

FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



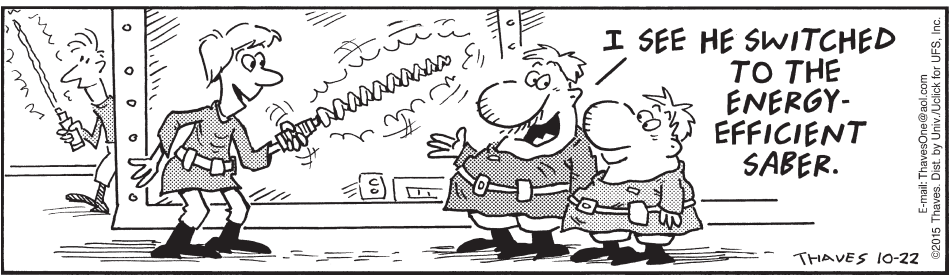
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



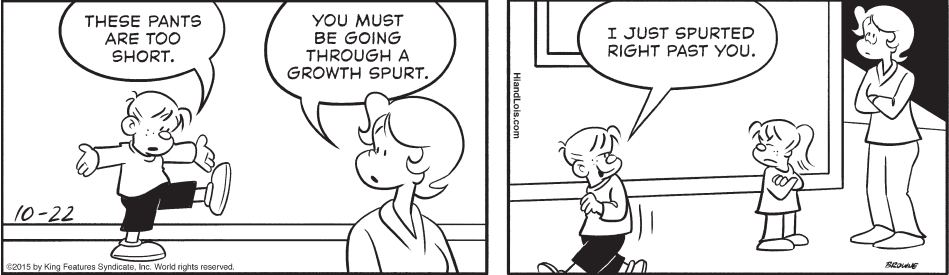
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



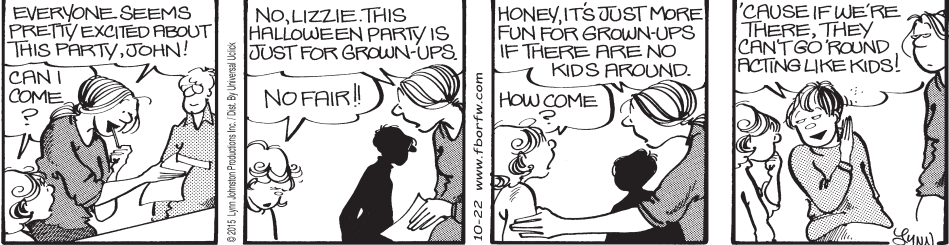
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



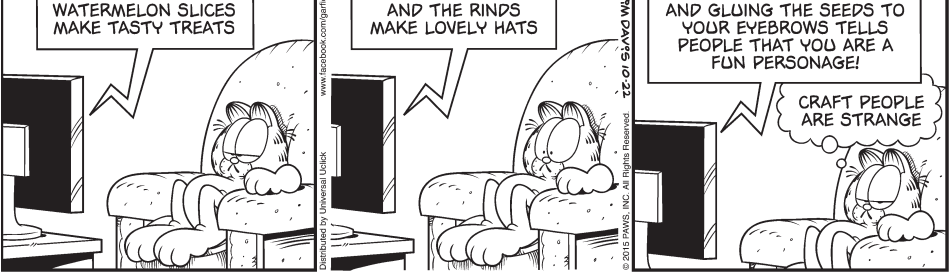
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



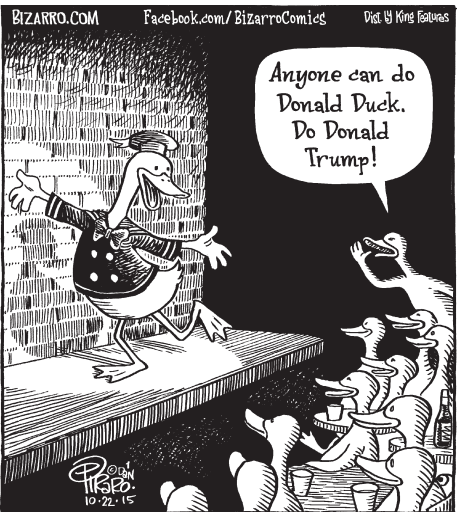
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



# Old Habits Die Hard During Woman's Transition To A Man

DEAR ABBY: My daughter has been in a lesbian relationship for 14 years. They recently took me to lunch and informed me that her partner, "Nicole," is in the process of transitioning to a male.

Nicole has now legally changed her name to "Nick" and has begun hormone treatments. They have been going to counseling for the past six months. Since Nick began the transition, I have seen him three times. Last week when I was visiting, I accidentally called Nick by the wrong pronoun, "she" instead of "he" a couple of times. I was either immediately corrected or ignored until I realized I had used the wrong word. It hurt my feelings.

After I got home I sent Nick a text to apologize and explain that it would take time for me to get used to saying "Nick" and referring to him as a he. I told them their correcting me bothered me. All weekend I could tell they were irritated with me, and I felt it was uncalled for.

What do you say? Am I wrong to feel hurt that they haven't given me a chance to get used to the new name? – MARGARET IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR MARGARET: Adjusting to gender reassignment takes time for all concerned. As your letter illustrates, there are often more people involved than the individual making the change.

