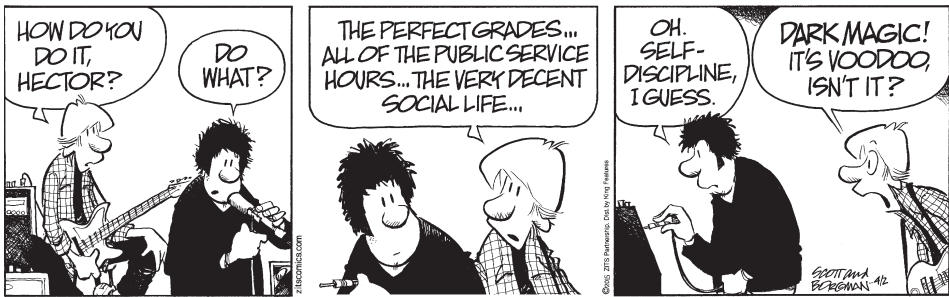


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



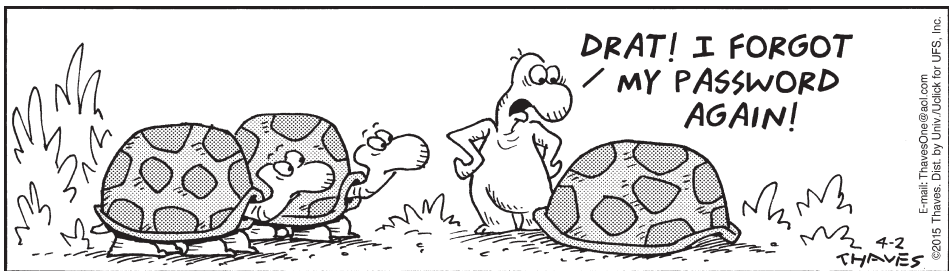
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



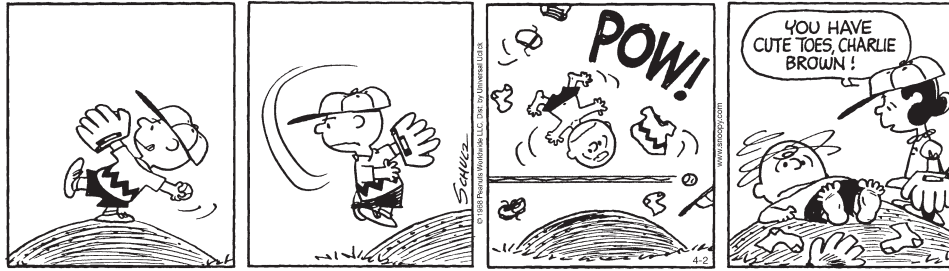
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



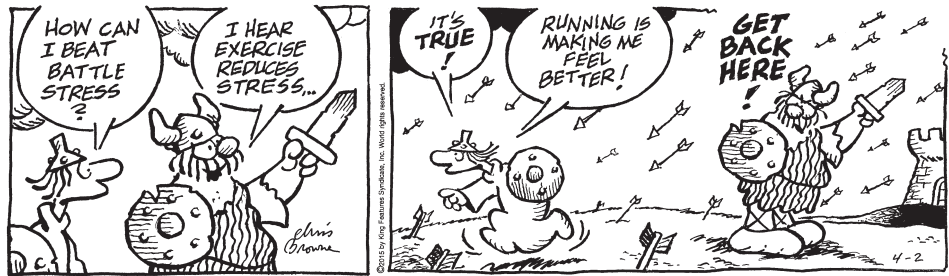
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



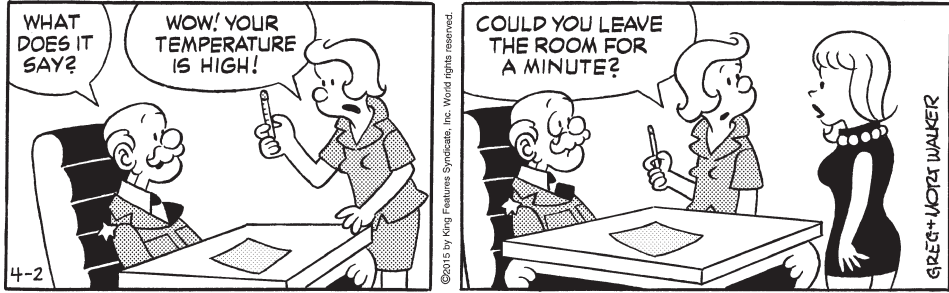
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



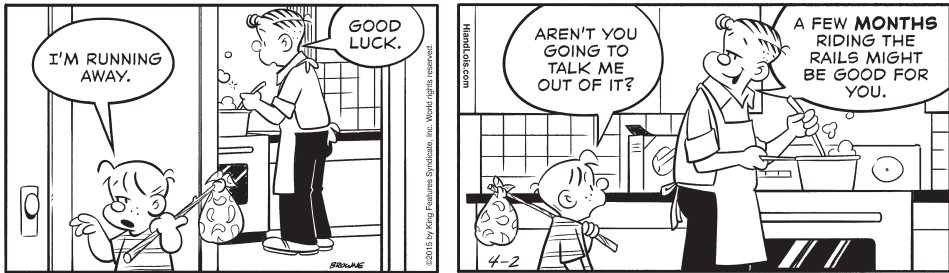
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Loving Stepfather Teaches Wife How To Accept Gay Son

DEAR ABBY: I am a 91-year-old reader with a story to tell. In 1958, I married a man every woman would have loved to have. He was one of a kind. I had two boys from a previous marriage, and this wonderful man adopted them.

