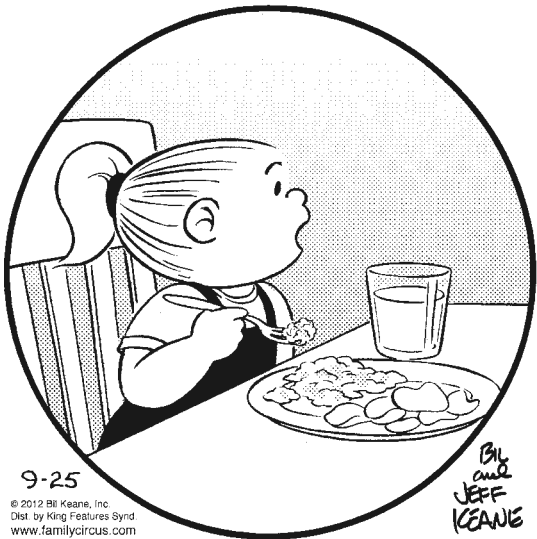
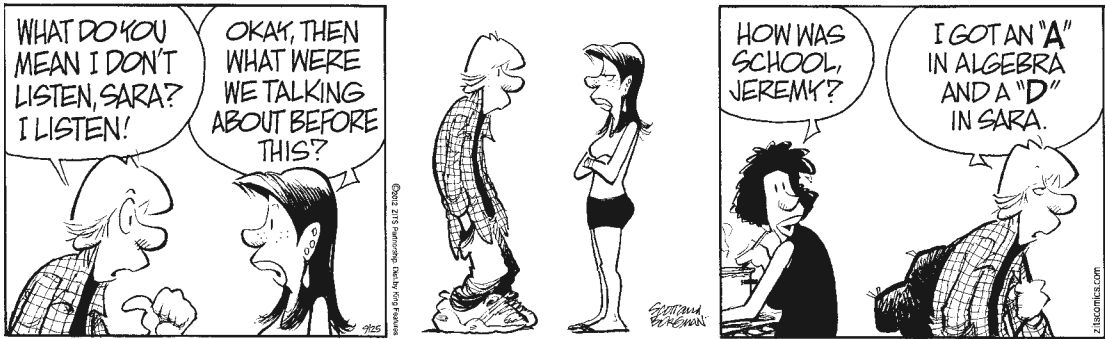


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



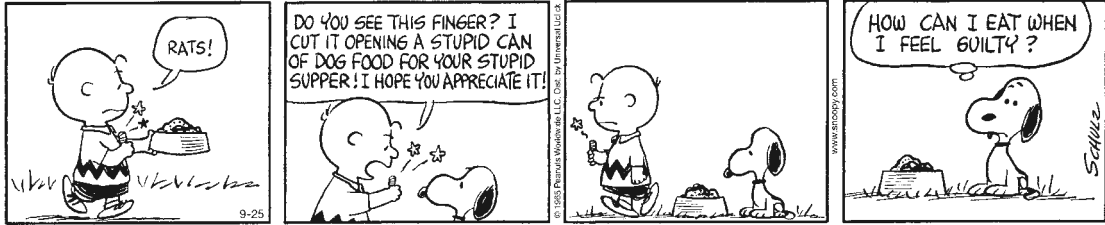
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



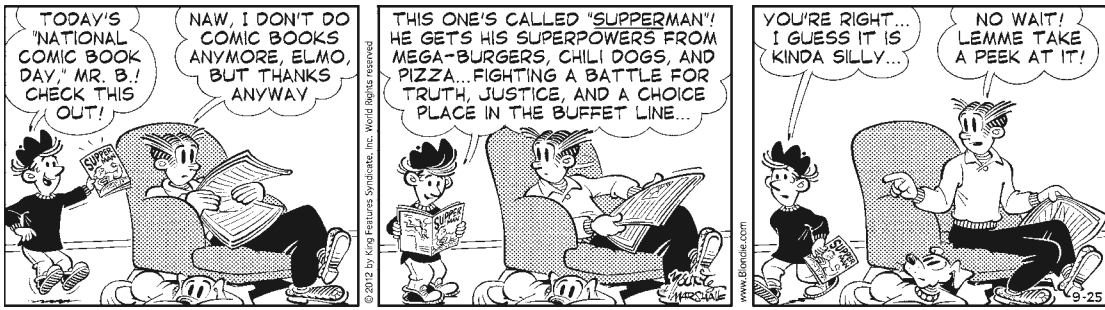
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



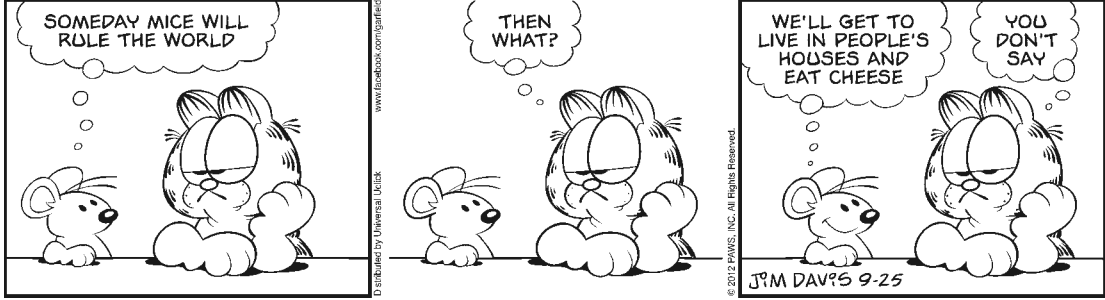
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



