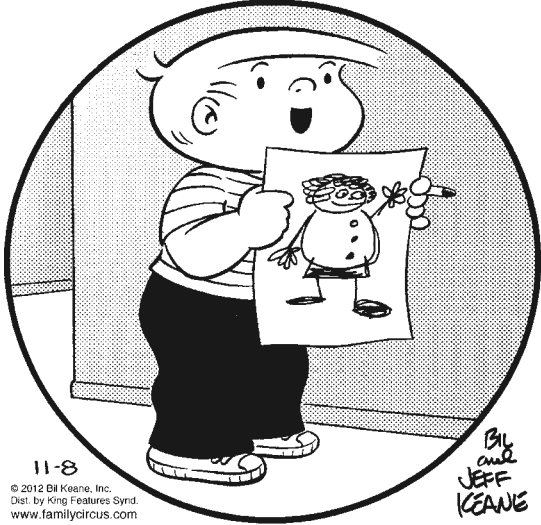


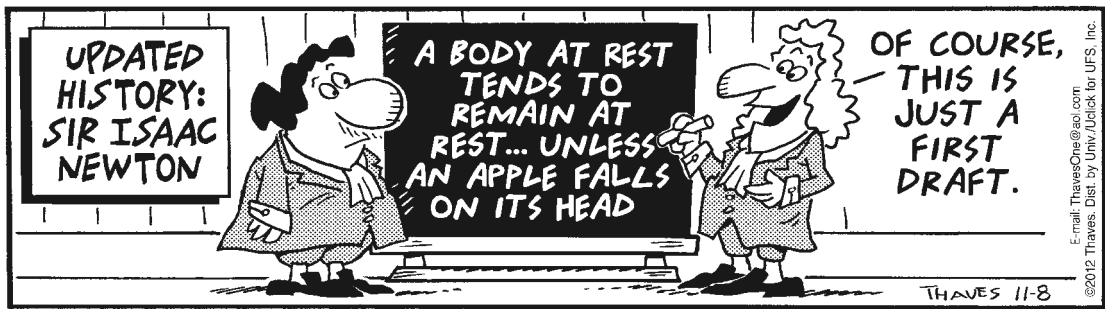
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



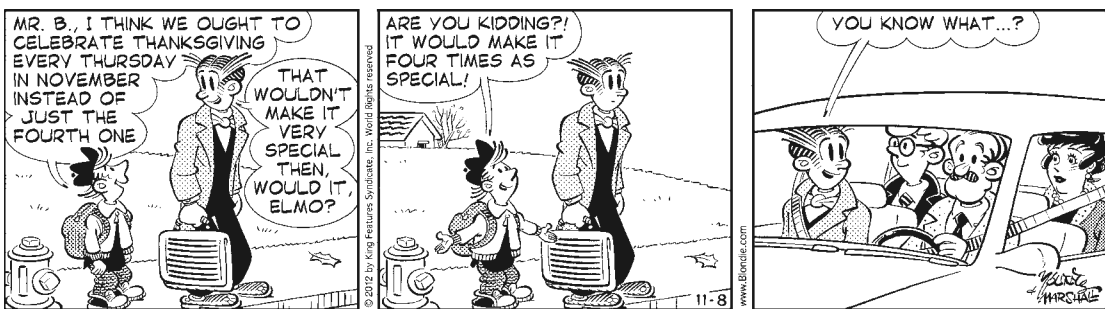
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



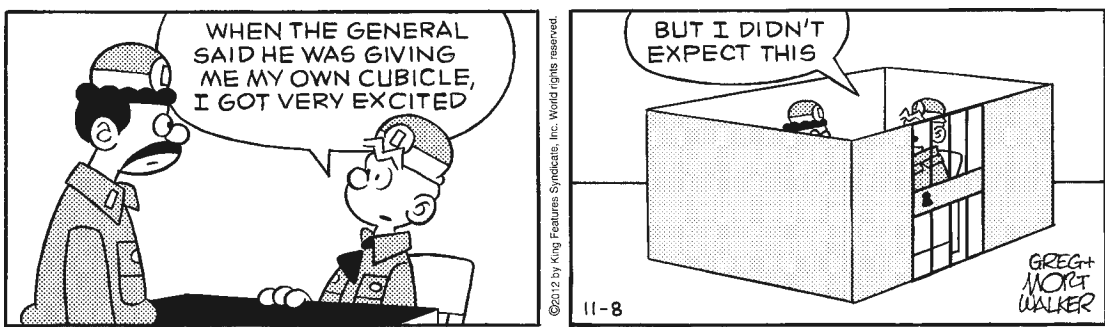
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



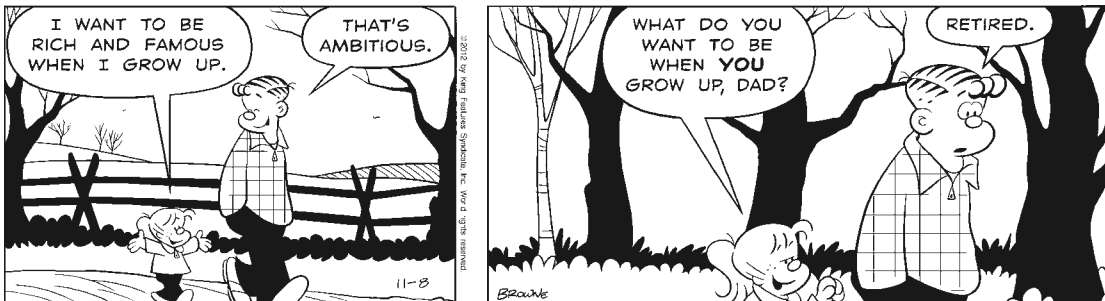
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Veterans Appreciate Grateful Acknowledgement Of Service

DEAR ABBY: As Veterans Day approaches, may I share a few guidelines that can be helpful when interacting with veterans or service members?

