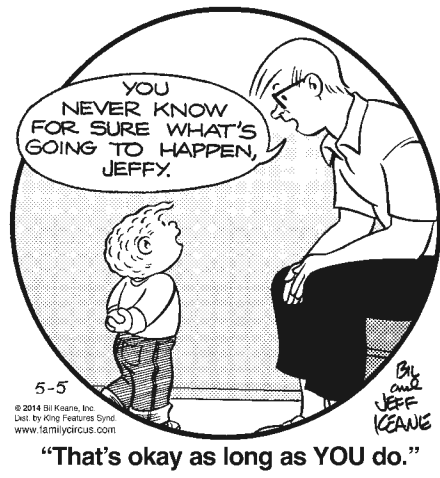
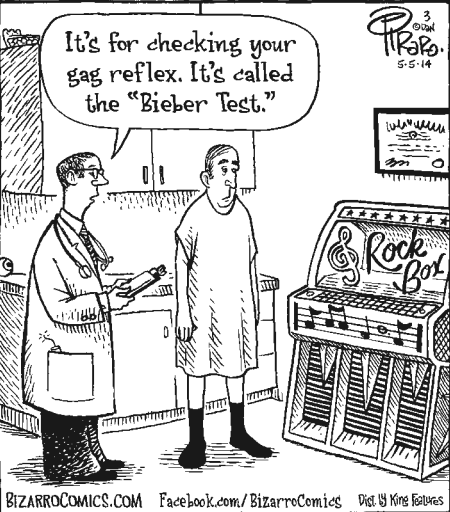


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



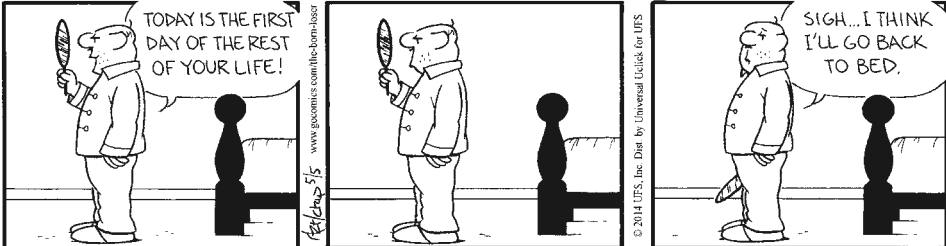
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



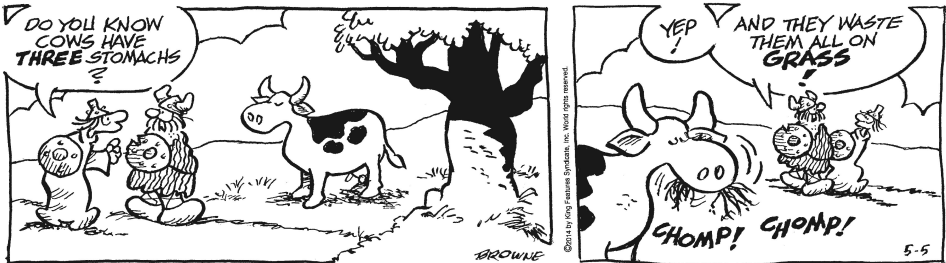
THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



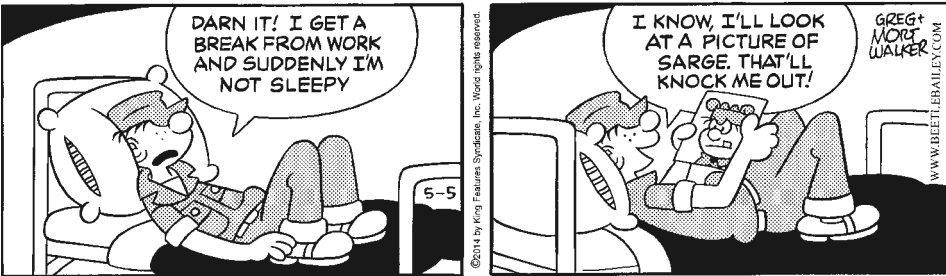
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



