Oldest of six tries to fill gap left by mother who drinks

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old girl and I had a big argument with my mom. It's about her drinking. I have tried to get her to stop because most of the money she makes goes straight to her alcohol, but instead of talking it out, she starts yelling. She says it's her life and we can't tell her what to do with her money.

I have five younger sisters and brothers, and I try to come up with the money myself from baby-sitting. I feel as if my younger siblings are my children. I am so fed up with my mother's behavior. Should I keep talking to her about it or leave it be? — **CAN'T DO IT ALL ON GUAM**

DEAR CAN'T DO IT ALL: As long as your mother continues to deny that she has a drinking problem, there is nothing you can do to help her without further putting her on the defensive. But you may be able to find support from Alateen.

Alateen is a group for teens that was established specially for young people who are affected by the drinking problem of someone close to them. You would also be welcome at a weekly Al-Anon meeting in Chalan Pago. For more information on Al-Anon and Alateen, visit www.al-anon.alateen.org, email wso@al-anon.org or call 888-4AL-ANON.

At your tender age, you should not have to assume financial responsibility for your younger siblings. You should discuss this with your clergyperson, a teacher at school or another trusted adult because they may be able to get you some help from a social services organization.

DEAR ABBY: A relative of mine has a 5-year-old son who is at least 20 or 30 pounds overweight. Everyone in the family is concerned about it, but no one knows how to bring it up to the parents without offending them. We don't understand how the parents or grandparents don't see his weight as an issue.

Bullying is a huge deal among children, and we fear he might have trouble with other kids his age teasing him. However, we are more worried about his health than anything. Being that overweight is a lot for anyone, but especially a young child. What should we do? — **SOMEONE WHO CARES IN CHICAGO**

DEAR SOMEONE WHO CARES: How do you know the child's parents and grandparents don't see his weight as an issue? A way to raise the subject would be to mention your concern and ask what the boy's pediatrician has had to say about it. While years ago doctors may have been reluctant to raise the issue, today they are much less so because the American Medical Association has declared obesity to be a disease.

Also, as a relative, try to include the boy in physical activity you engage in.

DEAR ABBY: My 2-year-old granddaughter, Brayleigh, is friendly and outgoing. If you see us in the grocery store, she will probably smile at you and say, "Hi." She would love it if you smiled back and said it too, but PLEASE, resist the urge to touch her.

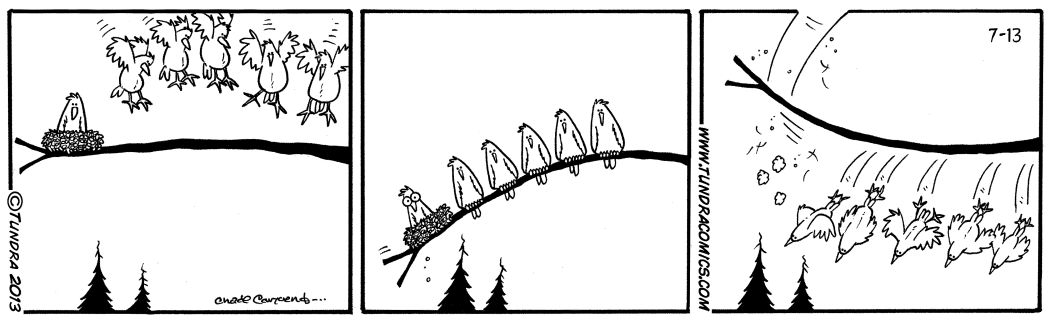
Your kids or grandkids may giggle when you play "got your nose" or "tickle your belly" with them, but that's because they know and trust you. You are a total stranger to Brayleigh, even if you know me. While you may mean well, imagine a total stranger rushing up and putting their hands all over you! Abby, how about passing along the message? — **BRAYLEIGH'S GRANDMA**

DEAR GRANDMA: I'm glad to help. No one should touch a child without first asking permission from the adult who is accompanying the little boy or girl. Not only could the child be frightened by it, but the parent could misunderstand and it could lead to an altercation.

