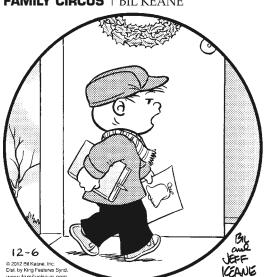
#### FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



"I sure hope today was a day Santa wasn't watchin' me.

## **BIZARRO** | DAN PIRARO



**ZITS** | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN







FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES











**DICK TRACY** | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



JONDERING WHY





**BLONDIE** | YOUNG & DRAKE







**GARFIELD** | JIM DAVIS







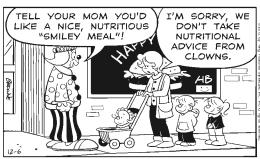
**BEETLE BAILEY** | MORT WALKER

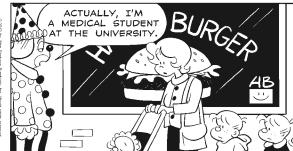




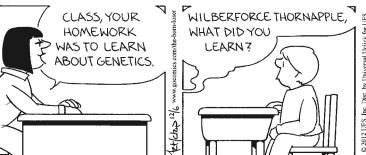


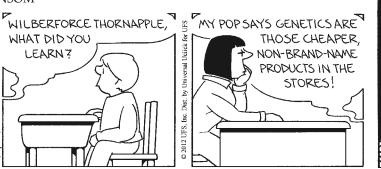
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER





THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM





# **Signs Of Dementia Were More Apparent At Work Than Home**

**DEAR ABBY** 

■ Dear Abby is written by

known as Jeanne Phillips,

Abigail Van Buren, also

and was founded by her

mother, Pauline Phillips.

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geles, CA 90069.

Jeanne Phillips

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. Had I been informed, he could possibly have retired on disability and have Medicare today (which he does not now). Additionally, he would have known to have structured his retirement to include survivorship on his pension, which he did not.

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. — DONNA IN VIRGINIA
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. The person should be evaluated by a physician. A doctor will be able to determine whether the symptoms are caused by

To learn the 10 Early Signs and Symptoms of

Alzheimer's, visit alz.org/10signs or call 1-800-272-3900.

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-inlaw. 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.

LIED TO IN CALIFORNIA DEAR LIED TO: I don't think it is ever too late to offer an apology where one is needed, so contact your former sister-inlaw and tell her that you now know the truth and you are sorry. Because you feel the need to speak your mind to your brother, do so.

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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### 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 Sagittarius and a

# 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. If you are single, be open and try not to project what you want onto someone else. Let this person reveal his or her authentic self. If you are attached, though you might have a quarrel or two, a newfound gentleness evolves between you. Respect each other's feelings. VIRGO can be bossy or de-

manding.
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. Your energy could hit a home run. Use it well. Others naturally will follow your lead. A friend or loved one expresses his or her affection. Tonight: A must-show.

# **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. Stay authentic when dealing with a snobby person; it just might rub off on him or her. A friend wants to do something special for you. Tonight: Feed your mind.

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

★★★ Stay centered. You might want to stay close to home. An associate might need some extra time and attention. You are extremely optimistic, which helps you visualize more of what you want. Know what you want. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer. Go for a lazy night.

# **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. Otherwise, you would have experienced a lot of trouble with this person. Ask what you can do in order to relax more. Remain centered. Tonight: Hang out.

# LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Curb a tendency to overspend, even if you have quite a bit of shopping to do. You might want to adjust your budget some more. A roommate or a family member demonstrates his or her caring through action. Tension builds around a loved one. Tonight: Treat yourself, too.

#### 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. You will need to use your creativity to handle everything on your plate. Do not respond to someone's tantrum. Tonight: Make yourself happy.

## 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. You know this person well. Think about what would be the most effective way to open him or her up. Tonight: Not to be found.

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

★★★★ You are likely to verbalize what you're thinking. Someone might have a strong reaction to your words. You know when enough is enough. Consider distancing yourself from an awkward situation. An associate or a loved one joins you at a key meeting. Tonight: Out and

# 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. Someone you meet today could seem special, but ultimately could be a problem. Take off your rose-colored shades. Tonight: A must appearance.

# CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Your detachment could cause quite a reaction. You might look at a situation differently, as a result. A brainstorming session might be the way an associate or loved one tries to draw you back in. Take this action as a compliment. Tonight: Whatever allows your mind to calm

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

★★★★ A key person in your life enjoys relating directly to you. You both activate each other's imagination. Opportunities arise from your conversations. You know what you want, and you focus on those goals when trying to find the right path. Tonight: Dinner for two.

# PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Listen to someone's suggestion. You might hear some news that surprises you. A friend is certain about what he or she wants, and will push and push to achieve those results. You might as well say "yes" if you can. Tonight: Surround yourself with friends.

WREN DOES **NOT** 

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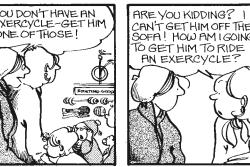
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# **BABY BLUES** | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON







**MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM** | MIKE PETERS

