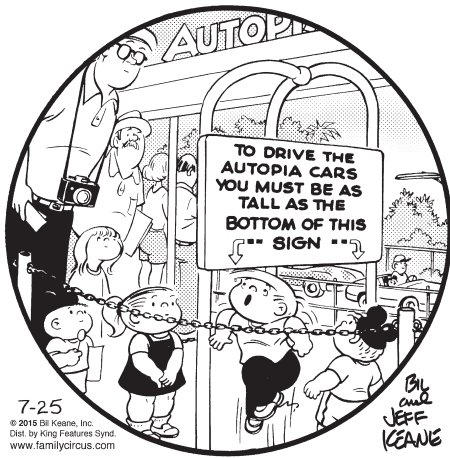


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



7-25
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"Look, Daddy! My head's touchin'! I'm tall enough."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Wife Fears Husband's Health Puts Her Future In Jeopardy

DEAR ABBY: I am the 24/7 caregiver for my husband, "Earl." We were both widowed when we married nine years ago. His daughter, "Mindy," hasn't talked to her father for six years - hasn't called, emailed or even sent a birthday card. If he tried calling her, she wouldn't pick up.

Recently, Earl had a serious health problem resulting in a colostomy bag. I take care of everything. When he called to tell Mindy, her husband answered the phone and said she wasn't home. When my husband told him about his health, the son-in-law said OK - nothing more. Then Earl invited the whole family to come here. Again, the response was, "I don't know."

After Earl hung up, I said, "I think it's time Mindy came here to take care of you." (Six years ago she told my husband, "Dad, if you die first, I'll get that woman out of the house in three days!")

Abby, must I wait for this to happen or should I just pack my stuff and move out, leaving a vulnerable 88-year-old man alone? Mindy will put him in a nursing home and sell the house to pay off her credit card debt - some of it, because the house isn't worth much money.

Earl says, "Don't leave me, I need you!" Well, what about me? Where is my life and my security? I'm getting older. If he lives another 10 years, it will take a toll on my health, and I'll be moving?

Should I seek compensation for my caregiving? I pay all my own expenses. I don't pay rent. That was the main concern from his relatives when we got married. I was a widow and had a job and a condo, which I sold. I put the money in the bank and used cash to pay for a new car, a computer, a wheelchair for my husband, etc.

Don't I have to plan for my future in my old age? Or should I leave it up to God and

hope He takes me before my husband? I need your advice. — WORRIED WIFE IN FLORIDA

DEAR WORRIED WIFE: You're right to be concerned about your future. That's why, before making any decisions, it is important you consult a lawyer and learn what your rights are as a wife in the state of Florida. You should not have to worry about being thrown out into the street because Earl's daughter has money problems and is looking to cash in. If you love your husband, your place is beside him for as long as the good Lord allows.

DEAR ABBY: I am 16. I came home from a date and my mom is flipping out over my hickies. I think this is stupid. These are my first ones, and my parents are making a big deal about it. What do you think? — MARKED IN NEWARK, DEL.

DEAR MARKED: I think it's time you had a talk with your parents about why they reacted the way they did, so they can explain it to you. Your hickies aren't what upset them. They are worried about you because they are afraid of what the hickies may lead to — if they haven't already.

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.)



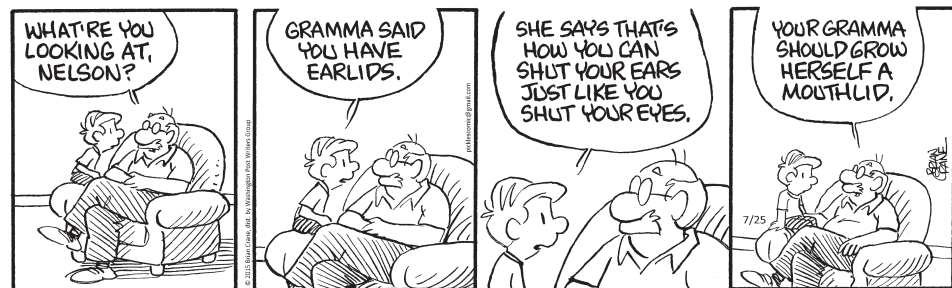
DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

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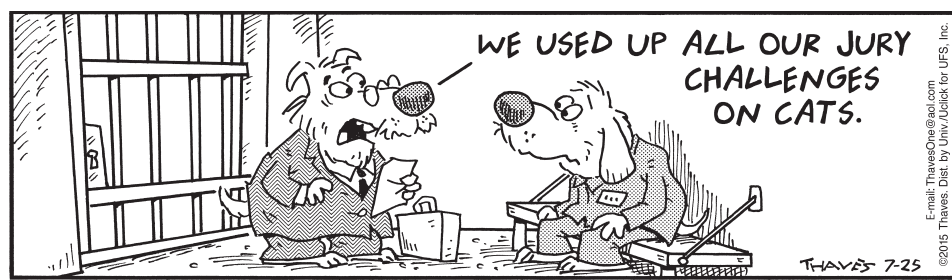
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



