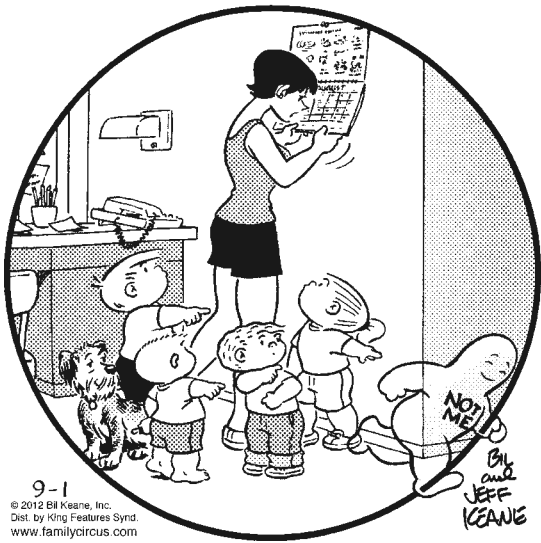


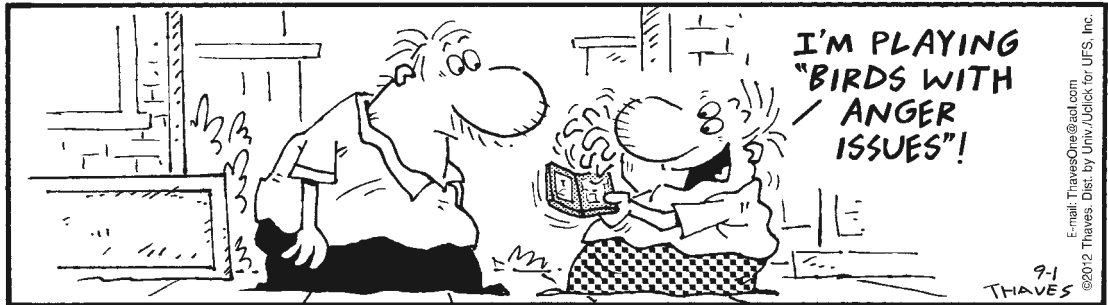
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



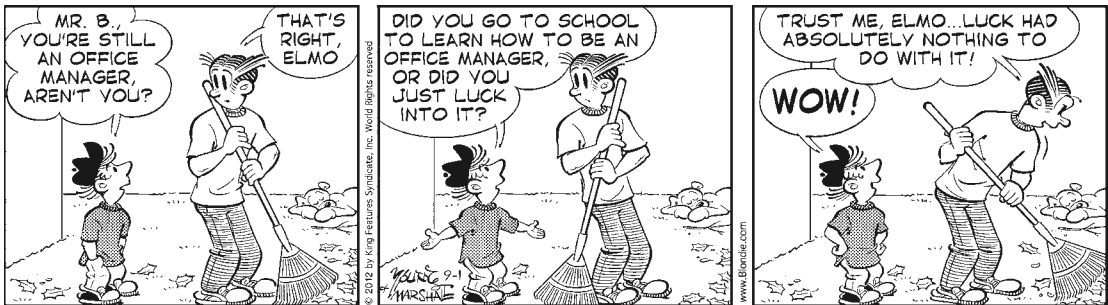
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



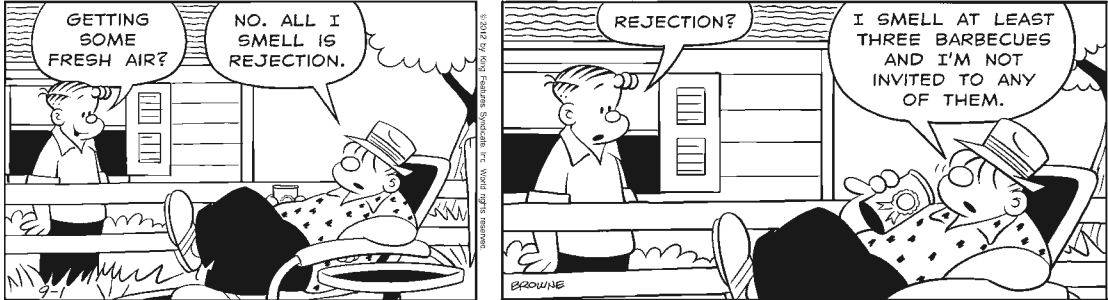
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



