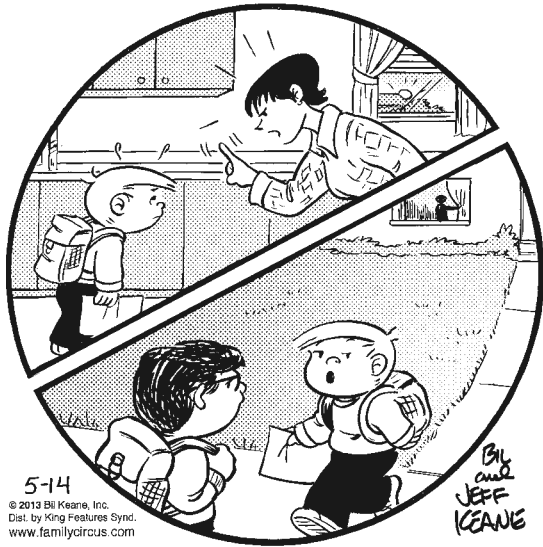
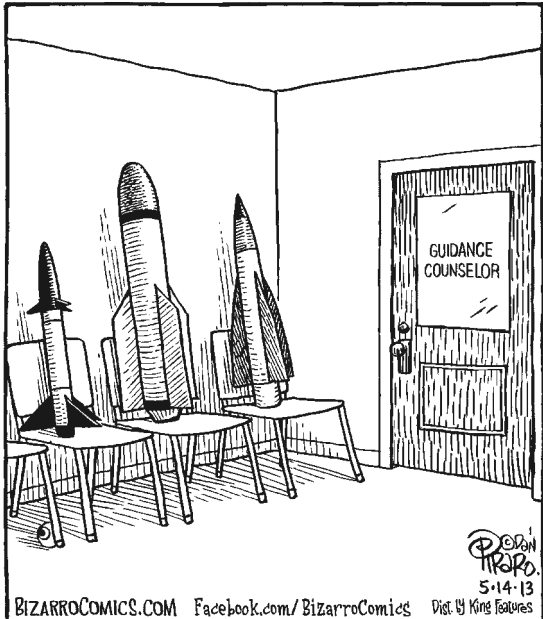


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



5-14
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'It's a good thing moms don't give report cards.'

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



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Woman Who Doesn't Like Sex Can't Get Rid Of Men Who Do

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman in my late 40s and I hate sex. I always have and always will. I'm disabled, and it has always been torture. I never got any positive benefits out of it.

My problem is I get hit on constantly. I tried marriage once, more for financial reasons than anything else, but I couldn't wait to get out. I'm single now, own my own home, and the men in this town (married and single) all seem to think I'm fair game. They're convinced that I'm in need of satisfaction because I don't date or have a steady man in my life.

I have told them repeatedly that it's not going to happen, but every once in a while one pops up on my doorstep or approaches me in town, only to be told AGAIN to leave me alone.

Please don't tell me to see a therapist. The last one I went to tried to tell me I was gay. No! I'm simply happy being single and sex-free. I go where I want and don't have to answer to anyone. Short of running these idiots off with a shotgun, how do I get it through their thick skulls that I'm not available? — SEXLESS BY CHOICE

DEAR SEXLESS: Although we live in a sex-obsessed society, not everyone — male or female — is a sexual creature. Your therapist should not have tried to label you as gay. You appear to be asexual, which you describe as happily sex-free.

The next time you are hit on by one of these men — who, by the way, probably think that by doing so they are "helping" — tell him you are happy with your life just the way it is, and it isn't necessary to offer help where none is needed. Period.

DEAR ABBY: I really like this girl, but my parents absolutely cannot stand her. They hate that she has a tattoo and a lip ring, but her appearance has had no effect on her professional life, as she is on the

road to success in her field. I am not writing to ask whether I should stay with her, because I intend to. She's an amazing person, a hard worker, a trustworthy partner and, most of all, she's my best friend.

