FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE

6

# 12-18 JEFF KEANE "I'll have my mommy email you

if I think of anything else."

# **ZITS** | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



# FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



# **PEANUTS** | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



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



# **BLONDIE** | YOUNG & DRAKE

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# **Woman Looking Ahead Wants Boyfriend To Adopt Her View**

DEAR ABBY

Dear Abby is written by

known as Jeanne Phillips,

and was founded by her

mother, Pauline Phillips.

www.DearAbby.com or

P.O. Box 69440, Los An-

Write Dear Abby at

geles, CA 90069.

Abigail Van Buren, also

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am 20 and have been with my boyfriend, "Griffin," for five years. He recently gave me a beautiful promise ring. I would like to spend the rest of my life with him, but I think I have a problem.

I am going to become an adoption professional, and I plan on adopting one day. Griffin knows I'm pursuing this ca-reer and that I want to adopt, but I don't think he understands how serious I am about it. We don't plan on being married until after college, when we'll both be 25.

How do I let him know I'm serious about this? I don't want to wait five more years and find he's not on the same page and that I wasted my time. When I try to discuss it, Griffin says we're "too young to think about it." What do I say to that? — MAPPING OUT MY FUTURE IN L.A.

DEAR MAPPING: It appears you are more mature than your boyfriend. Because you are determined to eventually adopt a child, I agree that it's important for you to know whether Griffin has any negative feelings about adoption because some people are unable to accept a child who is not their own. The next time he says you're too young to think about such things, explain that. There is a vast difference between a

"promise ring" and a little gold band. Because Griffin presented you with a promise ring is no guarantee that in five years the two of you will make it to the altar together. You may need to be with someone who, like you, is more geared to mapping out a future and wants to settle down.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Annie," is a single mother, holds a full-time job and trains for triathlons. Her son, "Cooper," is 3. Annie has him enrolled in day care from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. every day while she's at work. Afterward, she picks up Cooper from day care and checks him into the gym's child care service while she works out.

I have offered to pick my grandson up from day

# 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 Moon in Pisces

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 18, 2012:

This year you often encounter challenging people with very different ideas. Take the best of those suggestions and use them to strengthen your life. Use care with your fi-nances, as you frequently are a risk-taker; otherwise, you could be unhappy with the results. Look to restructuring your life on a more regular basis. If you are single, from summer 2013 on, someone very special could enter your life. If you are attached, the two of you will enjoy each other even more. You socialize more with friends, yet you also enjoy pri-vate weekends together. PISCES often gets emotional. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dy-

namic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

# **ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)**

★★★ Pull back, and new insights will emerge. Incorporate them once you are sure that they are applicable. With so much on your plate, tension could soar. The time has come to choose a stressbuster. A close associate suddenly might become controlling. Tonight: Get a nap first.

#### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20) ★★★★ Zero in on your priorities. Others need to

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

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

today's shopping frenzy. Remain optimistic and detached.

Enjoy yourself and those around you. Trust your intuition,

and you will make good decisions. Tonight: Out caroling

 $\star \star \star \star \star$  Savor the music, the people and even

 $\star \star \star$  A boss or older friend pushes you to such an ex-

care once a week and keep him until Annie finishes her workout. My other daughter has offered to pick him up twice a week so he can play with his cousin at her house.

Annie has become defensive. She says we're offering because we think she's neglecting him. Actually, I DO think so. It breaks my heart that my grandson spends 12 hours a day in day care. Do you agree with me? What should I do? - WORRIED GRANNY IN THE SOUTHWEST DEAR WORRIED GRANNY: Annie

may be defensive because she feels some guilt, or because you need to become a better actress and transmit less disapproval.

Apologize to her if that will smooth things over. Explain that you would like Cooper to spend time with you because you love him and want him to develop warm childhood memories of his grandmother. Tell Annie that her sister wants him to spend time with his cousin so they will have a closer bond when they're older. Then cross your fin-gers and hope she'll accept the offers.

DEAR ABBY: What is your definition of a committed relationship? — TRY-ING FOR ONE IN TEXAS

DEAR TRYING: A committed relationship is one in which both parties agree that it will remain mutually exclusive.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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late to each individual directly in order to achieve better results. Pressure comes from someone's attitude. Know when to let go. Tonight: Dinner with a special friend.

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

★★★★ Others seek you out. You will enjoy this popularity, both professionally and personally. An opportunity enters your life, though you might want to review what is being offered first. Consider the circumstances and potential complications. Tonight: Go along with plans.

#### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-0CT. 22)

 $\star\star\star$  Your mind is full of creative ideas and solutions, but you might not be demonstrating and applying them. As a result, an opportunity could be lost. Listen to what is being shared. Refuse to be drawn into a grand drama. Tonight: Get some exercise.

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

 $\star \star \star \star \star$  Allow your imagination to freely wander, but be careful. If you burst into laughter, everyone will want more information than you choose to give. Just smile instead, and let others be intrigued by the twinkle in your eye. Tonight: Pretend that it's the weekend.

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

 $\star \star \star$  Comparing you with a stick in the mud generally does not apply, but today is different. When you're out, you want to be in. When you're in, you want to be curled up. When you're curled up, you want to take a nap. Adapt your schedule accordingly. Tonight: Play the role of couch potato.



# **GARFIELD** | JIM DAVIS



#### **BEETLE BAILEY** | MORT WALKER



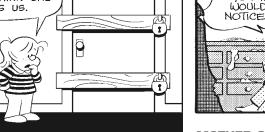
# HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



# THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



# I DON'T THINK SHE TRUSTS US.



N/ A

YES, BUT THE ENTIRE TIME

DI WASAT

WORK!

I WAS DREAMING THAT













# **MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM** | MIKE PETERS



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

 $\star \star \star \star$  No one can say that you aren't expressive in letting others know what's on your mind. Nevertheless, someone just does not get it. Doing nothing might be more effective. You finally will get this person's attention. Tonight: Run an errand on the way to meet a friend.

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

 $\star \star \star \star$  Know that you aren't the only one trying to stretch a dollar. Talk to friends if you are in a jam, and get suggestions on how to complete your holiday shopping. You might love some of the ideas that come up. Don't take a comment personally. Tonight: Balance your checkbook

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

 $\star \star \star \star \star$  You could be surfing the wave of life, as you feel content and valued. Take a second to enjoy these feelings. Remember these moments, and know that they can happen again. A family member demands attention Make it your pleasure! Tonight: Your wish is someone's command!

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with friends and loved ones! LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★★ You are encouraged to be kinder and more understanding in general by a key person in your life. Re-

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



# FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON