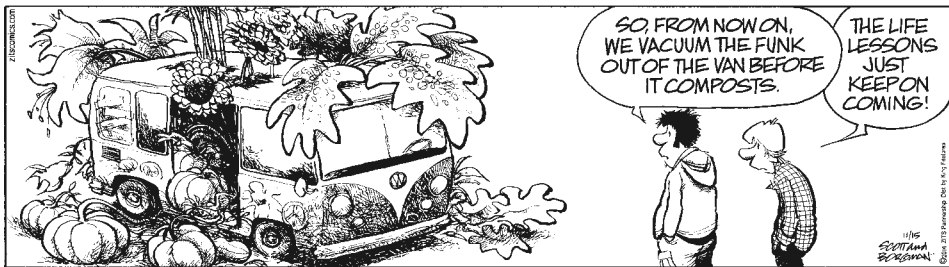


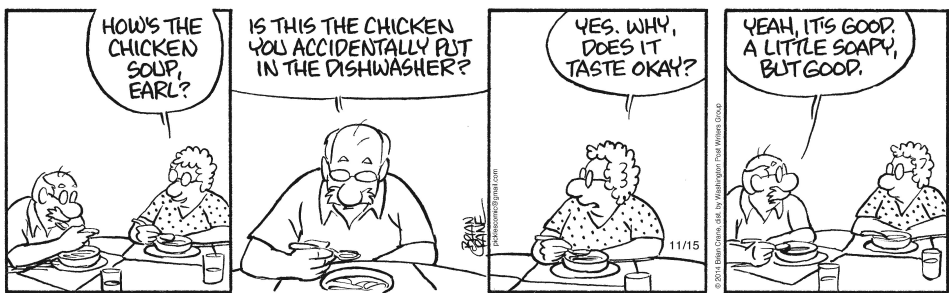
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



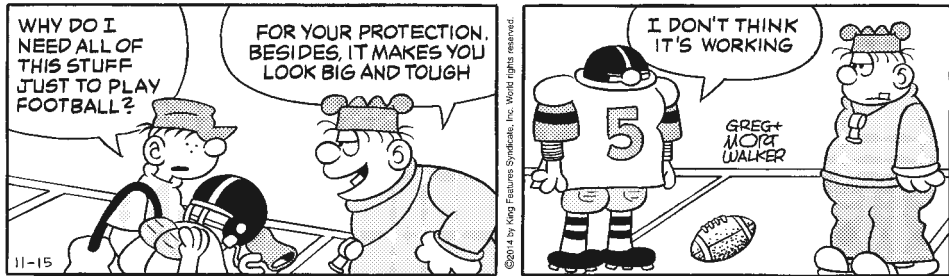
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



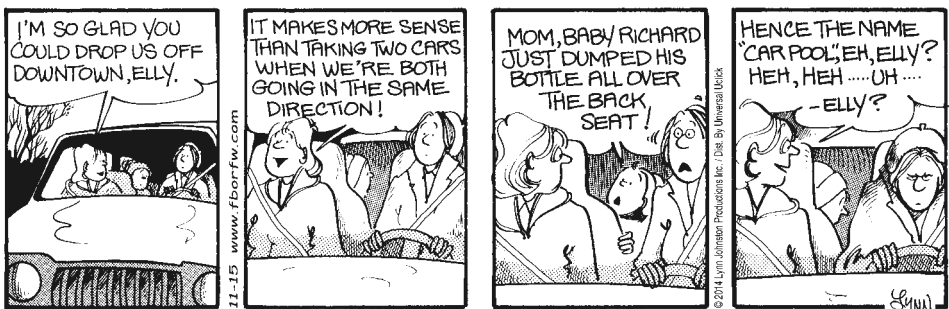
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



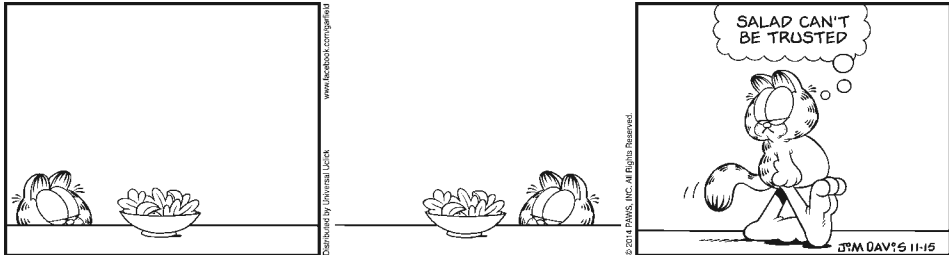
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Skipping Out On An Education May Be Costly In The Future

DEAR ABBY: I am a junior in high school and will graduate in the first semester of my senior year. Someday I would like to be a stay-at-home mom. I have no interest in going to college. I feel it would be a waste of money for me to go when I don't intend to use my degree.

To say my parents are disappointed in me over this is putting it mildly. They have a life planned for me that includes college. I would also like to move away to somewhere where it's warm year-round, and they don't like that idea either.

