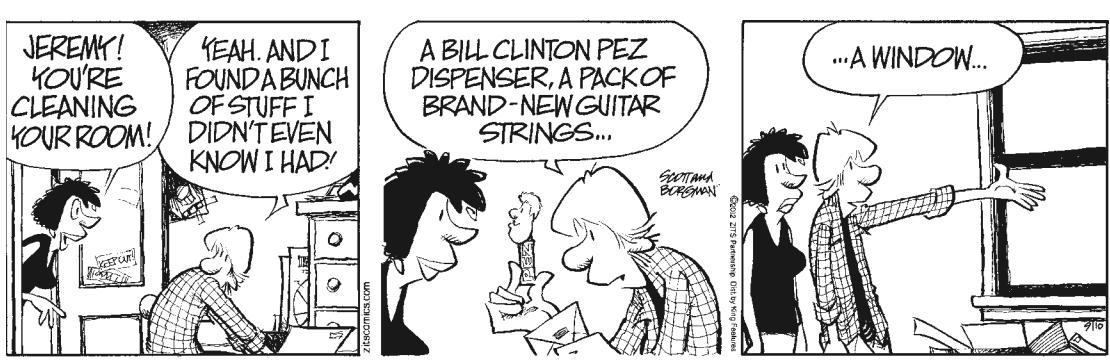


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



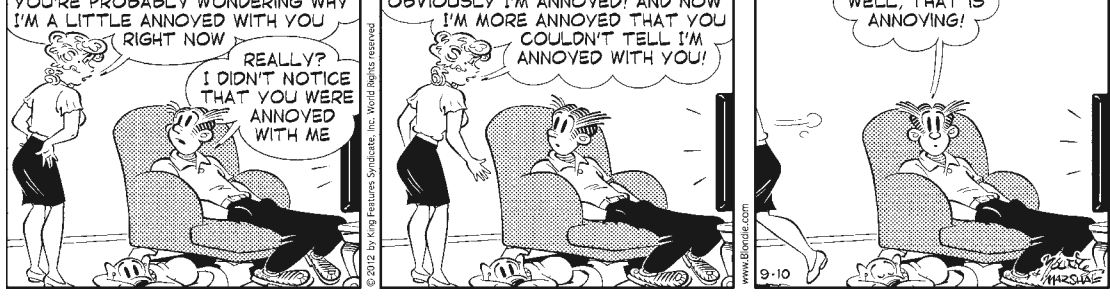
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



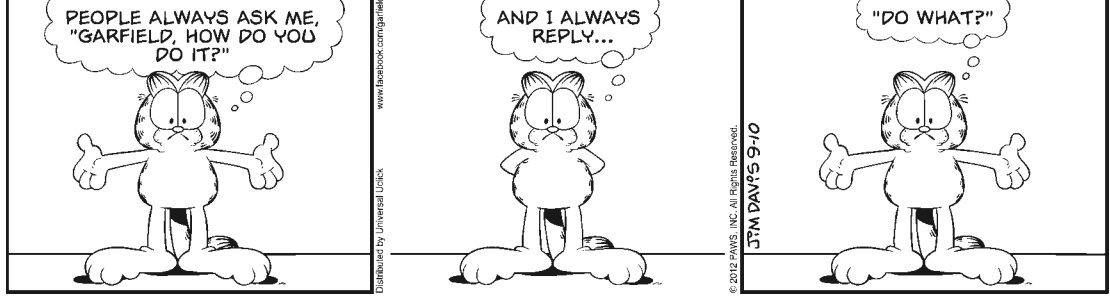
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



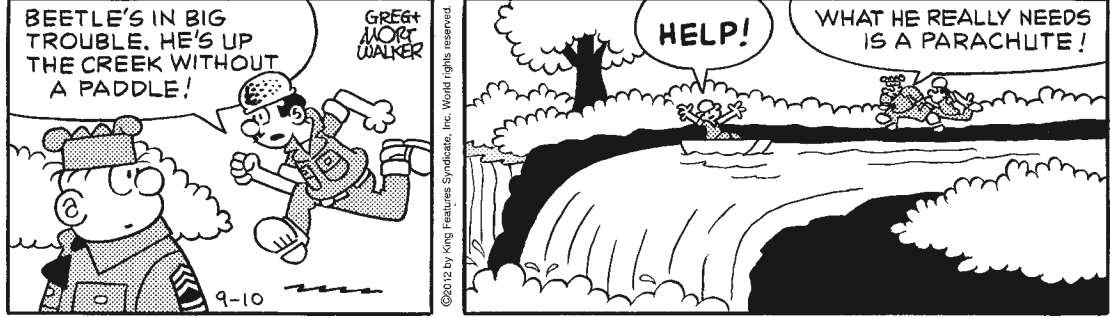
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



