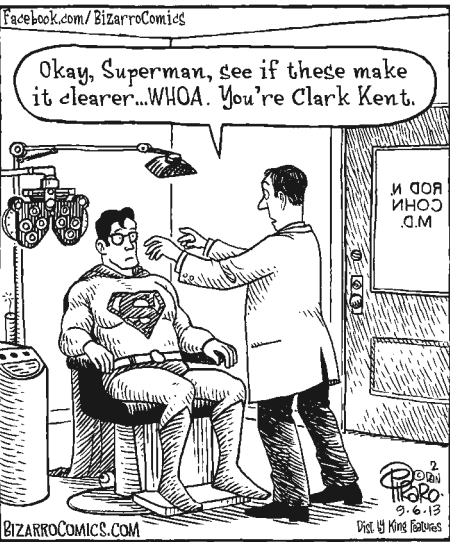


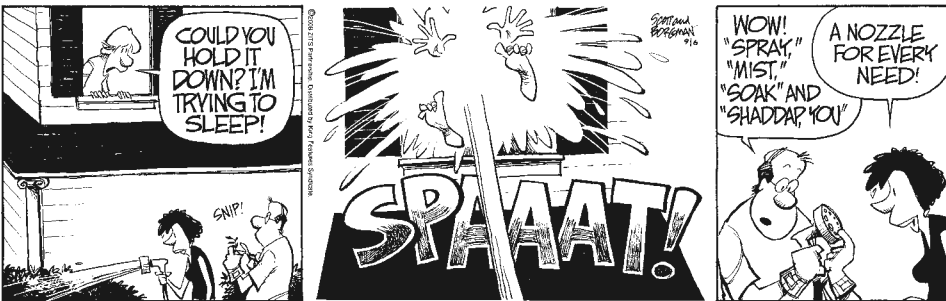
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



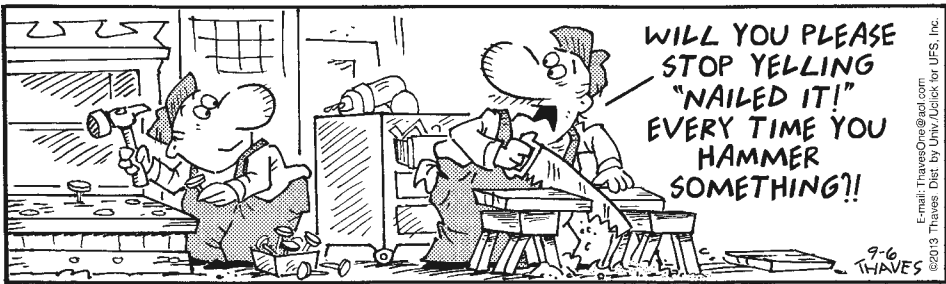
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



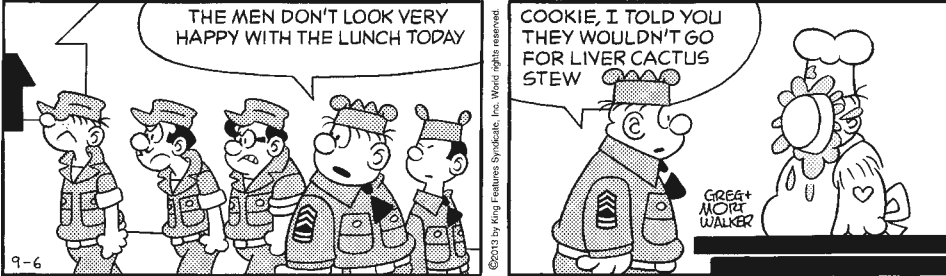
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



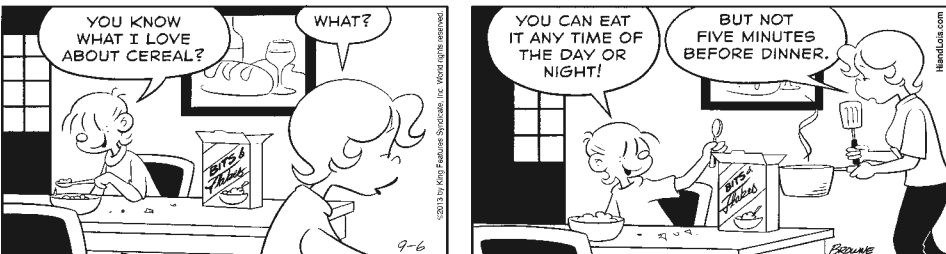
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



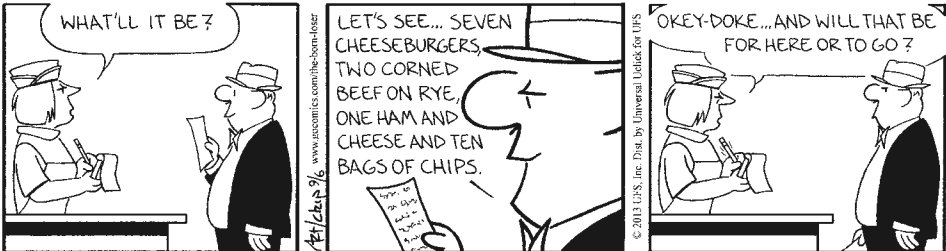
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Sister's Fantasy Of Father Is A Far Cry From Reality

DEAR ABBY: I have a half-sister with whom I share a mother. Her father and my mother were married for almost 10 years. This man, I believe, had some mental issues. He would quiz me about my sexual relations with my boyfriend at the time, wanting details. He would often fly off the handle and argue with my mother for no reason. There are too many other examples to list. Quite frankly, he was a horrible husband and father.

