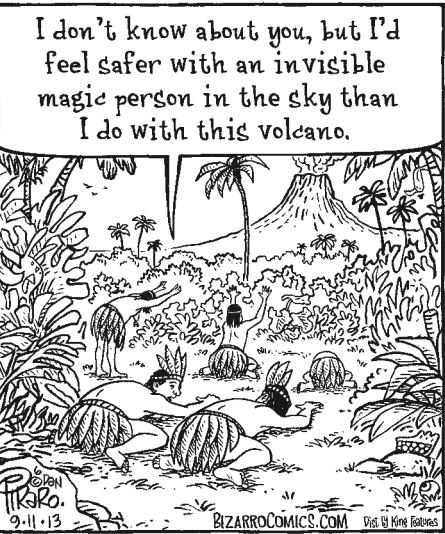


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



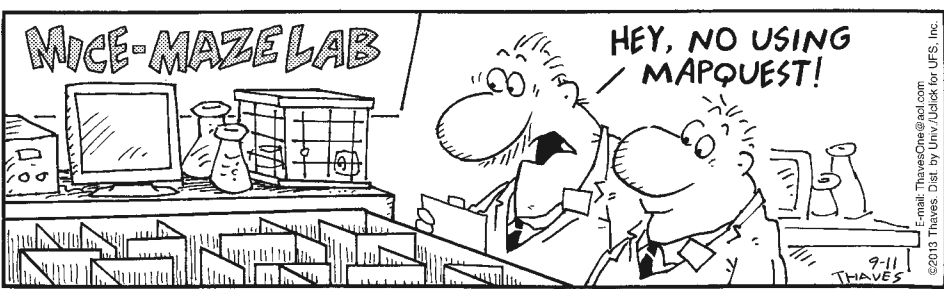
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



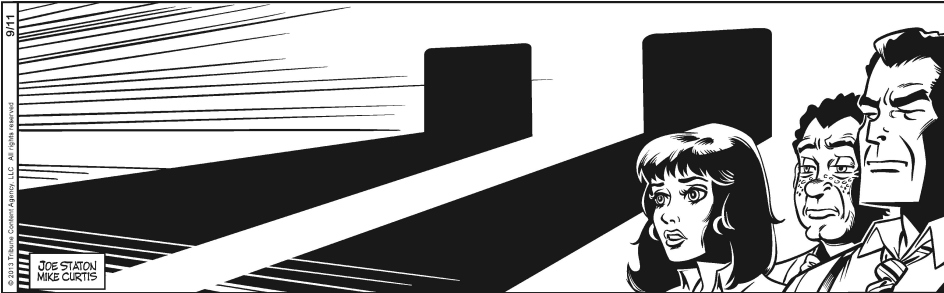
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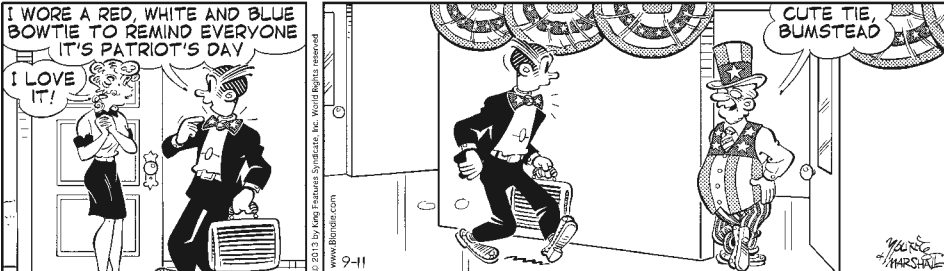
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



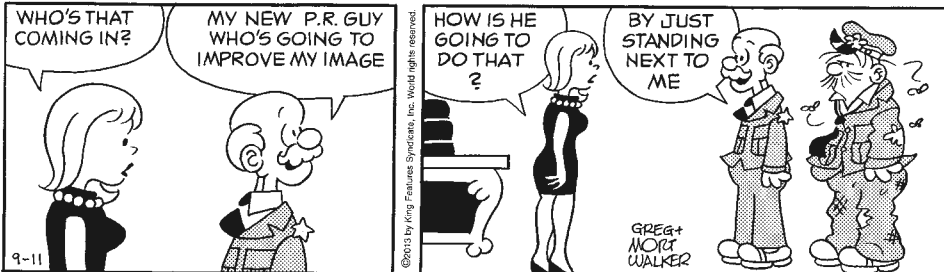
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



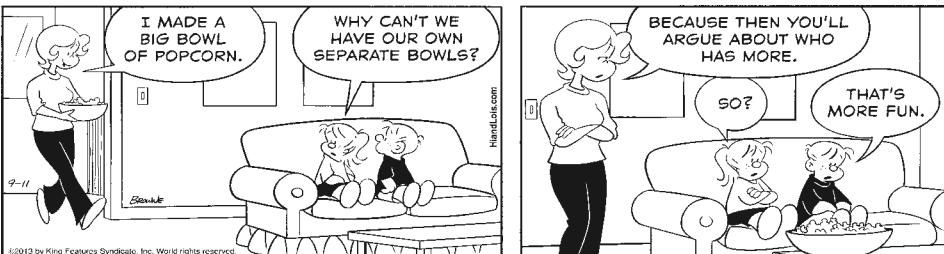
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Mom's Brief Cellphone Video Has Lingering Consequences

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old son, "Wiley," was playing a game on my cellphone. I stupidly forgot to delete a short video of myself engaged in a sex act with my ex-husband, "Cliff." Wiley didn't confront me or mention it, but given his sudden change in behavior, I'm almost certain he saw it.