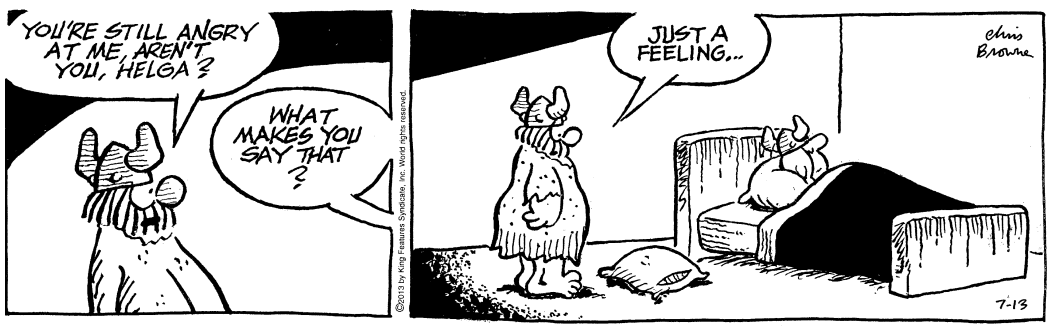
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

COMICS

Tundra

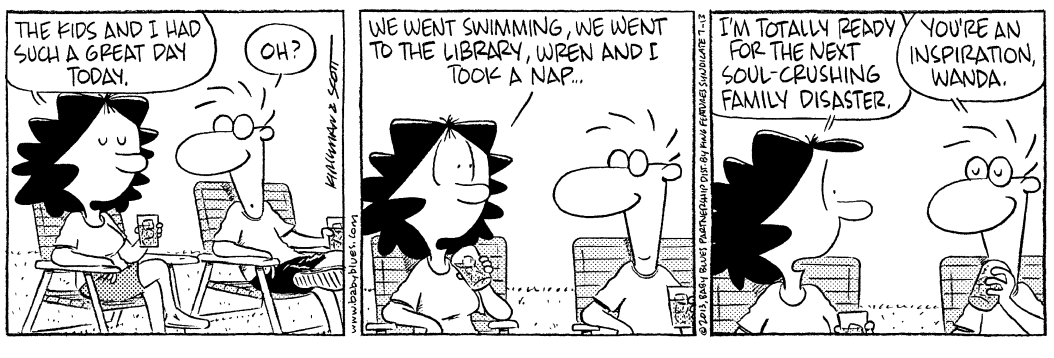


Hagar the Horrible

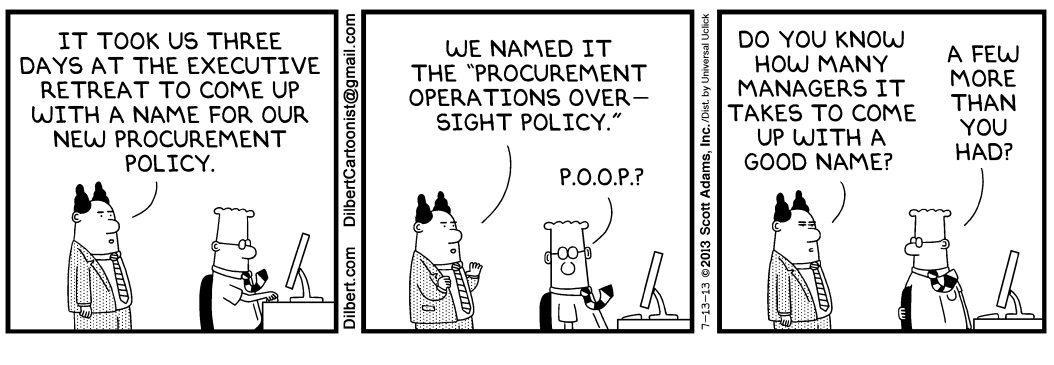


Peanuts

Baby Blues



Dilbert



su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

		3	6	8		7		
	7	4	2		9			5
1					7			2
9	6		7				2	
		5	4		3	1		
	4				2		6	8
8			3					4
4			8		5	9	7	
		2		4	1	3		

Instructions for play: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. It's fun. It's challenging. It's addictive!