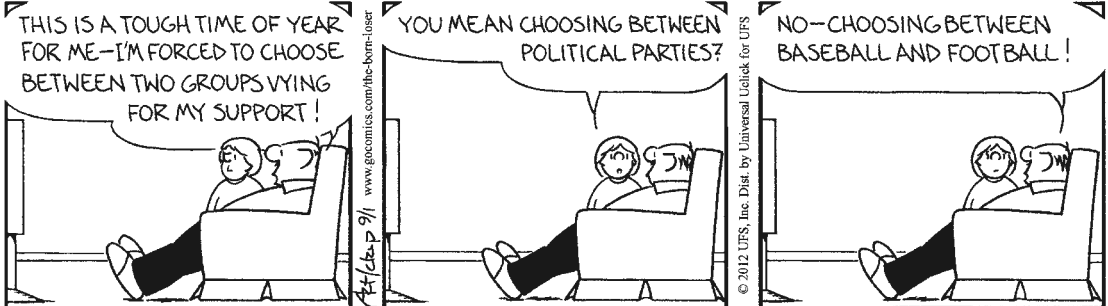
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



# Make Sure Your Dog's Toys Don't Become Objects Of Peril

DEAR ABBY: I am writing hoping to avert another tragedy like we experienced last week. Our German shepherd, Leah, was playing with a hard rubber ball the size of a tennis ball. Somehow, the ball slid down her throat. I tried to dislodge it by grabbing and pulling it out, then I tried the Heimlich maneuver. Neither worked. By the time we got Leah to the veterinarian, she was dead. They tried for 25 minutes to revive her.

Leah was a friendly, funny, loving dog, not yet 2 years old. We miss her terribly. Abby, please tell your readers to never, ever let their dog play with any object that fits into its mouth. If it fits, it can lodge in the throat. I don't want anyone else to experience the pain of losing their dog like we lost ours. — KAREN IN CENTER VALLEY, PA.

DEAR KAREN: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your beloved pet. However, because you wrote to other dog owners, take comfort in the knowledge that you have very likely saved another four-footed family member's life.

DEAR ABBY: My well-meaning mother continues to give me "classics" from her wardrobe that she no longer wears. I'm a size 6 to 8 in my 50s. Mom is in her 80s and wears 12 to 14. Our sense of style is also not the same.

My problem is, after insisting I take these items, she'll often ask for them back several years later. It becomes awkward when I must explain I gave her clothes away. How can I politely stop her from gifting me these items? — NO LONGER HAS THEM

DEAR NO LONGER HAS THEM: Say, "Mom, these things won't fit me. But I'll be glad to drop them off at a charity thrift shop for you." It's honest, it's practical, and someone can enjoy them.



## 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. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married three years, and we are both lucky to have families that are kind and supportive. However, there is one recurring issue with his family that I find annoying.

Nobody in my husband's family has a driver's license or owns a car. This includes his two aunts and mother, who all live in the same town we do. As the only driver in the family, I am regularly asked to shuttle relatives to the doctor, the pet groomer, the grocery store, etc.

Abby, none of them have any physical or mental disability that prevents them from driving. We live in a city with a number of cab companies that serve the area. I work hard so I can pay my car insurance bills, my car payments and buy gas to get to where I need to. I'm starting to resent being asked to drive three able-bodied adults who are perfectly capable of driving themselves or taking a taxi.

Am I being inconsiderate? Is there a way to politely convey that I do not wish to play chauffeur? — DRIVEN CRAZY IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR DRIVEN CRAZY: Yes, there is — and because these are his relatives, your husband should be the one to tell them that you have been generous enough and it's time for them to arrange other transportation.

