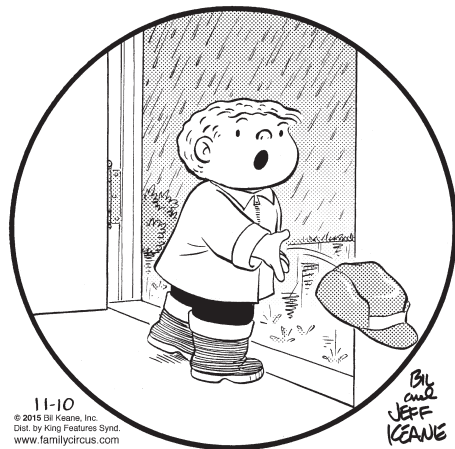


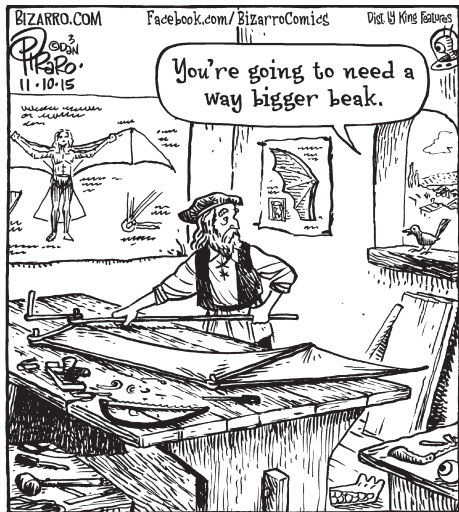
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



11-10
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"I'm leavin' my hat, Mommy, so you won't hafta wash my hair tonight."

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Special-Needs Daughter Gets Little Notice From Dad's Family

DEAR ABBY: A year ago, I ended a turbulent five-year relationship with my boyfriend, "Alex," that resulted in a special-needs child. Alex is not living in reality when it comes to our daughter's disabilities, and his family is not present in her life.

Our daughter, "Meghan," spent months in the hospital before she was healthy enough to come home, and Alex's family visited only a few times. I have tried to resolve the issues with Alex's family so our daughter can have a relationship with them, but it is still one-sided. Meghan's paternal family will send a present for her birthday or Christmas, but they spend no time with her. They have other grandchildren in other states that his mother drives hours to see, but she won't drive five minutes to see my daughter.

I'd like to start rejecting the gifts they send Meghan with a note explaining why. I find it disturbing that they'll spend money on my child, but are unwilling to spend time with her. I feel the gifts are a payoff. I don't want Meghan to feel like the odd man out when she's old enough to realize how she is treated compared to the other grandchildren. Abby, what are your thoughts? — END OF MY ROPE

DEAR END OF MY ROPE: I hate to see you sever your already tenuous ties with Meghan's paternal family. Their behavior toward her may have something to do with the fact that she has disabilities, or the "turbulence" of your five-year relationship with their son.

If they would consent to it, I would recommend family counseling for all of you. However, if they won't, and because you feel that their lack of involvement in Meghan's life will eventually become hurtful to her, you are within your rights to reject their gifts and find more support for her within your own family.

DEAR ABBY: My son tells me no one wants to hang out with him at the small community college he attends. He is a handsome, loving, polite young man who earned the citizenship award three years in a row in elementary school. His sister and I were discussing that maybe he is being TOO polite and it could turn people off. No one likes the "nice guy." Do you have any advice I can give him? — RAISED A GOOD BOY

DEAR RAISED A GOOD BOY: I disagree with your statement that no one likes a nice guy. Nice people like nice people. From this distance, I am unable to guess what your son's problem might be.

However, it is telling that you are seeking advice about his social problems, not him. The best advice you could convey to your son would be to talk about this with a counselor at school. Together, they may be able to figure out why he has trouble fitting in. You should also encourage him to get involved in activities, which should widen his circle of acquaintances.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

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.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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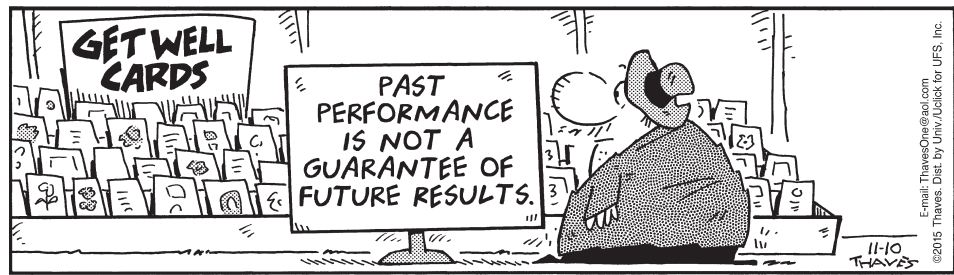
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PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



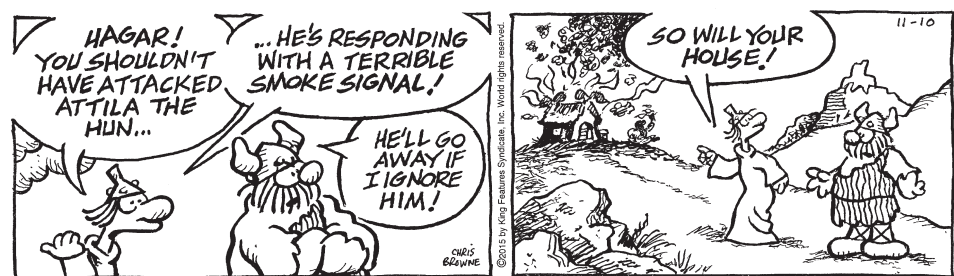
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



