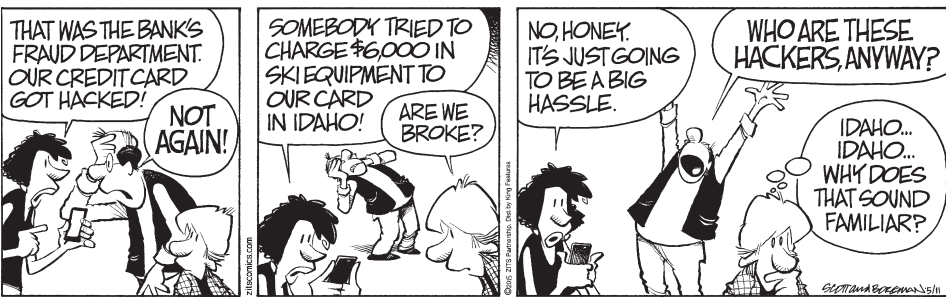


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



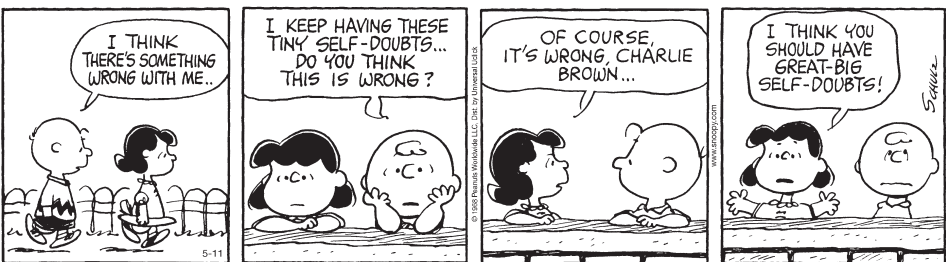
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



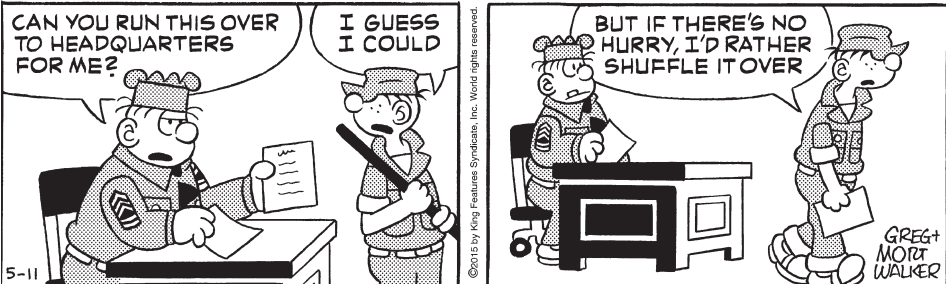
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



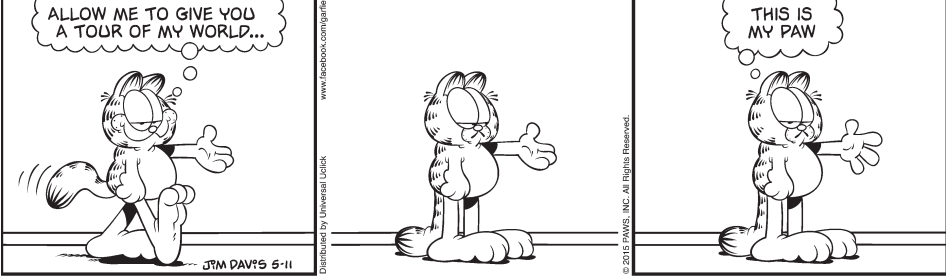
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



National Phone Registry Reduces Unwanted Calls

DEAR ABBY: Many years ago you published a "Do Not Call" number for unsolicited phone calls. It worked great for a long time. I'm now starting to receive a lot of these calls again.

I am elderly (88), arthritic, and I struggle getting out of my chair to answer the phone because I think it's a family member or friend calling. Do you still have that number? I think a lot of people would like to have it. — CARRIE IN QUINCY, MASS.

DEAR CARRIE: I went searching for the number of the Do Not Call Registry and found it in my Consumer Action Handbook, which is published by the GSA Federal Citizen Information Center. The toll-free number is 888-382-1222.

If, after your number has been in the National Registry for three months, you continue to receive calls, you can file a formal complaint using the same toll-free number. This will stop most — but not all — telemarketing calls. Unfortunately, calls from political organizations, charities, telephone surveyors and some organizations with which you already have a relationship are still permitted.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter is having a baby. Her baby shower is being given by one of her close friends. I made it clear that I did not want to know the gender of the baby before the birth, that I'm content to enjoy the suspense. I did not attend the "reveal" party that was held several months ago.

When my shower invitation arrived, it was pink and began with "It's A Girl!" Isn't it rude to ignore another person's feelings even if you think they are silly?

