Couple overcomes objections, celebrates 56th anniversary

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I read the letter (Jan. 19) from the young woman who is concerned about dating someone significantly older. In 1958, when I was 17, I met a man who was 34. He was handsome, easygoing, quiet, and I fell in love. He was a widower with two children – a 13-year-old girl and a 9-year-old boy. They lived with his mother.

His mom was not at all happy about our relationship, nor were his sisters, my parents and his kids. We wanted to get married, but my parents refused to sign. I felt like the whole world was against us. But I loved him dearly.

In March 1959, I turned 18. We were married on April 4 against everyone's wishes. We had four more children. My dad did not set foot in my home until my first child was born.

My mother-in-law finally told me she loved me and knew I was good for her son on our 10th anniversary. All our children are close, and his two call me Mom. His daughter was a great help with our babies and cried when she got married and left home.

We have had our ups and downs, but we have also had 56 wonderful years of marriage. Age really IS just a number! — **JANET IN INDIANA**

DEAR JANET: In many cases that's true. In others, couples with such a large disparity in age have been known to grow apart instead of on a parallel path. Because you and your husband's relationship turned out to be a soul match, you are not only lucky to have found each other, but also blessed to have enjoyed such a long marriage. My congratulations to you both as you celebrate your 56th anniversary today!

DEAR ABBY: I recently walked in on one of my boys' 12-year-old friends watching YouTube videos that were extremely foul-mouthed and even raunchy (he had separated himself from the other boys while viewing them). His parents are under the misconception that they have control of his online activities.

When I was young, my friends' parents would reprimand me when necessary, but parents these days reject outside advice or input. What's the proper response to this? Talk directly to the boy? Turn him in to his parents? — **BURNING EARS IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR BURNING: Have a talk with the boy. Explain that the language in the video is not permitted in your home, and you prefer he not watch it while he is there. If he agrees, do not take it any further. However, if it happens again, talk to his parents, and limit the time your sons spend with him.

DEAR ABBY: I sold women's shoes for 35 years.

Men, when a lady asks if you like the shoe she's wearing, she doesn't care if you like the shoe! She wants to know whether it looks good on her, makes her ankles look fat, etc. It's like if a man buys new floor mats for his car or truck. He buys them to make his vehicle look better, not just to have floor mats.

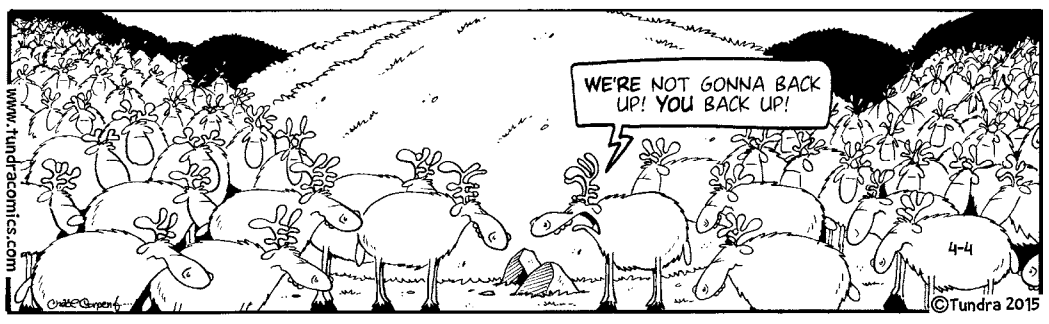
Wise up and think. If you do, shopping with your lady will make more sense! — **DAVID IN PHOENIX**

DEAR DAVID: I love your analogy. Of course, you are correct – and it applies to more apparel than shoes. One caveat: Men, when you're asked, be diplomatic or you may find yourselves in serious trouble.

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.

