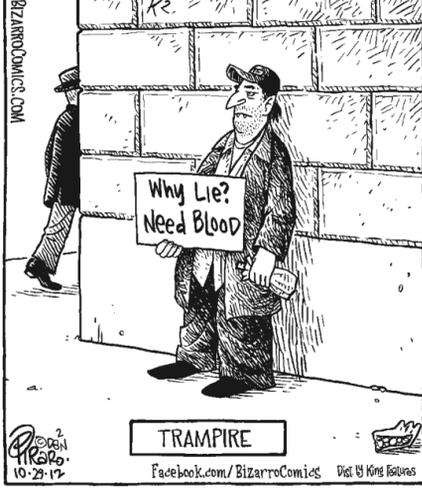


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE

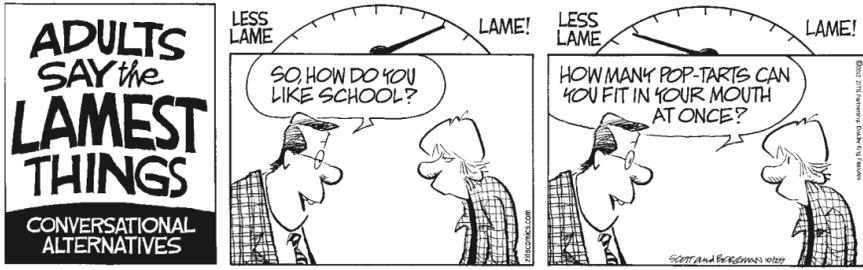


"Daddy, we have a pumpkin that needs you to find it a face."

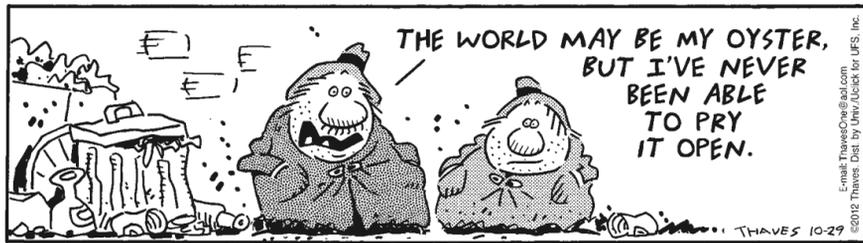
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



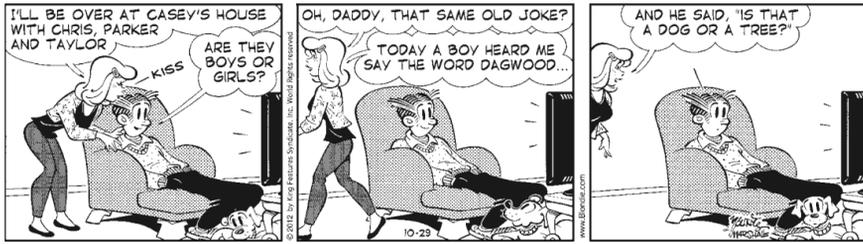
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



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 SANSON



Grandfather's Bulletin Board Pinup Is Too Close To Home

DEAR ABBY: The other day at my in-laws', my mother-in-law, father-in-law, "Bert," and I were in their computer room. Bert has pictures of his family posted on his bulletin board and we often look at them when we're in the room.

One of the photos he posted recently I found disturbing. It was of a young, well-endowed woman in her early 20s wearing a tight tube top. What disturbed me was that Bert had printed my 16-year-old daughter's name underneath and the date "2017." When I asked him about it, he said that was what she will look like at 21. My mother-in-law said she thought it was crude, and I think it's unnerving for a grandfather to be picturing his only granddaughter in such a manner.

We have a great family life and I wouldn't want that to end over a picture, but I don't want to look at it, and I don't think this is behavior that's expected from a man in his 60s.

How should I broach the subject that the photo needs to come down? — CONCERNED FATHER FROM GREAT LAKES
DEAR CONCERNED FATHER: Grandpa "Bert" appears to be a dirty old man. I'm not sure "you" should talk to him about this. It would have more impact if you, your wife AND your mother-in-law do it together. When you do, tell him that putting your daughter's name under the picture was in poor taste and your ALL want the picture with your daughter's name shredded. (That way you're sure it's gone.)

Privately, your wife should ask your daughter if Grandpa Bert has ever done anything that made her uncomfortable. If the answer is yes, confront him. If not, explain your concerns to your daughter, tell her you and your wife love her, and she can always come to you with any concerns of her own.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a young mother who dropped out of high school because I didn't have enough credits. I

started a great job in fast food and have a very understanding boss. I met my boyfriend at work. We've lived together since before my son was born and he has helped me to raise my boy. (His biological dad left me and has had no contact since I was two months pregnant.)

