

Is nephew driving too early? Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dear Annie: My family has lost their minds and is letting my 14-year-old nephew drive around on open roads, sometimes in busy areas. He drives with his mother and grandmother.

I think this is beyond crazy. He could hit, maim or kill someone, or drive off the road and hurt himself. The consequences are beyond unimaginable.

Is this a new trend in parenting? Am I wrong to think this is extremely dangerous? Should I say something? — *Scared Aunt*

Dear Scared: Every state has different rules for when a child is allowed to operate a vehicle, depending on the child's age, the type of vehicle and whether or not a responsible adult is present. Being young doesn't necessarily make him a reckless driver. Since you are concerned, however, we recommend you check the laws in your nephew's state. If he is not in compliance, talk to the mother and grandmother and see whether they understand the ramifications should Sonny get into an accident. If they refuse to listen, then please report it to the local police.

Dear Annie: Here's a topic I don't remember ever seeing in your column. It's what a husband should

Annie's Mailbox

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be able to do if his wife is incapable of doing common household tasks:

1. Grocery shopping: I have seen so many men following their wives around the stores like lost puppies. If you don't know how to shop for your household, then pay attention to what your wife is doing. Learn to use coupons. Check eggs for breakage and fresh produce for spoilage. Make a list before going to the store and cross off items as you find them. Write down UPC codes for items that come in different flavors so you know what to get for next time.

2. Load the dishwasher, add detergent and start it. Don't use it to wash plastic containers that might melt. (Don't ask me how I know this.)

3. Cook a meal. The Web has an infinite supply of recipes. Choose one that calls for common ingredients and is easy to follow. Learn

how to use the mixer and the oven. Figure out how to have all the separate foods ready to eat at the same time.

4. Use the washer and dryer so you know how to set the load size and temperature, how much detergent to use and how to clean the dryer filter.

5. Thread a needle and sew on a button.

6. Pay the utility bills, balance the checkbook and use a calendar to schedule doctor appointments, important meetings, upcoming family events, etc.

7. Change the sheets and pillow cases.

8. Operate the vacuum cleaner and replace the bag. — *Jungle Jim in Indiana*

Dear Jim: Thank you. You may have written this with men in mind, but every person, male or female, should be able to do the things you have listed. For every man who doesn't know how to load the dishwasher, there is a woman who has never paid the household bills. And in all fairness, the younger generation generally knows these things already, since their marriages are more likely to be partnerships where all duties are shared responsibilities. As it should be.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Things do not always run smoothly for you, but they run right. You'll be glad about how it all shakes out. The important part is that you believe in life's process and don't worry yourself as it's happening.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Commit your thoughts to paper, even if you're pretty sure you don't know what they are. You probably won't realize what you think and what you fear until after you've written it down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Say no, and say it often. The more you say no, the more room you'll have in your future. For you, it takes a conscious effort to stop doing things so you can concentrate on being instead.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There are no perfect relationships. Luckily, the problem in yours is minor and can be effectively handled with a few choice words and the right attitude.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Perform what you practiced. It's important to get up in front of people. That experience will teach you what you can't learn any other way. It doesn't have to be the best show in the world to be of great value to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A warm reception for good fortune will attract more of it. So when you're paid handsomely for an effort you would have freely given, don't turn down the money — just say thank you!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The perfect opportunity will arise to apply yourself. You have skills. You've already done the hard learning. Now you just need to relax and

let your talent take over. **SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** The creative juices will be flowing strong all around you today, so why not take your problem to the whole team? Brainstorming in a group will produce some of the most fun you've had in a long time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Some people will remain clueless even when handed the clue. It's important that you don't take it personally. Go where you feel the most appreciated.

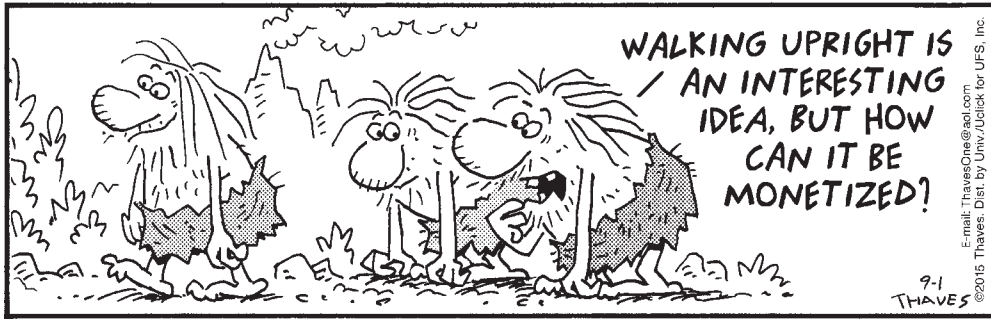
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). So many rely on you that you are very seldom at the center of your day. However, you can and should make yourself the center of an hour or two. You deserve it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Whoever said two things cannot occupy the same space at the same time hasn't seen your family at work. A loved one will defy the laws of physics and get very much in your space. You couldn't be happier about it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't know what you have, and that's some of the beauty of having it. You're not self-conscious. You're giving in ways you don't understand. It's messy and wonderful.

WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 2). The alliances you make this month will continue to benefit you for years to come. Seek new income sources in October because people will pay you better than your current wage. November brings romance and excitement. March will be the beginning of an improvement process that will take all spring. Gemini and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 1, 22, 35 and 18.

FRANK AND ERNEST



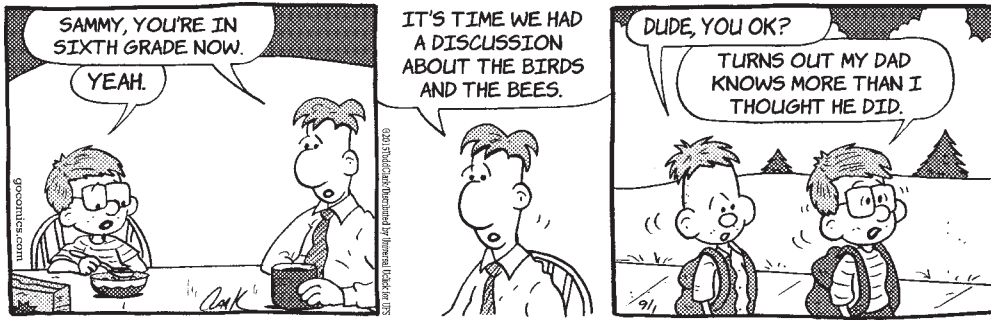
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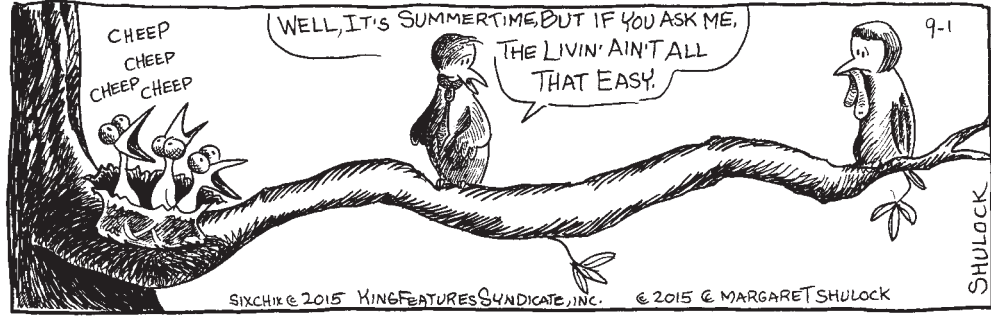
