

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



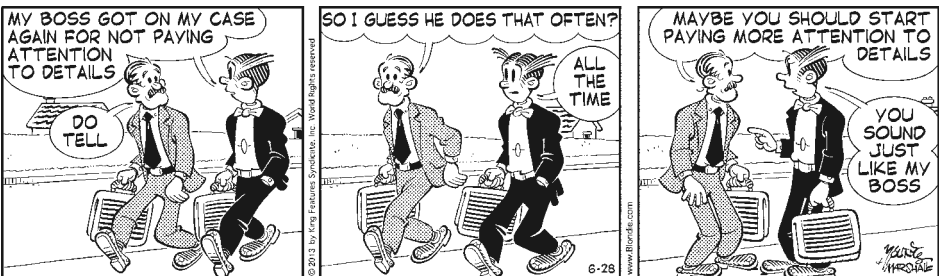
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



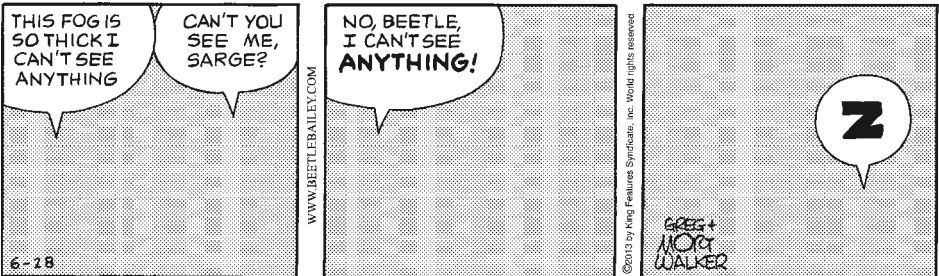
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



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



Divorced Dad's Poor Hygiene Causes A Stink For Ex-Wife

DEAR ABBY: I have been divorced for almost 15 years. In that time, my ex-husband has been self-employed and works out of his home. He rarely leaves his house, and I think he suffers from depression.

At a school honors event for our daughter for which most of the attendees dressed for the occasion, he arrived in dirty shorts and a T-shirt. I sat next to him to be polite, until I realized he also smelled awful. When I tried to excuse myself saying I needed a "better seat for my camera," he got up, too! It was an unpleasant two hours. I felt bad for the others in our vicinity.

I have tried to suggest that he may suffer from depression in the past, but he denies it. Is there anything I can say that won't be re-sented (with him possibly showing up even more disheveled the next time just out of spite)? — UNPLEASANT SITUATION, GETTYSBURG, PA.

DEAR UNPLEASANT SITUATION: While you may have ended your marriage 15 years ago, it doesn't appear you have truly divorced yourself from your ex. Rather than having pussy-footed around the reason you wanted to change your seat, you should have told him it was because he smelled like a goat and showed he lacked enough respect for those around him and his daughter to shower and put on clean clothes.

He may — or may not — suffer from depression. Because he denies it, there is no way you can force him into treatment. You are no longer responsible for his attire or his welfare. Because you're concerned that he may show up looking more disheveled "out of spite," you have my permission to distance yourself if it happens. And if your daughter is embarrassed by his attire, she has every right to talk to her father about it.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a small-business owner. I have an educational supply and toy store. Business has been pretty good, even through the hard times.

My problem is my customers' children are about to put me out of business. They are out

of control. They climb on shelving, open products, tear things apart and throw screaming tantrums.

Their parents let them run through the store like it's a playground. I have signs posted at the entrance and around the store reminding parents to attend to their children.

We have lost a lot of inventory due to these brats, and my time is consumed trying to keep them in line instead of working with my customers. I don't go to their homes and wreck them. I wish they'd show the same respect for my business. Thanks for any advice you can offer. — HAD IT WITH OVERINDULGED KIDS

DEAR HAD IT: If possible, designate a small area of your store where kids can go to play while their parents are shopping. Also, post a sign at the cash register that reads: "Customers Will Be Charged for Broken or Damaged Items."

The problem you are experiencing is one that is shared by many other retailers. If any of them are reading this column, I'd love to know how they resolved this problem.

DEAR ABBY: Since my mother passed away, I feel awkward when my parents' anniversary comes up. I don't want to ignore this important date for my father (we are very close), but I don't feel saying "Happy Anniversary" is appropriate either. What do you suggest? — REMEMBERING IN ORANGE COUNTY, CALIF.

