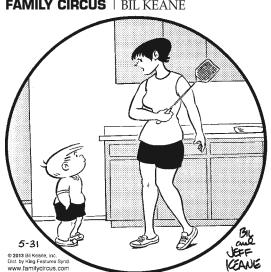
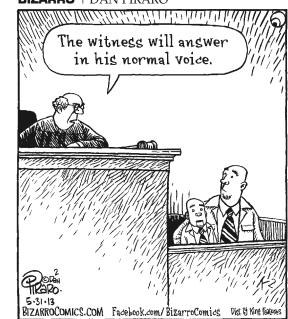
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



"Yes, I'm sure. The endangered spécies list doesn't mention houseflies.'

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN







FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ









DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



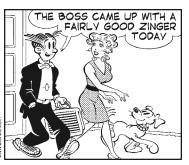




BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE







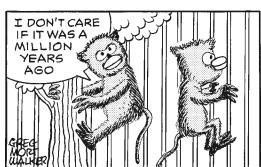
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS







BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER





HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER





THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



New Wife's Short Leash Keeps Dad Away From His Young Son

Jeanne Phillips

■ Dear Abby is written by

known as Jeanne Phillips,

Abigail Van Buren, also

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.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband and I divorced a year ago. We share a 4-year-old son and have a cordial relationship.

Shortly after our divorce, he married a woman he had been carrying on an affair with while married to me. Since their wedding she has not allowed him to enter my home beyond the front door, be alone with me for any reason regardless of what we need to discuss, and he rarely calls to talk with our son anymore — all at her "request."

He has also informed me that she's "not comfortable" with the idea of us communicating unless she is part of the conversation. I think she is being silly and immature, and he claims to agree, but he wants to keep the peace.

I explained to him that even though he may allow her to dictate his life, she will not be dictating mine. If I feel I need to speak with him about something, I do not have to include her. Am I wrong? I am in no way trying to cause a problem in their marriage. I have decided that whatever answer you give I will abide by as I respect your opinion greatly. — NEEDS AN ANSWER IN TEXAS

DEAR NEEDS AN ANSWER: The current "Mrs." is acting more like a jailer than a wife, but then, she knows what your ex is capable of if he gets past the front door or has private conversations with another woman.

This is happening because she perceives you as still a threat. That your former husband allows her to exert this amount of control is unfortunate. The distancing from his son is happening because he is permitting it, and the loser here is the little boy.

You're not wrong, but if the only way your son can have a relationship with his dad is for this woman to be ever-present, then bite your tongue and go along with it for as long as this marriage lasts or

your ex summons up enough backbone to set his No. 2 straight.

DEAR ABBY: My sisters and I look out for our "Aunt Lil," who is in her late 70s and never had children. Physically and mentally she's fine right now. She quit driving a few years ago, but that had more to do with the price of gas than her driving ability. We run errands for her, take her to appointments, etc.

Our question: For most of her life, Aunt Lil has kept up a steady correspondence with many people all over the world. When I say she has pen pals everywhere, I'm not exaggerating. When the time comes and she is gone,

how should we notify her friends?

I think a simple form letter would be fine, but my sisters think each person should be notified individually, either with a phone call or a personal letter. Abby, there are 100 people she writes to and those are just the ones we're aware of! Your thoughts would be ap-

preciated. — AUNT LIL'S GIRLS
DEAR GIRLS: Considering that people live longer these days, I wouldn't write off Aunt Lil too quickly. Because she still has all her faculties, ask HER

how she wants it handled. She may prefer to write her own farewell note to be mailed after her death. ("By the time this reaches you, I will have gone to that great stationery store in the sky ...")

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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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 Gemini and a Moon in

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2013:

This year many decisions come your way. You have to weigh your personal needs against the importance of your professional image. A conflict could emerge as a result. You have plenty of energy and can handle more than you think. If you are single, you will enter a period where you'll attract many people; however, you often might wonder how authentic they are. Only time will tell. If you are attached, you and your significant other might find yourselves fighting over nothing. Work on better communication. PISCES pushes you into the limelight.

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)

HHH You might note that others are in a less-than-agreeable mood. A domestic issue demands your attention. Interestingly, the more you study the problem, the more likely you are to see it in a different light. Be sure to choose your words with care. Tonight: Not to be found.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

HHHH You might be compared to a fast-moving freight train that's unwilling or unable to stop. You know what you want, and will do your best to get someone to go along with your idea. Be a little more patient, and you will achieve better results. Tonight: Where people are.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

HHHH You will note a sudden energy swing. You might not have as much under control as you would like. Consider your options involving a boss or some other authority figure. This person will help you achieve your goal -- you just have to ask. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

HHHH A recent reflective streak transforms into a more verbal self-expression. Others could have quite a reaction. as they might view your ideas as unconventional. Curb your irritation by expressing your feelings. Tonight: Take off for the

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

weekend if you really want to get away.

HHH You might be consumed by an idea and feel like

you're unable to come up with a solution. A discussion with a friend presents many workable ideas. Try them out. Curb your anxiety through yoga, exercise or whatever works for you. Tonight: Share with a favorite person.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

HHHH You might be overthinking and sharing only some of your thoughts. You need to rethink a decision more carefully. Getting feedback from the right people can only help. Refuse to respond to an older friend who might be cantankerous. Be polite if you can. Tonight: At a favorite place.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22) HHHH Mellow out despite a difficult conversation. The positive lies in the fact that you gained a new perspective

and can identify with others more easily. Someone you respect might share some confidential information that needs to be kept hush-hush. Tonight: Relax first, then decide. SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

HHHH How you handle a difficult situation changes be-

cause you are able to detach and see the issue differently. You might trigger others by not responding to their bait. Maintain a sense of humor, and share only when you feel comfortable. Tonight: Make the first move.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

HHH You might not be in sync with someone else. You could wonder where to start with a project. If you feel the need to change your schedule, make an adjustment. Stay centered. Be sure to share your feelings with a close friend or loved one. Tonight: Entertain at home

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

HHH Think in terms of finally establishing a stronger bond with someone you care a lot about. This person will share, given some space. You might note that if you can't achieve what you want, you tend to get frustrated. Take frequent walks to ease the tension. Tonight: Out late.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

HHH Remember that you have many talents. Do not give too much; otherwise, others might think you don't value yourself. Be aware of the cost of following through on a certain set of plans involving friends. You'll need to stay on top of your end of the bill. Tonight: Let the party begin.

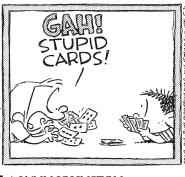
PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

HHHHH A loved one will share a secret that makes you smile from ear to ear. Your light mood might encourage others to ask you for help. Say "no" to an offer or invitation that implies more work and responsibilities. Right now, you need to take a break. Tonight: As you like it.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT







FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON









MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

