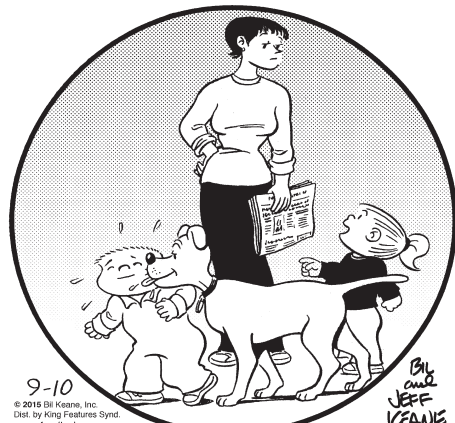


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



“Barfy sure does like to give PJ a lot of kisses after he finishes his lunch.”

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



THREE MORE INJURIES AVOIDED BY THE USE OF BIKE HELMETS

Daughters Unite In Resisting Mom's Domineering Demands

DEAR ABBY: At what point does a parent no longer have the right to know who their child's friends are?

I have three grown daughters, all on their own, living on the other side of the country. During a recent visit home for their grandmother's birthday, I asked each of them to give me all of their friends' phone numbers, in case I couldn't reach them. I also wanted to know who they were exactly, how well they knew them, etc. I was simply thinking of their safety. If I can't reach my girls, I want to know who might have seen them last and, if need be, give that information to the police. Abby, all three of them told me NO! They said they are grown women and can take care of themselves, and besides, if, God forbid, they didn't want to answer their phone when I called, I sure as h— didn't need to be pestering their friends.

They say they are adults, and that we (their dad and I) no longer have the right to “dictate” who they are friends with. I say I'm their mother and no matter how old they get, I will ALWAYS have the right to know who they are friends with. I would appreciate your thoughts. — RENE IN OREGON

DEAR RENE: I agree that you are their mother, but you are not your daughters' parole officer. They are self-supporting, self-sufficient adults. Perhaps if you were less overbearing, your daughters would be living closer, would answer their phones more often when you call and would open up to you about their friendships. Frankly, I think you should apologize for giving them such a heavy-handed third degree.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I had dinner with some other couples at an elegant, white linen tablecloth restaurant. After the meals were brought to the table, someone said, “We need to pray.” In this quiet, candlelit setting, a “Bless us, oh Lord ...” was spoken aloud by most of the people in our party, causing heads to turn at a number of nearby tables. Undoubtedly, the din sounded like chanting. I was embarrassed.

Please understand, we are religious and we pray aloud in church, but not in restaurants. I have seen people bow their heads and pray privately, which seems more appropriate. Is there a rule of etiquette about praying in a restaurant? — SILENTLY PRAYING FOR ADVICE

DEAR SILENTLY PRAYING: Yes, there is. In restaurants, praying should be done quietly and inconspicuously to avoid distracting other diners.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I love my friends and enjoy going out to dinner, and attending plays and movies with them. However, something really annoys me. My husband and I are usually early, and when we go to the movies, our friends ask us to pick up the tickets if we arrive first. After the movie we'll grab a bite to eat and at the end of the evening say goodbye.

The question is, how do we ask them for the money we laid out for the tickets if they forget to offer it? This has happened three times with different friends and we're out the money. — ANNOYED IN TEANECK

DEAR ANNOYED: There are a couple of ways to do it: As you hand the tickets over, you might say, “That'll be \$20, please.” But if that's uncomfortable for you, the following day, you or your husband should call these “forgetful” friends and ask them to send you a check.

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.