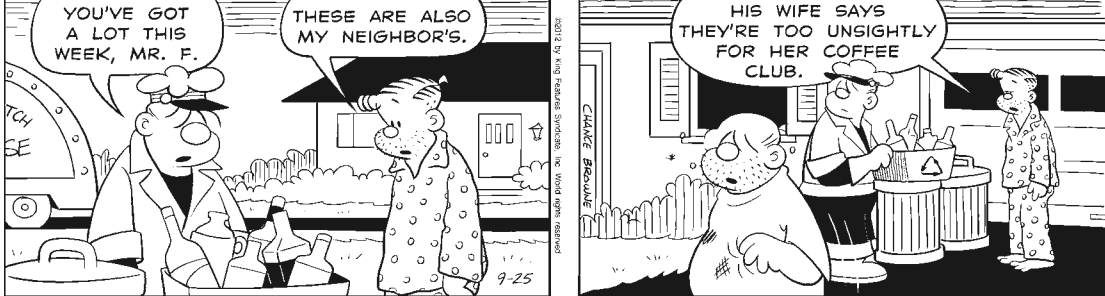
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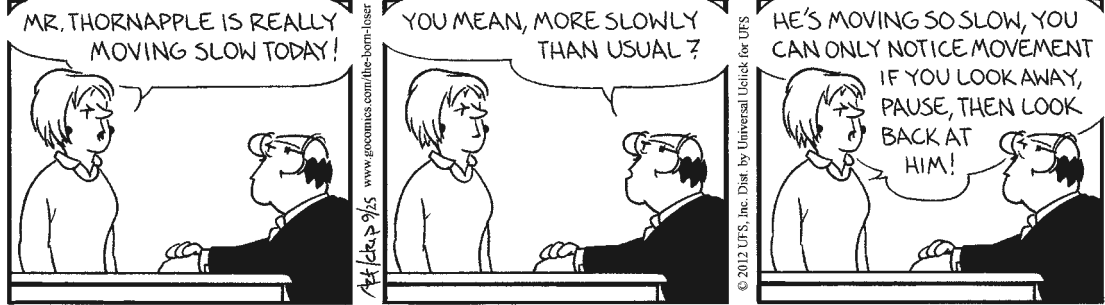
BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Tall Man's Heart Aches To Find The Perfect Match

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single guy, 33 years old. I am 6 feet 9 inches tall, and defined as husky. I only need to enter a room and it gets quiet followed by a "funny" comment about my size. I smile and laugh to put people at ease. Then I'm forgotten, a gentle giant who is called on only when people want something.

I'm sorry to say women either want nothing to do with me, or something to do with my wallet. I don't enjoy spending my life alone looked at like a freak of nature. But morning comes and I carry on in pain while wearing a smile.

I keep hoping to find that special someone who would hold me and tell me it is going to be OK. It would be nice to smile because I'm happy instead of doing it to hide pain. Do you think it will happen someday? Maybe? — HURTS TO SMILE

DEAR HURTS: Yes, I do, and I'd like to suggest two things you can do to make it happen. The first is to contact a group called Tall Clubs International. It's a not-for-profit social organization for tall adults (men must be at least 6 feet 2 inches and women at least 5 feet 10 inches) that was founded in the late 1930s. It provides members with social activities and travel to cities around the U.S. and Canada for gatherings. The toll-free phone number is 888-468-2552 and the website is www.tall.org. Through this group you can meet people with whom you see eye to eye.

I would also suggest that you talk about your self-esteem issues and sadness with a licensed mental health professional. You are not a "freak" — you're a big guy with a big heart and the same need to feel accepted and wanted as everyone else.

P.S. If you repeatedly encounter women who are only after your wallet, then you're hanging around with the wrong crowd.

DEAR ABBY: After 29 years of marriage, I am leaving. I took off my wedding ring about three weeks ago, and the indentation it left is like a permanent scar — a painful re-

minder of a failed marriage. Do you have any suggestions to lessen the mark left on my finger? I have considered buying myself a large precious gemstone in celebration of my freedom, but I would like to know if there are any alternatives. I'm not opposed to plastic surgery if it is necessary. — MARKED FOR LIFE IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MARKED: If you buy yourself a large ring for the third finger of your left hand, people may think you are engaged or still married. My advice is to consult a dermatologist about the mark left by your wedding ring. It's possible that some of the injectable "fillers" that are used to lessen facial lines could also work for your finger. (I'll bet it won't be the first time the doctor has been asked this question.)



