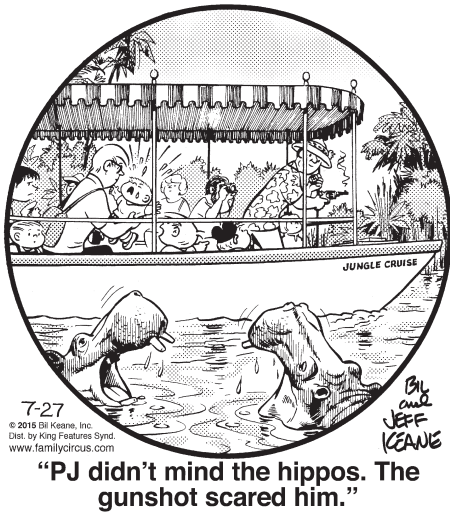
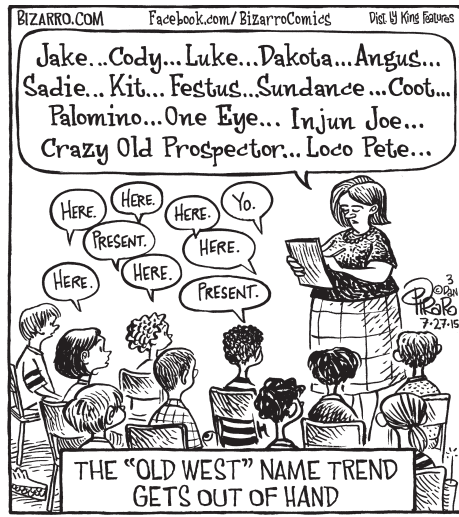


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Wedding May Be Wrong Time For Found Father To Reappear

DEAR ABBY: I am 32 and getting married in a year. My biological father lives in Spain and has never been to the U.S. My mother met him when she was teaching English there. I was born in the states and never knew or spoke to my dad growing up. When I was 5, I was adopted by my mom's then-husband.

At 20, while studying in Spain, I located my father and his wife. We maintain a good relationship, but I haven't been back there, and he has never met my family.

Mom harbors a lot of resentment toward my father. She tells me he took no interest in me as a baby and never sent any money or letters. She gets emotional when he is brought up in conversation. He doesn't feel this way toward her. When I mentioned to Mom that I plan to invite him and his wife to the wedding, she got upset. She told me I have no business inviting him and that she doesn't want to see him.

I do not share my mother's resentment. I don't want my father to feel excluded. I worry about Mom's feelings and about my father's first U.S. trip being during the wedding when I will surely be distracted with lots of things. Please advise. - BRIDE TORN IN TWO IN NEBRASKA

DEAR BRIDE: Your father may have no hard feelings toward your mother because it appears he accepted no emotional or financial responsibility at the time you were conceived. If he knew she was pregnant and offered no help, then all of that fell on her shoulders.

It's appropriate you are worried about your mother's feelings, because you should be. If you want a relationship with your father, no one can prevent you. However, if he hasn't "earned" the right to be at your wedding and if you have any sensitivity at all to your mother's feelings, entertain him in the U.S. at a later date when he can have your full attention. (I hesitate to say "the at-

tention he deserves" because I'm not sure he deserves any.)

DEAR ABBY: I'm 56 and still don't know what I want to do with my life. I have no real talents or passions. I have 1,000 interests and hobbies, none of which would ever develop into a career. I have worked whatever job I could get to pay the bills (more or less), but they have all been near minimum wage, so 10 years from retirement, I have no savings.

I got to the point I was so miserable at my last job that I quit without having another one waiting for me, so I'll probably end up taking whatever dead-end job I can get just to get a paycheck. How can I convince potential employers I can do something different when I don't believe it myself? - DIANE IN CANTON, ILL.

DEAR DIANE: Your problem is you have lost faith in yourself. If you have had "1,000 interests and hobbies," I'm betting you are proficient in at least half of them, which means you DO have a wealth of varied experiences to offer some lucky employer. Please keep that in mind the next time you go for an interview, because as long as you have the determination, it is never too late.

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.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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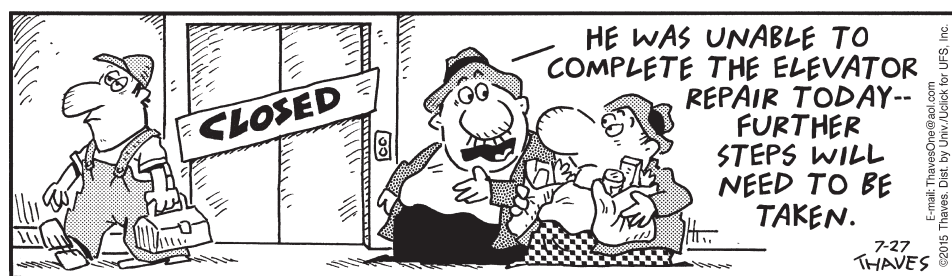
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



