

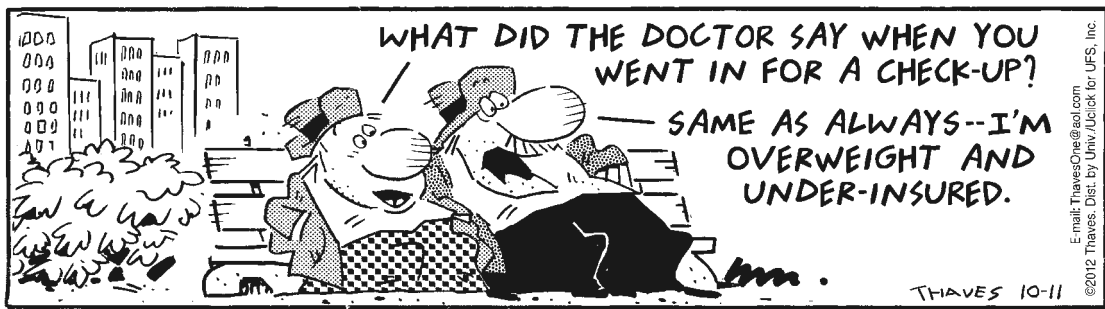
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



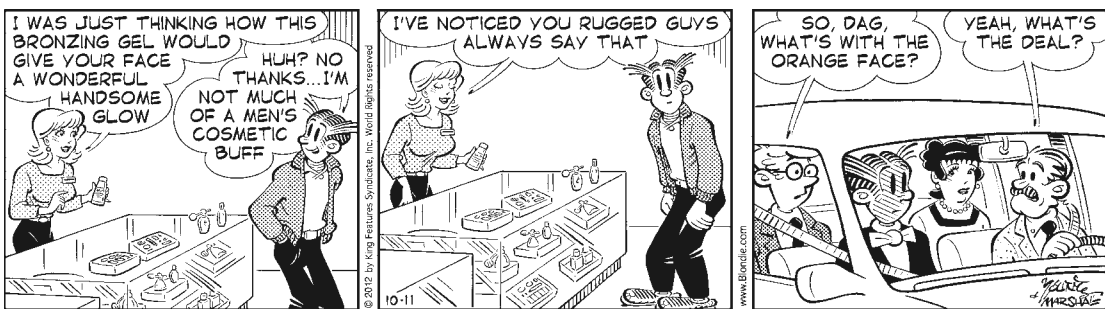
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



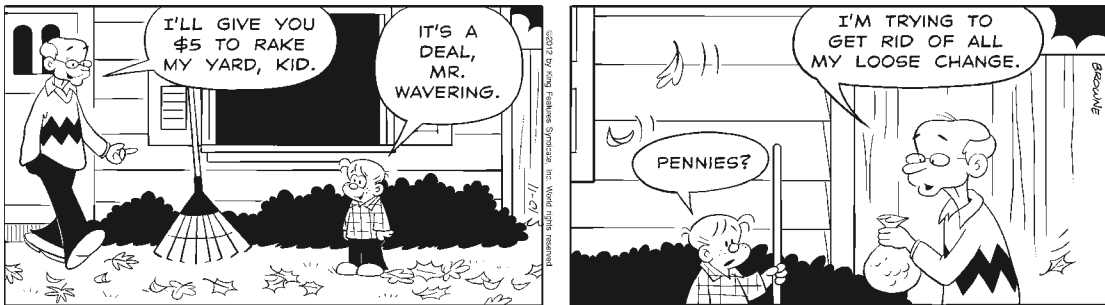
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Repeat Offender Is Ready Now To Try New Path To Good Job

DEAR ABBY: My life has always been scary. My parents divorced when I was 3. Dad always seemed to cause trouble for Mom, who struggled to provide for me and my older sister. She always struggled with alcohol and drugs.

I have spent a portion of my life incarcerated, starting when I was a teenager. I'm now 22 and doing time for selling drugs. I have never been able to find a decent job, although I have my GED and tried to attend a school for nursing, but I screwed it up. Selling drugs seemed to be the only way to make enough to support myself.

I'd like to find a decent job with opportunity, and be able to pay my bills and save a little. I'm tired of my crazy lifestyle and want to settle down. How can I go about finding a job? Keep in mind, I don't have a resume and although I have had many jobs, I never stayed very long. A place to start would be to talk to the prison chaplain. Some religious denominations have programs in place to help inmates and former inmates successfully transition back into society.

The oldest prison/re-entry group in the country is the Pennsylvania Prison Society. Their website is at prisonsociety.org. If they don't serve the community into which you will be released, they will know an organization that does. Their re-entry program helps former prisoners attain self-sufficiency through a four-day job readiness workshop, which teaches the skills necessary to find and keep a job. Pre-registration is recommended, and their phone number is 215-564-6005, ext. 117. Call Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DEAR ABBY: I had my first boyfriend when I was 16. The relationship lasted 13 years and we had a child together. Now that it's over I don't know what to do.



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.

It has been nine months and it seems like my heartache is getting worse. I can't breathe. It feels like my heart has been ripped out of my chest and stepped on. It hurts even more because he started dating immediately after the breakup. I can't even talk to another man. I feel lost and have never been on a date with anyone but my ex.

