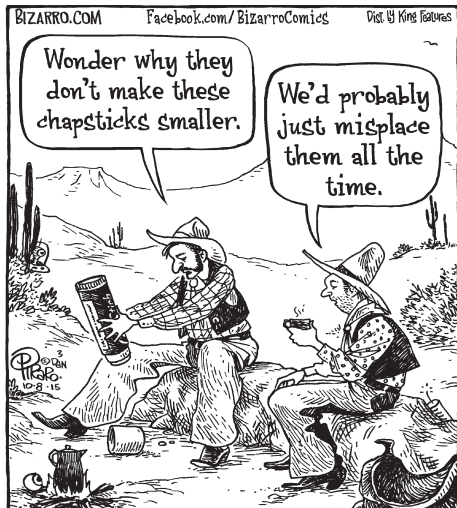


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE

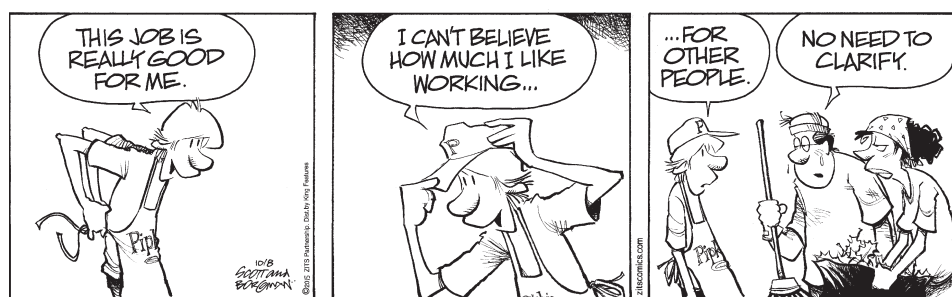


Substitute cartoonist Billy (age 7) once again takes pun in hand and fills in for Daddy.

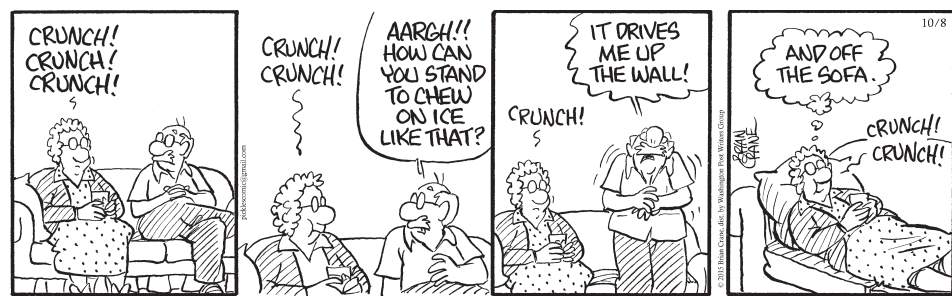
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



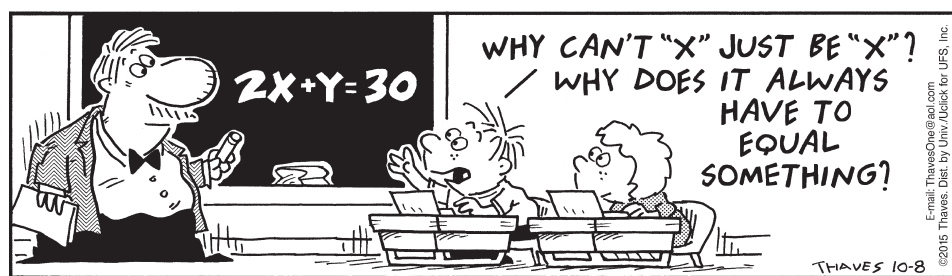
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