Solving time is typically from 10 to 30 minutes, depending on your skill and experience. The solution for today's puzzle will be published in Saturday's paper. Or you can go to www.sudoku.com to find the solution.

3	5	4	6	9	1	2	8	7
6	9	7	2	8	3	4	1	5
2	1	8	4	7	5	6	3	9
5	7	2	3	6	9	8	4	1
9	6	3	8	1	4	7	5	2
4	8	1	5	2	7	9	6	3
8	4	5	7	3	2	1	9	6
1	2	6	9	5	8	3	7	4
7	3	9	1	4	6	5	2	8

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, work to strengthen a relationship with a coworker or acquaintance. Developing this relationship now will bear fruit down the road.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, take some time for quiet contemplation this week. You have a lot of things on your mind and need to work through them before you can focus on other things.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, you may find yourself on a spending spree and it may be difficult to know when to put your credit cards away. Bring a friend along to help you reign in your spending.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, with so many big decisions looming on the horizon, you may be thinking of running away from it all. But all of your problems will still be waiting for you when you get back.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, people have been coming at you from all angles and you're ready for a break. Retreat to a quiet place sometime this week and pamper yourself.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

A change of scenery breathes new life into your daily routine, Virgo. Although it may be temporary, you will embrace the opportunities to recharge for a while.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, a new job may give you a new perspective on life. Make the most of this new perspective and apply it to both the personal and professional parts of your life.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, sometimes people just do not get your sense of humor, so don't be upset if a joke doesn't garner the laughs you anticipated. Your closest companions will still share a laugh.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, you will host a house full of guests this week. This role suits you well, so don't worry as the party draws closer and the pressure begins to mount.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, the final countdown until big changes are in store has begun. Are you ready for all of the things you still have to get done? If not, get busy and enlist a few helpers.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you are often supportive of those around you and they appreciate that support. Continue to be a valued friend and confidante, and you'll be happy you did.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, you may have to ask for some help this week. Accept this support and recognize it's necessary to get the job done.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 14
Jane Lynch, Actress (53)

JULY 15
Lana Parrilla, Actress (36)

JULY 16
Jayma Mays, Actress (34)

JULY 17
Luke Bryan, Singer (37)

JULY 18
Wendy Williams, TV Host (49)

JULY 19
Campbell Scott, Actor (52)

JULY 20
Julianne Hough, Actress (25)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

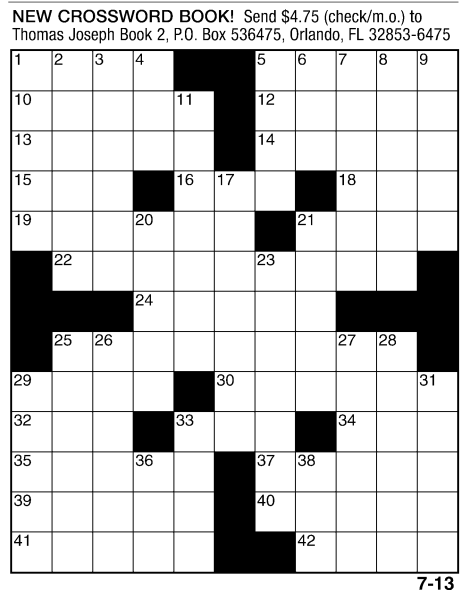
ACROSS
1 Unveiling cry
5 Big rigs
10 Prison problems
12 Factory
13 Stop, in Paris
14 Select group
15 Compass pt.
16 Twist in the sky
18 Casual top
19 Co-star of Fisher and Ford
21 Dune makeup
22 Legal proceeding
24 Thinning layer
25 Made a mess of things
29 Order to Fido
30 Get together
32 High hit
33 For every
34 Man-mouse link
35 Texas landmark
37 Fluttery tree
39 "John Brown's Body" poet
40 Linen fabric
41 Sailing hazards
42 Coves

DOWN
1 Curb-side pickup
2 Alveolus
3 Moolah
4 Eroded
5 Gush forth
6 Wing
7 Rum cocktail
8 Focused
9 Spirited horse
11 Depict in a mannered way
17 Door opener's words
20 Creamy color
21 Jacket material
23 Ridicule
25 Hot, in a way
26 Beach tent
27 Perfect place
28 100%
29 Thick cuts
31 Window sections
33 Kitchen collection
36 Sister of Amy, Beth and Jo
38 Express despair

