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snow on it in July?"



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ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net NEWSROOM: news@yankton.net

Daughter Struggles To Resolve Mom's Failure To Defend Her

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my early 50s, disabled and live with my elderly mother. Between the ages of 8 and 11 I was sexually abused by my adoptive father. My mother finally caught him in the act, but the next day they acted like nothing had happened. He never did it again, and it was never spoken about, ever.

Press&Dakotan

Dist. 14 Kine Feat

I have read about women who caught their husbands abusing their children and kicked them out, pressed charges, etc. It makes me think I didn't matter enough for her to do that. I confronted her about it a few years ago. Her response was that it would have been in all the papers (my parents were prominent local musicians in our town), and there was no way she could have raised two kids on her own.

Jeanne Phillips I still have a deep ache in my soul that tells me that I don't matter as much as other human beings. I resist going to therapy because I live with her and I know she will quiz me about what we talked about in the sessions. I just want to keep the peace and not risk her going into a tirade about how she "did what she had to do." I don't know what to do. Please help. - STILL HURTING IN NEVADA

DEAR STILL HURTING: You should absolutely talk about this to a therapist. If your mother demands to know what you're discussing, tell her. If she unleashes a tirade, invite her to accompany you to a session so she can explain to your therapist that she didn't kick her child-molesting husband out because she was afraid she couldn't support herself and two children alone. (Was your sibling also assaulted?)

You and your mom are both adults. You should be able to have a frank discussion without her intimidating you with her anger. If anyone has a right to be angry, it is you. And she should clearly understand how her inaction affected you for all these years, and possibly your sibling, as well.

DEAR ABBY: I never used to be a sup-

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 Leo and a Moon in Libra if born before 10:07 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Scorpio

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2015:

This year you open the door to new adventures and new possibilities. You are likely to discover that the area in which you live offers a rich mix of activities and entertainment. If you are single, you easily will meet someone special in your day-today travels. The person you meet could affect your finances, but for the better. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy going out more often. You frequently can be found sitting together having a discussion or laughing. SCORPIO can be the anchor to your life

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)

 $\star \star \star \star$ Others seem to be making more requests than usual. Even if you are getting a little annoved, remember how valued you are.

porter of same-sex marriage. During the 2008 presidential elections, I posted my opinions about it on social media. Since then, I have changed my mind. The most significant reason is that I worked closely with a gay woman for four years. After I got to know her, her wife and two children, I realized they are

Thursday, 7.23.15

the same as any other happy family. I feel I may have offended some friends when I posted those views - specifically, my best friend from childhood, who has come out as gay. I'd like to send her a message letting her know my opinion has changed and that I support her. Do you think I should reach out to her, or leave the past in the past? And if I do, what should I say? – ADDING MY VOICE FOR EQUALITY

DEAR ADDING: By all means reach out. I congratulate you for becoming more aware of and compassionate about LGBT issues in the last few

years. Tell your friend about your change of heart since those posts were written, that you hope her life is happy and fulfilling, and offer an apology if you caused her any hurt. If you would like to explain why your feelings changed, do that, too. I'm sure she will be interested, and glad to know.

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.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable - and most frequently requested - poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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standing with a key person. Start talking and make sure this person understands where you are coming from. Don't overreact, even if he or she slams the door on you. Just listen and respond. Tonight: Agree to disagree

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★ ★ ★ Approach a financial matter with discipline and sternness. Be careful when making any money agreements right now. You might need to root out a problem in order to have the financial freedom you want. Curb a tendency to overthink a problem. Tonight: All smiles.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-0CT. 22)

**** Bring a treat to work for your coworkers or when meeting up with friends. You'll set the mood and be able to avoid a hassle. You could be worrying about a personal matter. Let it go and see how the situation develops. Tonight: Be careful what you ask for.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

 $\star \star \star \star$ Listen to news with an open mind, and be aware of what is happening around you. You are in a position to gain a lot of information, as long as you don't overreact. Be willing to ask a question or two, but keep a calm demeanor. Tonight: Head out the door to meet a friend

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Zero in on your priorities, especially



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON









BEEN ELEC-



HANG UP, YOUR MAJESTY

Ο 0

DOC BOY, IS THAT YOU?



TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

 $\star \star \star$ Your efficiency might be tested, but you will be able to move through a lot of questions and come up with helpful responses. Honor a change of pace. Know when to not get involved with a difficult loved one. Let this person cool off. Tonight: Allow someone to reel vou in.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

 $\star \star \star \star$ Others might be a little too seriousminded, but you'll remain nonjudgmental. Focus on your ever-growing creativity. You can breeze right through what others consider to be a major hassle. Be compassionate with a difficult loved one Tonight: Ever playful and fun-loving.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You could be seeing a situation in a different light. Reveal your perspective, but also make a point of listening to someone else's. When you recognize the differences, you both can get away from your positions and perhaps consider other options. Tonight: Be less judgmental.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You might want to come to an under-

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT

those involving a meeting. What you say has an impact and will make a difference. You might be privy to some important information that others aren't. Don't spill the beans; choose your words with care. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

 $\star \star \star \star$ You might be in a position to take the lead on a project. You know how to delegate, and others remain responsive to your requests. Be more sensitive and open to feedback, as it will create a tighter bond between you and others. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Do more research and ask for feedback from people in the know. Detach when making a decision, and you will get feedback or opinions from those in your immediate circle. You could receive a lot of support from a close associate. Tonight: Count on a late bedtime.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You could get an earful from a partner or associate. Be aware of your limits, and know what is needed here. Stay on top of a personal matter. A discussion could become volatile if you are not careful and choose to remain unresponsive. Tonight: The discussion continues.

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YOU'LL HAVE TO STICK AROUND FOR A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WHEN HE'S (FINISHED)



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

