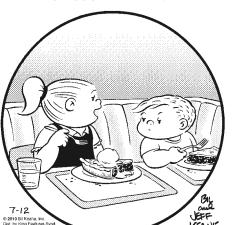
ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net

NEWSROOM: News@yankton.net



"I learned in history class to always remember the alamode.'

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES





DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS

MAYBE SHE'LL FORGIVE US AN THE TV BACK INTO THE HOUSE







BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE







GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS







BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER





HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER





THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM







MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Transgender Woman Seeks Rules Of Engagement On Dating Scene

DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

Phillips, and was

Dear Abby at

geles, CA 90069.

■ Dear Abby is written

by Abigail Van Buren,

also known as Jeanne

founded by her mother,

Pauline Phillips. Write

www.DearAbby.com or

P.O. Box 69440, Los An-

DEAR ABBY: I am a 30-year-old transgender woman who has just started her journey. Feeling more comfortable in my skin, I have been going to some local hangouts with some friends from work and meeting straight men. My question is, when is it appropriate to disclose that I am a preoperative trans

I have tried online dating on trans-friendly websites, as well as visited the local transgender bar, but those men tend only to be looking for sex, and I am looking for more than that. I would love your advice on the matter. — STARTING MY JOURNEY

DEAR STARTING: For your safety, it is important that you disclose your status early, before there is any sex involved. If you don't, the straight man could react violently and possibly put you in danger.

At this point, it would be a good idea to contact PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) because it can put you in touch with resources to help you through your journey. The largest increase in new individuals reaching out to PFLAG is now among people with "trans" issues — and this includes both trans individuals and their family

It is critically important to seek out a culturally competent therapist to help you with specific issues. To find referrals and a local chapter, visit pflag.org.

DEAR ABBY: My husband is in Afghanistan for a year. When he returns, I want to ask him to get tested for STDs before we have sex. I do not have any specific reason to think he would be having sex with someone while deployed, but let's face it. He's a man, and a year is a long time to abstain when there are females present. I have seen text messages from his buddies that read, "What happens on deployment stays on deployment," regarding them cheating on their spouses.

How do I approach the subject in the most effective way? I know that when I do, he will be mad, but it's not the first time that STDs have been a problem in our relationship. Help! — THINKING OF MY HEALTH

DEAR THINKING OF YOUR HEALTH: One would think that a man who loves his wife

would want to be absolutely POS-ITIVE that he wouldn't give her a sexually transmitted infection. However, because your husband has given you one before, it is perfectly logical that you tell him it is the reason you want him to be tested before resuming your marital relationship.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single 32year-old who lives across the country from my family. I have two sets of grandparents who both send me birthday and holiday cards containing checks.

The problem is, I earn close to six figures, which is far more than my grandparents' income in retirement, and I have only myself to support. I typically shred their checks when I receive them.

Should I continue to do this. or should I tell them that as much as I appreciate the sentiment, a simple card would be fine? — SECRETLY SHREDDING IN SEATTLE

DEAR S.S. IN S.: When a check isn't cashed, it is obvious to the check writer, and it can cause problems in balancing the person's checkbook. I think your solution to tell them you no longer need the checks is a good one.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

© 2013, Universal Press Syndicate

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. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2013:

This year you might opt to head in a new direction. The path you choose could be as simple as a change in attitude or as major as a career change. You will be entering the first year of a 12-year luck cycle. You'll know when this phase is active. If you are single, you could date many people or meet one special person who seems as if he or she is "the one." If you are attached, the two of you might choose to go down your new pathway together, and you'll enter a very exciting period in your bond

as a result. VIRGO can be your biggest critic. 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)

★★★★ Last-minute details keep messing up your schedule and/or plans. Confusion could be part of the problem, especially if messages are not received or are not as clear as you might like them to be. Do not hold on to any rigidity. Go with the flow. Tonight: Run errands first, then decide.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Your ingenuity and attention to detail will come into play. You have a lot of ground to cover, and you might not be sure about what to take care of first. A meeting just would confuse you. Make a to-do list, and decide what needs to happen. Tonight: Keep the moment light.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★ You might want to confirm plans before you lock in your schedule. A boss or higher-up might add an element of chaos to your day. Worry less about what you think needs to be done and simply go with the moment. You could be surprised by the outcome. Tonight: Head home.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Your intentions might be good, but others are not on the same page as you. You could encounter a misunderstanding as a result. Consider the ways you could have prevented what occurs as you sloth through various obstacles. Tonight: Meet friends at your favorite haunt.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You could go overboard when trying to eliminate a problem involving your finances. You won't be able to convince the other party of his or her error. At the same time, you also could be at

fault. Try revising your thinking in order to find some middle ground. Tonight: Opt for easy.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You'll experience a lack of understanding, but it could point you to a different solution. Be careful in a situation where you and the other party do not see each other clearly. Some deception might be involved in this interaction. Tonight: Do you dare take off your rose-colored

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You will want to regain more balance in your daily life. An element of confusion might cause you to adjust your plans. How you feel about a certain situation will make you more receptive to a better sense of direction. Tonight: Vanish, and do

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might want to reconsider a choice you have made. You could feel as if you have little control over a personal matter, partially because someone involved seems to be misrepresenting a certain situation. You will sense that something is off. Tonight: Meet up with a dear friend.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Step up to the plate. Be aware that there are problems even you won't be able to eliminate. Consider how a boss would feel in a similar situation. You, as well as others, might not have been getting a clear picture. Tonight: Listen to someone's sharing and invite this person out. TGIF!

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You'll see a situation in a new light. You might wonder where others are coming from. If you feel lucky, take on a low-key risk. Do not invest heavily in the situation. You need to revive your memory of a loved one's advice. Tonight: Be present, and enjoy the person you are with.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★ You might want to reassess a personal situation. Unfortunately, you are not in a powerful position right now. You can let someone play out his or her agenda without participating. This person might see the issue more clearly than you do. Tonight: Hang with your best friend.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Others will find you vague, but you'll think you are being perfectly clear. Pressure builds, as a friend or loved one makes a difficult request. You need to be true to yourself without creating uproar. You will gain depth and insight. Tonight: Do your normal Friday night activity.

© 2013, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT





FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON





