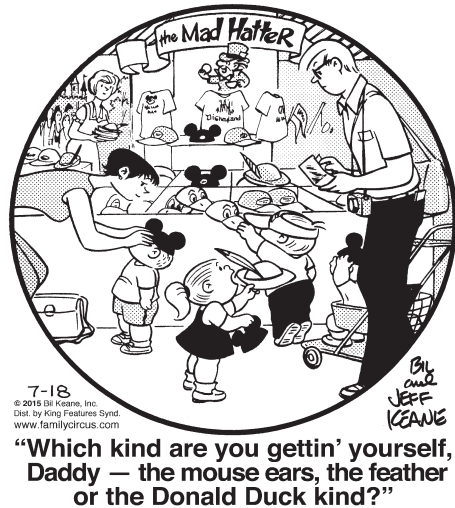
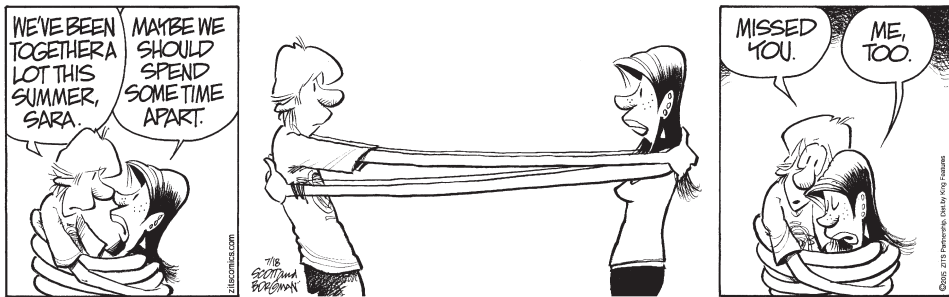


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



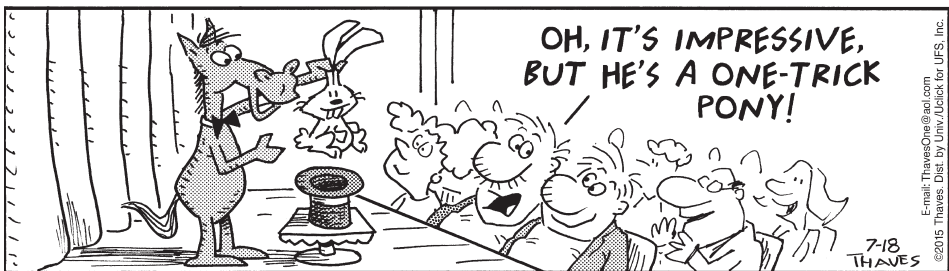
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



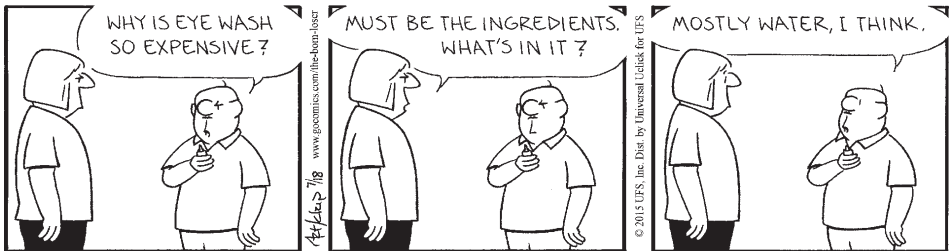
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



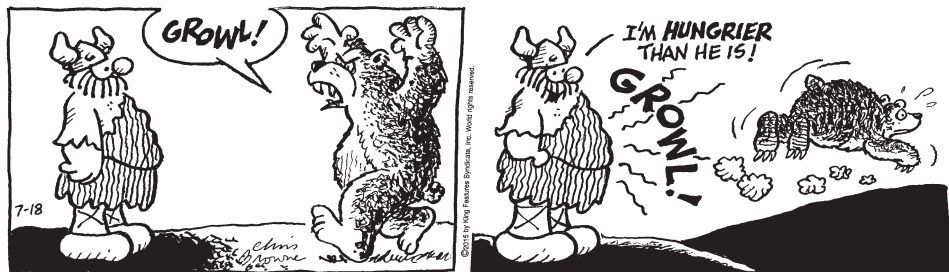
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



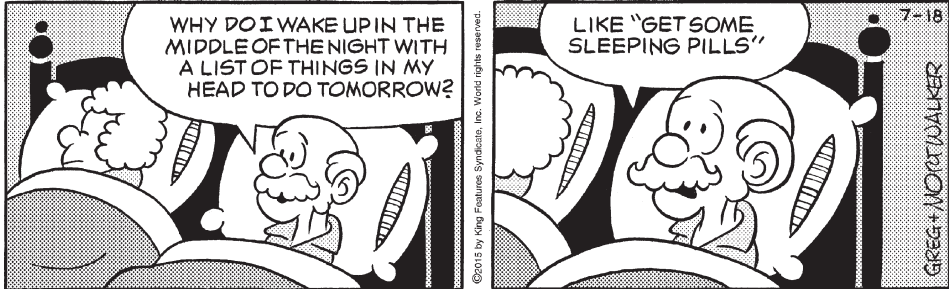
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



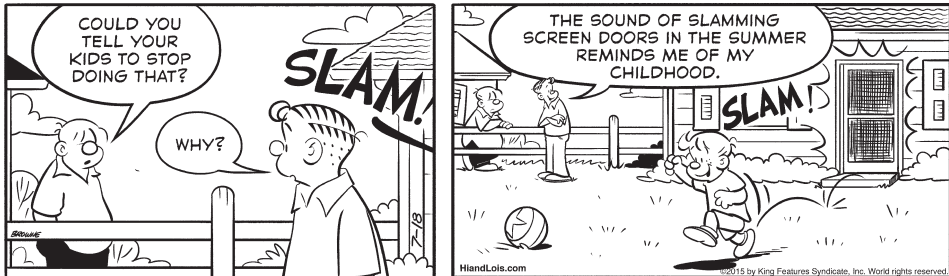
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Dating Behind Parents' Back Won't Prove Teen's Maturity

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Aidan," and I have been dating for three months. I want to tell my parents, but I don't know how. They say I'm too young and immature to date. I'll be 16 in five months. They say Aidan is obsessed with me and they don't want me staying in an unhealthy relationship.

My parents think I'm not talking to Aidan, but I really am. I want to show them I'm mature enough for a relationship. All they keep saying is I need to be "realistic" and "respectful." I'm more respectful than half the people I know.

I don't want to keep this from my parents anymore. What should I do? — TEEN GIRL IN ILLINOIS

DEAR TEEN GIRL: When parents say a teen is too young to date, they aren't talking about the number of candles on her birthday cake. If your parents are worried that Aidan is "obsessed," they must have a reason. Sneaking around isn't a way to gain anyone's confidence. Teens show they are mature and responsible enough to handle the privilege of dating by being open, honest, communicating their feelings, listening respectfully to the opinions of others, and shouldering responsibility. If you start now, you may be able to convince your parents that you're ready.

DEAR ABBY: I have been taking trips with a friend for a few years. We share a room and usually have a good time. Unfortunately, my friend is cheap. She fights for every dollar every day of the year even though she is very well off.

Lately she has become worse. During the last tour we took, she "made lunch" off the breakfast buffets in the hotels where we stayed, although most of them had signs posted saying that food should not be taken out. Not once, not twice, but every single day she packed a sandwich, fruit and coffee so she wouldn't have to buy lunch. I asked her to please not do it, but she brushed me off.

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 Cancer and a Moon in Leo if born before 8:47 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2015:

This year you live your life more fully. You are likely to receive a pay raise or some kind of promotion. For some of you, financial investments will pay off. Be careful, as you might go through a high spending period. If you are single, you could be rather chatty when relating to a potential suitor, but that will be critical in getting to know this person. As a result, you will want to take your time dating. If you are attached, you might need to curb your sarcasm. Love and accept the one you are with. VIRGO is even more critical than you are.

