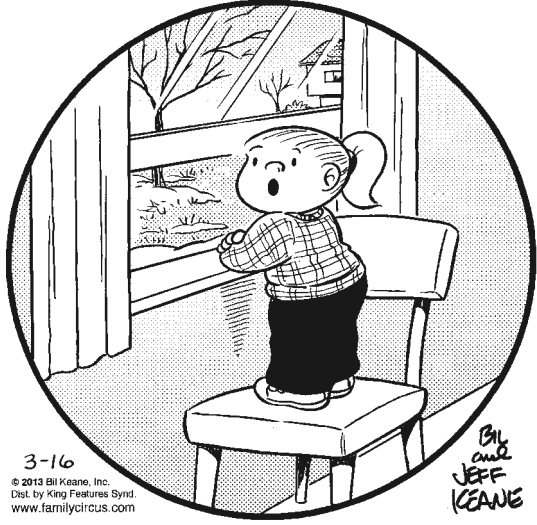
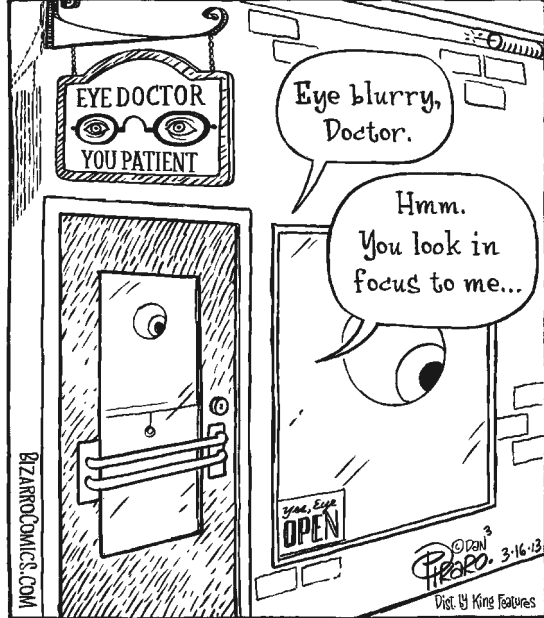


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



"I'm keepin' the window open so I can see if my new sweater is warm enough for me."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

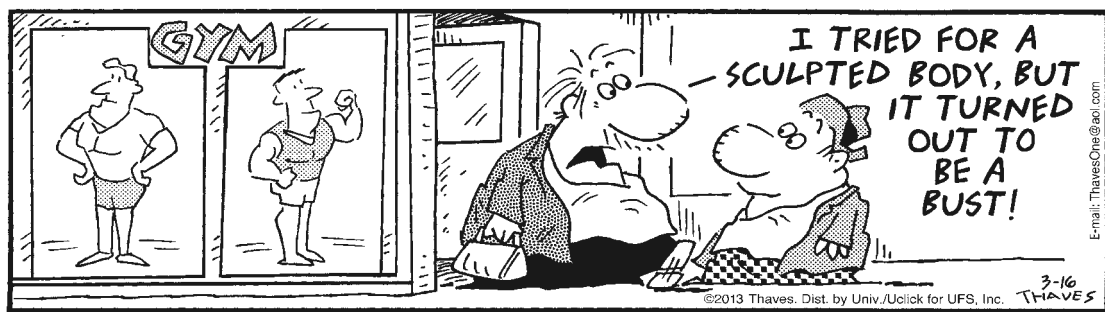


Eye blurry, Doctor. Hmm. You look in focus to me...

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



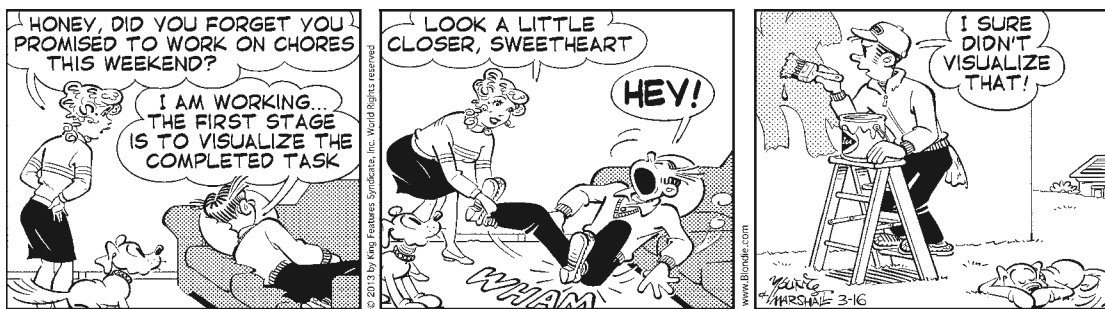
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



