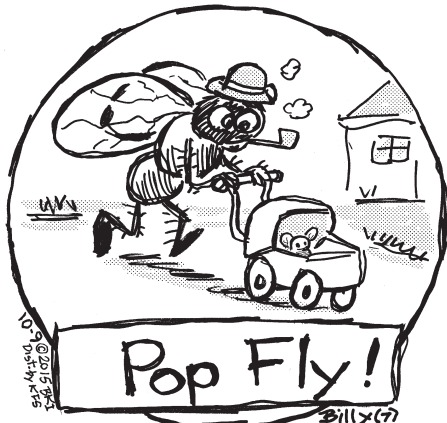
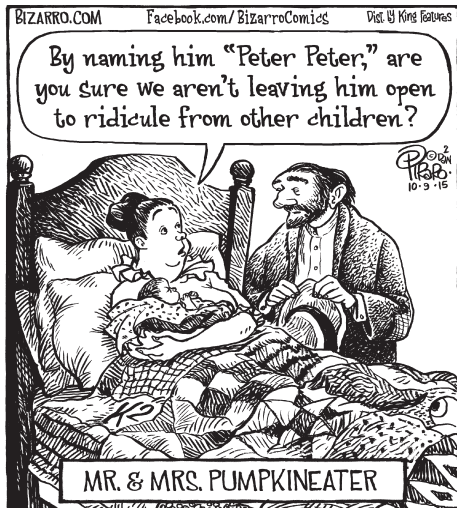


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE

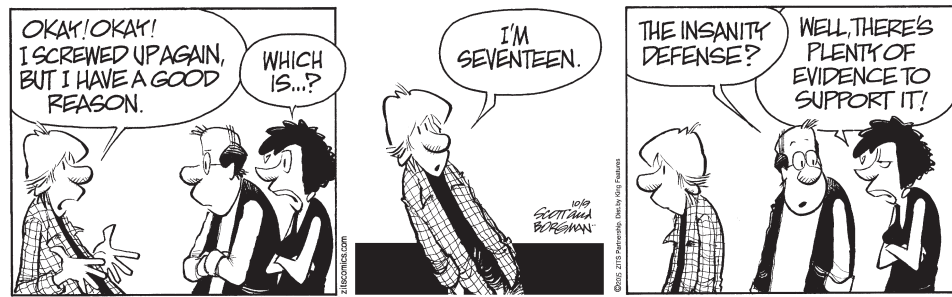


Little Billy draws up another one so Daddy can keep watching the baseball playoffs.

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



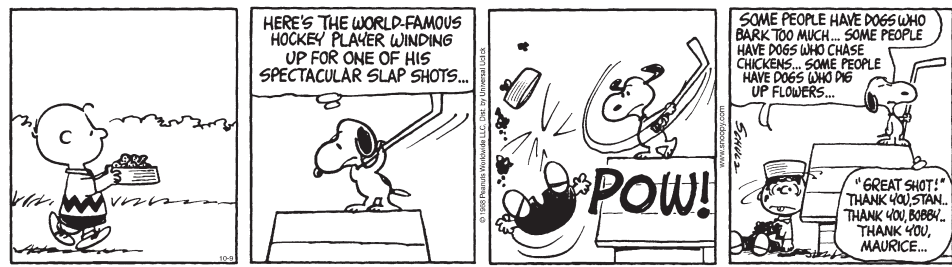
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



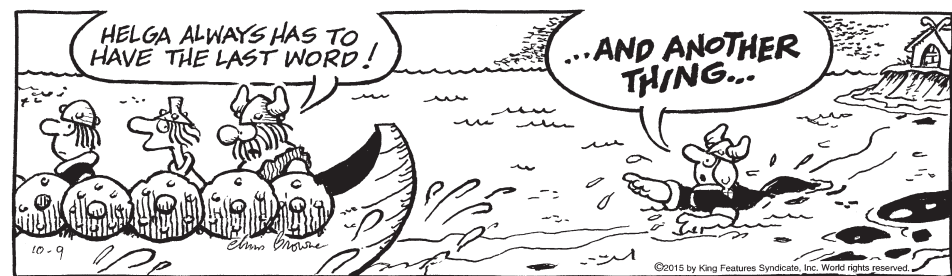
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



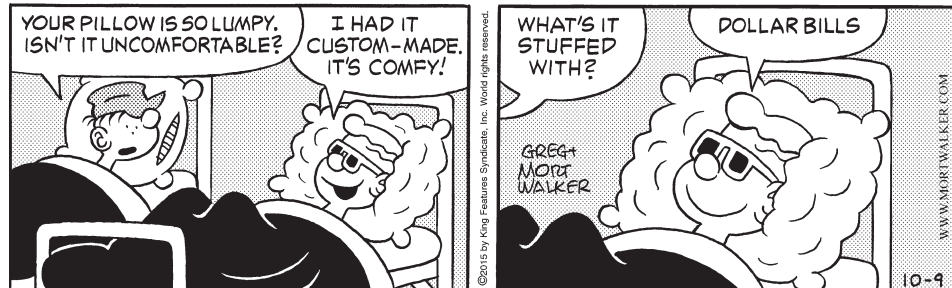
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