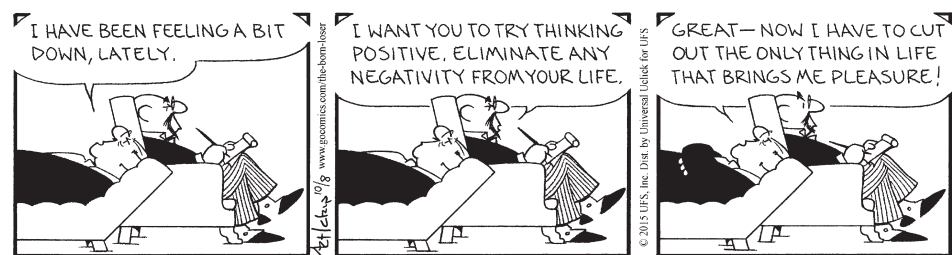
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



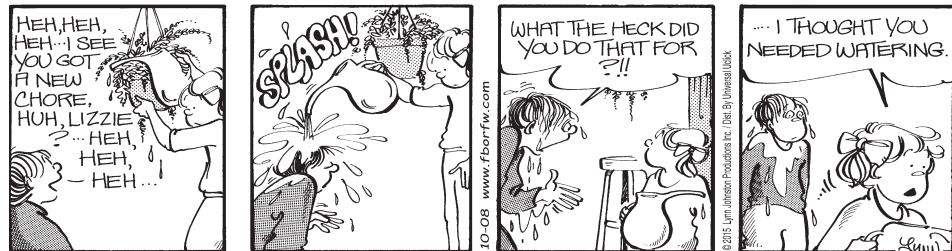
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



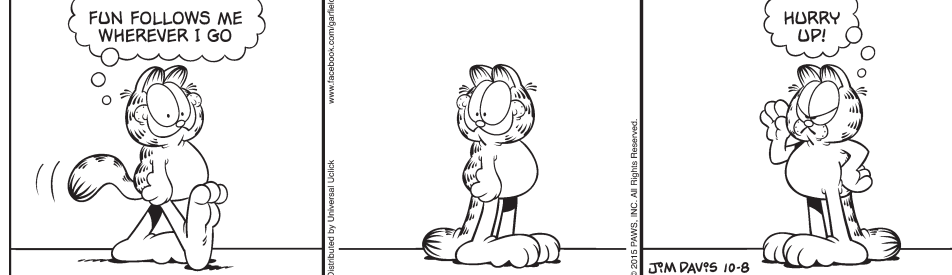
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Whistleblower Is Dismayed By Lack Of Official Response

DEAR ABBY: I am a widow in my early 50s. While I was dating a prominent OB-GYN, I found out that he's involved in criminal activity — operating a so-called "pill mill." On our last date he asked me to join an escort service he was starting.

I notified the medical board of the state he's practicing in and various government agencies. It amazes me that he is still practicing. He's doing abortions, which means he has access to vulnerable young women. Knowing this, I have lost trust in our medical establishment. Nothing seems to affect this man's success and practice.

I have given up and am moving far away. What should I do? Have I done everything possible? This is obviously a very difficult situation for me. I am deeply concerned about his patients. I'm getting therapy now for my trust issues because of this experience. Is there anything else I should be doing? — MS. X, SOMEWHERE IN THE USA

DEAR MS. X: Having notified the proper authorities about this man's activities, you have done everything you can. The only thing left is for you to concentrate on healing yourself, and your therapist can help you with that. I wish you luck in your recovery.

DEAR ABBY: I wrote to you about my 97-year-old mother who was in failing health. My question was how to notify her out-of-state elderly friends with news of her passing when the time came. My idea was to use her address book/Christmas card list for addresses and then print a copy of her obituary with a short message thanking those friends for their letters, cards and support during her life. You sent me back a note that positively reinforced my idea.

My mother passed away earlier this year. I mailed the letters and received a response from almost every single person. Each one thanked me for letting them know the sad news. With your encouragement, I was able to handle this matter with respect and dignity. Thank you so much. — GAYLE IN ARIZONA

DEAR GAYLE: You're welcome. I occasionally hear from readers asking if people I have advised actually follow my advice. I'm pleased my encouragement worked well for you. Thank you for letting us know.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been dating for five years and have three wonderful children between us. Now, after a year of living together, we have begun to talk about marriage.