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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## 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 Virgo and a Moon in Pisces until 10:32 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Aries

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 1, 2012:

This year you are capable of making a big difference in many friends' and loved ones' lives. You will demonstrate a high level of sensitivity to their emotional aches and pains. If you are single, this quality will draw someone very special to you who you might consider sharing a life bond with. You will meet very different people who are bonded by a mutual respect for difference. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy socializing as a couple far more than in the past. PISCES is quite drawn to you. You are nearly opposites, but you have the same core issues. 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)

★★★ Follow your instincts with a child, loved one or personal money matter. Confusion surrounds communication, as well as key relationships. You also feel more vulnerable than usual. Choose to revisit these feelings another day. Tonight: Play it low-key.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Be where your friends are, and stay around crowds, if possible. You could feel as if circumstances have rushed you into an uncomfortable situation. Confusion surrounds a friendship. You probably are not speaking the same language as the other party. Tonight: Where your friends are.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ You might feel as if the camera is on you. You'll tend to go overboard with showing affection and giving praise. You could try to communicate your thoughts instead. The other party is not on the same wavelength as you. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Look at the big picture before taking a leap of faith. You might want to gather more opinions, especially if finances are involved in some way. If you need to find an expert, do not hesitate to do so. Forthcoming news could be confusing. Tonight: Follow the music.

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

★★★★ Make plans with a favorite friend or loved one. Make this important person in your life feel valued. One-on-one conversations, though sometimes confusing,

have great value. A brainstorming session helps you come up with special plans. Tonight: Individual time with someone.

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

★★★★ Listen to others, but know that you do not need to agree with them. In any case, these discussions create unusual and spontaneous plans that you really want to be a part of. Make sure that everyone knows exactly where to meet and when. Tonight: Say "yes."

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

★★★★ You do not need to go far to find a way to occupy your time. Either someone you care about wants to join you, or you could meet someone who is quite enticing. Meeting up with people could be a problem if confusion is present. Confirm "what, where and when." Tonight: Just don't push.

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

★★★★ You could be pushing way beyond your normal limits, but your enthusiasm helps carry you to the finish line. Do not forget a child or loved one. Spending time together could be more satisfying than you think. Tonight: Make the most of the moment.

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

★★★ Invite others to come over to your home, rather than go out. This doesn't require much preparation. You can always order a pizza or do barbecue. Make sure you and others agree on a time, because confusion could wreak havoc. Tonight: The later, the better.

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

★★★★ Defer to others and let them decide where to meet and what to do. A break from organizing and bringing others together would be more refreshing. You'll gravitate toward a good restaurant or a fun spot where you can relax. Tonight: Know when to call it a night.

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

★★★★ Use good sense when making a decision about where you want to be and with whom. Do not take any risks, as you easily could see money disappear. Be careful when counting your change. You could feel overwhelmed, as confusion marks some interactions. Be patient. Tonight: Your treat.

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

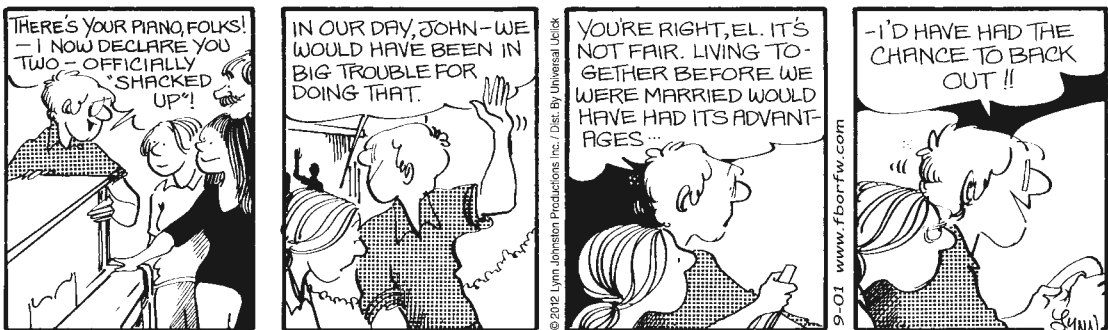
★★★★ You beam from ear to ear, smiling "just because." Others note your mood and hope that it's contagious. You presently manage to add an element of mystery that could translate to confusion if people are not used to your ethereal side. Tonight: Wish upon a star -- it just might work.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