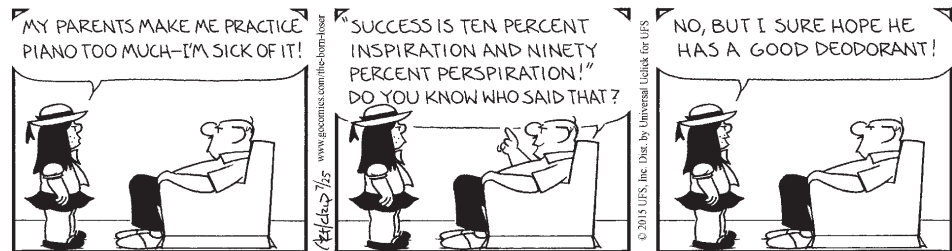
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



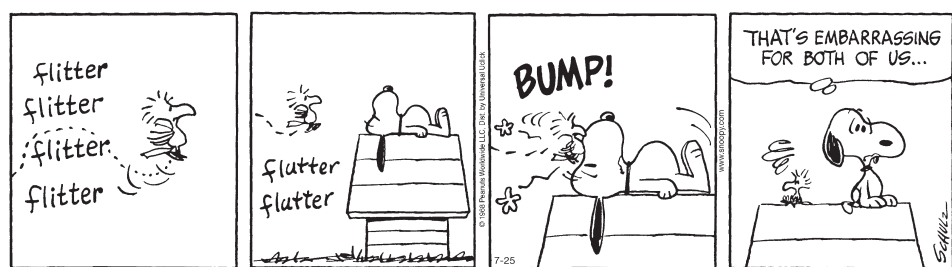
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



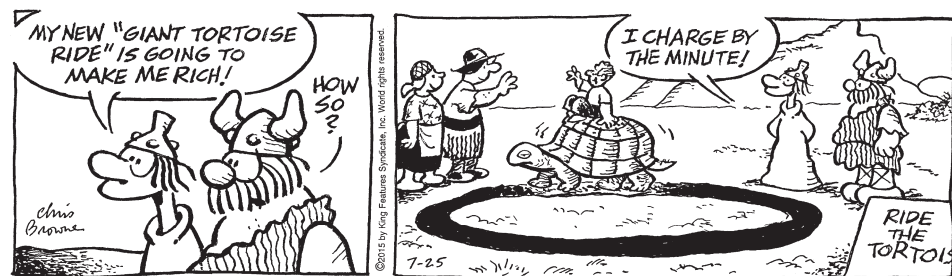
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



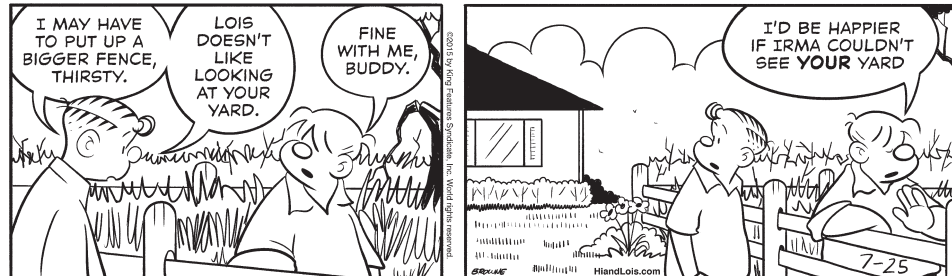
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



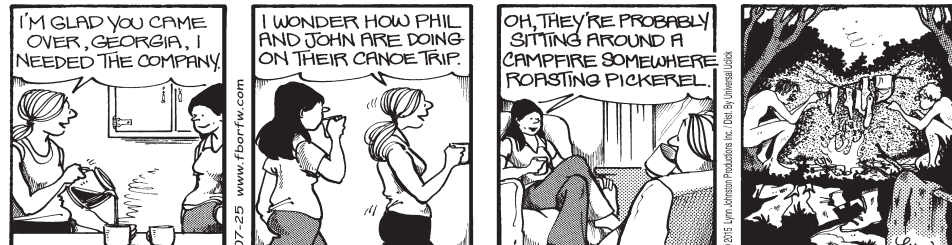
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