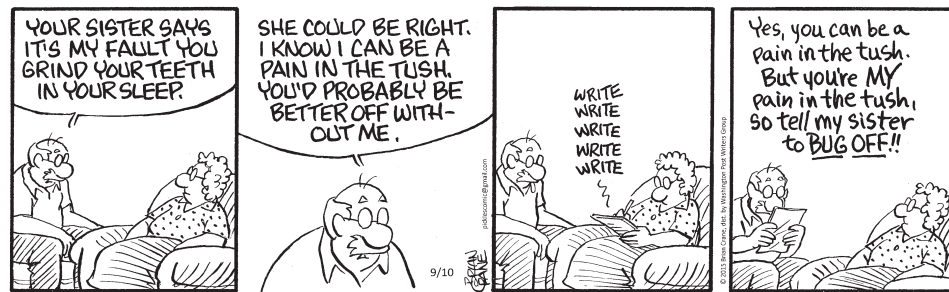
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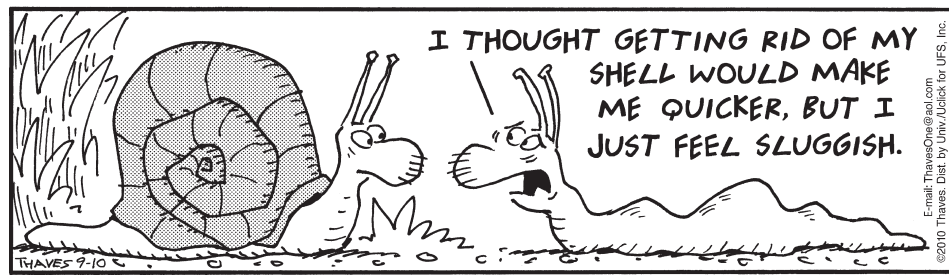
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PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



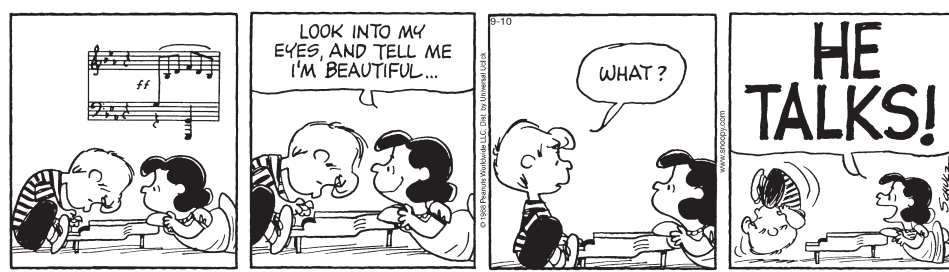
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



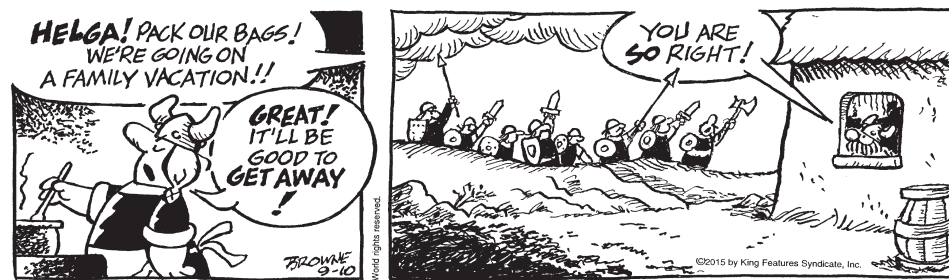
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



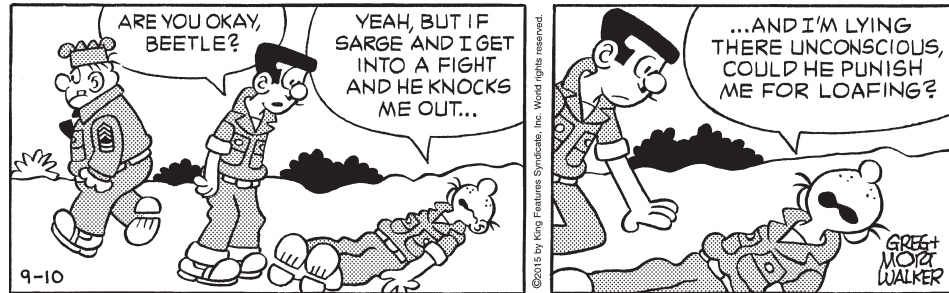
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



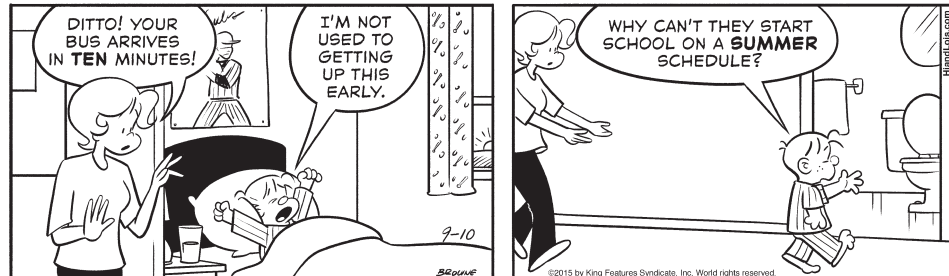
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