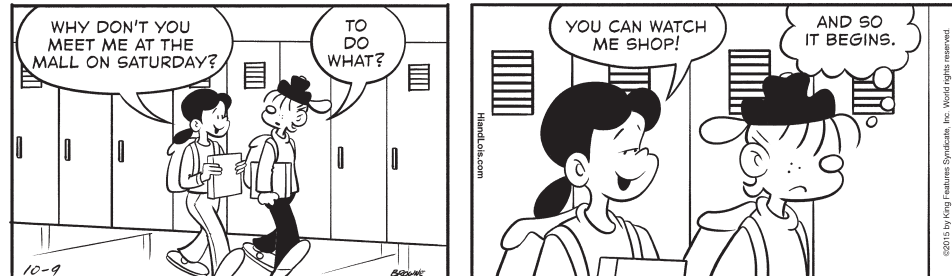
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



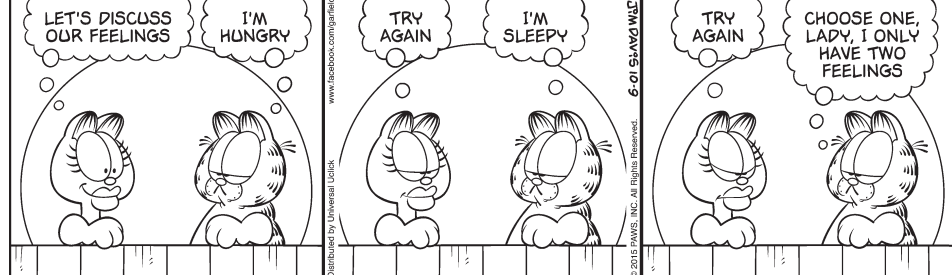
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Party Guest Feels Singled Out By Subtle, 'Special' Treatment

DEAR ABBY: I was invited to a small gathering of women. I arrived punctually, was greeted by the hostess and asked if I wanted some water to drink. I accepted. As I looked around the room, everyone else had a glass of wine. When one other woman arrived a little while later and joined our group, the hostess asked her if she wanted wine or water to drink.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I have never abused alcohol. Why was I not given a choice? I later found out that all the other women had been given a "show up" time that was a half-hour earlier than my "show up" time.

I am hurt by the way I was treated. What are your thoughts? - SECOND-CLASS CITIZEN IN FLORIDA
DEAR SECOND-CLASS CITIZEN: I think your hostess could learn a few things about hospitality, because you were treated shabbily. As it stands, you have nothing to lose by asking her why because I can't imagine that you would ever accept another invitation from the woman if one is offered.

DEAR ABBY: At what point should grown kids in their 20s pay for their own "extras" (cellphone, gas, movies, gym memberships)? In my opinion, if they can't afford these luxuries, they should get a second job or do without. My husband, on the other hand, thinks they should be "rewarded" simply for being good kids.

At this stage in their lives, I think gifts should be reserved for birthdays and Christmas only and that we have been raising kids with a sense of entitlement that may be detrimental to their future (and to our retirement). What are your thoughts on this? - ODD WOMAN OUT IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ODD WOMAN OUT: My thoughts are these: If you are truly concerned that your husband's generosity could have a negative impact on your retirement savings, then he may be overly generous. If the "children" expect these gifts and don't realize how lucky

they are to be receiving this kind of largesse, the gifts should be stopped. However, if neither of these things is true and your husband derives pleasure from doing this for them, you should stay out of it.

DEAR ABBY: Six months ago my brother told me he vapes. At first I didn't think much of it. Because I pride myself on how well I keep secrets, I haven't told our parents. But now his grades have started sliding, and I wonder if there's a connection.

He's going into his senior year of high school and his graduation is on the line. If vaping has had an effect on his grades, it might be best for me to tell our parents and figure things out from there. I don't know what the right choice is. What should I do? - HOLDING A SECRET IN WASHINGTON

DEAR HOLDING: From what I have been reading lately, some teens have begun vaping marijuana, which is known to impair memory. Depending upon what substance your brother has been vaping, it could definitely be why his grades have dropped.

Secrets that can pose a danger shouldn't be kept because they are not harmless. I think your instinct is to share your concerns with your parents, and I concur.

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 an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity 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.