I feel like I deprived myself of my youth. I cry every day. I can barely watch or see couples without getting depressed and breaking down. I need to see some type of light. Do you have any advice? — DEPRIVED OF MY YOUTH

DEAR DEPRIVED: Nine months is a long time to cry every day. You have been hit with what I call a "double-whammy." You are grieving for your lost relationship, and because this was your first and only one, you never learned how to handle a broken romance.

A counselor can help you through your grieving process and, in addition, help you to build the social skills you will need to move forward. Please don't put it off. Do this not only for yourself but also for your child so you can be the most effective parent you can be.

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 Libra and a Moon in Leo if born before 12:22 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, OCT. 11, 2012:

This year you often are easygoing and fortunate; however, at times you could be fussy and difficult when it comes to dealing with certain people. Others who relate to you might not know which voice is really yours. The answer is: both! Dealing with you could be challenging, especially as you have developed a short fuse. If you are single, you are desirable, but often, people back away as they get confused by your mixed signals. It will take a diverse and understanding person to relate successfully with you. If you are attached, you easily could be driving your sweetie wild by your changeability. He or she might want to understand you better. VIRGO becomes even more critical when dealing with you.

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 hit a wall of confusion. Step back, and allow the situation to unravel naturally. Focus on your -- whatever that may look like for you -- and worry less about gathering information. You'll discover a hands-off approach that will help clarity develop. Tonight: Remember, you need to take a break sometimes.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You have difficulty grasping a long-term desire. Frustration emerges, yet you are able to get to the bottom of a problem. If you need to, choose an easy stressbuster in order to relax; take a walk around the block, for example. Your creativity soars, and answers appear. Tonight: Time for some fun.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Complete tasks in the morning. In the afternoon, a gentle haze moves in. Before you realize it, you could be walking in a fog. It's not just you -- others feel similarly. Forcing clarity will only compound the situation. You might become frustrated, but on the other hand, you also might find time to do something you have been putting off. Tonight: At home.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Allow openness in financial discussions. You might be unusually resourceful, but others cannot hear your suggestions. Communication allows greater give-and-take, but don't make any decisions just yet. Use care around machinery and all electronic items, as your mind easily drifts to yonder lands. Tonight: Share a dream.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Get an early start on the day. Listen to your in-

stincts regarding your assets, which could involve an innate talent. You might decide not to let a conversation drag you down; however, ignoring it might not be the best idea, either. Frustration fuels anger. Tonight: Choose a stressbuster.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Listen before acting on a decision. More information might come in. Given time, your conclusion could change. Uncertainty prevails in the evening, even though you have a lot of energy and want to get moving. Do only what you are 100 percent sure about. Tonight: Finally, others follow your lead.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ How you feel in the morning might be very different from your mood in the evening. Clarify important details, and follow through on what you feel counts. Interpersonal relationships will be highlighted. Your ability to create and imagine remains high. Tap into that energy later today. Tonight: Make it exclusive.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might feel as if you are always behind the podium directing. An undefined swing of events or a change in energy finds you on the lead horse. As a result, success seems guaranteed. You might be stunned by the difference between reality and your perceptions. Tonight: Where people are.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Reach out for more information. A long-distance contact could be involved. You might be unsure of which way to head, as you juggle your home life with different, and nearly opposing, interests. Give time a chance to work its magic, and you will like the results. Tonight: Into the wee hours.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Your imagination blazes in a discussion, and what emerges is a willingness to break past self-imposed mental boundaries. The ability to conceptualize and express some of your thoughts could be difficult later. Just wait a day or two, and try not to worry so much. Tonight: Let your mind lead the way.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ A partner or friend is relieved. Finally, you make time for him or her. Your recent popularity has been overwhelming, and this person has powerful feedback for you, if you are willing to listen. Confusion surrounds money. Be careful when dealing with an associate who expresses his or her anger. Pull back some. Tonight: Go for something cozy.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

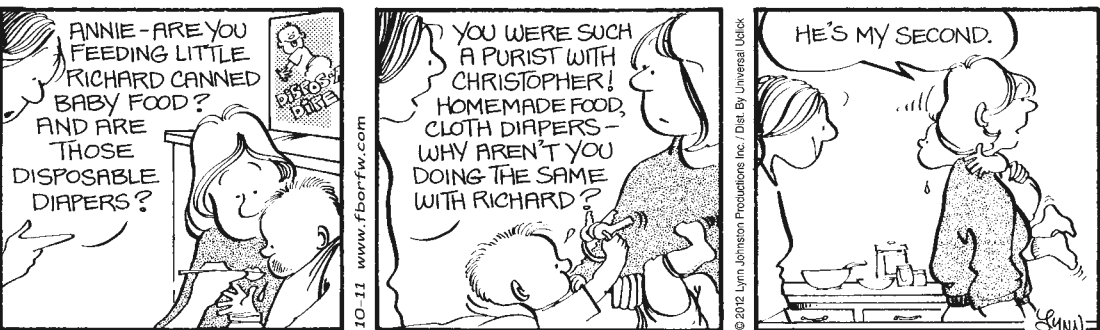
★★★★ Your understanding could be distinctly altered by the rose-colored shades you're wearing. You could find yourself feeling disappointed, but realize that the cause is your distorted reality. Much can be said about positive thinking. Forget losing your temper. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

