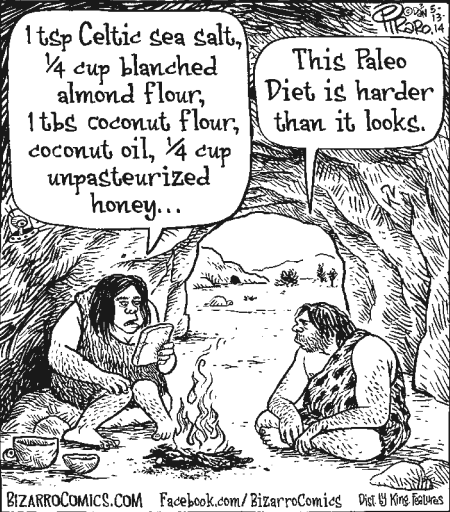


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



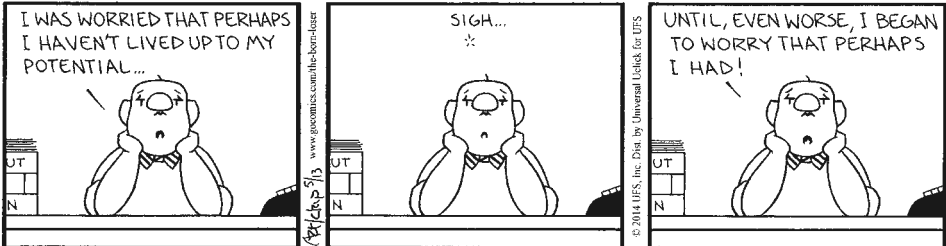
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



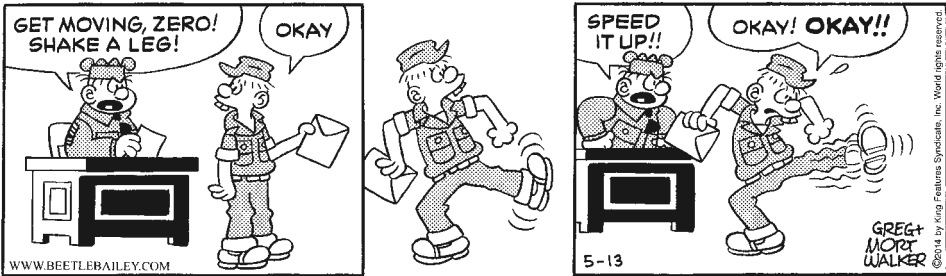
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



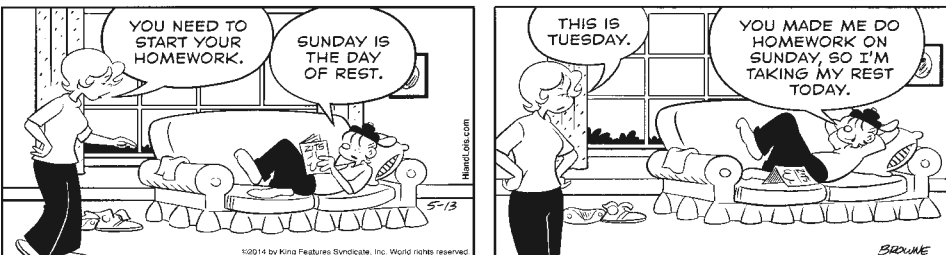
HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Register For Sex Offenders Covers A Gamut Of Offenses

DEAR ABBY: As a licensed psychotherapist who has worked with both victims and perpetrators of sexual abuse over the past 25 years, I would like to respond to "Stunned in the City" (Jan. 22), who found her co-worker's name on a website for registered sex offenders.

Registered sex offenders have been convicted and incarcerated for their crimes as well as serving a probationary period upon release. However, unlike other criminal offenses, they never finish "serving their time" — both in the areas of WHERE they can live and HOW they can live (employment). They continue to serve a sentence that can never be completed and are stigmatized for the rest of their lives.

The reason for this is because of a "one-size-fits-all" approach to punishment, be it a one-time offender or a serial rapist. Most sexual abusers are either members of the family or a close family friend, and most are never reported. Only a small percentage of registered offenders pose a danger and should be under surveillance. The others should be allowed a second chance to continue with their lives without undue harassment.

If "Stunned" reports her co-worker to her employer, she will jeopardize his livelihood, which he needs to redeem his life. — AL-READY PAID HIS DEBT

DEAR A.P.H.D.: I received mail from mental health professionals, employers, parents and people who are on the sex offenders' list regarding "Stunned's" letter. All of them stated that the range of crimes that can add someone to the list is very broad. The list is no more than a STARTING point for people to begin their own research into public records before telling an employer or another person. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: For more than 20 years I have employed a man who is a convicted sex offender. He paid his debt to society for having sex with a minor when he was in his 20s. It will haunt him for the rest of his life.