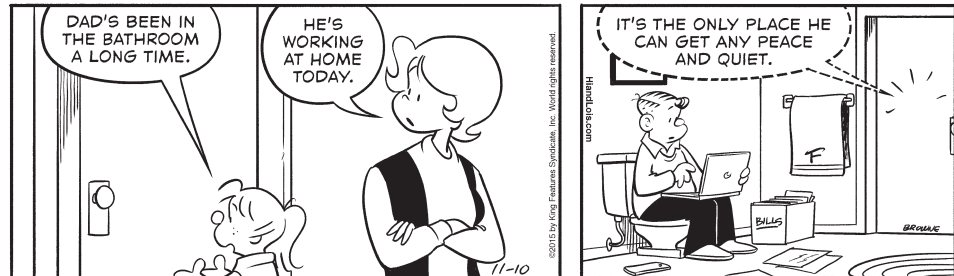
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



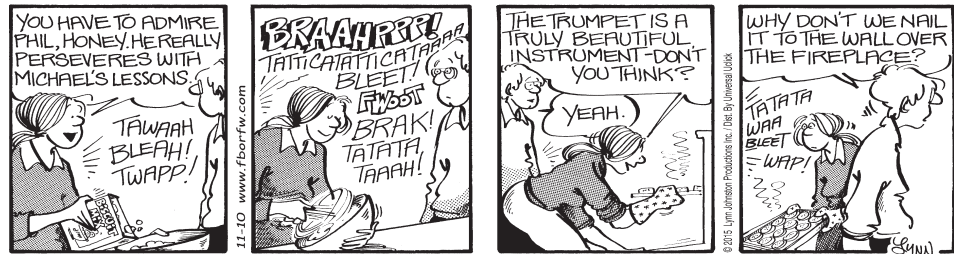
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



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 and Moon in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, NOV. 10, 2015:

This year your imagination feeds your creativity to such an extent that others often are dumbfounded by your ideas and solutions. Sometimes you could be a bit self-absorbed. Be aware of this tendency. If you are single, others respond to your charisma. You will have several suitors to choose from. You won't want to settle until you feel you have met someone who lights your fire. If you are attached, the two of you often have a great time together. However, with your tendency to be me-oriented this year, you must be aware of your significant other more often. Make more time for him or her. A fellow SCORPIO might be difficult to relate to.

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 get an earful early on. What you are hearing could be good information, but it also might be somewhat overwhelming. Consider allowing the person with the ideas to carry the banner on this issue. Use your instincts! Tonight: Go along with a family member's suggestion.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

**** You might be stubborn and want to have your way. However, someone else is determined to run the show. Go off and enjoy those in your life, or get into a different project. Allow this person to have his or her way -- and the extra work! Tonight: Agree to established plans.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

*** All work and no play isn't healthy, but today you might not have a choice. Stick to your vision when making a decision about a key project. Will it deliver the results you desire? If not, is this idea worth pursuing? Only you can decide. Tonight: Know when to relax and let go.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

**** Your energy seems to soar. You'll need it to dive into your work, an artistic project or something that allows you to create and manifest. Otherwise, the frustration you experience could backfire and cause a problem. Tonight: Add more spice to your life.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

*** Someone you care about might be pres-

suring you. Most likely, this person wants you to do something that you have no interest in doing. You have been saying "no" in your own way, but this person is refusing to listen. Decide the best way to handle this situation. Tonight: Out late.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

**** You can't complain about people not appreciating your ideas if you are not sharing them. Start being more open about what you desire. Once you start opening up, you'll get feedback that is likely to encourage you. You might try being authentic more often. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

**** You could be exhausted by everything that is occurring. However, you can deflect any negativity or energy that feels off. Use caution with your finances. You might be drawn to a situation and feel compelled to handle it. Tonight: Take care of yourself first.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

**** Your natural style encourages agreement where there otherwise would be uproar. Stay on top of a situation that is a high priority. Only you can create what you really want here. Someone else can try, but he or she won't be as successful. Tonight: Go along with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

*** You might want to slow down before you take a leap of faith. Consider the pros and cons of your decisions. Adrenaline runs high as you consider a new path. You are likely to head in that direction sooner rather than later. Tonight: Share exciting news with a trusted pal.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

**** Once others get that you aren't going to change your direction, they will want to join you. You can't blame them for wanting to have their ideas acknowledged, though. Your determination is clear. Sharing your vision will be important. Tonight: Hang out.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

**** Be willing to take a stand and let others decide whether to join you. You know that what you are doing has financial implications. You might wonder what others think. Be OK with any feedback or criticism you get. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

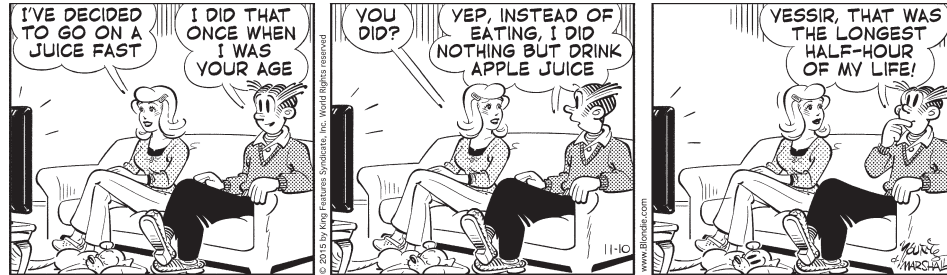
**** Investigate other ways of viewing a problem or situation. You recognize how unique each person's vision is. Much of what we see and say emerges from our backgrounds. Do your best to detach and take in the whole picture. You might be surprised! Tonight: Share with a loved one.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