This man died two years ago. My half-sister has since immortalized her father into someone he was not. She even tattooed his initials on her wrist.

Abby, how is a person supposed to deal with a relative who is living in fantasyland about a parent? His widow has sent her emails telling her the kind of man he really was, but she continues to act as if he was the world's best father even though he wasn't. — KNOWS THE TRUTH
DEAR KNOWS THE TRUTH: Either your former stepfather was the greatest father in the world to HER, or your half-sister needs the fantasy she's clinging to for her emotional well-being. Let her have her fantasy if it comforts her. If she raises the subject of good old dad with you, just tell her you'd prefer not to discuss it. If you do that, you'll both be happier.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 31 and the mother of three awesome children. At 29, I left my husband of nine years and came out of the closet. I have been in a stable two-year relationship with my girlfriend, and she recently moved in with us.

My oldest child has started asking if his friends can come and stay the night on a weekend. I let one child spend the night with him once. My sister asked me if I had told the child's parent that I'm a lesbian living with a partner. When I said no, she got upset and said that because we live in a small, religious country town I should inform the child's parent of my living situation.

I can see where she's coming from, but I

don't feel it's my responsibility to offer this personal information. We're hardworking, law-abiding citizens, and I am a loving and protective mother. We aren't felons who need to "disclose" our personal "crimes." What do you think? — PROUD MAMA IN THE SOUTH

DEAR PROUD MAMA: I, too, can see where your sister is coming from, and I don't like the direction. You are not under any obligation to announce your sexual orientation to anyone. In a small town — religious or not — word gets around quickly on its own. Trust me on that. However, if you are asked directly, you should be honest.



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: Our daughter was married recently. During the wedding or the reception, someone stole money from the purses of at least two of the bridesmaids.

Are the bride's parents responsible for the loss? — MOTHER OF THE BRIDE IN ALABAMA

DEAR MOTHER OF THE BRIDE: What happened was unfortunate, and I hope the lesson the bridesmaids learned from this wasn't an expensive one. Unless you agreed to look after the young women's belongings, you are not responsible for the loss. They should have left their purses with someone they trusted or secured in a locked room or car.

As a gesture of good will, depending upon the state of your finances, you might want to make good on their loss. But you are not required to do so.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, 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 and Moon in Virgo if born before 12:12 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, SEPT. 6, 2013:

This year you will alternate between being busy and efficient and being diplomatic and caring. Others who deal with you might not know which of your dynamic traits they will come across. You inadvertently could cause some nervous responses. Some will find this duality exciting. If you are single, opt to date the person who finds this type of behavior exciting. If you are attached, you will reach a new level of understanding. Your sweetie will respond to your sensitivity, which will encourage a different aspect to your bond. LIBRA finds you to be demanding.

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)

★★★★ Communication sizzles even without you taking action. Others seek you out for countless reasons, and you will respond to their inquiries. Don't put plans on the back burner for this weekend -- make them an active part of today's conversations. Tonight: Go along with plans.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★★ Someone might decide to reveal his or her true feelings in the morning. You could be taken aback by how verbal this person is, and perhaps you'll wish that he or she had chosen a different day. Suggest talking more later in the day or during the weekend. Tonight: Mellow out.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ As the day gets older, you'll become more dynamic and direct. How you deal with someone could vary, as you might note a change in his or her response. The smart move would be to put all your cards on the table. Don't push too hard. Tonight: Let your hair down.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★★ Know that you have the power to make a change. Either act this morning or wait for several days until the Force is strong with you. Someone might talk your ear off. Don't walk away from the conversation; there is something you need to hear. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You have a lot to say. Deal with a financial matter first so that you can relax later in

the day. Start a conversation with a friend as soon as you can, because it could go on for a long time. You might have a matter you want to clear up. Tonight: Hang out with your pals.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ It might seem as if someone has convinced you that you need to be more open. The outcome could be great, and you will feel much better about yourself as a result. Making a decision like this is important. Tonight: Treat yourself to something you really want.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Your mood will change in the afternoon. You'll go from being withdrawn to being open and carefree. You might wonder how this could happen, but don't -- just get into the moment. This is the time to claim your power and zero in on what you want. Tonight: Happy as a clam.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ People could play a bigger role in your life than usual this morning. Some even might share news you've never heard before. There is a new openness. You will be left to evaluate the pros and cons of certain decisions you have made. Tonight: Have a somewhat quiet night.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ A boss suddenly could reveal his or her true agenda. You might have to choose whether to accept where this person is coming from. Don't feel as if you need to give an immediate answer. In the afternoon, a meeting will play a big role. Tonight: Only what you want.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Check in with an expert this morning. You might want to detach from a hair-raising situation. You will know what to do once you learn to avoid your triggers. Take charge of your day, and make plans that suit you. Tonight: TGIF! Let a meeting transform into a celebration.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Listen to news, and be direct in your dealings. A partner might keep feeding you information. What this person claims to know could be different from what the original source says. Know when to pull back and get a broader perspective. Tonight: Explore a new spot.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You will listen to others, but know that you also need to respond to the issue at hand. If you do not agree at this point, be prepared to detach and venture off in a different direction. You will be well received. Follow-through counts. Tonight: Head to a new Friday night scene.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

