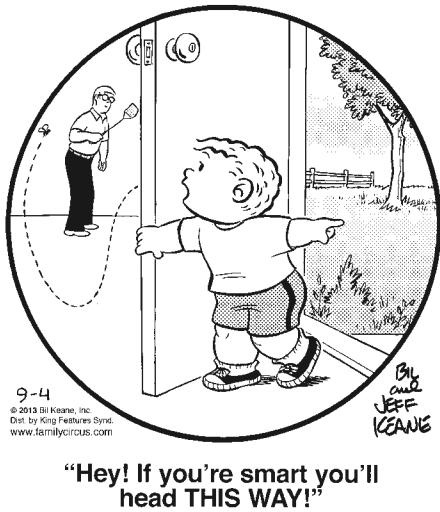
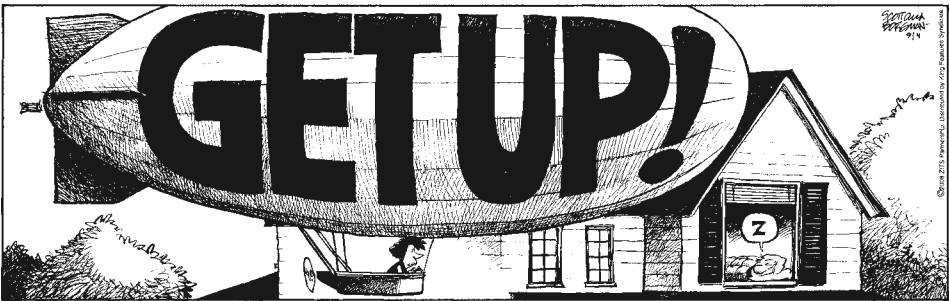


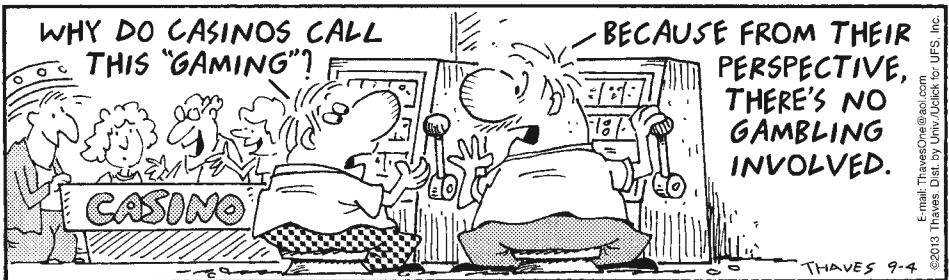
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



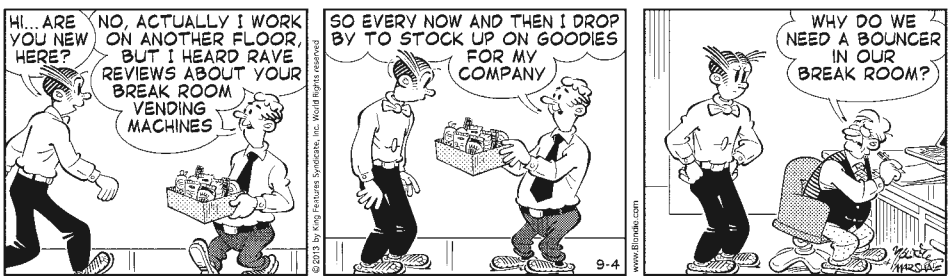
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