The next morning I mentioned it and apologized, hoping we could get past the awkwardness, but Wiley wouldn't admit this is what's bothering him. He acted as if he didn't know what I was talking about. Now he's shutting down. He won't talk to me. He's off in his own world as if I'm a stranger, where a few days before we would laugh, share and trust each other.

I divorced Cliff because he and my son didn't get along, but in the last six months we have been secretly having an affair and we ultimately want to get back together when Wiley is 18. My son doesn't approve of him and he's angry about it.

I'm worried and embarrassed that he saw me doing what I was doing in that few seconds of video, and I don't want to scar him or have him think differently of me. Wiley's father has been no help, and I suspect adds fuel to our son's anger during his weekend visitations. I tried therapy for Wiley — it didn't help. Do you have any suggestions? — MORTIFIED IN ARIZONA

DEAR MORTIFIED: I'm printing your letter because, once again, it illustrates the danger of putting videos of a sexual nature on cellphones. I can think of few people of any age who don't prefer to think of themselves as products of immaculate conception, and your son is no exception.

Because Cliff and Wiley's relationship was so poor the three of you couldn't coexist under one roof, discovering that you are once more intimately involved with your ex must have been traumatic and threatening to Wiley. It might reassure him to know that your seeing Cliff does not mean you will be living together anytime soon.

In the meantime, I recommend that YOU talk with a therapist to help you cope with the changed relationship you now have with your son. It's a shame that Wiley's father has used this unfortunate incident for his own selfish purposes. Divorced couples MUST remember that they have to love their child more than they hate each other.

DEAR ABBY: A year and a half ago, I reconnected with "Paul." We were in grade school together and hadn't seen each other for many years. We have been extremely happy and want to spend our remaining years together.

Because of our ages (we're both seniors) and separate families and incomes, we feel marriage is not what we'd like to do. But we would like to move in together.

Would it be ridiculous for us to do that without being married? Will the world condemn us? Will our children understand or ostracize us? How do we handle questions about why we have chosen not to marry? — IN LOVE IN LOUISIANA

DEAR IN LOVE: Many older couples do what you are considering because being married would negatively affect their retirement

income. If your children like Paul — and his children like you — I doubt you will be ostracized. Most adult children want their parents to be happy.

If you're worried about how the community will react to your living arrangement, consider talking to a clergyperson about being "married in the eyes of God." As to questions about why you have chosen not to marry, apart from your family, it is nobody's business and you are not obligated to discuss it.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.

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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 Scorpio all day.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 2013:**

This year you move in a new direction, and you'll be more open to being approached. As you gain an inner sense of well-being, you will become more trusting. If you are single, you don't need to work on meeting someone — it will happen naturally. You might need to discern whether a potential suitor is emotionally available. If you are attached, the two of you will benefit from spending a lot of time together. Plan at least one special vacation for just the two of you. SAGITTARIUS is a dare-devil.

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)

★★★★ A partner seems to go from being remote to being friendly, and you'll like the transformation. Communication will open up and create good feelings. Be aware that your actions often surprise others, and they might need time to adjust. Tonight: Be entertained.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You might think that others are taking charm pills, as they are so agreeable and easygoing. You also could find that certain key people are more attractive and interesting than usual. Know that the positive energy is coming from you. Tonight: Go with someone else's choice.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Defer to others, and they will show their appreciation in a way that pleases you. Your high energy often is a draw, yet some people might find it difficult not to feel drained. You are full of fun around a close friend. This person appreciates this quality in you. Tonight: Where people are.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Listen to your inner voice when dealing with someone whom you see daily. Follow through, because this person might need a special "hello." Be aware of the importance of the role of this person in your life. Tonight: Off to the gym, or get some other form of exercise.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You beam, and others can't help but respond. As a result, both your personal and professional interactions will gain intensity. A conversation could provide an opening for you to ask for

a raise or some kind of similar benefit. Tonight: Why not celebrate the moment?

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ Honor your feelings rather than do what you should. As a result, you might prevent a problem from occurring. Obligations can be a problem, especially if your feelings are pointing you in a different direction. Your self-discipline is admirable. Tonight: Happy at home.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★★ You naturally offer good conversation, give sage advice and enjoy being around others. Today, your people skills will break down a barrier that has existed for too long. You might be surprised by the other party's reaction. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Hang out.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ When it comes to shopping and spending, it would appear that you have on rose-colored glasses that prevent you from seeing the consequences of your actions. Something's value might not be enough of a reason to purchase it. Tonight: In the mood to indulge a little.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★★ You have reason to be upbeat: The winds of good fortune are blowing in your direction. A partner could be very challenging at this point, but you will choose to take his or her focus in a positive way and simply respond. How smart! Tonight: Beam in what you want.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You might want to reassess your involvement with someone who is very difficult to access and who could have many problems. In this case, think long and hard before making a decision. Tonight: Visit with a dear friend or family member, even if it is just through Skype!

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★★ You might see past the obvious yet choose to say little. You could feel so challenged by a situation that you'll think it is best not to reveal your vulnerability. Test out your thoughts on someone else before deciding on their merit. Tonight: Join your friends. Do not be alone.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ Some of the tension you feel now could be the result of you trying to please someone who has no interest in being pleased right now. This person might prefer to be critical and difficult. Do not play into his or her games. Just relax, and avoid going overboard. Tonight: Up late.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