It seems only natural that you would need some time to adjust. However, it also seems to me that you are being overly sensitive about what happened. Your daughter and her partner were right to correct you for your slip of the tongue, and it wasn't rude for them to do so. How else is a person to learn that a mistake was made if it isn't pointed out?

DEAR ABBY: Recently, 12 of us women from a retirement home in Dayton were having lunch at a local steakhouse. As we were digging in our purses for money and coupons, our server informed us that we

did not owe anything for our bills! He said a gentleman who had been seated nearby had taken care of what we owed. It seems the day we were there was his late mother's birthday.

There are some very good people in this world. We want him to know how very much we appreciated his kind gesture, and we have pledged to "pay it forward" whenever we can. – BLESSED IN OHIO

DEAR BLESSED: I don't know who originated this saying, but your letter certainly proves the truth of it: A good deed is like a pebble thrown into a pond; its ripples continue ever outward. Thank you for an upper of a letter.

DEAR ABBY: We were visiting our son and daughter-in-law last weekend. When I had to use the facilities downstairs, I told her the hand towel was missing. I had used that bathroom the day before. Guess what she said? "Well, that's what pants are for." Abby, she wasn't joking! We see them only twice a year because we live five hours away. Could they be short of money or what? Should I send her some hand towels? – WET HANDS IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WET HANDS: By all means. And don't forget a short, sweet note thanking her for her "hospitality."

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](http://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 Libra and a Moon in Aquarius.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, OCT. 22, 2015:

This year your zest for living marks your actions. You seem to be more present in the moment. Your day-to-day life flourishes, especially as it becomes normal for you to be full of ideas. If you're in a creative field, you are likely to create a piece of work to be proud of. If you are single, you could be pushing others away, as so many people express interest in being your significant other. Date, but don't commit until that special person enters your life. If you are attached, romance seems to flow. The two of you will make a positive decision about your relationship. AQUARIUS makes you smile. 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'll remain focused on an achievement that's about to happen. You often use your unpredictability to promote important causes. You might feel pressured by a higher-up or someone you care a lot about. Take time to relax. Tonight: Where your friends are.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You continue to take charge of a matter and carry it to fulfillment. You'll be willing to work carefully to achieve this goal, even though some of the steps you need to take seem silly or petty. Take stock of your energy levels in the afternoon. Tonight: Do something just for you.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★★ Detach and take a complete overview of what is happening around you. You could be surprised by the difference in your perspective once you create some distance. Your imagination is likely to create exactly what you want. Tonight: Consider starting your weekend early.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You could be surprised by the behavior of someone who often appears to be dignified. Defer to others if you're feeling confused or tired. If you feel lucky, buy a lottery ticket. Be careful with wild risk-taking! Tonight: Go along with someone else's desire.

### LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Your ability to initiate might not have

the impact it normally does. Others seem to be quicker at taking action right now. Don't worry; you won't be excluded. You could choose to create some uproar if you want more control, but it would not be wise. Tonight: All smiles.

### VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Curb a tendency to go overboard. A partner could surprise you, as he or she will act in an unexpected way. Don't try to control a child or loved one. You can choose only your own path; let this person decide which way is best for him or her. Tonight: Clear out an errand.

### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Your ingenuity seems to make others demand less, which allows you to complete a project. Avoid working from home, as there could be a collision of wills. Refuse to get into a spat or power play; that type of interaction won't be helpful. Tonight: Let the kid in you out.

### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You could be too tired for words. You might want to understand where a family member is coming from. This person might be asking for one thing, but really wants another. Refuse to have an argument. Be patient. Tonight: Get some extra R and R before the weekend.

### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★★ Speak your mind, and get past a problem by having a discussion. The unexpected could occur when you focus on a creative project or a new friend. Open up to greater give-and-take with friends and associates. Tonight: Let your hair down, and start the weekend early.

### CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Curb any spending until you have more facts about an expenditure. You might want to do some price comparison as well as make sure your checkbook is balanced. You will want to spruce up your professional or community image. Tonight: A must appearance.

### AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★★ Use today to the max. You are likely to receive positive responses, with the exception of one person who generally is quite controlling. Detach from a heated situation, and avoid frivolous squabbles. This matter will calm down given time. Tonight: Head out for live music.

### PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

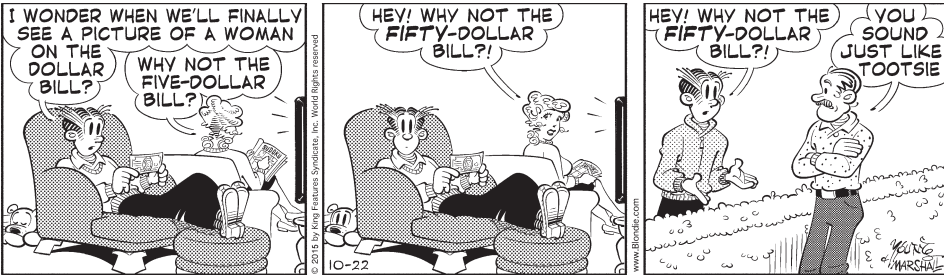
★★★ Follow your instincts. As you test the water, you might want to maintain a low profile. Be careful with your funds. You easily could miscount your change or make a mistake somewhere in your budget. Don't forget to reach out for a loved one. Tonight: Feel free to do nothing.

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## BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



## BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

