FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



"If you get down and look like this, you'll see a couple of spots you missed, Mommy."



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN





PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE

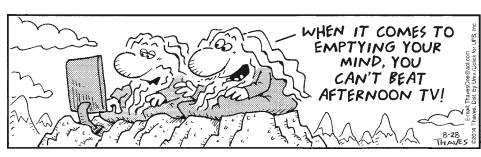








FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ









HE POESN'T

LONG AS HE

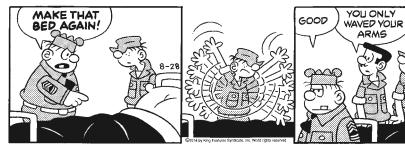
SEES ME

MOVING

HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



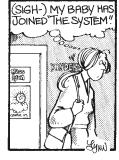


FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON









GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS







Wife Is Unwilling To Shoulder **Burden Of Mother-In-Law's Care**

DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law is 80 and in the early stages of Alzheimer's. She lives alone an hour and a half from us. She also has a professional who takes care of her once a week. My husband, "Fred," goes to help and entertain her every weekend, and I sometimes accompany him. She has enough money to stay in an assisted

living facility, but Fred wants to build a mother-in-law apartment for her on our property.

Abby, I DON'T LIKE HER. She was a bully when she was younger, and she's still manipulative. She has made some comments about me hitting her, which never happened. Of course, Fred believed me. If she lives with us, I will be her main caregiver because I have a home-based business and a flexible schedule.

I have already said no to Fred's idea, but I don't want to be the bad guy. His two brothers live states away and don't want to be involved because of the way their mother treated them during their teens. Fred is the only son willing to overlook past issues and has made peace with her.

Could you help me to sort this out? — THREE'S A CROWD IN MARYLAND

DEAR THREE'S A CROWD: I'll try. Caring for someone who has Alzheimer's disease is a fulltime job because the disease is PROGRESSIVE. While Fred's mother can live alone with the help of a professional once a week now, that will soon not be the case. She will become increasingly helpless and so confused that should an emergency arise in her apartment she will be unable to think sequentially enough to know what to do. She may no longer recognize who you are and become agitated and combative.

For these reasons your mother-in-law should be in an assisted living facility staffed with caregivers who have been trained to take care of people with Alzheimer's. Because you have a business to run, it can't be you. Since Fred has made peace with his mother, he should visit her often to ensure she is welltreated. But he should NOT expect the responsibility of caring for her to be yours because it

DEAR ABBY: My wife likes to leave money

hidden in the house or car as her little ATM. The problem is, one or both of our teenagers discover her stashes and the money disappears. We have had a family meeting about it, yet it continues. I have argued for years with her that part of the problem is leaving money around, not cleverly hid-

My wife blames one kid who she wants to kick out, but what if it's the other? Now she's blaming me for not solving the problem. Yes, it's terrible, but she has fed the impulsiveness and refuses to change her ways. She wants us to be on the "same

page," but that usually means her page. Any ideas? Family counseling? — DAD IN THE MIDDLE

DEAR DAD: Your wife may want to place the blame on you, but there is more than one problem happening in your household. The first is her insistence on leaving money where it's tempting a teen (or two) who steals. Second, you don't know who is taking the money and what it's being used for. Third is your wife's idea that a quick fix would be to throw a dependent child out.

It may take the services of a licensed marriage counselor to mediate an agreement between the two of you to work cooperatively together. If your wife needs money, the only ATM she should use is one that's connected with your bank rather than the cookie jar. Your teens should both be tested for drugs and evaluated for emotional problems. After that, family counseling might help you all communicate more successfully with one another.

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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|ACQUELINE 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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, AUG. 28, 2014:

This year you will gain financially if you avoid taking risks. A special friend or relationship might encourage you otherwise. Learn to say "no," and don't respond to pressure. You are in the last year of a 12-year life cycle. Play around with what has not worked for you in order to enter the next cycle with an open mind. If you are single, date someone for quite a while before considering making a commitment. Observe a tendency to attract emotionally unavailable people. If you are attached, the relationship benefits from time spent alone as a cou-

ple. Plan on enjoying several long weekends away together. LIBRA can be a sounding board for you. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-

Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-Śo-so; 1-Difficult **ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)**

★★★★ Listen to what seems like a whisper. Your intuition will kick in as your creativity opens the door to what could be a challenging new possi-bility. Walk through the door and wave hello to newness and excitement. Tonight: Try not to accept any more responsibility.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You could be more in tune with a child, roommate or friend who allows greater give-andtake between you and someone else. You could find that answers will lead to even more questions. The unexpected plays a big role in making plans. Tonight: Play it nice and easy.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Your imagination will prove to be a gift when dealing with others. You add extra zest to conversations. Allow greater give-and-take between you and someone you consider to be fun. The unexpected could factor into a partnership.

Tonight: Love the moment. **CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)**

★★★★ Listen to news, and be more decisive than you have been in the past. Recognize what has made you feel so forthright and clear; you will be able to use this ability in the future when you want to clear up a confusing situation. Tonight:

Make weekend plans. LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

* ★ ★ ★ You often are in touch with many people. Your biggest problem might be how to deal with

an overflow of calls and requests without offending anyone. Try to keep a low profile. Understand that ou might need to also ask for some help. Tonight:

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

 $\star\star\star\star\star$ You could be vested in the outcome of a financial situation. Trust yourself to sort through a problem and come to a workable solution. A loved one or dear friend will need to be given some slack, as this person appears to be a bundle of nerves. Tonight: On top of your game.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★★ Be attentive to someone's requests. and stay responsive to his or her style of communication. Your understanding will be in high demand with many people. Someone you care about allows you to grow to a new level of understanding. Tonight: Play it low-key.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ Your ability to understand more of what is happening will emerge. Revamp your approach to a particular matter with the knowledge that something better lies ahead. Your sense of humor will make a demanding matter palpable. Tonight: Get some extra R and R

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★★ You are full of energy, and this allows greater give-and-take between you and others. A meeting could carry more punch than you had thought possible. Understanding is likely to evolve to a new level as a result. Tonight: Get into weekend mode.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You could be exhausted by everything that is happening, but a key person in your life will feel revived. The unexpected might occur, and it will allow you to take another look at what is going on in your life. Tonight: Be intensely involved in whatever you do.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Know your limits. Excitement seems to resound throughout the day. Keep a perspective, even if you become triggered. Detach if you feel overwhelmed. Take a walk or call a friend to help you relax. Tonight: Consider taking a quick trip be-

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

**** Do your best to make headway with a project that has been thwarted. Pace yourself, and know full well what is happening around you. Listen to what someone else has to share; you might have an unexpected opportunity for financial gain. Tonight: A must appearance.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT





BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