Lately I have been incredibly depressed. I'm nowhere I wanted to be in life, miserable in my relationship and have started to hate my job. I'm clinically diagnosed as bipolar and on medication. I have also been seeing a therapist since I was very young. I don't know what to do. I don't want to throw my life away. I love my son and want the best for him. Any advice on how to pick myself up? — DOWN DEEP IN CLEVELAND



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR DOWN DEEP: Yes. Tell your therapist that you are cycling into a depression. Your medications may need to be adjusted. Next, explore completing your high school education by getting a GED degree, which may widen your employment opportunities. Once you're feeling better, you should consider whether you want to end the romantic relationship you have with your boyfriend. When your emotions are on an even keel, you'll be better able to make that decision.

P.S. If you're not receiving child support, contact the department of social services in your state, because your child's father should have been contributing regularly.

DEAR ABBY: When filling salt and pepper shakers that aren't marked, does the salt go into the one with the fewer holes on the top? — PLEASE PASS THE SALT
DEAR PLEASE PASS THE SALT: There is no set rule. Although traditionally the salt shaker is the one with more holes, because doctors now advise Americans to cut back on our salt intake, it might make more sense to put it into the shaker with fewer holes.

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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 Scorpio and a Moon in Taurus all day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, OCT. 29, 2012:

Charisma and intensity mark this year. You will look at life more deeply. You often swing from being emotional to being highly intellectual. Make a note of which mood works better for you. You will need some time alone to process your feelings. If you are single, a slew of admirers follow you nearly wherever you go. You might date several people before you meet someone you feel comfortable with. If you are attached, your relationship is exciting, yet you will note a back-and-forth emotional struggle. If those feelings are new, they are likely to disappear in a year. If you need more space, say so rather than act out. TAURUS can challenge your very foundations.

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)

★★★ Curb a possessive streak, as it could cause a problem in your interactions. You also might become quite competitive with someone, which could strain the trust that exists between you. Confusion and mixed messages are amplified right now. Curb your need to win. Tonight: Don't let others pressure you.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Your will could be tested by someone who is just as strong as you are. Others might not want to be around you with this power struggle going on. Be willing to seek an alternative way of doing something. As the saying goes, "If the mountain will not come to Muhammad, then Muhammad must go to the mountain." Tonight: Make peace, not war.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★ You might want to be hard to find with today's Full Moon looming over you. Recognize a tendency to be more sensitive than you realize when dealing with others. You could make an assumption, thus taking the first step to a misunderstanding. Tonight: The wise shall not be found.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You might be on the verge of achieving a long-term goal, and you have many people rooting for you. Confusion surrounds communication. Realize the different possibilities that surround a key relationship. Make time for this person. Tonight: You soon will have a lot to smile about.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You are in the limelight, and you can't seem to es-

cape it. You might feel tired and withdrawn when dealing with others' issues, and a misunderstanding could occur as a result. You will have a lot of errands and tasks to complete. Don't worry; you will do just that. Tonight: A must appearance.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance. This person often makes suggestions that you see as unusual yet effective. You have a lot to juggle, and somehow you will manage not to drop any balls. Cancel plans if you feel overwhelmed. Tonight: Decide on a trip in the near future.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Deal with a partner on a one-on-one level. You could prevent a misunderstanding, though you might need to clarify a plan of action first. Do not be overgenerous, as you ultimately could create a problem, whether it has to do with the other person or with your finances. Tonight: Be with a special friend.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Defer to others and appease their requests rather than get into a power struggle. You will be much happier as a result. You will have many invitations, so choose according to your preferences. Be with people you enjoy. Tonight: Let someone else make the first move.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ You might choose to take a practical approach at this point, but you have some concerns that you have not chosen to share. You could be experiencing a low-level depression and not really be able to isolate what is going on within yourself. Tonight: Move forward with a project.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Your creativity surges. You also could feel quite amorous and just be waiting for the right time to express your deeper feelings. Don't wait too long, though, or you could discover that the apple of your eye has lost interest. Not everyone is as patient as you are. Tonight: Follow your feelings.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★ You are able to relax around those you know well. You might be feeling as if you want to spend more time at home, yet your work or commitments force you to be out more and more. You intuitively will know what to do. Do not play into today's Full Moon frenzy. Tonight: Make it easy and stay at home.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You have a lot to say, and your words could trigger multiple reactions. Use care and just smile. Others might be more confused than you realize. Your intuition will kick in, and you will know exactly what to say. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