The pictures you see online are recent because the authorities require updated photos yearly. I empathize with him because I dated a

15-year-old when I was 19 — with her parents' approval — but today it could mean jail time and a ruined life.

There is no demarcation between being dumb and being truly criminal, so everyone is labeled the same. I suggest that we all stay aware of those labeled sexual predators, but approach the sexual offenders case-by-case. — JUSTICE FOR ALL

DEAR ABBY: Inclusion on the registry can be the result of something that would not pose a danger to anyone — urinating in public, or having sex with a younger girlfriend when you yourself are a minor.

If you see a neighbor or co-worker on such a list, no one should jump to conclusions before doing more research about the actual offense. It may be nothing to worry about at all, or it might be something to react to. But you won't know until you find out more than a simple listing. — REBECCA IN SAN DIEGO



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: After breakfast on Saturdays, my husband and I settle in, listen to music and read the newspaper. It's our Saturday morning ritual.

As part of it, when I get to your column, I read it out loud to my husband. We enjoy the letters and your advice. When I finish, my husband almost invariably says, "You know, those letters are made up."

Abby, I think they are real, albeit edited, but genuine. He thinks they're fake. Who's right? — TRUE BELIEVER IN MICHIGAN

DEAR TRUE BELIEVER: You are. I could never make up anything as interesting as the mail that arrives from my readers day after day.

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.

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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 Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014:

This year you greet many positive changes, which is a result of others questioning your actions and thoughts more often. Many of you see financial well-being and/or a certain amount of materialism as being necessary for love. You will learn otherwise. If you are single, you'll draw people very close to you, only to then push them away, as you have an inherent need for space. A new suitor could become quite frustrated as a result. If you are attached, your significant other could be a little put off by your moodiness, but he or she will get used to it. SCORPIO is even more stubborn than you are!

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)

★★★★ Your intentions are nothing less than inspiring. Others might not be on the same page, which is why you will find it difficult to relate to certain people. They seem to be on a different mental plane, with different concerns. Be spontaneous. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Push comes to shove with a Full Moon adding to the "loony" qualities of those around you. Unpredictability could arise and allow your intuition to flow freely. Reach out to someone at a distance whom you care about. Tonight: Work with a sudden insight.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Focus on what is going on in your daily life. You might need to pick up what others do not complete. An older individual will inspire you to create past your present limitations. Remember, not everyone can follow your thinking. Tonight: A dear friend or loved one wants to share.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ A partner seems to be changing the ground rules. Listen to your instincts when dealing with a child or new friend. An idea might not be easy for someone to digest. Find different words to express yourself. A boss or older relative likes what you are doing. Tonight: Add some fun.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You could be dragged down by an ongoing domestic issue. Practice acceptance, and try a

different approach. Reach out to someone at a distance who always presents unusual ideas and solutions. A brainstorming session will give you a new perspective. Tonight: Mosey on home.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Events and conversations will point to more understanding. If you become triggered, you might need to detach. Understand someone's limits. This person means well, but he or she cannot identify with what you are sharing. Tonight: Let your imagination wander.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Deal with others directly, especially regarding a financial matter. A risk could bring dramatic results. Be sure that you can handle a negative outcome, though it might not be likely. Someone you look up to could overwhelm you with ideas. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You are the star with today's Full Moon. Your personality and intelligence dominate the day more than you might realize. An associate will demonstrate unusual caring. A discussion could be frustrating; try another approach if you hit a dead end. Tonight: Assume the lead role.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Know that your role is to gather information without threatening anyone. Ask questions and make comments that encourage others to keep speaking. Though you might be empathetic to someone's role or actions, it would be wise to say very little right now. Tonight: Not to be found.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ You are more grounded than many people around you. A meeting will give more meaning to a situation. Your suggestions, though greeted positively, might not be used. Avoid becoming impatient with a family member or domestic situation. Tonight: Find your friends.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★ Pressure builds around work. You might ask yourself how much you need to play the game. Until you come to a decision, sit tight. You will be much happier with the results if you do. Follow your sixth sense, and you'll say the right words to a loved one. Tonight: At home.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You can communicate on many levels, but first you need to gain a better sense of the implications of what is happening. Several discussions with people who know more than you could prove to be instrumental. Listen to a suggestion. Tonight: Be around music.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