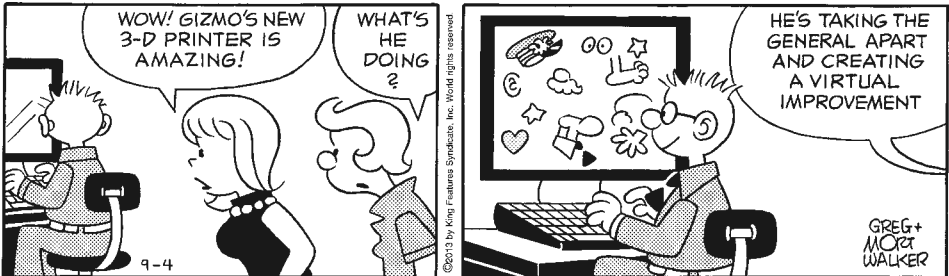
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



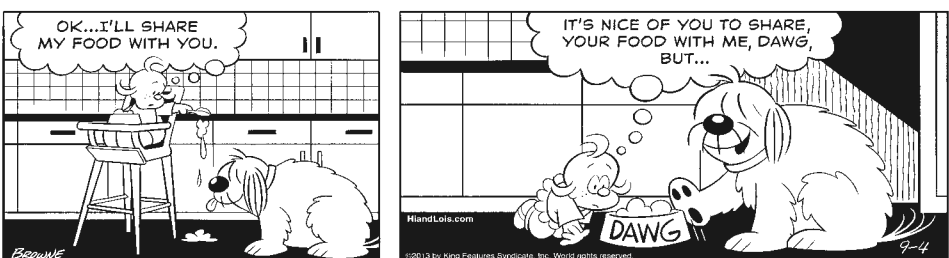
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Grandma Weighs Her Decision To Sever Contact With Daughter

DEAR ABBY: Two years ago one of my granddaughters was molested by her mother's (my daughter's) then-boyfriend, whom they were living with. When the girl's father found out, he called the police and the man was arrested, tried and convicted.

Abby, while he was out on bail, my daughter married him! She doesn't believe the molestation took place. If I were in her shoes, I would certainly believe my 8-year-old daughter over a boyfriend about something so damaging.

I cut off contact with this daughter, as did her sisters. She occasionally calls my husband (who is not her father) when she wants something, and I have received a few texts, which I ignore.

Am I doing the right thing? I sometimes feel guilty, but it angers me that she didn't stand behind her daughter and has made no effort to see either of her girls over the past two years. I see them often because their dad knows I stand with the girls 100 percent. — GRANDMA IN OHIO

DEAR GRANDMA: The answer to your question depends upon why your daughter hasn't seen her children in two years. If it's because their father won't allow it, then her estrangement from her daughters isn't her fault. If it has been her choice, however, then stop feeling guilty.

DEAR ABBY: I need your opinion about my ex-husband and his lack of respect for boundaries. He moved out of our home two years ago, but never changed his mailing address. We have been officially divorced for six months. He feels it's OK to come to our "married house" anytime he wants. We have two teenage children who refuse to spend the night with him.

When he comes to my house, he goes through the mail, opens the cabinets and refrigerators, even goes into my room when I'm not home and watches TV. I am dating someone new and don't feel comfortable with this

setup. I'm worried it will cause problems with my new friend, and I don't know how to stop this madness.

We currently have the "married house" on the market, and I want to make sure he knows he won't be welcome in my new home if not invited. How do I avoid conflict with him and my kids? — REALLY DIVORCED IN ST. LOUIS

DEAR REALLY DIVORCED: You should have set clear boundaries the day your divorce became official, but it's still not too late to do so. Tell your ex to notify the post office — and his creditors — of his change of address, and that if his mail continues to show up at your house, after a month it will be returned to the post office with the notation "not at this address."

You should also inform him and your children that you do not want him in your house in your absence. If he doesn't respect your wishes, then change the locks. The time he spends with your teenage children should also be elsewhere. He may not like the fact that you are establishing your independence, but you have a right to your privacy.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Sundown starts Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year. It is the beginning of our time of solemn introspection. I would like to wish you all "Leshana tova tikatevu" — may you be inscribed in the Book of Life and enjoy another good year.

