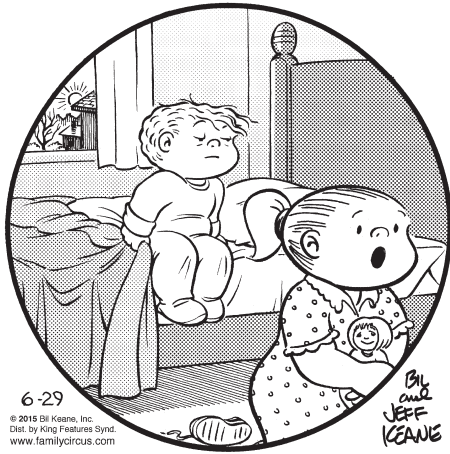


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



6-29
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Greet Fussy Daughter-In-Law With Open Arms And Minds

DEAR ABBY: My son is being deployed for 10 months. His wife and baby are coming to live with me, and I am thrilled.

My concern is that his wife is a picky eater and she doesn't do much around the house. Would it be too much to ask her to help with the chores while my husband and I are at work? How do I handle the mealtime dilemma? (She doesn't cook.)

I don't want her to feel like she's our live-in maid or that we're mean about the meals we prepare. We want to be the best in-laws we can be.

Help? — MEANING WELL IN THE EAST
DEAR MEANING WELL: After your daughter-in-law arrives, schedule a family meeting during which everyone's household responsibilities will be discussed. If necessary, create a chart to keep track of them. If there are things she is able to do, assign them to her. If she's clueless, then teach her. Do not overload her, and make sure she understands that you and your husband also have chores you will be doing.

Because she's a picky eater, ask her to list what items she wants in the house so they are available. If she's interested, offer to show her how to prepare some of the dishes your son has always enjoyed because it would be a nice surprise for him once he returns. And arrange regular monthly meetings, so that if adjustments need to be made, they can be done without hurt feelings or misunderstandings.

You are all adults. If you want this to work and are all willing to communicate and listen, you should be able to accomplish your goal without your daughter-in-law feeling like the maid.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and her husband are taking their three boys to Europe for five weeks. The 13-year-old has been acting out. He has been rude to his school bus driver, disrespectful to his mother, was the "class clown," and shows all the signs of

an uncomfortable pubescent boy without a safety net to catch him.

We are two states apart, so it would be difficult to lend a hand. My grandsons are very close to me, and there are lots of tears when they leave Grandma.

I taught inner-city school for 20 years and have often told my daughter how important consistency is. This precious boy is pleading for attention the wrong way. The other two boys, ages 9 and 12, are not problematic kids.

My fear is that the 13-year-old is not ready or mature enough to handle five weeks in Europe, and not disciplined enough to keep his cool. He is capable of a caper that may lead to his disappearance.

Am I crazy to be this concerned? I have told my daughter my thoughts, but she is the mother, so I am treading lightly. — WORRYING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WORRYING: Are you "crazy"? No. You are a loving, caring grandmother who is worried about her grandson. But regardless of how well-meaning you are, this isn't your decision to make. If you have shared your thoughts with your daughter, you have done as much as you can. Now cross your fingers and wish them bon voyage.

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.

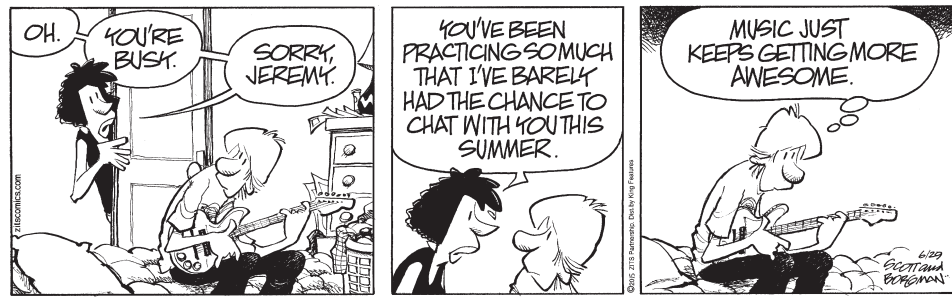
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling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

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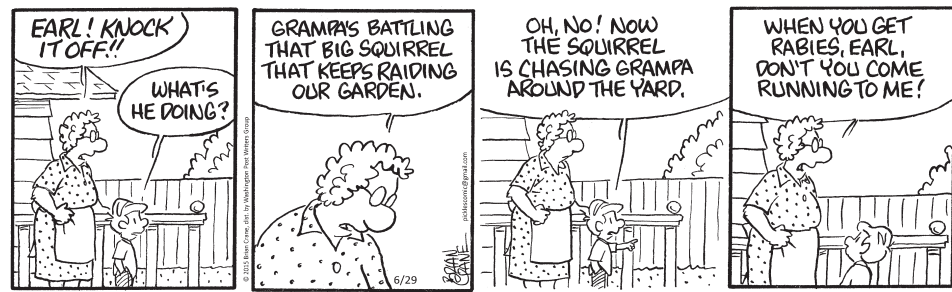


DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

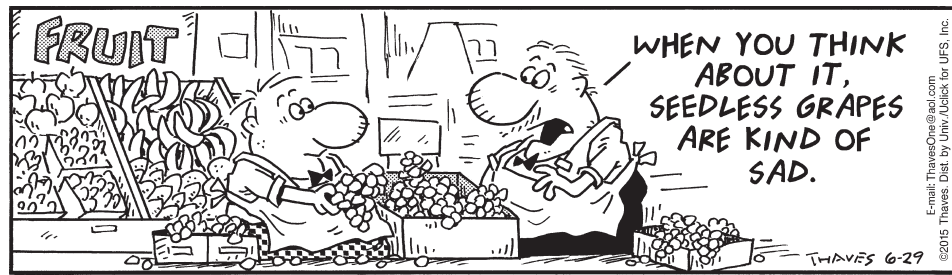
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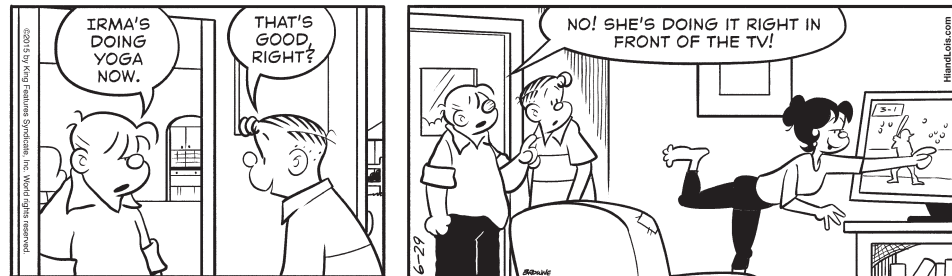
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BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



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GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



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 Sagittarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2015:

This year you will achieve a lot with focus and endurance. Sometimes people don't move as quickly as you might like them to. As a result, you will experience a strong drive to take the initiative. You most likely will expand your circle of friends. Confusion often surrounds travel and long-distance communication. Clarify plans as much as you can. If you are single, you might meet someone you really care about. If you are attached, the two of you might decide to go off together more often and have more dates. SAGITTARIUS can be changeable and exhausting.

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)

*** Having a positive attitude often helps, and certainly you start the day with one. Nevertheless, you might experience some discomfort regarding your home and/or those you live with. Be instinctive with your decisions. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

**** You are likely to say exactly what you think. Others could be uncomfortable with this new bluntness, but it will help you let a key person know where you are coming from. Know that he or she might not be as agreeable as you would like. Tonight: Confusion surrounds a situation.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

**** Others come forward with suggestions. Honor a change between you and someone you care about. You could feel out of step with this person. Determine what will be necessary to get past an issue. Tonight: You will want to be footloose and fancy free, but a responsibility calls.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

*** You are more irritable than you might realize; even if your words are not sharp, your tone or facial expressions will be. If you are not pleased with a situation, sit down and have a calm discussion. As a result, the problem could be worked out. Tonight: A must appearance.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

*** Your playfulness and creativity reflect

much more about you than you realize. How you handle a changeable matter could make or break a situation. Play it low-key and say little. Understand what is going on around you. Tonight: Get some extra downtime.

VRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

**** Your creativity remains high because of pressure from a family member. You might want to find solutions. You could feel as if you cannot be stopped. Zero in on what you want. Listen to suggestions, but don't feel as if you must follow them. Tonight: Head home early.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

**** Your words might not have the effect you thought they would. Perhaps you have made a miscalculation or someone has misunderstood the meaning of your thoughts. Stay in touch with your desires, and don't give away too much. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

**** Reach out to someone for his or her feedback. Financial matters seem to be at the base of the issue. You could be taken back by someone's anger. Listen to what is suggested, and don't react to the tone of his or her voice. Tonight: Put on a favorite piece of music.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

**** You might be energized, but you will feel discomfort when dealing with a certain person on an individual level. You could sense some resistance. Today, you are likely to experience some confusion, whether it is with this person or someone else. Tonight: As you like it.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

*** How a partner or friend presents a situation could be a lot different from how it is in reality. Understand what is happening with this person, but don't hesitate to address your less-than-positive feelings. Open up to new information. Tonight: Early to bed.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

**** Friendship remains important to you. The challenge might be how to juggle friends with what you must do right now. Know that you can say "no." You also don't need to address an issue unrelated to your friends. Set stronger boundaries. Tonight: Where your friends are.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

*** You might not realize how much you put someone on a pedestal and the influence this person has on your mood. Allow your useful and creative ideas to come out in order to help a loved one find a better solution; he or she will be very grateful. Tonight: Order in.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