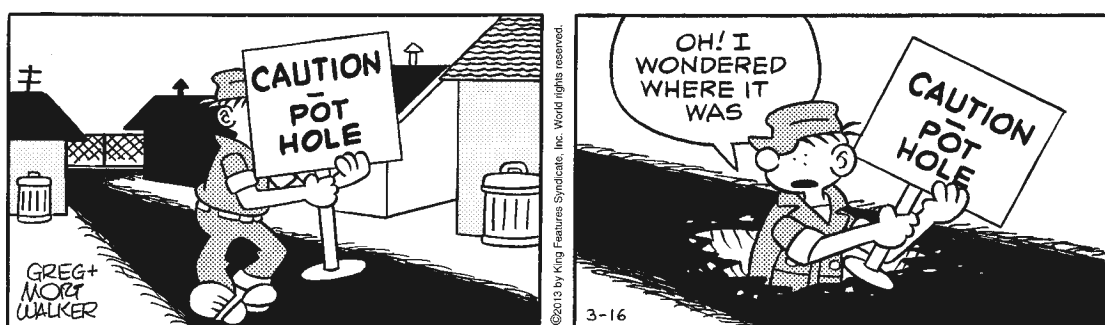
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Boyfriend's Sense Of Ownership May Extend Beyond The Mail

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I are in our 20s and have been dating for five years. We're renovating a home that we will live in once it's completed. We have never lived together before.

During the renovation I have come to the house to find that he has opened packages that were addressed to me. The first time, I didn't say anything because I thought he might have thought it was his. After the second and third times, I mentioned — nicely — that they weren't his to open. He claims he "knew" they were things for the house, which is why he opened them.

I was raised that people's mail and packages were theirs to open, and I would never think of opening anything sent to him. This is an issue for me, but he brushes it off. He feels entitled to open my packages since it is his home, too. How can I make it clear that I expect him to respect my personal mail when he thinks this is no big deal? — NO RESPECT IN NEW YORK

DEAR NO RESPECT: If I were you, I'd be less concerned about his opening your packages and far more concerned that when you tell him something bothers you, he ignores it. His disregard for your feelings is a red flag. Your boyfriend appears to think that what is yours is his. Is the reverse also true? (I'll bet it's not.) Does he also check your phone messages and email? Does this extend to any other areas of your relationship?

If this was only about his opening your mail, I would advise you to open a post office box in your name only. However, if the answer to any of my questions is yes, I think you should take a sober look at the entire relationship.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law is addicted to prescription painkillers and has been for more than 10 years. She went to rehab once, but relapsed and has-

n't been able to get clean since. She has tried to quit on her own, but ends up having great emotional stress and slight psychotic episodes and starts again.

My problem is, my husband sees her addiction as "manageable." He sees no harm in having her watch our 3-year-old daughter, even though he has told me he has seen her nod off with her eyes rolled back like drug addicts do, usually during the afternoon. When we argue about this, he becomes defensive and attacks my family for being "overprotective and paranoid."

Am I right to put my foot down? I'm sick and tired of fighting over this. — NOT PARANOID IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR NOT PARANOID: Continue putting your foot down! A person whose eyes have rolled back after taking drugs or alcohol hasn't "nodded off." The person has lost consciousness and PASSED OUT. In your mother-in-law's case, it means that while she may be physically present, she is completely unavailable to supervise your child. Leaving your daughter under the care of a person in this condition is child endangerment. That's why you can't allow it.



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: Would you please settle a friendly debate between me and my friends? Is it ever appropriate to use your cellphone to update social media or send a text message during a church sermon, or is it still considered a rude act? — OLD-FASHIONED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: It's still considered rude. In a house of worship, we are supposed to be thinking about more important things than our social schedule, our Facebook page or who tweeted us.