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 Virgo and a Moon in Leo if born before 3:43 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4, 2013:

This year you often will have to push away a mental fog that creates cloudy thinking and delusional outcomes. The more reality-bound you become, the better off you will be. You also will experience a better year overall. If you are single, the problem won't be having a lack of potential suitors, but rather it will be deciding which suitor to choose. You might go through quite a few possibilities until you meet the right one. If you are attached, the two of you will love doing more together as a couple, both with friends and on your own. Take advantage of any free time you have. A fellow VIRGO can trigger strong reactions. 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)

★★★ Confusion could cloud a decision if it is made immediately. Sit on this matter for a few days, if possible. A partner will appear to be more cheerful than he or she has been in a long time. Know that a boss or older relative might expect certain things of you. Tonight: Go for an early bedtime.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Your creativity is likely to emerge when dealing with a partner who can be cold. You might decide to suggest a weekend away together. Understand that you can't change this person -- only he or she can decide to lighten up. Tonight: Consider taking a midweek break.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ You might need some time to reach out to a family member or to deal with a domestic matter. A boss or higher-up could be so vague about what he or she wants that you might need to read some tarot cards in order to figure it out! Stay even-tempered. Tonight: Happy to be home.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Keep conversations moving. You might find that someone's voice has you drifting off to a different time or place. Try to stay present. Someone who has been controlling will become a lot easier to deal with. Take advantage of the moment. Tonight: Accept someone's invitation.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ A partner could be more creative than

usual. This person seems to be choosing not to see what he or she does not want to. Try to help this individual be more realistic without sacrificing his or her imagination. You might like the outcome. Tonight: Take your next cue.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You might want to try a new way of doing something, and even if you don't, a partner or loved one will insist that you approach a situation in just that manner. Keeping the peace in this case might not be very easy, but it certainly will be necessary. Tonight: Ever playful.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You have a lot to do, and you will do your best to accomplish all of it. You could be overwhelmed by everything that you hear. Do not hesitate to question a family member, as this person often is elusive. You know what needs to be done. Tonight: Head home early.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might have been so focused on work lately that you'll be delighted to have some fun with a child or loved one today. You could see a situation differently from how an associate sees it. Make a point to consider this person's point of view. Tonight: Play the night away.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Others will push you hard because they know that you'll perform to the best of your ability. You might not feel comfortable with their lack of perspective. You are likely to distance yourself and say little. You care more about the end product. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You will want to reconsider an offer that comes from someone at a distance. You might not want to share more until you are ready. You also might want consider making a change in your daily life. Recognize the effect that this could have on others. Tonight: Surf the Web.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

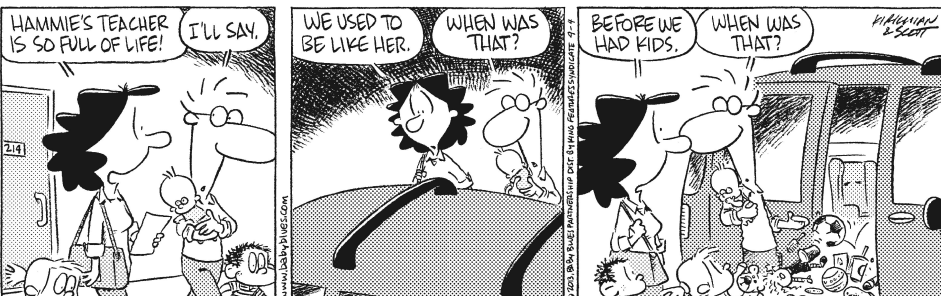
★★★★ Try a different approach, or do some rethinking and revising. An associate or a partner could have strong feelings regarding how a situation needs to be approached. Let this person have his or her way, as your convictions are not as strong as his or hers. Tonight: Love the one you are with.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Defer to a friend or loved one. You might be uptight about what you are hearing. Clearly, you seem to be getting mixed messages. Understand what is happening between you and someone else. Let this person reveal more of his or her thoughts. Tonight: Go with the flow.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

