

FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



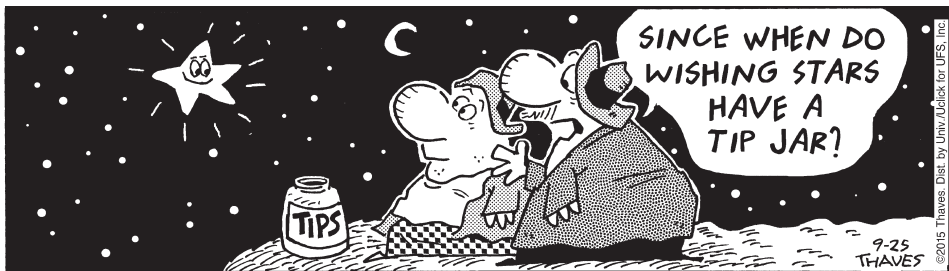
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



## Two Heads Are No Better Than One At Grocery Store Checkout

DEAR ABBY: There are no words to express how disappointed I am at the education kids receive now and still graduate with "honors." I was at the grocery store a short time ago. Two young ladies working there just completed their freshman year at the local college. One of them had been on the honor roll all through high school.

I bought four packages of gravy mix that were on sale – four packages for \$1. As the cashier rang it up, I noticed that she had entered them at 44 cents apiece. When I brought it to her attention, she asked the other cashier if that was right. She asked, "Forty-four cents, wouldn't that be four for \$1?" The other one picked up a calculator to find the answer.

Can you tell me, what did this honor student learn in school? Both girls are in college. My heart is broken for our kids. Maybe we need to go back to teaching like when I was a kid. Just call me ... GRANDPARENT IN TEXAS

DEAR GRANDPARENT: Frankly, your letter leaves me at a loss for words. I can only say that the problems with our educational system will not be resolved in an advice column. Readers?

DEAR ABBY: I was sober for a year when I met my husband. Neither my alcoholism nor my 24 years of perfect sobriety have ever caused any upset for anyone in my family.

His niece will be married later this year in a winery in another state. The thought of it makes me anxious, and I am opting to not attend with my husband.

Abby, I am not a "special" aunt, and I have no place in the wedding, which will be large. Some family members think I'm being selfish, but I believe I am my first responsibility. They are not the sort you can talk to, so please advise. Am I being selfish? – VERY SAD IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR VERY SAD: Not in my opinion. Your reason for not attending makes sense to me, and it's not "selfish" to skip an event at which you would not be comfortable. If you send your husband – and a nice wedding gift – I'm sure the bride will forgive your absence. And for those who would hold it against you, "remind" them that although you have maintained your sobriety for many years, it can't be taken for granted because sobriety is a day-to-day challenge for people with alcoholism.

DEAR ABBY: My friend and I have a disagreement. We do crossword puzzles together at the dog park. She says using a thesaurus/dictionary is cheating. I say that if I look something up and then write it down, I'm learning. What say you, Abby? – WILLIAM IN OCEANSIDE, CALIF.

DEAR WILLIAM: I agree with you. For this friend to shame you because you need a little help with the answers isn't very nice. The next time she says it, smile and ask her what a five-letter word with a "t" in the middle is.

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.

*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.

A baby born today has a Sun in Libra and a Moon in Aquarius if born before 12:43 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Pisces.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, SEPT. 25, 2015:

This year you exhibit high creativity, and as a result, you come up with limitless solutions. Others often seek you out for help. You tend to have a busy schedule. At times, you have difficulty making time for people, which could be a bone of contention. Use this year to take a hard look at what might not be working in your life. If you are single, others find you to be romantic and highly desirable. If you are attached, the two of you need more alone time together, away from all the crowds. PISCES makes a great 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)

★★★★ Use the morning to the max, when you have a receptive audience. Meetings will go smoothly except for an issue that arises about who wants to take the lead. You could sense a power play starting. Reflect before you act. Tonight: Check in with an older friend or relative.

#### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ A boss or a respected associate demonstrates his or her respect and caring. You might be more demanding than you realize and could cause a rift unintentionally. A situation is likely to develop in which you'll need to handle a personal matter. Tonight: Relax with the moment.

#### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You might have the best intentions, yet a partner seems to be defiant. This situation easily could develop into a major rift. Financial implications also might emerge. Don't push, but support yourself in creating more stability. Tonight: Don't get too feisty with a family member.

#### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You'll open up to a different perspective that allows you to see the big picture. Decisions made with this mindset will prove to be excellent. Choose to go your own way, if possible, and don't get up in someone else's need to have it his or her way. Tonight: Watch a favorite movie.

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

★★★ Others continue to seek you out. You

might need to screen calls and be less available. A personal issue arises that you'll need to deal with first. If you don't want to share what is happening, make it OK. Tonight: Go along with someone else's choice.

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

★★★ Dive into a project in the morning. The more you get done, the better off you will be. Complications easily could occur in the evening. You will need to divide your attention. Before you say or do anything, make sure your motive is not anger. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

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

★★★★ Share your ideas in the morning. You have the ability to find excellent solutions. Understand what a loved one is asking you. At a certain point, you must focus on a project. Screen calls to accomplish what you want. Tonight: Wind down and relax.

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

★★★★★ Your creativity could be limited by a personal situation, but once it is handled, you'll be able to handle nearly any situation. A friend could be overly assertive, making you somewhat uncomfortable. Make a choice that you feel is needed. Tonight: Celebrate the weekend!

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

★★★★ You might not be able to free yourself from being caught in conversation after conversation. At some point in the day, you will want to isolate yourself, as you have a lot of ground to cover. Be ready to handle a loved one's demands. Tonight: Head home.

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

★★★ Deal with a financial matter head-on. Reassess a situation that you feel is determined by its stability and financial ramifications. You will seek out answers to your questions, and you will get them. Others gain more awareness. Your mood could swiftly change. Tonight: TGIF.

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

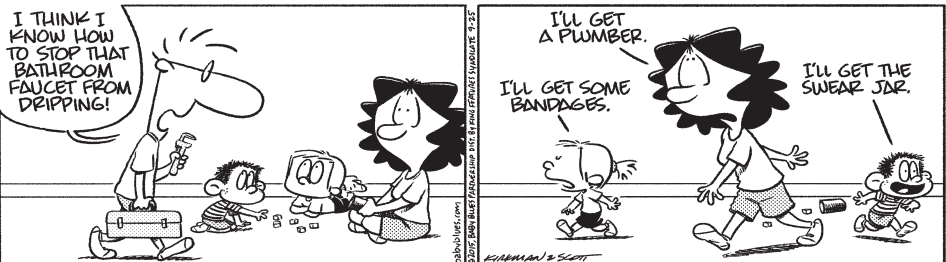
★★★★ Complete what you must in the morning. You also might see one situation create multiple conversations. You could feel worn out by midafternoon, but you'll greet the weekend with a smile. Take off early if you can. Make plans spontaneously. Tonight: Treat a friend to dinner.

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

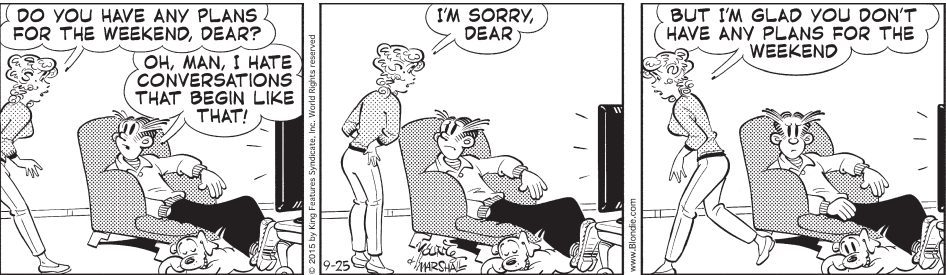
★★★★★ You might feel as if you can't accomplish what you want. Swallow that feeling, and assume a positive attitude. Dive into your work. Once you clear out the to-do list, you will lighten up. Make it OK to have a mood change for the better. Tonight: Cheer the weekend in.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