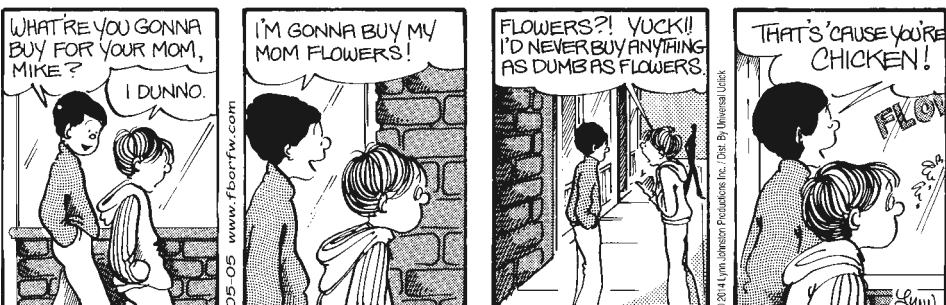
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Beach Bully Kicks Sand In Friend's Vacation Plans

DEAR ABBY: For the last few years my family has rented the same beach condo. My friend "John" and his family have joined us there on many occasions. When I asked him his vacation plans for this year, he informed me last night that he has rented the beach condo for the same weeks we have historically occupied it.

I was floored. I think a more appropriate approach would have been for him to have called me first and expressed his interest in renting it, but he should not have rented the unit if it conflicted with our vacation plans. I understand the free marketplace — first-come, first-served — but I can't help feeling he undercut me. — **CONFUSED IN A TENT AT THE BEACH**

DEAR CONFUSED: Your feeling is 100 percent accurate. That weasel DID undercut you, and real friends don't act that way. Now that you know what he's capable of, contact the landlord and make a long-term deal in advance if you want that unit in the future.

DEAR ABBY: I am a lonely 83-year-old woman. All I want is someone to love me, preferably a handsome, wealthy man who will spoil me. I have spent my entire life making other people happy, and now all I want is some happiness back. I mean, can't an older woman get some loving, too?

I have been told I'm charming. I have the laugh of an angel, a full head of blond/gray hair and a slim figure. I would like a man (preferably in his elderly years) who is lonely and needs some company. And also someone who wants to spend his savings on me. Abby, help me find my soul mate. — **WAITING FOR "GOT-DOUGH"**

DEAR WAITING: Why do I suspect this letter may have been written by a group of sorority sisters after a few drinks? However, just in case it's actually on the level, your "want ad" has now been viewed by millions

of Dear Abby readers worldwide, and I'm sure we will hear from many applicants who are eager to be "The One." Let's hope none of them write from "Scam-dinavia."



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My daughter-in-law is having a baby. My mother and I told her we would have a shower for her. She registered at a local store for baby gifts, let us start planning the shower, and then informed us that she would not be opening gifts at the party. My son has sided with her. He said he didn't know her reason, but felt like it was no big deal.

Why would she act that way? We think it's peculiar. The shower has now been canceled at her request. — **MYSTIFIED IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR MYSTIFIED: Your daughter-in-law may have been trying to be considerate of any guests — possibly members of her family — whose gifts might not have been as expensive as those purchased or crafted by other guests. Or she may have felt self-conscious about being the center of attention.

While I agree that one of the pleasures of attending a shower is seeing the expression of joy on the mother-to-be's face as the presents are unwrapped, look at it this way: Because the shower is canceled, your problem is solved. Now forget about it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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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 Taurus and a Moon in Cancer if born before 1:55 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, MAY 5, 2014:

This year you demonstrate an evolving ability to network and broaden your circle of friends and associates. Others see you as somewhat moody yet reliable. Your domestic life increases in significance. A new home is a possibility. If you are single, resist taking a relationship to a live-in status too quickly. A very romantic bond arises as a possibility. If you are attached, the two of you create a landmark year with a transformation or adjustment to your home life. The tie that exists between the two of you flourishes with more time together. LEO provides an anchor when you are moody.