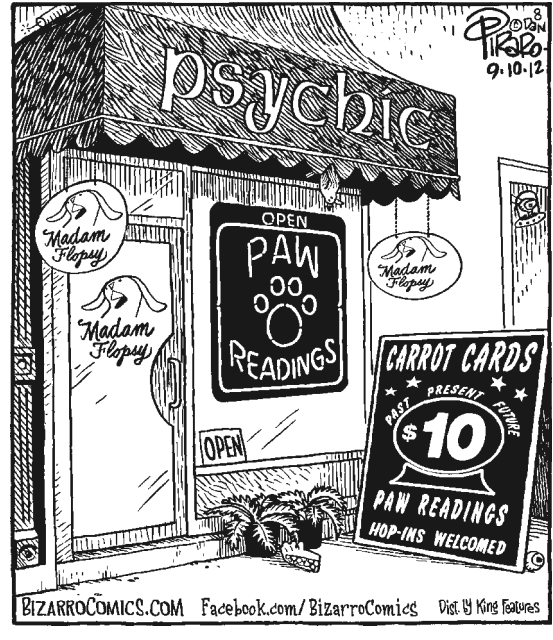
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Angry Teens Turn Down Mother's Proposed Stepdad

DEAR ABBY: I am a widow with four teenagers. My husband died four years ago, and I have been seeing "Ken" — a wonderful man — for 18 months. He is four years older than I am, has never been married and has no kids. He had very little contact with mine until I was sure the relationship was serious.



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.

hold. Your children do not have to "love" Ken, but they DO have to treat him with respect and consideration. If love grows from that — terrific. If not, so be it.

DEAR ABBY: I have taught English at the junior and senior high school level for 19 years. As I grow older, I find it more and more difficult to be a good disciplinarian, and I'm afraid that I am shortchanging my students. I no longer have the motivation to be a good teacher.

I would go back to school to do something else, even though I am 45, but my husband has recently been placed on disability. Any suggestions for how the "old gray teacher" can evolve into something else? I have tried employment agencies in the area where I live, but they have not been much help. — THE WORST TEACHER IN LOUISIANA

DEAR ABBY: Would you please settle a dispute in my family? I am a stay-at-home wife and mother of two boys. I do everyone's dirty laundry. When someone leaves something in the pockets of clothes (like wallets, papers, etc.), who do you think should be responsible for removing said articles — the person placing the clothes in the hamper or the person doing the wash? — LAUNDRESS IN SPRINGTOWN, TEXAS

DEAR LAUNDRESS: Both!

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 Virgo and a Moon in Cancer all day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 10, 2012:

This year success seems to follow you. You finally achieve what you have wanted to for a long time. You gain through expanding your horizons and making new friends. You have control and the possibility of making more powerful decisions in the near future. Display your penchant for excellent communication, and expect others to respond accordingly. People seem to like your way of thinking, and often follow in your footsteps. If you are single, you could see a change in the choices you make. You'll meet people with ease through friends. If you are attached, the two of you express a love of entertaining. The more you do together, the closer you will become. CANCER can be quite a friend.

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 are an old hand at dealing with tension and/or power plays. An opportunity to show your expertise will arise. Respond instinctively. A conversation with a friend you often see helps shed light on what is going on. Tonight: Head home.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Stay centered, even when dealing with difficult demands, and you'll see certain situations in a new light. Communication stays active. You hear news that makes sense to you now, when previously it did not. Trust your imagination and drive to resolve any issues. Tonight: Meet friends for some munchies.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Pull back, and make yourself aware of new possibilities. The unexpected occurs with a friend. You might note that this person has become somewhat troublesome. A conversation with a family member finally makes an impression. Tonight: Treat yourself.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You have an edge, no matter what you decide to deal with. Be direct with someone you have put on a pedestal. You know what works, and you know what to do. This person appreciates honesty and clarity. Think before you react. Tonight: Be yourself.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Know what is going on behind the scenes.