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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 Pisces and a Moon in Taurus if born before 11:09 p.m. (PST). Afterward, the Moon will be in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2013:

This year you enjoy your surroundings and your interactions with others. You will flourish in your present environment, as you will meet new people and bond more deeply with friends and loved ones. Travel could present complications. Be aware of these limitations. If you are single, you might stumble into a very intense romance. If you are attached, your first child could become a topic of conversation. Keep an open mind. If you are childless, your status might change this year. GEMINI loves to tease 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)

Check out the costs of certain desired items. It is possible that you are considering making a change in your work or lifestyle. This experience could be a fabulous vacation. Know what you desire, and you will be OK. A partner could be testy. Tonight: Treat yourself for a change.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Beam in more of what you desire, and allow others to have a greater freedom of expression. Your judgments prevent you from seeing others openly, and this could cause you to be hard on yourself. Walk in someone else's shoes in order to gain understanding. Tonight: You can have it all.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Honor the need to retreat or take a vacation. A partner, relative or dear friend might have an opinion here, but your need to get away rises above it. Trust that you will be better for the experience. Tonight: Start daydreaming about how you want to revitalize your life.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Zero in on your priorities, and know full well where you are going. As sensitive as you are, you always feel better having friends' support -- it doesn't matter what you are doing. Bring others together in order to express your appreciation. Tonight: Get down to basics.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

Take charge. Whether you're with family or

friends, you know what to do. Someone might indicate that he or she does not appreciate your change of plans. Make a point of letting this person know that you will make special time for him or her. Tonight: Happiest at home.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Express your desire for a different type of situation by making a game plan. Wherever you decide to go, you will have an opportunity that opens up doors for you. Communication with a relative could be touchy. Indulge this person. Tonight: Follow the music.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

Don't let your insecurity mar a great relationship. Make a point of doing something that builds your confidence, whether it is shopping or getting a massage. Postpone a meeting if you must. Tonight: Go along with someone else's suggestion.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

Others express their high energy and genuine interest in your plans. Resist being mysterious, and share what you have in mind. You will have a better time with friends or loved ones as a result. Allow yourself to go with the flow. Tonight: Follow through on plans.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Get into a favorite project, and don't allow yourself to be distracted. Think before you leap, and understand your true motives regarding a long-term goal. Act accordingly. Don't do anything that could create a problem for you. Tonight: Catch up with a favorite person.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

You'll get to the root of an issue in an upbeat way. Someone will understand your message, though he or she might need to think it over first. A brainstorming session could evolve into a unique adventure. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

You might be more grounded than you realize. You are capable of tremendous flexibility, but you are likely to stay within your values. Someone might come down hard on you. Decide what you want to do about this behavior, if anything. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

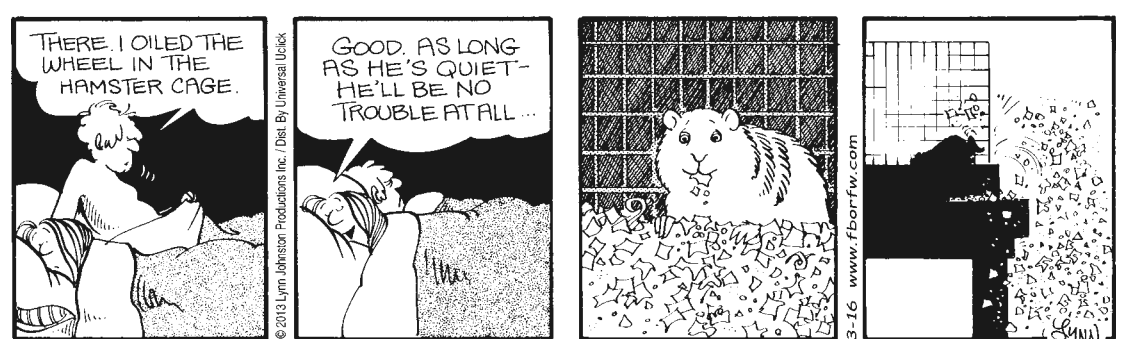
You can make a difference if you keep a conversation open. A discussion might be hard at first, but in the end, everything will work out. Listen to others' suggestions more openly. Let go of something that you can't seem to make a decision about. Tonight: With friends.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