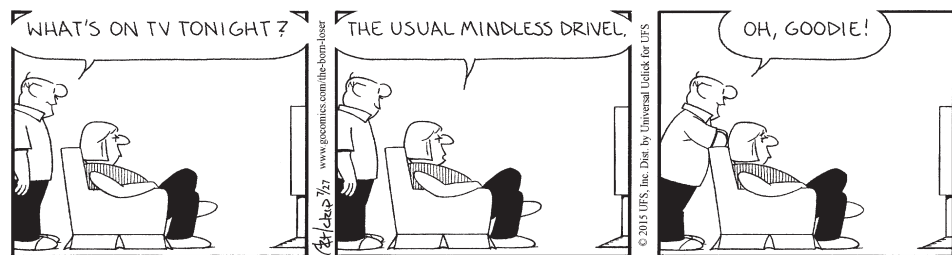
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



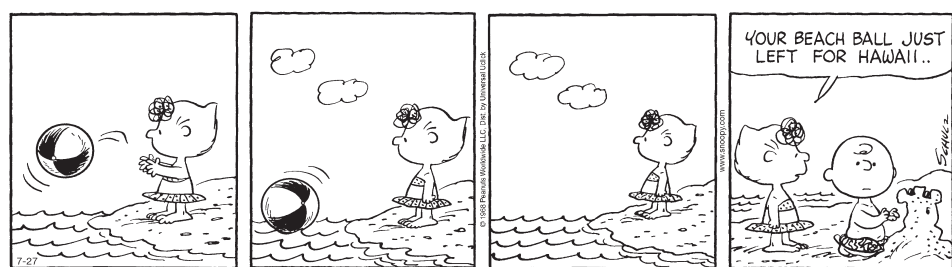
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



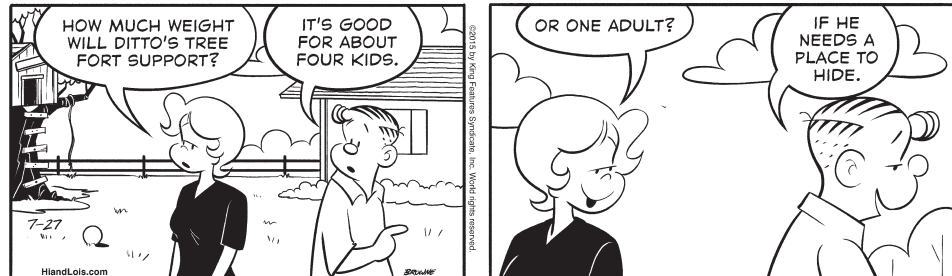
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



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 Sagittarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, JULY 27, 2015:

This year you exhibit your innate fondness for friends and loved ones. Financial growth is likely. Taking risks will become natural for you; however, if you become too impulsive, a problem could develop. If you are single, curb a tendency to be possessive. You could push someone away whom you might be very interested in. If you are attached, romance will continue to warm the cockles of your heart. You will find your sweetie to be very romantic and, at times, confusing. SAGITTARIUS is very playful.

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 dream life has been active as of late. Spontaneity remains your strong suit. When you find the right idea, you dive into it headfirst. One friend might find your ideas to be worth pursuing, and will join right in. Tonight: Make plans for a visit with a relative in the near future.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ One-on-one relating is steaming up. You have many choices to make and many places to go, but a conversation needs to happen prior to heading into the next 24 hours. If someone is irate, try to detach in order to understand what this person's objections are. Tonight: To the gym.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You could be too tired to continue on a certain path. Understand what is going on with a loved one. Try not to cut off a conversation before both of you feel satisfied about the matter. Let go of stress by joining friends later in the day. Tonight: Make a decision soon.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Make sure you have made a solid decision regarding a major change. How you handle a problem could vary considerably depending on what you need to do. Understand that this issue needs to be taken care of. Tonight: Run errands first, then decide. Make choices for you.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You are energized, and will do whatever appeals to you. Understand what is happening

with a child who suddenly decides to do something unusual. Curbing your anger could be close to impossible. Tonight: Say what you feel in such a way that others can hear you.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You might be confident, but you still can't seem to say "no" to someone. In this case, make it your pleasure to say "yes," and don't worry about it. You might be exhibiting a conflict within. You will understand soon enough what is going on. Tonight: Head home soon.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You could be in a position where you must reach out for someone else. Friends support you in your ventures. It is likely that you will have to deal with a difficult associate or adviser. Don't fall into a pit of silence when you hit a disagreement. Tonight: Respond to a request.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Reach out to someone whom you trust in order to discuss your options. Though you might not always agree with the feedback you get, you will be able to evaluate the situation with this person's help. Understand what your objective is. Tonight: You are on top of your game.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You could be in a position where you feel as if there is no other option. Listen to news and be more aware of what is happening around you. A one-on-one conversation might be difficult; you'll want to cut it short before any harsh words are said. Tonight: As you like it.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ You might want to do more thinking than acting right now. Follow-through counts, and you need to demonstrate that skill. Honor a change within, and see what occurs when you respond to a volatile situation in a calm way. Tonight: Take some much-needed time off.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Decide to do something positive just for you. Sometimes you give so much of yourself that you feel drained. The time has come to switch gears and be good to yourself. Open up conversations that are meaningful for you. Tonight: Touch base with an old pal.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Be more forthright in your decisions, as others sometimes find you to be confusing. They can't seem to get a good grasp on what is happening or on what you want. Be aware of the costs of not being direct in other areas of your life. Tonight: Take a stand.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