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 in Virgo and a Moon in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, SEPT. 10, 2015:

This year Lady Luck rides on your shoulder. Nevertheless, you will want to keep a low profile, as you will feel more comfortable. Whatever you plan seems to fall into place. If you are single, you might meet someone quite exotic who is not as authentic as you would like. Be clear about the qualities you seek in a partner. If you are attached, the two of you will want to share a lot of alone time together. You'll enrich your bond as a result, and become much more intimate than in the past. LEO knows how vulnerable you are.

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 might be bombarded by a call in the morning from someone who wants to use you as a sounding board. You won't mind, but you could get thrown off by the conversation and lose your sense of time. Consider taking a shortcut. Tonight: Get into weekend mode.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You know better than to spread yourself too thin. Slow down and prioritize. Be caring with those in your immediate environment. Cancel an outside commitment if need be. Consolidate rather than fragment. Tonight: Consider what you would like to do this coming weekend.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You might be so busy on the phone that you could miss what is going on around you. Remember to make some time for yourself. A friend or co-worker could surprise you with his or her response. Stay leveled. Be forthcoming. Tonight: At your favorite spot.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ What is happening around you allows you to step back and consider what you would do in the same situation. A friend or relative does the unexpected and throws you into some chaos. Hang in there, and know that everything will work out. Tonight: Do some shopping.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You are firing on all cylinders. Even if you run into a problem or an angry person, you will

find the right words to allow everyone to move on. A loved one at a distance finds you to be unusually attractive, and will let you know that as well. Tonight: Be physical.

VRIGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Deal with someone directly and with kindness. You might not want to be visible at the moment, and could choose to play it low-key. Understand that you will be missed! Use this day for yourself, and get some much-needed R and R. Tonight: Continue the vanishing act.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Others might be more provocative than you would like, but you'll have little choice except to deal with them. You have at least one friend from whom you never know what to expect. Keep your goals in mind, and you can't go wrong. Tonight: You will be missed if you stay home.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ Once more, you seem to end up accepting all the responsibilities of others. You might want to consider stopping this habit -- it is not good for your well-being. An older friend or relative will let you know how much you are appreciated. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You understand all the different energies that are swirling around you through others. On some level, you will find it very amusing; however, you'll prefer to stay out of a problem rather than hop in the middle of it. Tonight: Say “yes” to a weekend getaway!

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ You will be in the mood to let others deal with the details of a certain situation rather than handling them yourself. You could feel as if you have not had enough time to get into a social mode yet. Others seem to be only too pleased to pitch in. Tonight: Surprises await you!

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Others go out of their way to get you going, and will encourage you to join in. You have a unique ability to make people feel appreciated. Many people might be seeking you out for that reason as well. Throw yourself into the moment. Tonight: What is stopping you?

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

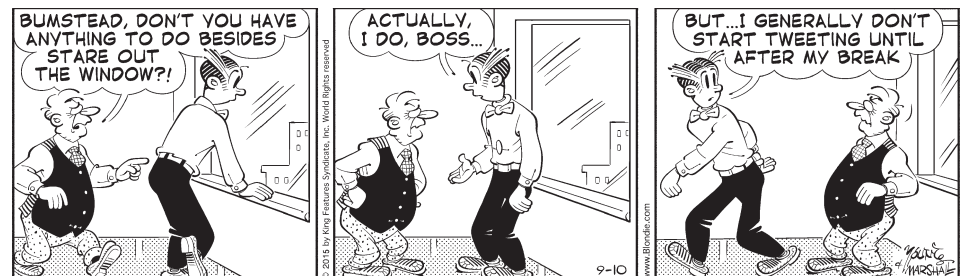
★★★★ Ideas and suggestions simply fly right out of your mouth. You might be surprised by everything that is happening around you. Be willing to go 100 percent in whatever you do. You will have nothing to worry about then! Tonight: Get some sleep while you can.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