DEAR REMEMBERING: Your father already knows what the date means. Pick up the phone, say, "Dad, I'm thinking about you and I love you," and if he lives close by, invite him to dinner if he doesn't have plans.

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 Cancer and a Moon in Pisces if born after 1:32 a.m. (PDT). Prior to that time, the Moon is in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2013:

This year you greet change more openly than you have in a while. It is quite apparent that you care a lot about people, and vice versa. If you are single, someone you know could introduce you to Mr. or Ms. Right. Remain open to people who have different lifestyles from your own. If you are attached, curb a tendency to be a bit cocky or arrogant when you think you are right. At first, you might be uncomfortable with this change, but in the long run, your relationship will work out better. PISCES understands you almost too well.

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)

★★★★ Seriously consider accepting someone's offer to pitch in. Recognize a tendency to get angry at the drop of a hat, and know that is because you have pushed too hard. A child, friend or dear loved one has a lot to share. Understand what is needed. Tonight: Kick back and relax.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★★ You might want to try a different approach. You know your limits and what is needed. Share more of your needs with a loved one. You might want some help taming a weakness or overindulgence you think you might have. Remain open. Tonight: Happy to greet the weekend.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Your fun nature does nothing to ease a situation. In fact, this trait might be complicating an already difficult situation. You are full of energy, and you're in the limelight. Understand that nothing will beat openness with this person. Drop the games. Tonight: A force to behold.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You might want to see a situation change, but you can't force others to back off their position. As a result, you would be better off relaxing and enjoying yourself. Understanding will evolve to a new level if you can accept what is going on around you. Tonight: Follow the music.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You are full of energy, and you will

draw many people toward you. Understand what you have to offer. Someone might push you beyond your limits. Take a walk or get involved in some other distraction in order to stay in control of your feelings. Tonight: Be direct with a partner.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Understand what is happening with a partner. If you seem to be getting some grief from others, know that it is nothing personal. These individuals simply are frustrated beyond their normal limits. Just relax. Tonight: Allow greater give-and-take when dealing with others.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You are capable of squeezing a lot into a small amount of time. You might feel pressured to get out of town. Honor what needs to happen within your inner circle of friends. You often push beyond what most people can and will tolerate. Tonight: Get going to your destination.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★★ Your manifested ideas could leave many people in awe, yet they also might get you into a lot of trouble. A partner could be unusually difficult. Understand what this person expects, but also recognize that he or she might be exhausted and emotional. Tonight: Togetherness works.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ You might not be as in control as you think you are. You often delude yourself, which causes problems for those involved. Take off your rose-colored shades if you want better results. If more than one person says the same thing, you need to listen. Tonight: Happy at home.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Speak your mind, and know full well what you want. You are more sensitive and together than you might have realized. At present, there is an issue regarding who wants to take the lead in a project. This conversation could become heated. Tonight: TGIF. Meet friends.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

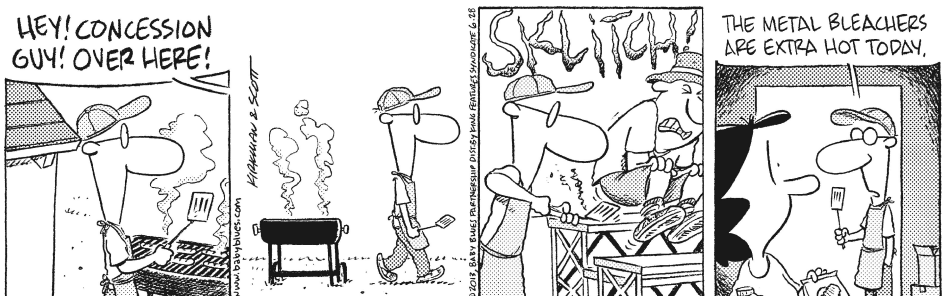
★★★★ You might wonder what has triggered a child or new friend. Realize that this person is on the warpath. Even if his or her anger is directed at you, do not take it on -- it might be the result of a different situation. Give this individual some space. Tonight: Follow the music.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ How and why you seem to be irritating a family member might be a mystery to you, as this person goes off in a fit of rage. When he or she has calmed down, consider initiating a conversation. A loved one feels cared by you. Tonight: Lead the gang into Friday-night rituals.

© 2013, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