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 could be more in the mood for Cinco de Mayo than some of your friends who might hail from that culture. By midafternoon, you will help a friend relax and enjoy the mood of the celebration. Let go of a serious conversation for now. Tonight: Let the good times rock and roll.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★★ Use the morning for any matter that is very serious and that could demand an important conversation or two. Just because you do not see eye to eye with someone does not mean you need to quarrel. Honor and respect your differences. Tonight: Hang out at home.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ You might want to honor a change that is likely to make you feel a bit off-kilter. You could feel tense about a personal matter. Understand the liabilities of giving in to your feelings this afternoon — you might not get anything done! Tonight: Go for the moment.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Initiate an important conversation, but avoid any bilateral comments that would add to the present discomfort level. You have an opportunity to clear the air, and you absolutely need to take it. Understand the dynamics of what is going on here. Tonight: Get into a celebration.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You could be excited by news that heads your way. Ponder this information with a

greater eye to success and change. You won't want to deny your innate creativity; however, you will need to think before you leap. Tonight: Look beyond the obvious for answers.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Friends play a significant role in your plans, whether you are at work or just off doing your own thing. You'll have a lot to deal with when speaking to a key loved one or associate. In the afternoon, you might not want to share your ideas so openly. Tonight: Not to be found!

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Defer to someone else, and remain open to the possibilities. You will discover the limitations of staying locked in a certain situation. Communication is likely to evolve with someone you trust, who has sound financial knowledge. Tonight: Say "yes" to a friend's request.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Return calls in the morning. You could hear some interesting information or gossip, and you will need time to digest this news. Honor a change in plans without making it a big deal. You could get into a project but have difficulty switching gears. Tonight: Pace yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You have a way of bringing out the best in people, no matter what goes down. You could see a situation in a totally new light after a conversation, and possibly from a different perspective after a talk with someone else. Absorb as much as possible. Tonight: Break patterns.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You'll want to relate more directly to a loved one than you have been able to in the past. Seize an opportunity to open up a conversation, and listen to the feedback you get. A situation around your domestic life could put a smile on your face. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

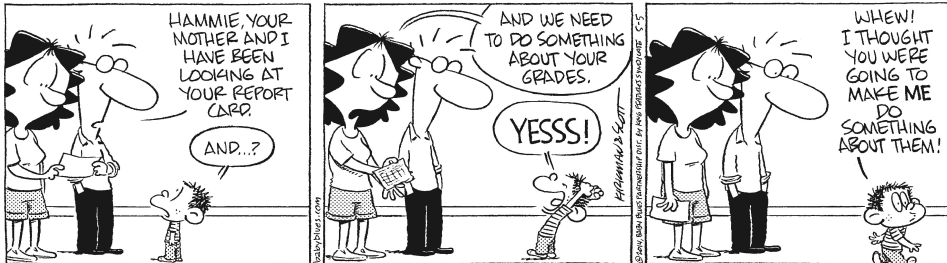
★★★★ Listen to news that comes from a parent or loved one. You might want to visit with someone at a distance and just enjoy life. Be content hanging out with your immediate circle. Laughter seems to surround a child or loved one. Enjoy it! Tonight: Stay anchored.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

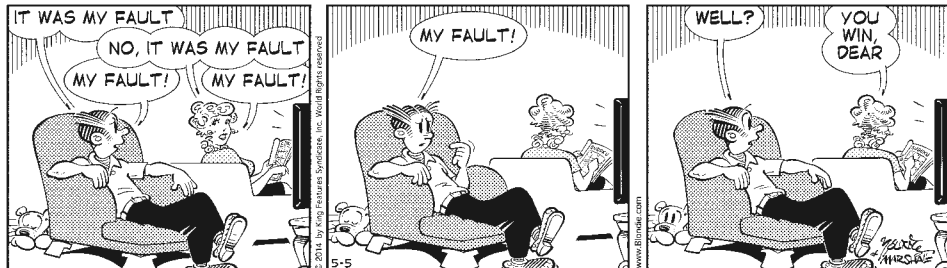
★★★★ Examine what is going on in your immediate circle. You will want to have a conversation with a child or loved one as a result. Realize that a lot is happening around you that might not be easy to integrate into your plans. Tonight: Go along with someone's suggestion.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