I won't say anything about this to my daughter because I want her to enjoy her party, but maybe this will help others who would prefer waiting for the surprise. Am I wrong to have expected my invitation to be non-gender-specific? — GRANNY-TO-BE

DEAR GRANNY-TO-BE: Yes, I think you are

wrong. In this day of sonograms and gender-reveal parties, you are in the minority with your preference to be kept in the dark. Rather than being rude, what probably happened was a person who was unaware of your preference sent your invitation as part of a batch — and pink is the theme of the party.

DEAR ABBY: My longtime 91-year-old friend is healthy but suffers from dementia. Her frequent fearful thoughts are centered around (imaginary) intruders who lurk somewhere upstairs or in the garage and are robbing her.

I try to tell her this is only in her mind, that they are not real, to no avail. What else can I say or do? Her son comes three times a week to clean her house and cook good meals for her, but he doesn't live there. — CONCERNED FRIEND OUT WEST

DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND: Talk to her son and find out whether he knows what she has been telling you. If he has removed anything from his mother's house, he should remind her. If he hasn't — and nothing is missing — then his mother's doctor should be made aware that she is anxious and fearful and may be having hallucinations, because there may be a medication that can calm her.

P.S. It couldn't hurt to check the attic for critters.

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.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen 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 Aquarius if born before 7:58 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015:

This year you often will be dealing with strong feelings. Some of you will manifest defensive behavior. You will be spending a lot of money on achieving a long-term goal. You also will have to tame a tendency to go overboard. You will be in a position of power within your community and/or workplace. Others will observe how you are able to navigate through difficult situations. If you are single, you are likely to meet someone of significance. If you are attached, a move or remodeling your home will be a mutual focus this year. GEMINI is charming but hard to get close to.

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)

★★★★ Don't lose your focus. You can accomplish a tremendous amount if you just keep your attention on the matter at hand. Use care with a neighbor or sibling, as misunderstandings could start up from out of the blue. Tonight: Take some much needed personal time.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Others seem to be asking a lot of you. For some reason, you'll feel obligated to meet each request or challenge. Slow down and look at what you really want to do. You could be overwhelmed by others. A late afternoon meeting will be significant. Tonight: Hang with a pal.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You have the ability to see the big picture. How you handle a situation could change after some detachment. You'll gain new information through new insights. Observe a tendency to get frustrated when others don't seem to get your message. Tonight: In the limelight.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Relate to one person directly, and make sure that your message is properly conveyed. Not everyone attaches the same symbolism to a word. Reiterating a statement several different ways likely will add power to your words. Tonight: Respond to an odd but interesting idea.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You might be concerned about an

associate or a special loved one. Much information suddenly could come forward. A friend will want things to go his or her way, which is likely to put your friendship at risk. Exhaustion surrounds you. Tonight: Nap first; decide later.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Try another approach or do something very differently from how you have done it in the recent past. A boss could start becoming more argumentative and difficult. You might want to distance yourself, as this person needs to work through a personal issue. Tonight: Out late.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You could be more in touch with a problem than you are aware. You can make light of it, but ultimately you will need to deal with the issue at hand. A conversation with a dear friend will give you another perspective to work with. Tonight: Make sure to get enough exercise.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Stay close to home. In fact, if you can work from home, you could be much more content and happier. An associate might be challenging you a little too much for your taste. Work with the person's ideas rather than negate them. The results will be better. Tonight: All smiles.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You are likely to notice someone get quite hostile or angry in a situation, whether it happens now or in the next few weeks. A person who reacts that strongly probably feels insecure or judged. It would be wise to give him or her some space for now. Tonight: Head home early.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by a situation that surrounds your finances. Communication will be necessary once you decide which way to go. Others seem to be somewhat combative in your daily life. Find out why. Tonight: You don't need to go far to have a deep conversation.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You will be ready to head in a new direction. An issue could arise that you and your associates don't agree on. You probably will have to stall some in order to maintain a cohesive bond. Be gracious. It is better to move ahead with support. Tonight: Clear out some shopping.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

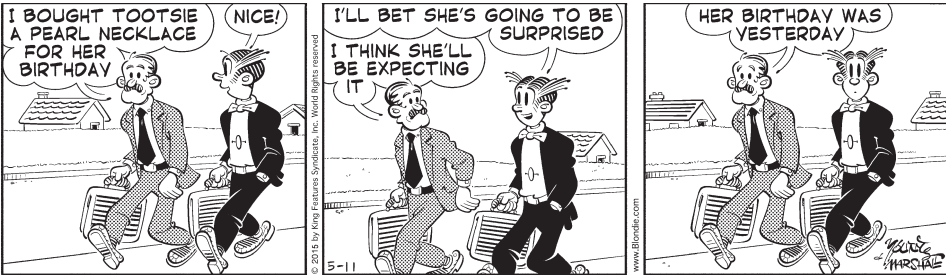
★★★ Play it low-key throughout the day. You will note an intense, busy pace in the morning that could become frantic by midday. A problem with a family member is likely to flare up. Someone close to you could decide to put on war paint. Tonight: You feel better and better.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