M	O	N	A	■	■	P	A	S	T	
A	P	O	R	T	■	M	I	C	A	H
T	E	N	T	H	■	O	C	A	L	A
E	R	A	■	R	A	M	A	D	A	N
R	A	M	R	O	D	S	■	I	R	K
■	S	E	E	N	O	■	J	A	Y	■
■	■	■	D	E	L	T	A	■	■	■
■	R	H	O	■	L	O	V	E	D	■
B	O	A	■	R	A	M	A	D	A	S
R	A	M	P	A	R	T	■	I	R	A
A	D	M	I	T	■	O	R	B	I	T
S	I	E	G	E	■	M	I	L	N	E
H	E	R	S	■	■	B	E	G	S	■

Previous Puzzle

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



7-13

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Brunch or dinner
5 Surrounded by
9 Pound parts
10 Skid Row residents
12 Spanish hero
13 Praise enthusiastically
14 Thinga-majig
16 Sky sighting
17 Tacks on
18 Door-pounder's cry
21 Caustic stuff
22 Bread buys
23 Soup server
24 Within one's powers
26 Skirt edge
29 Whodunit find
30 Church part
31 Friend of Harry and Hermione
32 Lulu
34 Not napping
37 Piece of land
38 Traveler's stop
39 Small pies
40 Cribbage markers
41 Casino calculation

DOWN
1 Tune
2 Make cryptograms
3 Caustic liquids
4 Helen's mother
5 Reverent wonder
6 Blend
7 Harmonious
8 Bonehead
9 Brake, for one
11 Spill over
15 Drew aimlessly
19 Lacking color
20 Cain's mother
22 Chemists' places
23 Napkin site
24 1950s singing style
25 Decorative
26 Danger
27 Kicks out
28 Comes together
29 Pack full
30 Org. that tracks Santa
33 Palindromic name
35 Beer dispenser
36 High trains

A	M	I	D	■	■	M	U	R	A	L
R	A	C	E	■	D	E	B	A	T	E
A	L	E	C	■	E	R	O	D	E	D
T	I	T	I	C	A	C	A	■	■	■
■	■	■	M	A	N	I	T	O	B	A
S	P	E	A	R	S	■	■	G	E	T
H	E	A	L	S	■	S	A	L	E	M
E	R	R	■	■	N	O	P	E	T	S
S	U	P	E	R	I	O	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	V	I	C	T	O	R	I	A
A	L	C	O	V	E	■	P	O	O	L
B	E	A	K	E	R	■	O	T	T	O
C	O	M	E	T	■	■	S	E	A	T

Previous Puzzle

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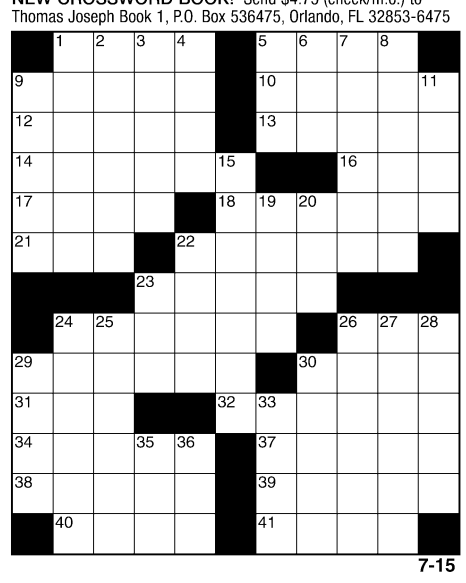

7-15

Daily Cryptoquote – Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

7-13 CRYPTOQUOTE

L K W F Y N O R R U E Y X O M Y D R R V M I T X X R D R D X O M N U R N A - K W F E R R P U E P M. — S R O D K R L M K Y

Previous Cryptoquote: MOST PEOPLE SELL THEIR SOULS AND LIVE WITH A GOOD CONSCIENCE ON THE PROCEEDS. – Logan Pearsall Smith