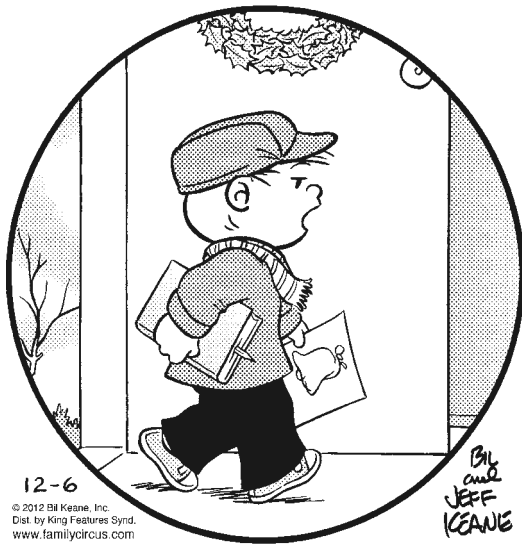


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



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Signs Of Dementia Were More Apparent At Work Than Home

DEAR ABBY: Alzheimer's and other dementias are a growing epidemic in America. Frequently, co-workers are the ones who notice a decline in functioning.

Could you please remind your readers to speak up to a family member when they see their co-workers struggling? My 62-year-old husband was recently diagnosed, and I have since learned that his co-workers spotted his troubles long before I did at home.

I realize his co-workers were in a difficult spot, so I'm not blaming them, but I'm hoping a few words from you might get the word out to others: Friends, when you notice someone is declining, please speak up.

DEAR DONNA: I'm sorry about your husband's diagnosis. Although there have been warnings that it was coming for years, the Alzheimer's epidemic is here now and millions more families will be touched by this progressive — and ultimately fatal — disease unless its course can be altered.

As you have so poignantly stated, there are benefits to the early detection of Alzheimer's, including the opportunity to take advantage of available treatments, leverage resources in the workplace, plan for the future and seek help.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, knowing the warning signs of Alzheimer's and speaking up when you notice them are CRITICAL to early detection and receiving the best possible care. While this may be an uncomfortable conversation, if you notice these signs in anyone — including a colleague — it is extremely important to share your concerns with the family or with someone in human resources.

Alzheimer's disease or something else. To learn the 10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's, visit alz.org/10signs or call 1-800-272-3900.



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 or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: Twenty years ago, my brother told me his wife had been having an affair. Needless to say, they divorced and I sided with my brother.

A few days ago, I learned that my brother was actually the one who had been having the affair, not my sister-in-law. He and his current wife had a child they claimed was her first husband's, and when they married he "adopted" all of her children from her first marriage.

Because we lived in different states at the time it was easy to believe what I was told. I think that my ex-sister-in-law deserves an apology from us all. At the same time, I want to confront my brother about the lie. We are still not sure if the child, who is now an adult, knows my brother is really her biological father.

HOWEVER, whether your niece knows that your brother is her biological father is not your business, and you certainly should not be the person to enlighten her if she doesn't know. That news should come from her parents.