How do I make them understand that this is MY life and everything will be OK? — UNINTERESTED IN IDAHO

DEAR UNINTERESTED: I'll paraphrase an old proverb: "When man makes plans, God laughs." What it means in your case is that a smart cookie stays FLEXIBLE.

Let's say, for instance, that you get the life you fantasize about: You marry a man who adores you, doesn't mind that you have only a high school degree and is wealthy enough to support you. You have two or three beautiful children together and things are going great.

But what if, heaven forbid, he becomes seriously ill and can't work — or worse, drops dead, leaving you the sole support of those kids? It has been known to happen. (And then, of course, there's also the possibility of divorce, which has been known to happen, too.)

Be SMART. Listen to your parents, and arm yourself with the best education you can possibly attain because the reality is, one day you may need to use it.

DEAR ABBY: The school year has started and many high school girls like me are faced with a similar problem: how to politely decline when a boy asks you to a dance.

Whether it be homecoming, winter formal or prom, some boys go all out and ask girls in elaborate and creative ways. I don't know what to do in these situations if I don't want to go with the boy who is asking me. I feel bad saying "no" because of all the work they put into it, and also sometimes there is an audience watch-

ing. Should I just go anyway? — SARATOGA TEEN

DEAR SARATOGA TEEN: If "many" girls share your problem, it's news to me. Most of the ones I hear from worry that they won't be asked.

If the young man has made a production out of inviting you, say thank you and that you're flattered, but you'll have to think about it and will get back to him later. When you refuse the invitation, it should be done privately so you won't embarrass the boy.

P.S. That said, keep this in mind — sometimes, a girl ends up having a good time with the person she least expected to.



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I frequently receive requests via Facebook and other social media sites asking for prayers for people who are ill or suffering a loss. I'm not a religious person, but I would like to acknowledge their pain and extend my sympathy. Any suggestions? — CHALLENGED IN TUCSON

DEAR CHALLENGED: That you are not a religious person doesn't mean that you're not a caring and sensitive one. When you receive news that someone you know is going through a rough patch, respond by saying you are sorry for his or her pain, and that he or she is in your thoughts.

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.)

© 2014, Universal Press Syndicate

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 Scorpio and a Moon in Leo if born before 2:08 a.m. (PST). Afterward, the Moon will be in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 2014:

This year you find that the heaviness of the past few years seems to disappear, and, as a result, a new happier you appears. This transformation will not occur overnight, but over several months. Your creativity will surge. A dynamic in your perspective about romance and love will change; the outcome will be better choices. If you are single, this year could be unusually significant. The people you want to relate to will be different from those whom you've dated in the past. If you are attached, the two of you will gain a more relaxed and caring dynamic. LEO can be demanding. 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)

HHH You might want to spend more time relaxing. Fortunately, no one will interfere with your plans. Joining others seems less like a chore after a good nap. Allow others to run the show. An important gathering could be on your calendar. Tonight: Follow the music.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★★ Don't cut your time short with a loved one. This person tends to express his or her caring during your one-on-one interactions. You might see a friendship in a different light as you seem nearly ready to put the lid on special plans for the near future. Tonight: Stay in the here and now.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ You might want to stay close to home. Spreading your wings and socializing could become a lower priority on your to-do list. Emphasize family foundations. A conversation with a close friend or loved one could help you clear out some resentment. Tonight: Make it easy.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Efforts you make today could come back to you. How you present yourself could be the difference that makes others respond positively to you. Trying to cheer up a glum loved one might be futile. Tonight: Escape to a favorite spot to hear some great music.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You might want to get a stronger sense

of your finances. You might feel as if your checkbook has sprung a leak. Take a hard look at your budget, as there is a possibility of an error. Make sure it is not yours! Tonight: Enjoying a loved one does not need to cost anything.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Others might do a double take, as your mood seems to change radically. Your positive attitude but cautious response to someone you consider difficult will be well received. Consider clearing your life of extra burdens. Tonight: A potential sweetie or loved one steps forward.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You might need some time off. Consider what would be the best way to revitalize your energy and spirit, then proceed. Someone who could be involved with this plot could be delighted by your idea. In any case, you'll need a break. Tonight: Shhh! Don't tell.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might decide that it's time for a change. You are likely to see life through new eyes because of an ingenious and imaginative idea that is sure to pop up today or in the near future. Go with it, and you will be smiling more often. Tonight: Choose your company wisely.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ If you feel as if you have too many responsibilities, ask for help. Whatever you might be doing, it will push you out the door. Look at your life, and remember that it is not a dress rehearsal — it's the real deal. Assess how you spend your time. Tonight: Out late.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ If you were to follow your instincts, you could become an explorer today, or at least go somewhere you have not seen before. Getting out of your tried-and-true environment will allow you to gain a new perspective about your priorities. Tonight: Opt for the unusual.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ A dear friend will present an offer that causes you to rethink your schedule. You might be concerned about your finances, and it could persuade you to say "no." Be disciplined about your budget, but don't cut yourself off from others. Tonight: Be open with a special friend.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Your phone will ring or someone will be at the door. There is no way that you can isolate yourself today, so don't even try. Postpone some research or other plans. Take advantage of the moment and the people around you for a fun time. Tonight: Express what you feel.

© 2014, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