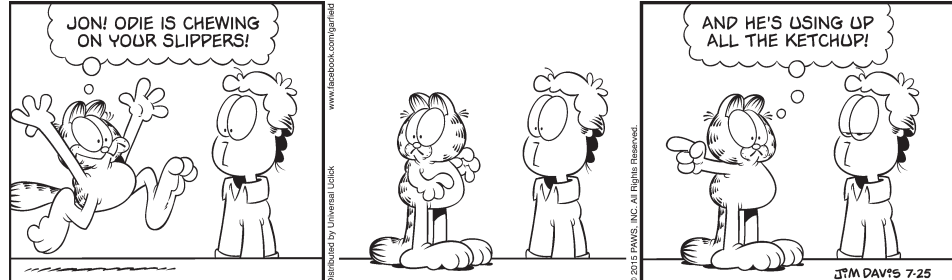
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



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 Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2015:

This year you will need to reconsider how you handle your finances and your feelings. Sometimes you might go overboard. In the next few months, take an honest look at your behavior in this regard. If you are single, try not to start dating until mid-September; otherwise, you could be dealing with some difficult issues. If you are attached, the two of you will find out how much you enjoy interacting with each other. Your home and finances become high priorities. You are likely to receive a pay raise or promotion. SCORPIO might not share as much as you would like.

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 could be in a position where you must follow someone else's lead. A sudden insight will occur when you attempt to see life from a different perspective. Your willingness to walk in another person's shoes makes you a sure winner. Tonight: Go along with a friend's suggestion.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Defer to others, as nearly everyone thinks he or she has better ideas than you do. Your ruling planet, Venus, starts doing a backward jig and initiates a period where you might feel less than great. Resist making major decisions for the next few months. Tonight: Be graceful.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You have a lot of ground to cover. A child or loved one seems to be out of sorts. You might try to help this person mellow out, but you could find it difficult. During the next few weeks, you will be witness to an adjustment in your relationship. Tonight: Get some exercise.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You might be more playful than many others are right now. A family member could be out of sorts -- get ready for some tantrums. Schedule some time with a loved one, and you both will benefit from the time spent together. Share a fun story. Tonight: Be willing to take a risk.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You might feel imposed upon by a family member. It appears as if you have little choice

at the moment, unless you want to create some uproar. Do yourself a favor and detach from the here and now. Be careful with how you choose to express yourself. Tonight: In the limelight.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You are able to move a situation to a better place than you originally thought possible. A conflict evolves between a loved one and a dear friend. It's time step away from the battlefield. You realize that disagreements often result from misunderstandings. Tonight: Be a fiery spirit.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Sometimes you are not aware of the impact of a situation and its long-term ramifications. At this time, it might be wise to let go and indulge yourself. You could be in the process of juggling many responsibilities, but eventually you will land well. Tonight: Share more of yourself.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might make an uncomfortable choice. Question your reasoning, because more often than not your intuition isn't exactly right-on. Your response is an alert that maybe you need to head in a different direction or resolve a situation differently. Tonight: Out with friends.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You could be in a position where you will have to make the same decision you made just a little while ago. You might be dismayed to be in that situation, but you will handle it well. A loved one, on the other hand, might not handle it as well. Tonight: Try not to be out of control.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Friends will insist that you join them, to that extent that you might feel as if you have no choice. A matter involving a higher-up could become dominant over the next few weeks. You might need to fill in for this person or do some negotiating. Tonight: Where your friends are.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

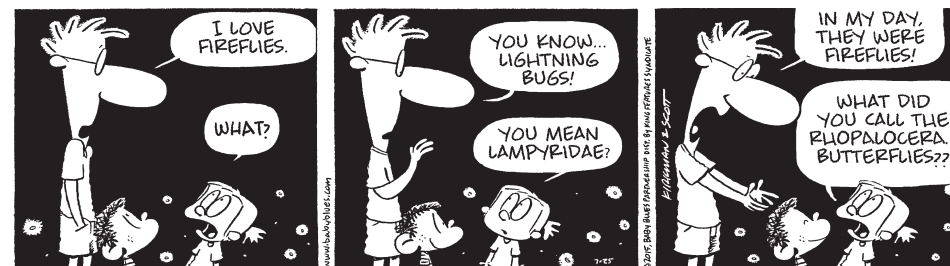
★★★★ You are on top of a situation that makes you feel less than great. Though you might not be sure of yourself or know the best way to proceed, trust your instincts. Reach out to someone at a distance whom you don't always get to connect with. Tonight: Try a fun, new spot.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ One-on-one relating demands a whole new type of interaction. You might not be sure of yourself, but experience certainly will help. Allow someone else to give you much-needed feedback. You'll understand where this person is coming from. Tonight: Play it loose and easy.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