1. It is never OK to ask a veteran if he or she has killed someone or to joke about it. If we have, we can't even talk about it with our spouses, much less a stranger.

2. When you thank us for our service or pay for our meal, it is really appreciated. We also appreciate packages and notes.

3. Please don't tell us that wars are a waste of dollars or lives or were fought for oil. What we hear is that, in your opinion, our best friend died for nothing. We know many people disagree with war, but it's better to keep your opinions to yourself.

4. Many of us now have PTSD. If you see us acting anxious or moving away from crowds, turning our backs to the wall or fidgeting, simple kindness or a little distraction will be appreciated. Talk to us about something interesting and give us some breathing room.

5. Please remember that 15 percent of those who serve in the military are women, and some have been in combat. It's better to ask, "Are you a veteran?" rather than, "Was your husband a soldier?"

6. As with any person who has a disability, please do not stare at us. We can be sensitive about our scars or injuries and would prefer not to be asked to relive a difficult experience by being quizzed about what happened. Please also understand that war injuries today are very different than in the past and are often not visible. It is not OK to tell someone they "don't look disabled" or appear to need help.

Those of us with disabilities appreciate light conversation and assistance if we look like we are in need. It was my pleasure to serve our country. — AMANDA C., U.S. ARMY DISABLED VETERAN

DEAR AMANDA C.: Thank you for your service. And thank you, too, for your helpful suggestions, which are

sure to be appreciated not only by civilians, but also by active and retired members of our military.

Readers, as the war in Afghanistan winds down, many thousands of service members are returning home and entering the job market.

Please, if possible, honor their courage, dedication and sacrifice by doing your part and providing them with employment. Considering what they have done for us, it is the least we can do to show our appreciation.



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: I'm afraid I'm an abusive girlfriend. When I get mad at my boyfriend, I yell at him and call him names. Sometimes I hit him. Even though he really makes me angry, I do love him.

I'm not crazy, but I don't know how to control myself. It's not like I'm threatening to kill him.

I don't want to go to counseling or group classes. I don't really hit him a lot. I yell more. I also have jealousy issues. What can I do? — PROBLEM GIRL-FRIEND

DEAR GIRLFRIEND: Your concern is justified, because you ARE an abusive girlfriend. While I applaud your growing self-awareness, it is very important that you understand the reasons you are behaving this way so you can stop.

While you may not like the idea of counseling or group anger management classes, it would be much better if you went voluntarily rather than one day having them court-mandated.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers 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 Scorpio and a Moon in Virgo all day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, NOV. 8, 2012:

This year you seem to be able to lasso in nearly anything you can dream of. Be sure that you really know what you want, as you could be lured in by something you'll later discover you do not desire. It might be a good idea to scan your list of goals several times a year, and revise it if it need be. If you are single, you'll meet that special someone through a friend. You will know it when you see this person for the first time. If you are attached, determine what type of relationship you desire, and make it so. VIRGO understands your needs.

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 have a sense of what you want to accomplish. The question is whether you actually will go for it. You have a lot of energy, but the problem lies in prioritizing your responsibilities, which means saying "no" to certain people. Remain focused, and you will be on point. Tonight: Take it easy.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Your creativity surges, and you feel great, no matter what you do or which direction you head in. Listen to news with a bit of cynicism. Someone easily could misrepresent what you or another person is trying to say. Worry less about what is happening. Tonight: Fun and games.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ You are more anchored than you have been in a while. You'll seek out some important answers, and you won't be happy until you have them. Follow your instincts, and you will find yourself on the correct path. Indulge a loved one. Tonight: Head on home.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Keep conversations moving, but know that you might need to clarify facts and ask questions if you feel confused. Your instincts will tell you what direction to head in. You could be overwhelmed by everything you have to do. Tonight: Meet up with a friend.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Sometimes you don't realize how much you have to offer. In fact, you could be overwhelming to others who actually might be intimidated by you. Listen to your

instincts with a financial matter. Perhaps you need to say less and see what others want to do. Tonight: Treat a friend to dinner.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ There could be some initial confusion in the morning, but you'll cut through any misunderstandings right away. Later, the situation could become more complicated. Be willing to say "enough" to a family member or even to a rebellious pet. Tonight: All smiles.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Sometimes your observational skills are more important than you think. Step back and listen. You might pick up on what someone is not sharing, and that exclusion could be significant. A friend will come forward and let you know how much he or she cares. Tonight: Not to be found.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Keep an eye on what is going on with a friend. Though everything could seem fine, it might not be. Listen more carefully, and let this person know that you are there for him or her. Meanwhile, deal with your finances and a need to reorganize. Tonight: Whatever puts a smile on your face.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Do not push too hard with someone who could cause you a lot of trouble. In the long run, you will be much happier. Follow your intuition, as long as it bypasses this issue. Clarify a confusing situation by asking questions. Tonight: Indulge a loved one.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for new ideas. You will like experiencing the world in a different way. When you land, you'll see how you might have been restricting yourself. Communication could become excessive. Screen calls. Tonight: Listen to a favorite CD, then decide.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Build an important relationship, if you really care to do so. Tending to one's bonds helps nurture not only the relationship itself, but both parties as well. Make a point of sharing an important secret or news with your best friend. Tonight: In the mood for a celebration? Go for it.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You might be confusing to a loved one. It isn't that you are unclear, but rather that you haven't quite conceptualized a new perspective yet. Assure this person that you will try to explain it the best you can, but there still is no guarantee that he or she will get where you're coming from.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

