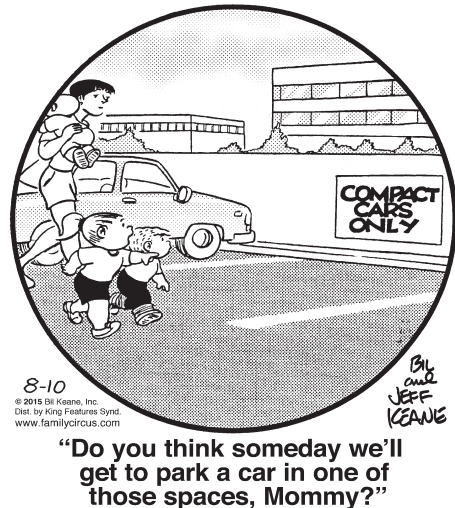


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



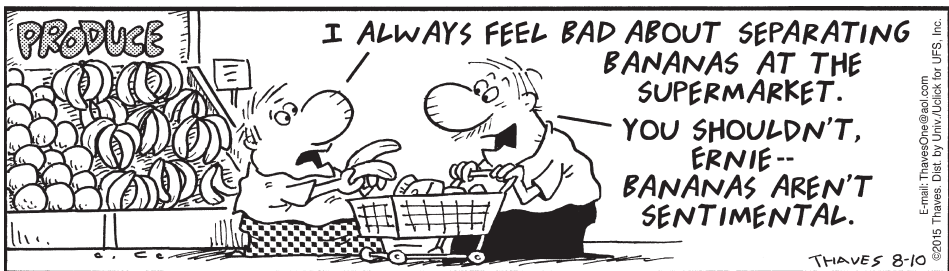
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



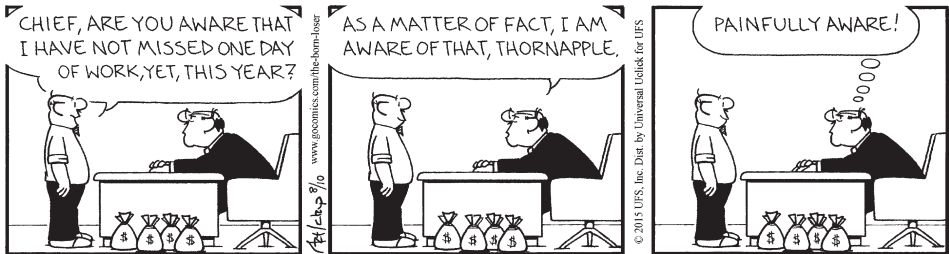
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



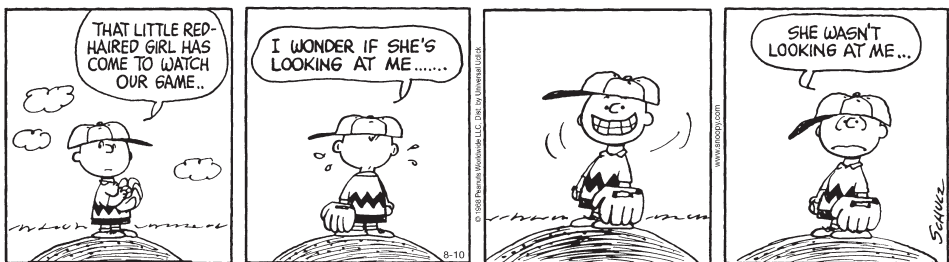
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



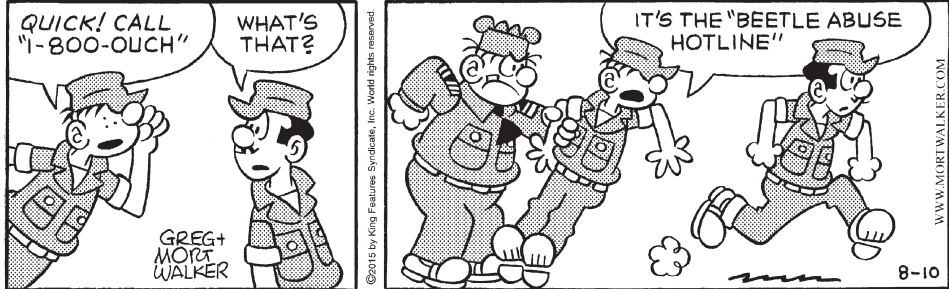
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



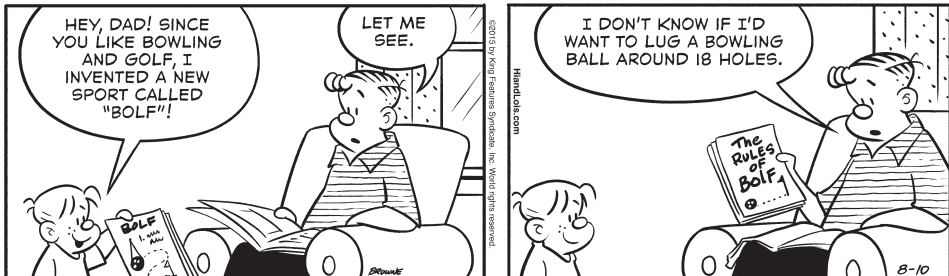
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Attorney's Reckless Driving Habits Are Trial For His Mom

DEAR ABBY: My 60-year-old son, "Martin," is an accomplished litigation attorney, handsome and opinionated, but kind and attentive to me. (I am a widow.)

Unfortunately, he's a terrible driver and always has been. Sometimes I think he has a death wish the way he drives. He speeds, texts, phones, and looks away from the road to talk to passengers in the car. I can't understand how a man of his intelligence can be so reckless with his life and the lives of others. He's a husband, father and grandfather.