How can I diffuse potentially "combustible" situations with my parents, who always try to put her down no matter how often I plead my case? — JOE IN RHODE ISLAND

DEAR JOE: Whether your parents approve or not, tattoos seem to have become a rite of passage for many people of your generation, and so have lip rings, eyebrow rings and multiple ear piercings. If you are over 21 and living independent of your parents, then you have the right to choose the women you become involved with. From your letter, I'd say your values are mature.

In time, your parents may recognize the fine qualities you see in this young woman. If they don't, they may wind up estranging a son. Right now, getting into a debate about her will be a losing proposition and I'm advising you against it.

DEAR ABBY: I'll be visiting the United States in a couple of weeks, and I'm really excited. Now my question: How do I tip the waitress properly? I know to round the bill by 15 percent and up, but do I pay only in cash, or can I have this amount charged to my credit card? Are there any other things I have to look out for? I don't want to offend anyone. — JUTTA IN TRIER, GERMANY

DEAR JUTTA: If you prefer to add your tip to your credit card, it is perfectly acceptable to do so. However, before you pay, you should review the bill to be sure that a gratuity has not already been included, which can happen when a group of people dine together. I hope you will enjoy your visit to our beautiful country and that it will be the first of many.



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.

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



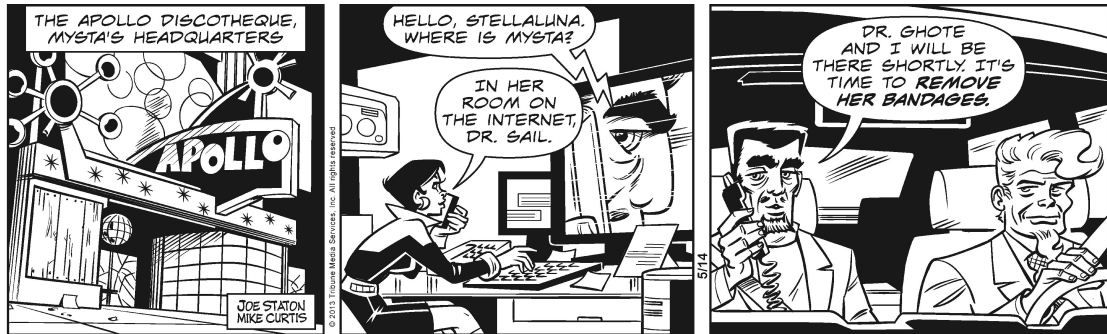
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



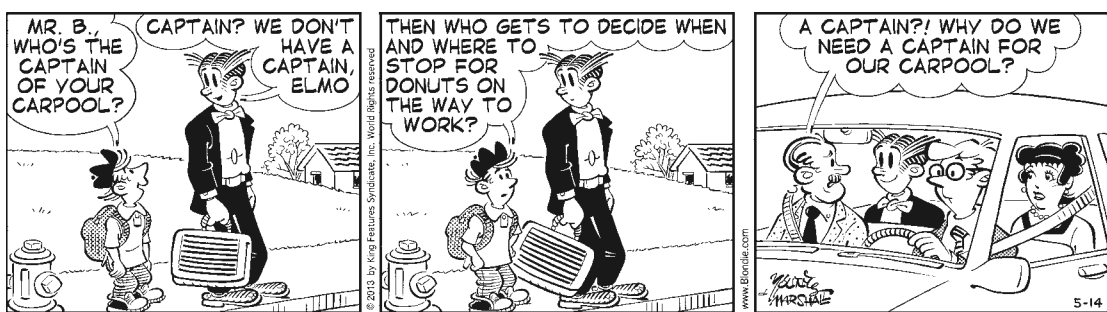
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



