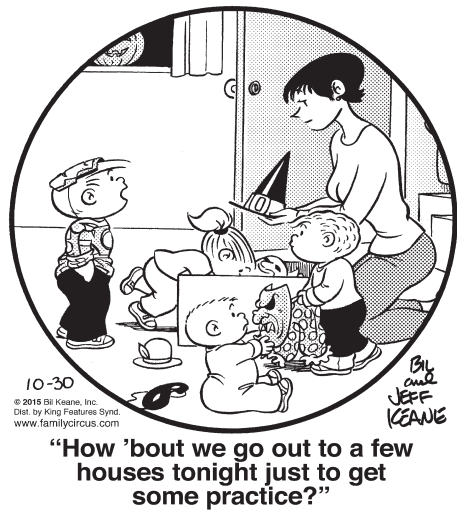


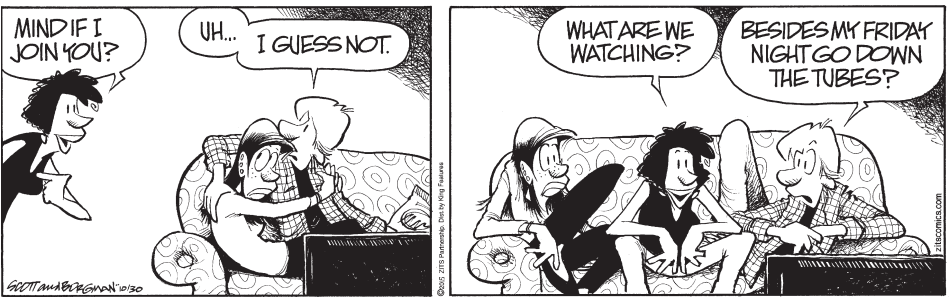
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



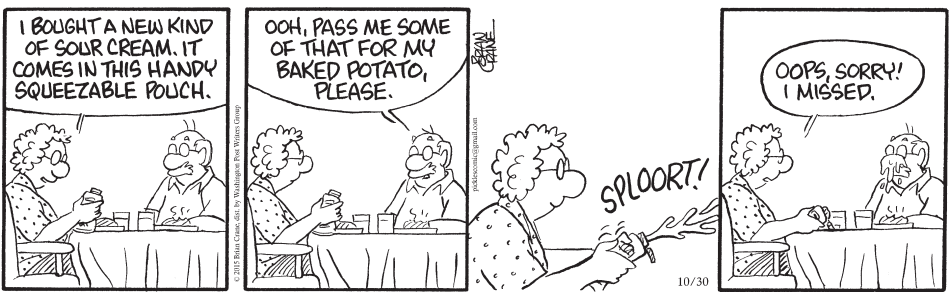
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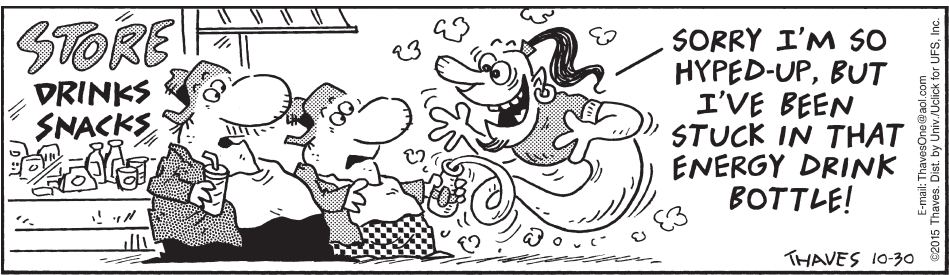
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



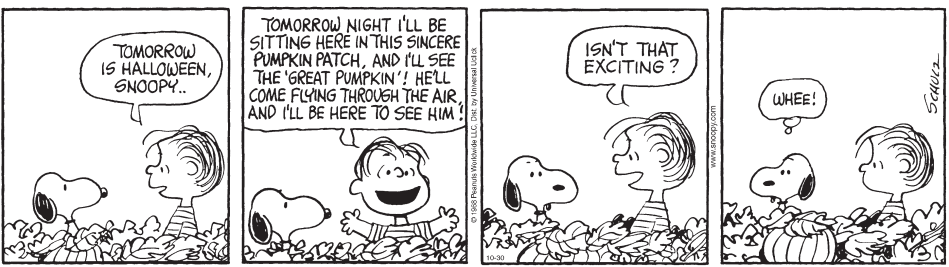
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