I hate to drive anywhere with Martin, even though he invites me to come along to various events. He doesn't take kindly to criticism, and when I say he's going too fast, he gets defensive. He just doesn't get it. He thinks he's invincible.

I'm not the most tactful person, but I'm running out of excuses for why I don't want him to pick me up. I do drive, so I say, "I'll meet you there," but it's getting old.

How do I tell my son I no longer want him to drive me? How can I make him understand how serious his bad driving habits are? I'm not afraid of dying at my age, but I'd rather not die in an auto accident. — DISTRAUGHT MAMA IN FLORIDA

DEAR DISTRAUGHT MAMA: Stop making excuses with your son. Tell your son how much you love him. Then tell him the truth — that his driving makes you afraid not only for your own safety, but also for him and his family.

If he becomes defensive, let him rant, and when he runs out of breath, go on to say that this is the reason that, while you deeply appreciate his invitations, from now on you will be arranging your own transportation. Do not be unpleasant about it, but don't be dissuaded.

DEAR ABBY: My "fiance" and I have been together for 10 years. I say "fiance" in quotes because although he has given me a ring and

popped the question, we don't talk about planning a wedding. Every time I try, it gets me nowhere, but this isn't the problem I'm writing you about.

He has never been the type to attend my family functions. He will come on the major holidays, but even then it's a fight. I have reached the point that I no longer ask him to join me, but then I have to make up some kind of excuse for him. I've had enough of it.

Recently, when I have mentioned my family, he has started going off about what he doesn't like about them. It's getting worse, and it puts me in a tough spot. What is the best way to handle this? — STRESSED OUT IN ILLINOIS

DEAR STRESSED: You would be wise to realize that at some point you may have to make a choice between your "fiance" and your family. Take into consideration that you have devoted 10 years of your life to someone who has given you a ring and a promise, but who has shown no signs of being willing to follow through.

Since you asked, I think the best way for you to handle it would be to cut your losses and choose your family.

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 Leo and a Moon in Gemini if born before 8:08 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, AUG. 10, 2015:

This year you often express an extremely nurturing quality. Your ability to communicate and spread your wings will be enhanced. If you are single, you will enjoy the company of a more vital and fun type of person than you have in the past. You might want to date for a while before you commit. If you are attached, the two of you will want to recreate the beginning of your relationship, where you often took off together and focused on what the other said. A new purchase will result in even more happy times for the two of you. CANCER often understands you better than you do.

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)

★★★ You might want to tone down your approach so that you receive more of what you want. Others no longer seem as responsive as they had been. Actions and good planning make all the difference. Be willing to demonstrate the power of your ideas. Tonight: Head home early.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You have the ability to get past a problem that others don't see. Be as direct as possible with a family member, especially if you feel that his or her idea is out of whack. Be more direct and caring. An idea that seems unattainable really isn't. Give it time. Tonight: Happy at home.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Be more direct when dealing with a loved one. You might see a situation from a more materialistic and demanding point of view than he or she does. Financial matters need to be kept in perspective. If you want to succeed, know when to say "no." Tonight: Look at the budget.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You will want to see a situation differently from how it is in reality. Honor a fast change of pace, but understand that you might be on the path of escapism. Avoid making any decisions at the present moment. Tonight: Beam in more of what you want.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Jupiter, the planet of luck, spends its

last 24 hours in your sign. Take advantage of what happens. If a certain matter appears to be out of control, know that the time has come to get it under control. How you do that depends on the situation. Tonight: Go for what you want.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by what comes up. A friend means well, yet he or she could create a certain amount of confusion. Be realistic about what is possible, but be willing to revisit this situation in a few days or weeks. Tonight: Meet up with a close friend.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Take a risk today instead of postponing it. Timing is with you. Pace yourself, but complete as much as you possibly can right now. Refuse to let a back-and-forth issue dominate your day; put it out of your mind. Do what you must. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Your imagination seems to awaken. Try to direct this energy toward a matter involving travel, a legal matter or a need to educate yourself on a particular topic. You could be taken aback by a problem that emerges. Know that the answer lies within. Tonight: All smiles.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Deferring to others allows more give-and-take. Reach out for someone who might be intimidated by you. You likely will want to avoid a boss who has been demanding a lot from you. You also might not be in the mood to hear his or her opinions. Tonight: Opt for closeness.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You could be in a situation where you don't have your customary control. As a result, you might be feeling as if there is little you can do. Allow others to take the reins, and become more of an observer. Be more forthright in your dealings. Tonight: Play it cool.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You could be more on top of a personal matter than you realize. You might be somewhat exhausted from trying to touch base with a friend or loved one. Listen to the feedback you are getting, especially from someone close to you. Tonight: Allow your creativity flourish.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

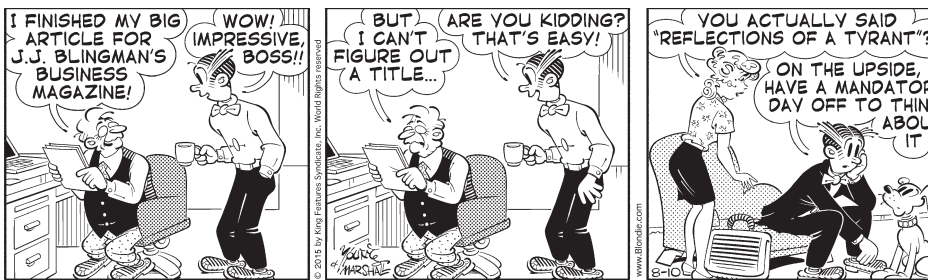
★★★★ Allow more creativity to emerge. You often have many ideas, but you usually do not discuss them. Trust those around you to be open-minded and receptive of your thoughts. Consider your options with greater care. Tonight: Allow yourself to enjoy the moment.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