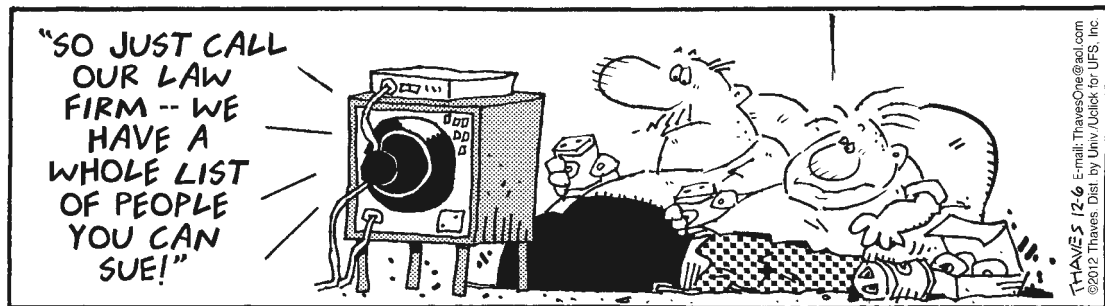
For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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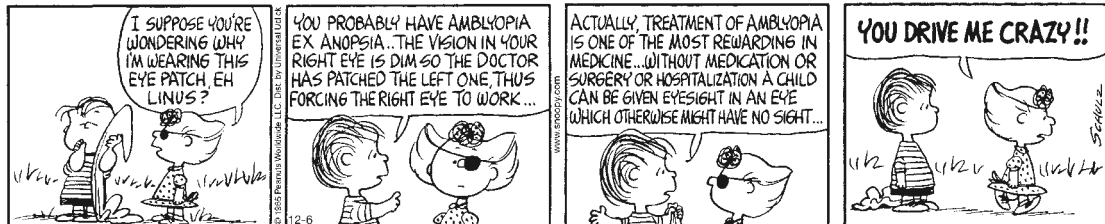
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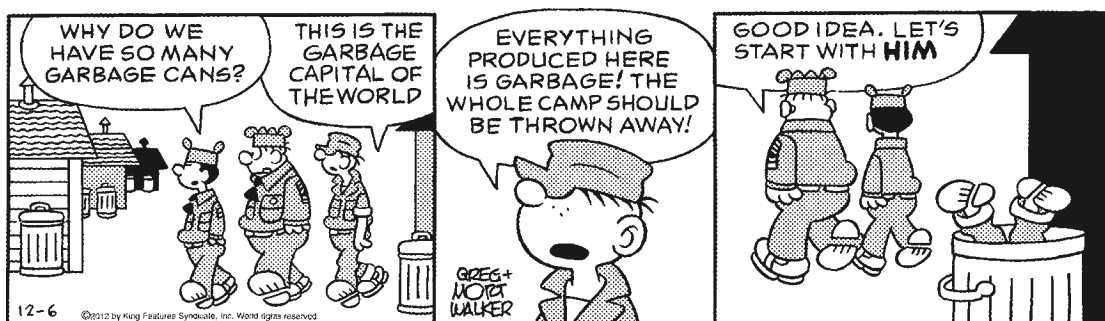
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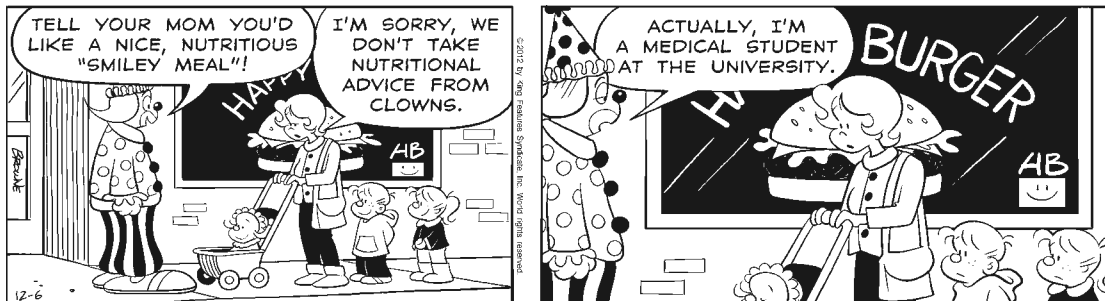
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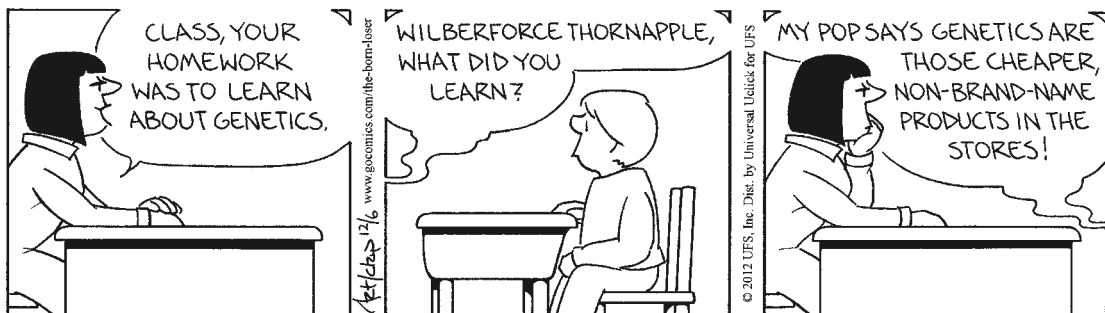
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



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.

A baby born today has a Sun in Sagittarius and a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, DEC. 6, 2012:

This year you could find that your high energy often turns into anger or frustration. The issue might be your high expectations of others, which could be unrealistic... or perhaps others simply are not responsive.

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) Pace yourself, and direct your high energy into a project or a discussion with someone you work with.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20) Your creativity surges, and your imagination wanders. You probably want to take off ASAP, so plan a vacation in the near future.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20) Stay centered. You might want to stay close to home. An associate might need some extra time and attention.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22) You might be pursuing the course you want to follow. Fortunately, it coincides with a partner's or a friend's idea.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22) Curb a tendency to overspend, even if you have quite a bit of shopping to do.

your budget some more. A roommate or a family member demonstrates his or her caring through action.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22) Beam in more of what you want. You might feel as if no one can stop you. A boss notices your stamina when you are determined.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22) Be a cynic, and listen to news carefully. You might want to understand what is happening with a family member or a roommate who is withdrawing.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21) You are likely to verbalize what you're thinking. Someone might have a strong reaction to your words.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21) You will decide to take a stand. Others listen and follow your lead. You put your energy -- and money, if need be -- behind your words.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19) Your detachment could cause quite a reaction. You might look at a situation differently, as a result.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18) A key person in your life enjoys relating directly to you. You both activate each other's imagination.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20) Listen to someone's suggestion. You might hear some news that surprises you.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