We are happy, but we are introverted people and our main focus at this time is on raising our kids. This has left us with few friendships and only a couple of close family members. If we do decide to get married, I'm worried about how many people we would be able to invite or if there would even be enough people to be in the ceremony itself. Do you have any suggestions for this kind of situation? — SHY BRIDE IN KANSAS

DEAR SHY BRIDE: Yes, I do. A wedding doesn't have to be big and fancy to be beautiful and meaningful. That's why I suggest you and your boyfriend be married quietly in a ceremony officiated by a justice of the peace or clergyman of your choice. Ask your relatives and close friends to accompany you while you take your vows and have a small celebration afterward commensurate with your budget.

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.)

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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.

Even if you experience a difficult moment or two with a child or loved one, you can't deny the power of the bond that exists between you. Tonight: Get the bills organized.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You'll finally hit your stride, but you still might be concerned about a financial matter. Recognize what is happening with your funds, and talk to an expert if need be. Get back to your day and handle a personal matter quickly. Tonight: Choose a favorite pastime.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Slow down. When you move too quickly, you encounter a problem. More information might be forthcoming, or a conversation could color your thinking. Sometimes a slow simmer is the best path to an excellent decision. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Be aware of what is being offered and why. You could be overwhelmed by everything you have to do. Recognize your limits, and delegate whatever you can. Establish stronger boundaries as well. Respect your limits rather than push beyond them. Tonight: A must appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You might be more closed down than you realize. Your mind is on other matters, and you don't seem to be aware of the impression you are giving. You usually are able to see past the obvious, but not right now. Take some time to yourself. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ As knowledgeable as you are, you will need to reach out to someone who has more expertise. You are able to see where others are coming from, but you'll want as many facts as possible. Trust in your ability to get past a problem. Tonight: Go off to the movies.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

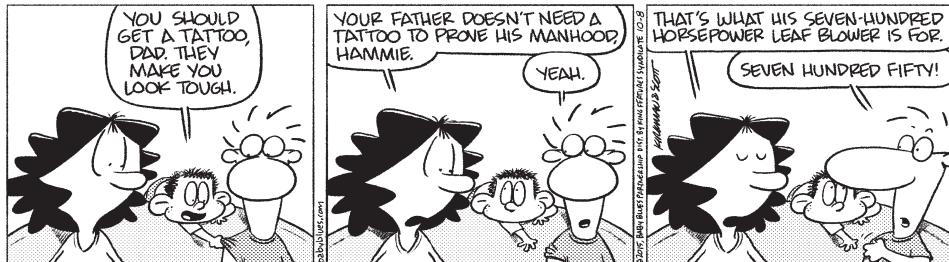
★★★★ You could be too tired to continue as you have been. If you ask for help, you can count on others coming through. You don't need to carry the burden of having to do everything by yourself. Just ask. Be aware that a friend could be touchy. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

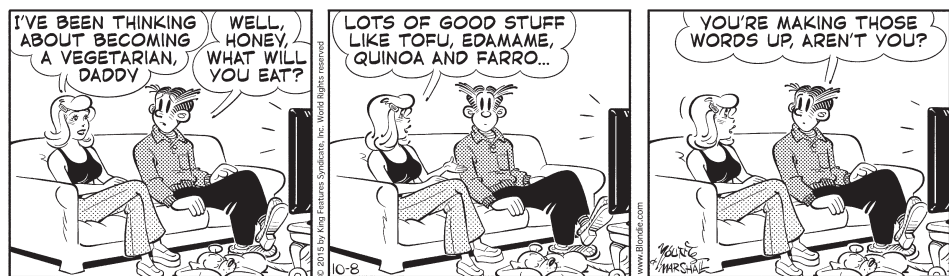
★★★★ You won't want to get into a power struggle. Consider letting go of a personal matter and allowing someone else to handle it. Not only will this person's approach be different, but it also might change what is happening. Tonight: Buy a token of appreciation to say thank you.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

