you again, he wouldn't have disappeared. My advice is to leave it at that because it appears he isn't interested in another round of poker — or anything else — with you.

DEAR ABBY: I have discovered that the man I have been seeing for several years has been stealing money from me. There is no question in my mind that it's him. What is the best way to confront him? It breaks my heart, but I need to give him a chance to be honest about this.

I care for him as a person but no longer trust him. I know he's going through a lot right now, but so are a lot of us. Please guide me. I don't do confrontations well. — USED IN INDIANA

DEAR USED: If you have proof of what he has done, a way to approach it would be to discuss with him IN A PUBLIC PLACE that money has disappeared — and you would like his "help" in figuring out where it went. Depending upon his response, you may have to take specific action by involving your lawyer, your CPA or the police.

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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 Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013:

This year expect to experience some adjustments and also some discomfort. You will enjoy people a lot. You'll swap jokes and exude charm. You will learn how to balance your different needs. Your daily routine becomes even more important. Take good care of your health: Get a flu shot, see the dentist regularly and see the doctor if need be. If you are single, you could meet someone special in the next few months; however, note that there could be an element of instability connected to this bond. SCORPIO has a similar curiosity as you do.

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)

★★★★ Once more you'll encounter a depressed person than you realize. You might not know what to do next. Investigate, and remain sure of yourself. A caring gesture could make all the difference to this individual; you understand what he or she is experiencing. Tonight: Dinner out.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You might be projecting your frustration more than you realize. Certain situations could draw in a new level of understanding. Reflect more -- not to prove that you are right, but rather to gain a greater perspective. Seriousness is in the air. Tonight: Let there be music.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You'll want to get a better understanding of a situation. Your sense of direction might not be realistic right now. You have great ideas; however, making them work could be a challenge. Be clear and direct in your dealings. Visualize more of what you want. Tonight: Dream on.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Your resourcefulness comes to the rescue. A very unhappy child or loved one sees no way out of an emotional maze. You will help bring this person back to reality. You instinctively understand where he or she is coming from. Tonight: Remain sensitive to others.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You are very confident and optimistic. Listen to feedback from an important person in your life. You'll dis-

cover the importance of change, as unexpected plans could be tossed your way. Remember that you like excitement. Tonight: Choose to go along with the moment.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ A discussion might be serious, but it will provoke an exchange of ideas and solutions. A partner or close associate could react in a most unexpected manner. Stay sure of yourself and realize how much excitement will be triggered by an event. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Be aware of the costs of proceeding as you have. You just might be a little tired of playing the same old games. Switch gears or simply refuse to partake, if you want to change. Reach out to someone at a distance who means the world to you. Tonight: Balance your budget.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might come off too strong, as if you're pushing others away. Know that they might not understand where you are coming from. A loved one gives you the benefit of the doubt. Discuss the ever-changing dynamic of this particular relationship. Tonight: As you like it.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Understand what is going on with a family member who might be sending you mixed messages. You would like to have more clarity. Understand what is motivating you as well. A financial decision could feel like extra pressure. Know your options. Tonight: Keep it quiet.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Recognize what is happening with a child or loved one. Laughter surrounds a potentially difficult decision. Make an effort to explain to a friend what you are feeling; you might get some interesting feedback as a result. Acknowledge a change. Tonight: Where the action is.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Listen to a suggestion, but know that it might be something that goes against your nature. You are quite clear as to what you want and expect. Communication could have a surprising tone, especially if it involves feelings. It might be hard to root out the issue. Tonight: Out late.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

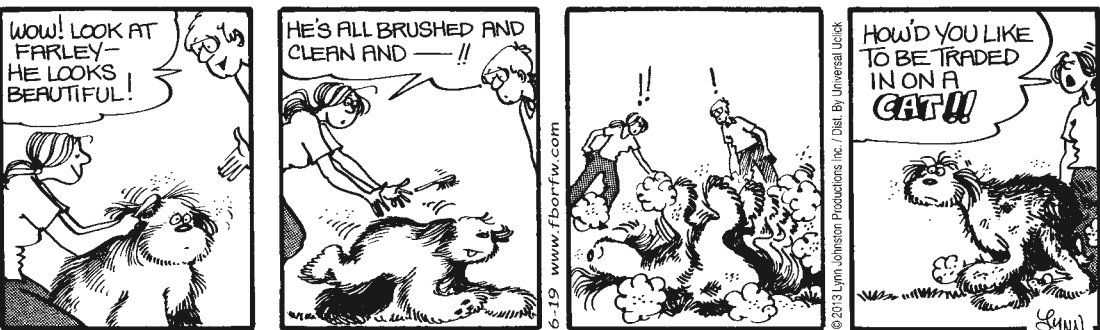
★★★★ Your great ideas might fall on deaf ears right now. Others won't know what to say, even if they do hear one or two of them. Do what you need to do in order to pursue a goal. It could be starting to plan your vacation or making a special request. Tonight: Relax with a friend.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