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'll express the spirit of your sign as you get going today. No matter what activity you choose to participate in, you will be among friends. You are likely to come up with an unusual suggestion. Go out and make the most of this summer day. Tonight: Slow down a little.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ A domestic matter could be weighing heavily on you. You'll want to clear up a misunderstanding before you head out to visit with a family member. Make yourself No. 1 for a day. A flirty friend suddenly might appear. Tonight: Add that special touch wherever you are.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Call others and swap news. You might want to adapt your plans when you hear what a friend is up to. Recognize that you have a limited amount of energy and time. Spending time with a close friend is also a priority. Tonight: Invite a friend or two over for dinner.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You might want to do some shopping that you have been putting off. Catch up on a friend's news, and you'll lighten up. Accept an invitation that might not be exactly what you want to do. You could surprise yourself and have a great time. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ People seem to know when you enter

I like her, but I hate feeling ashamed of her. I believe in doing the right thing, and doing unto others what I would like them to do unto me, and I have reached the point where I just don't want to travel with her. Any advice? — CALIFORNIA TRAVELER

DEAR TRAVELER: Yes. Tell your friend you have now taken your last trip together, and then tell her exactly why.

DEAR ABBY: I see so many young girls wear "spike" heels. I know they think they look glamorous, but a word of advice: LEARN TO WALK IN THEM AT HOME. Girls, you look like ducks, walking with your knees bent because the heels are so high and you haven't practiced. I know what I'm talking about because those heels were in style when I was young. — SMART LADY IN TENNESSEE

DEAR SMART LADY: There is nothing wrong with that advice. Practice makes perfect. However, allow me to add another suggestion. When I buy a pair of spike heels (and I do own a few), the first thing I do is take them to my shoemaker and have the heels cut down a quarter of an inch, which makes them more comfortable — and safer — to walk in. (If I broke an ankle they'd have to shoot me, because I'd never race again.)

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.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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a room without even looking. It is as if your energy flows in ahead of you! Opportunities emerge from your ability to draw others out. You could get fussy later in the day. Consider heading home early. Tonight: Make it your treat.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Make today just for you. Whether you schedule a massage or get together with a favorite person, it makes no difference. Start taking better care of yourself, and you will feel the difference by the end of the day. Tonight: Wherever you are, you attract others like a magnet.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Others will pick up on your high energy and strong sense of commitment. You will experience success, and you'll act like a winner. Others respond to you accordingly. Take some personal time later in the afternoon. Tonight: A loved one knocks on your door.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ You might not be able to join friends just yet, as you have to handle a professional or personal responsibility first. A parent could make a request that you feel you must handle. By the end of the day, you'll want some downtime. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You might feel as if you need to take off for a short trip. A different environment seems to be just what you need to relax. In a different setting, you will be able to be completely spontaneous. You'll feel like a different person by the end of the day. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You might be questioning whether you want to spend one-on-one time with a loved one all day. Go along with this person's wish. The time will come when you will be able to ask for a favor from this person and receive it. Tonight: Go to a play or concert. Be entertained.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

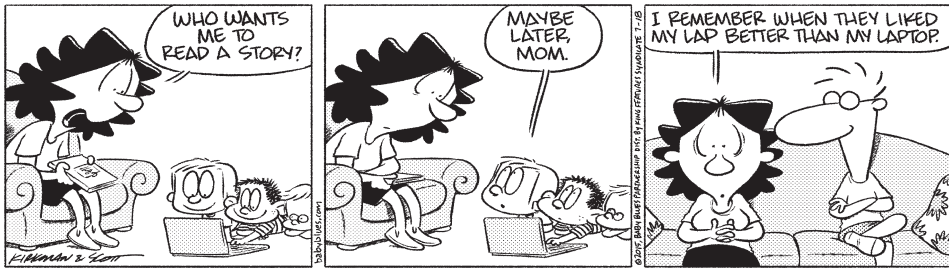
★★★★ Others seem to be very busy, though you will be invited to join in. You might opt to go your own way and visit with a friend whom you often can be found laughing with. You'll act in a most unexpected manner and add some fun to the moment. Tonight: Where the action is.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ You seem to have a lot on your plate right now. You might prefer that no one bother you so that you can complete your to-do list for the day. You can successfully arrive at the goal, especially if you screen your calls. Tonight: Out with a favorite person.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