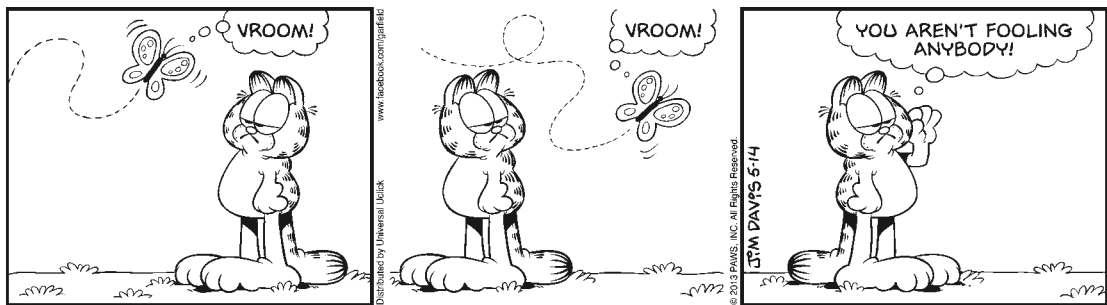
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



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 Taurus and a Moon in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2013:

This year you encounter some touchy situations yet manage to remain held together. Sometimes you get involved in power plays, even when you have no interest in them. Try to figure out why you do this. If you are single, you could meet someone easily and experience the most euphoric beginning. Give yourself plenty of time before committing. If you are attached, as a couple, you have had and continue to have issues over power and control. Accept each other as you are. CANCER seems understanding and nearly always receptive to your energy.

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)
HHHH Whether it happens in reality or in your dreams, you'll awake with an unusual insight and a need to push in a certain direction. You have a lot of power and energy behind you, and you could feel nearly unstoppable. Be more aware of your public image. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
★★★★ You will be on a mission from the moment you wake up. You could have something you want to say to someone, but this person might not be ready to hear it. Detach, and try to see the whole situation from a different perspective. Tonight: Let yourself relax with friends.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
★★★ Be more aware of your possessive and materialistic side; otherwise, you could find yourself caught up in a shopping spree that might be nearly impossible to stop. Your sixth sense tells you when to stop, so make it a point to listen carefully to it. Tonight: Indulge a loved one.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
★★★★ You are capable of creating what you want. You could be dealing with a contentious friend right now, or perhaps a demanding and unpredictable situation. Instead of running from fire to fire, stop and center yourself. Decide what your priorities are, then act. Tonight: All smiles.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)
★★ You sense that more is going on behind the scenes than others are willing to acknowledge. Observe more, and get to the root of a problem. The unexpected

occurs when you least expect it, but the experience opens you up to be more adventuresome. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)
★★★★ You will want to keep your focus and not get distracted. There is something going on that could be deterring you from staying centered. A loved one might have pushed beyond normal limits. Avoid a power play by not playing, and remain unresponsive. Tonight: Ever playful.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)
★★★ Pressure builds. It seems as if an authority figure has high expectations for what you can do. Truth be told, you might be focused on a personal issue that is taking up a lot of your time. You could be egging on the other party, but a fight might clear the air. Tonight: Try to stay centered.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)
★★★★ While others run around in circles, you have the unique ability to stay focused on what you need to do. Though you are an emotional sign, you know when to detach and see the big picture. You will do just that right now. Avoid a power struggle. Tonight: Go for something unusual.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)
★★★ You could be trying to do something very differently. Realize that you need to work closely with one person in order to succeed. Don't allow a situation to intimidate you. Someone could be trying to make you feel insecure. Just be assertive. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)
★★★★ Others have the intention of ruining the show. Aren't you a little tired of this scenario? You might want to be more involved. Perhaps you need to start your own project and not let others in. No one questions your competency. Tonight: Let your creative genie out of the bottle.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)
★★★ Know what you want. You will want to put an extra effort into maintaining your desired pace. Someone might throw a boomerang in your path. Don't spend too much time wondering why. Just continue as you have been. Tonight: Happy when you finally get home.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)
★★★★ You are so creative and dynamic that others can trigger your imagination with a simple comment about the weather or something similar. You might want to stay on top of what is going on. Jot down your thoughts if you're being hit by too many ideas. Tonight: Fun and games.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