A baby born today has a Sun in Libra and a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, OCT. 9, 2015:

This year you often have extensive dreams. You will want to have more personal time. Some of you will get into volunteer work, whereas others will opt to kick back and relax. You will move through issues with ease. If you are single, you are in the process of a change. The person you hook up with now will be very different from who you choose to date later in the year. Only commit if you are 100 percent sure of your relationship. If you are attached, the two of you live active lives that do not always intertwine. You need to make a point of setting aside more time for you as a couple. VIRGO can make an excellent healer for you.

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 wake up to a bit of chaos in the morning. Tempers could flare. Try not to sit on your anger. Much will come out in this short period that could temper your mood and response. Ask for more feedback from a trusted associate. Tonight: Know when to call it a night.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

***** Your creativity might be challenged. Don't worry -- you will find a solution. If you detach, you will see a hassle from others' point of view. A brainstorming session will open one possibility after the other. Try not to nix someone else's ideas. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

**** You could be a lot surer of yourself than you have been in a while. A discussion about what has been happening needs to be kept private. Your thoughts and discussions will reinforce your focus, as well as those who live with you. Tonight: A partner demands your attention.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

**** Your sense of direction emerges in a conversation. This quality can manifest on a theoretical level as well as a physical level. Your upbeat attitude has a profound response from those around you. Know that you are lucky right now. Tonight: TGIF!

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

**** You finally will clear up a money matter

that has been bothering you. You have reason to be angry, but choose a different time and place to process it. You will make a big difference in what happens in the future. Tonight: Whatever you do, make it memorable.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

***** You'll zoom through your day, trying to complete as much as humanly possible. You have a roughness about you that turns people off. If you see this pattern happening, think about your style of communication. Avoid sarcasm at all costs. Tonight: Whatever you touch works.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

**** Your enthusiasm comes forth and allows more to happen. You might notice that you have no tolerance for any kind of emotional drama right now. Be clear with others about your terms in order to relate more effectively. Tonight: Be with a favorite person at a favorite place.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

**** You'll see the role that a friendship plays in your life. Your secretive tendencies often stop people from connecting with you. Try to allow others to see the real you. You might hear some criticism, but the compassion you draw out will be more authentic. Tonight: Hang with friends.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

**** Others come toward you. A boss might have plans that involve you. Understand what this person wants, and know that you likely will have to carry out any requests that he or she makes. Keep your opinions to yourself; don't undermine your relationship. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

**** News comes in from a distance. You could be taken aback by everything you have to do. On one hand, you'll be trying to grasp the meaning of what was said. On the other hand, you'll be replaying the actual words. Focus on the message. Tonight: Tap into your imagination.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

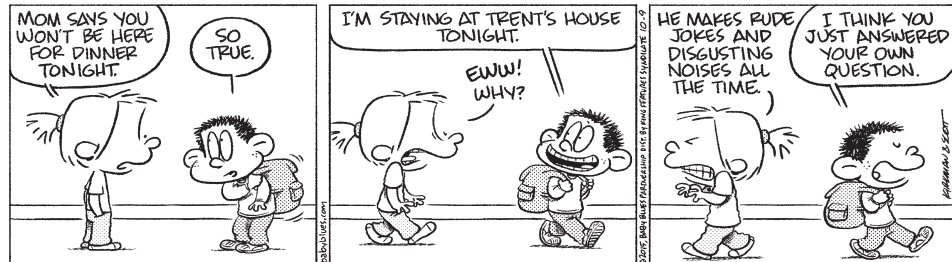
**** One-on-one relating could take a new twist. You suddenly might find yourself in an argument. Few people understand the real meaning of your words. Allow a loved one to discuss his or her feelings. You'll find this discussion to be unusually powerful. Tonight: A quiet dinner.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

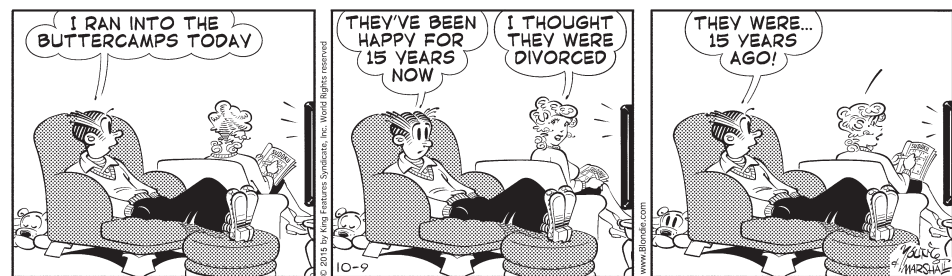
**** Try not to make too much out of a personal matter, and do your best to ignore someone's temper flare-up. Relax and do your thing, but don't be surprised if someone invites you to join him or her in some spontaneous plans. Tonight: Paint the town red.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