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 am a middle-aged woman in a five-year relationship with another woman. My girlfriend lives in another city and shares her home with her 30-year-old son.

During a conversation recently, she mentioned that her son massages her feet at night. I often massage her feet, and I know that foot rubs are sensual and somewhat intimate. I feel it is inappropriate for her adult son to be doing this. What do you think? — BEFUDDLED IN FLORIDA

DEAR BEFUDDLED: I think it depends upon who is doing the rubbing and the circumstances. When someone gets a foot rub from a lover or a spouse, it can be a form of foreplay. When it's done during a pedicure, it's not. I seriously doubt the woman gets turned on when her son massages her tootsies, so forget about it!

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Sundown marks the beginning of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. During this 24-hour period, observant Jewish people fast, engage in reflection and prayer, and formally repent for any sin that might have been committed during the previous Hebrew year. To all of you — may your fast be an easy one.

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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 all day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, SEPT. 25, 2012:

This year you express a unique creativity that seems to solve problems, create great fun and add to your desirability. The unexpected occurs when dealing with others. Someone who was predictable no longer is. You need to accept this person for who he or she is. If you are single, you could enjoy several different flirtations. Know that it might take a while to decide which one you want to hang out with. If you are attached, you could encounter a conflict, as you both have gone through a change. Given time, you will come back together. AQUARIUS makes you laugh.

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)

***** Launch into the day with enthusiasm and an appreciation for excitement and variety. You'll hear news that could be exhilarating. A meeting might be critical in producing a positive outcome. Defer to a friend. Tonight: Accept a pal's invitation.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

***** Pressure builds to act in a certain manner, especially in public. What is new about that? You have felt free to resist others' demands in the past; you can do it one more time. Take a risk financially. Buy a lottery ticket if you feel lucky. Tonight: Into the wee hours.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

***** Reach out for more information. You could be surprised by what happens when you gain more understanding. A friend might be instrumental in opening a door. Express your deeper feelings, though cut some of the drama if possible. Tonight: Go for something different.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

***** Curb a need to be possessive or competitive, as it will not help you. In fact, if you feel insecure, decide on a path that will build your self-confidence rather than one that pushes you to act out; you will get a much better result. Tonight: Out with a favorite person.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

***** You could feel energized as the result of an

argument, though you might not want to talk about it. You also could become sunnier by the day's end. Do not stand on ceremony with a key person. Make an important call. You might be surprised by what you hear. Tonight: Hang out with some friends.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

***** You might feel unusually restricted as you deal with your finances and problems involving them. Be honest with yourself. You are feeling pushed to the max. An important talk with someone a bit more experienced could help. Tonight: Accomplish what you must.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

***** A sense of mischief surrounds you. Clearly, someone wants to get to know you better. You often push way beyond your limits. If you're feeling wiped out, who do you really have to blame? Opt for a nice and easy pace. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

***** You could find out what is going on with a family member, but many of you would prefer to bypass the issue, which you will. Fatigue marks this situation, mainly because of its redundancy. You might be more negative than you realize. Tonight: Head home.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

***** The spring in your step indicates a lot more confidence. You act spontaneously and resume a strong presence with a key matter. Opportunities come forward because of a strong relationship in your life. Tonight: Put yourself on the line. Express what you want.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

***** Be aware of what you offer. Do not take risks with your finances, though you might get a positive monetary surprise. You do not need to act immediately. A boss or cohort seems unusually upbeat. Tonight: Treating others does not need to break the bank.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

***** You know when you are on top of your game. Your creativity emerges when your finances take an unexpected swing. Don't worry — the swing easily could be for the better. Communication surges, which allows a greater exchange of ideas. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

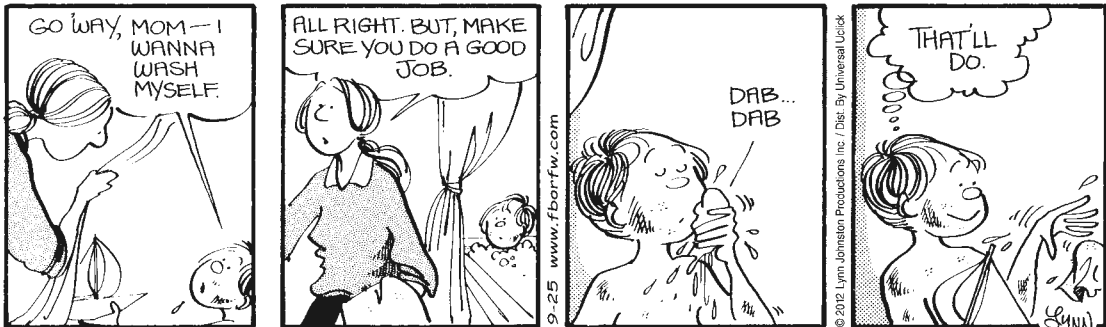
***** Know when to pull back and do less. Sometimes, no matter how well-intended you are, there is a backfire. Realize what is happening, and focus your energy on home or a family member. You might be taken aback by an offer. Tonight: Make a favorite meal.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