In 1963, before homosexuality was understood or openly accepted, I discovered that my oldest son was gay. I didn't take it well because of the way I was raised. In fact, I came unglued. My husband took me in his arms and said, "Honey, he is no different today than he was yesterday."

The rest is a long story, but this wonderful man — a stepfather — gave acceptance to his son and taught it to me. His words helped me to value my own son as the person he is. If his words can help some other parent, I am passing them on. — EVER GRATEFUL MOTHER, SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

DEAR GRATEFUL MOTHER: You married a wise and compassionate man, and I want to thank you for sharing an important message for other parents of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning children.

DEAR ABBY: I'm an alcoholic. My husband blames it for everything that goes wrong in our lives. Not invited to a coveted party? They must have heard what an ass I made of myself four years ago.

I love my husband and don't want to leave him. However, he is blind to the similarities to his overeating and smoking. I'm at my wit's end. He refuses to see, while pointing out to our friends that I'm not supposed to drink, that I could be as nasty as he is and say things like, "You're not supposed to smoke," or, "You're overweight and shouldn't eat that."

I'm sick of being humiliated and tired of

feeling like I owe him something because he "overlooks" me being an alcoholic. How can I get him to see that these things are all addictions and hard to kick, and he should quit looking down his nose at me? — HUMILIATED IN TEXAS

DEAR HUMILIATED: Your letter proves the truth of the saying that alcoholism is a "family disease." The more your husband draws attention to your alcohol problem, the less he is forced to confront his own addictions to food and tobacco, and it also serves as a distraction. It's comfortable for him, allows him to feel superior and benefits him because it makes him an object of sympathy. This is neither helpful nor healthy for either of you.

I have said many times that you cannot change another person.

However, a licensed mental health professional may be able to help you understand why you tolerate your husband's behavior — and might even be able to give you insight into why you drink the way you do.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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 Aries and a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015:

This year you might feel as though all you do is work or follow through on your daily routine. You might catch yourself dreaming of breaks or vacations, and this will add excitement to your days. You could be a victim of too much self-discipline. Let go a little, and you will add spice to your life. If you are single, you are likely to attract someone very intense and demanding. This meeting might occur anywhere from mid-August to your next birthday. If you are married, the two of you connect in a more meaningful way. VIRGO fusses so much that you often close down when listening to him or her.

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)

★★★ Your intuition will guide you through the day. You'll sense when plans are going to fall apart or when there is a need for a change. Your unpredictability could take over, resulting in an unexpected event or happening. Tonight: Get as much done as possible.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ The thought that you might be on the verge of completing a long-term goal could have your mind running on overdrive. Be careful not to make a last-minute error. A call from someone you care about is likely to present you with a different perspective. Tonight: Get a little naughty.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Tension could be building. You need to slow down rather than race around and try to accomplish everything on your to-do list; otherwise, you're likely to make an error. Keep an even pace, and don't give in to the need to be a little crazy. Tonight: Happily head home.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You will tell it like it is. Pressure builds as a call comes in requesting that you handle a certain matter. Trying to accomplish everything you want to do could be difficult. Relax between each errand, and your effectiveness will increase. Tonight: Catch up on several friends' news.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Hold off on making any big purchases right now, even if they are work-related or neces-

sary for some other reason. Within days, you will see a better offer. A loved one suddenly might act up or try to get past a barrier. You will enjoy the change of pace. Tonight: Think "weekend."

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You could be involved in a situation that is difficult or testy. Tap into your ingenuity, and you will discover that you have few problems and a good solution. Listen to your inner voice -- it will prove to be right-on. Tonight: Act as if it were Friday night.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You can count on someone else coming through for you. You might have put some distance between you and this person in the past, but it would be wise to reach out to him or her now. You will gain a new perspective as a result. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ A friend who has a lot to offer will be available to support you. Communication could become intense, with more meaning involved than usual. Think about what is being said. Be aware of how many people really care about you. Tonight: Let the fun begin!

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You have been unusually quiet as of late; however, news will fly in from a distance that allows you to become more carefree. Use caution with your funds, as you easily could make an error. Your image might need to be updated. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Be willing to take a less emotional stance with a problem. Detach and try to walk in someone else's shoes. Once you grasp where this person might be coming from, a resolution will appear and you'll understand the importance of empathy. Tonight: Consider taking off.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You can't avoid dealing with an important associate. Make a point of working with the situation and the people involved; you will be far more comfortable as a result. A friend who has been distant might be in a better mood. Make the most of the moment. Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Defer to others, as it might be too exhausting and time-consuming to get others to agree with you right now. Simply make your suggestion and let go. If matters become chaotic, trust that your words will ring a bell. What could be better? Tonight: Just don't be alone.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