Pressure builds as you run into a complication. A willful person could put up barriers at the last minute. A meeting might be informative and, in some way, could fertilize your imagination. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

VRIGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Your sense of direction comes through, whether you are arguing or simply debating a key issue surrounding a project. Your resourcefulness comes out during a conversation and increases your creativity. Your words have power right now. Tonight: Hang out.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter in order to avoid a collision. A partner, friend or associate could be explosive if challenged. Be smart; do not entice this person to be more verbal or expressive. Use care with spending -- you could go overboard. Tonight: What you want.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ You could be taken back by someone's resourcefulness. You need to think through a decision with more care. Understanding evolves as you keep working through an idea with this person. Open up to new possibilities. Tonight: Tap into your imagination.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Deal with someone directly. How you feel and where you go depends on the quality of your interaction with this person. Pressure will build to an unprecedented level if you cannot see eye to eye. A boss or higher-up plays a strong role in your plans. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Emotions build, especially as you might find yourself unexpectedly in an either-or situation. Verbalize more of your thinking before you decide whether to keep others in your camp. Tonight: Walk in someone else's shoes before you make a decision.

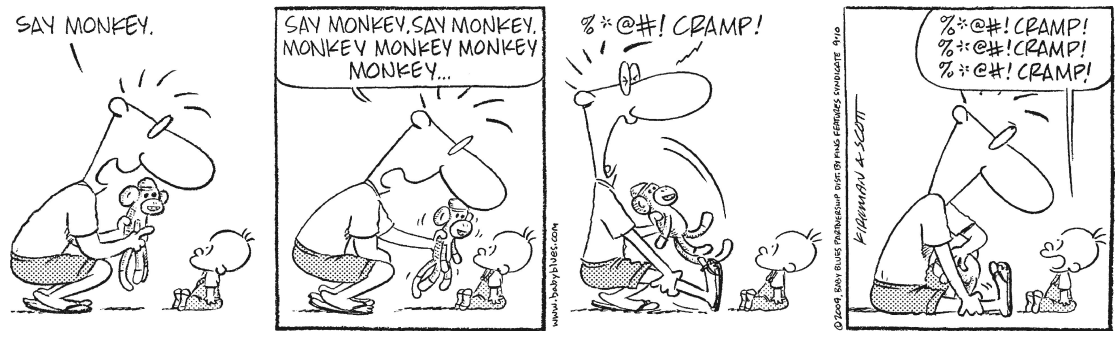
AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Focus on routine or daily issues, and you'll come out way ahead. Do not question a decision so much. Sometimes your knee-jerk reaction takes you down the right path. Listen to what someone is saying. Tonight: Relax; take a walk.

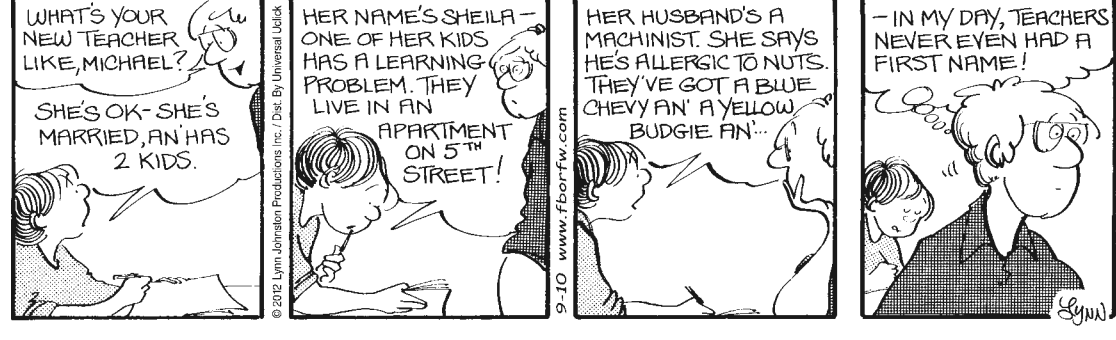
PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Your creativity remains high. A partner keeps feeding you new information, which creates fertile territory for new ideas. Be careful with your funds. The unexpected plays a big role in the next few days. Tonight: Treat both yourself and a friend.

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