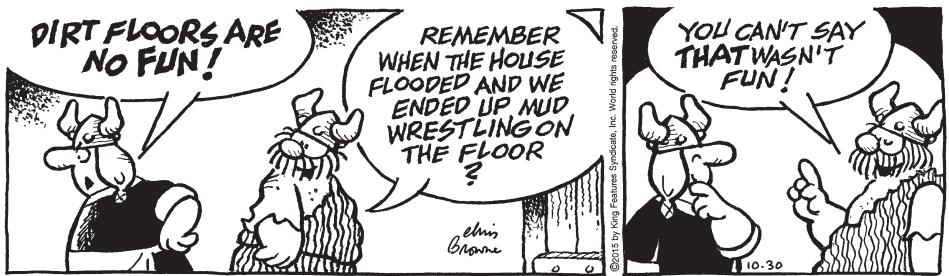
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



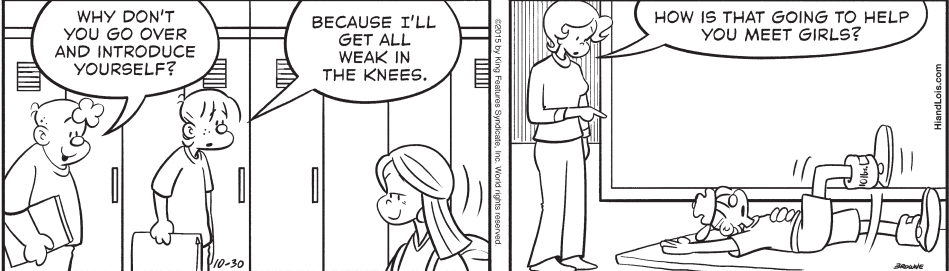
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



# Small Investment In Smoke Alarms Reaps Big Benefits

**DEAR ABBY:** Printing this letter could save some lives — maybe even your own. In the United States, eight people die every day (on average) in house fires. Tragically, about half of these deaths could have been prevented with an inexpensive device that takes just a few minutes to install and costs only a few dollars to maintain.

I'm talking about smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are the cheapest life insurance money can buy. They are one of the most successful public health innovations in history, but 71 percent of smoke alarms that failed to operate during the last year had missing, disconnected or dead batteries.

For the 28th year, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) is proud to partner with Energizer, the manufacturer of batteries, flashlights and lanterns, in the Change Your Clock Change Your Battery program. Together, we're asking your readers to make sure they have working smoke alarms that have been installed correctly, and to test their existing batteries — or install fresh ones — in conjunction with the end of daylight saving time on Sunday, Nov. 1.

In a fire, seconds count. A working smoke alarm can literally mean the difference between life and death. This program ensures that residents will have a WORKING smoke alarm, giving them and their families the critical early warning needed to escape a fire. That precious time also helps to protect firefighters, reducing the likelihood they'll have to enter a burning home to rescue someone trapped inside.

Learn more about the program by visiting [energizer.com/firesafety](http://energizer.com/firesafety) or the IAFC at [iafc.org](http://iafc.org). Readers should also check with their local fire departments because many of them offer discounted or free programs to install working smoke alarms in low-income areas in their communities. Thanks, Abby. — FIRE CHIEF RHODA MAE KERR, IAFC PRESIDENT AND CHAIR OF THE BOARD

**DEAR CHIEF KERR:** I'm pleased to publicize your lifesaving effort. Readers, daylight

saving time is also lifesaving time. Changing and testing the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors when setting the clocks back can save your lives and the lives of the people you love. Every family should also have a fire safety evacuation plan and practice it so that everyone is prepared to evacuate should an emergency occur. A great start to establishing that safety plan is to recognize that this is the ideal time to buy and install those batteries.



DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband was going to a meeting at the home of a fellow temple member. Because I was baking for a cookie exchange and had plenty available, I sent a lovely plate of cookies with him. The hostess thanked him, but didn't serve them. I'm fine with that. But as he was leaving, she presented him with the still-wrapped plate and said she "couldn't possibly" accept them. Is it me, or is that odd?