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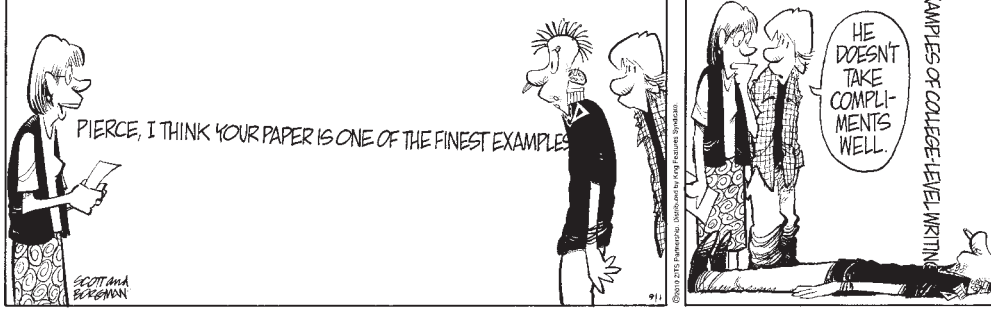
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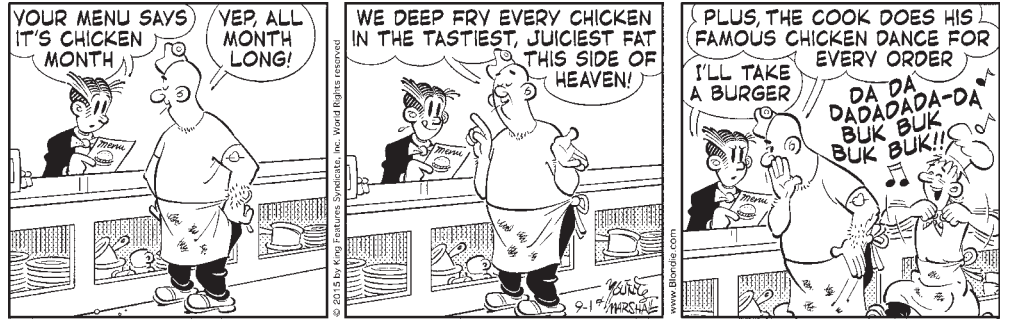
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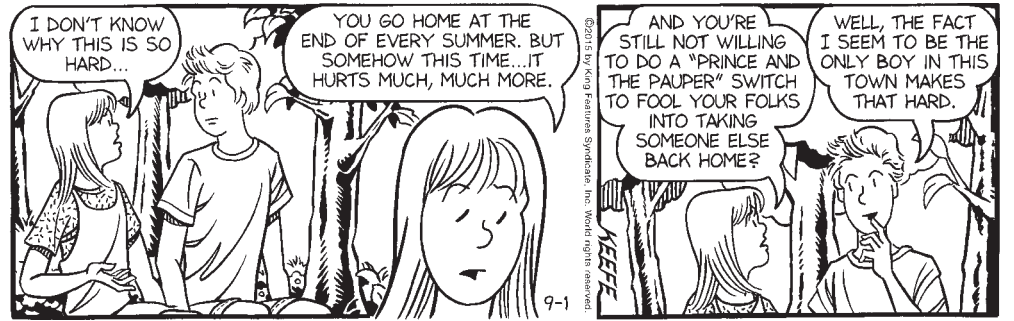
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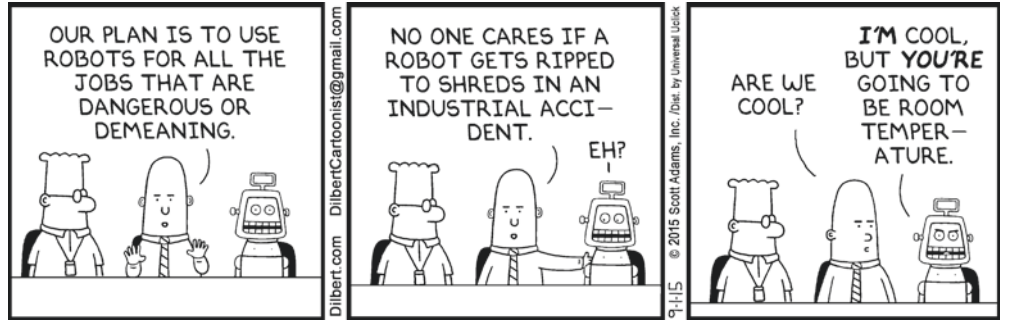
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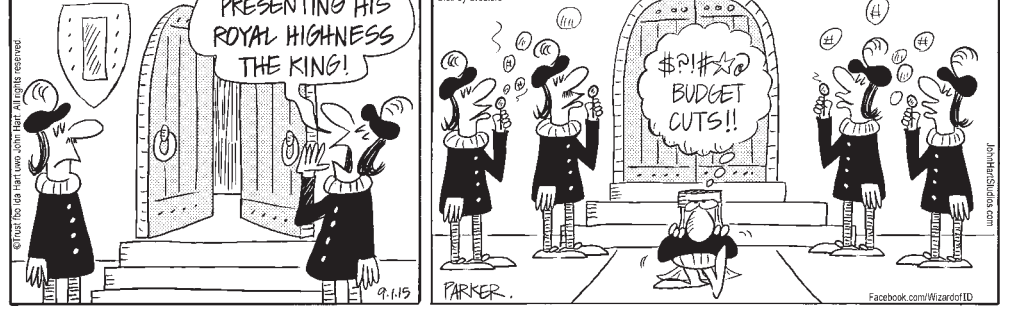
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