— COOKIE BAKER  
**DEAR COOKIE BAKER:** Yes, I think it's odd — unless the hostess or someone attending the meeting had a severe allergy to an ingredient that might have been in the cookies, such as nuts. While it was not unusual (or rude) to not use the gift of food in the meeting, it WAS odd to return it.

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](http://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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## 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 Gemini.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, OCT. 30, 2015:

This year you enjoy your friends and loved ones more than ever. You value your time with them, and you make sure to spend time with them. As a result, they feel more appreciated, and so do you. If you are single, you could meet someone quite influential to your future. This bond easily might evolve into a romantic tie. If you are attached, the two of you nearly always want to be together. You often can communicate without words. Enjoy this closeness, but don't forget everyone else. A GEMINI ranks high in importance in your life. 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)

★★★★ Tension surrounds others in your day-to-day life. You mean well, and people sense that quality in you. Don't sell yourself short. Know that a loved one's nerves might be frayed, and use your intuition and sensitivity with him or her. Tonight: Have a last-minute chat about Halloween.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Be aware of how indulgence plays into your budget. Someone who benefits from your generosity could be manipulating you to get more. Learn how to say "no" more. You could be inspired by a pal to do something very different this Halloween. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You might not be evoking the response you desire from a loved one. Manipulation won't work. You also could be missing important facts. A boss or parent demands an inordinate amount of your attention. Make it your pleasure. Tonight: Out on the town.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Maintain a low profile. You'll need to gather your strength for the weekend. You could be heading to Halloween celebrations or getting a costume ready. Be sensitive to someone's request. Make it OK to say "no," as you might be off-kilter. Tonight: Reach out to a loved one.

### LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Zero in on a friendship. You could find that there is an element about this person that

encourages you to overindulge. Rein in your self-discipline if need be. A partner or loved one will be unusually seductive. Tonight: Let a friend lure you into his or her Halloween plans.

### VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Others often talk about their expectations but do nothing. You might want to challenge them. When you're in a leadership position, you know how to encourage people. Manifest those skills, and add a touch of personality. Tonight: The party could go till the wee hours.

### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Investigate the possibilities rather than nix anyone's idea. In fact, a suggestion that seems far out of left field could prove to be a gift when you start working with it. Your inner voice might be pushing you in a certain direction. Listen to it. Tonight: Try a new spot.

### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might be intrigued by a loved one's plans. Friends seem to pull you into an unrelated realm, but you will enjoy the diversity. Expect the unexpected, or you could be wary without knowing why. Tonight: You choose where and with whom you want to be.

### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Defer to a partner who is more social than you are. You could be all over the map about an issue, whereas this person is not. Focus on what is ailing you. Don't forget what is happening with a family member. You can't just ignore this issue. Tonight: Follow the gang.

### CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Pace yourself, as you have a lot of ground to cover. An adviser or friend might present the facts in a new light, which is likely to open up a new door. You could be surprised by a new path that you had not yet considered. Tonight: Hang out with great friends and a few goblins.

### AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Creativity surges with each imaginative comment, suggestion or plan you come up with. Your friends and family will delight in brainstorming with you. Drop the word "impossible" from your vocabulary. You will be happier as a result. Tonight: Use your imagination.

### PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

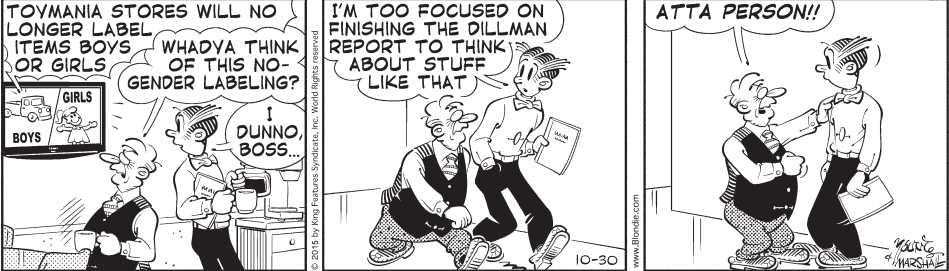
★★★ Sometimes you simply are not in the mood to deal with pressure. How you deal with these moments can have a long-term effect on your relationships. Tension mounts, despite your efforts. Erase negative thoughts and see what happens. Tonight: Dress up like a couch potato.

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## BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



## BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