COMICS

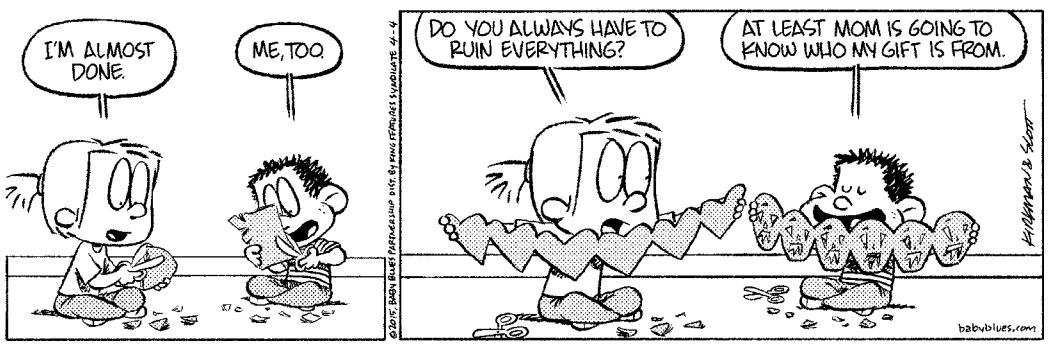
Tundra



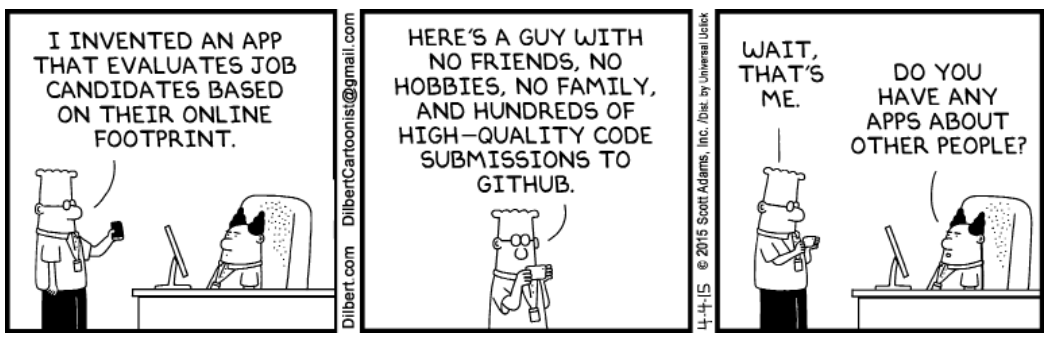
Hagar the Horrible

Peanuts

Baby Blues



Dilbert



su|do|ku

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

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.

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
Patience is a virtue you must have this week, Aries. Others may not be able to maintain your pace, so exercise patience with those who need it.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Share your thoughts and feelings about a particular project wtth others, Taurus. The people closest to you will provide just the support you need to move forward.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Embrace the competitive nature of a coworker this week, Gemini. This person might just motivate you to reach heights you have yet to reach, and this may lead to a promotion at work.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, a heart-to-heart talk with a loved one has you feeling confident as you move forward. Embrace this chance to communicate for the opportunity it truly is.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, allow someone close to you to enjoy his or her space this week. Find a way to keep busy as this special someone does some soul-searching.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Avoid rushing to judgment on an issue this week, Virgo. Rather than speculating on the "whys" and "how comes," wait until you can get some solid facts.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Luck is on your side this week, Libra. Make the most of this lucky streak and invite others to join in your fortune in the weeks to come.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, lend a helping hand to a loved one who could use some words of encouragement. Your efforts will be both effective and very much appreciated.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, anxiety about starting a new chapter in life is normal. Fear of the unknown can worry anyone, but look forward to all of the positive changes that are in store.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, thinking outside of the box comes easily to you. Although others may scoff at your unconventional ways, you always get the job done and this week is no different.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, peer pressure abounds this week, but you needn't worry about succumbing to it. You like to march to the beat of your own drum, and others look to you as a leader.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, you may need to take an unusual approach to get things done this week. Don't be afraid to be aggressive.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 5
Pharrell Williams, Singer (42)

APRIL 6
Candace Cameron Bure, Actress (39)

APRIL 7
Russell Crowe, Actor (51)

APRIL 8
Matthew Healy, Singer (26)

APRIL 9
Leighton Meester, Actress (29)

APRIL 10
Charlie Hunnam, Actor (35)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

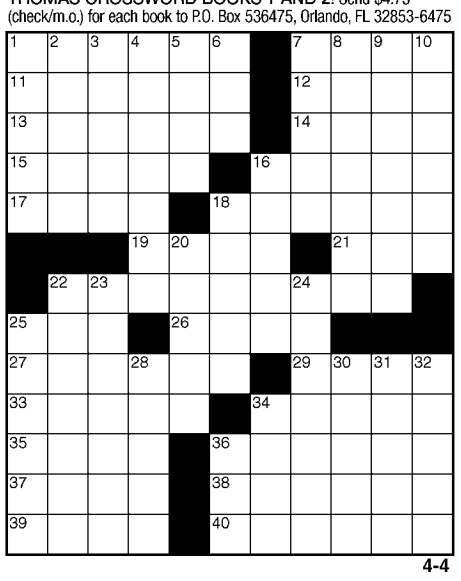
ACROSS
1 Suitable for a holiday
7 Edible root
11 Kindle
12 Lena of "Chocolat"
13 Singer Stevens
14 Prop for Potter
15 Periphery
16 Cheese chunk
17 Dick Tracy's love
18 Skiing variety
19 Atop
21 Publicity
22 Street sign
25 Lot sight
26 Forgo bidding
27 Dumbstruck
29 "Like that'll ever happen!"
33 Soda bottle size
34 Pageant topper
35 Sacred bird of Egypt
36 Protected, in a way
37 Milk carton size
38 Preposterous
39 Witches
40 Setting items

DOWN
1 Diamond side
2 Undermine
3 Airs
4 Prepares to play
5 Tag sale label
6 Shelter
7 Castle part
8 1992 Disney movie
9 Like some endorsements
10 Waiting to bat
16 Policy experts
18 Org. that tracks Santa
20 Origami need
22 Neighbor of South Africa
23 Using the soapbox
24 Parent's reason, at times
25 Islamic ruler
28 Lemon rind strips
30 "Cosmos" creator
31 Singer Cara
32 Grows dim
34 Circus sight
36 Towel word

A	P	R	I	L	■	■	F	O	O	L
P	R	O	S	E	■	S	A	N	T	A
H	O	L	E	D	■	T	W	I	T	S
I	D	L	E	■	L	A	N	C	E	T
D	U	B	■	K	I	T	■	E	R	S
S	C	A	L	E	D	U	P	■	■	■
■	T	R	E	Y	■	A	R	I	D	■
■	■	■	S	C	A	R	E	D	U	P
P	A	W	■	A	N	Y	■	E	E	L
A	L	H	I	R	T	■	D	A	D	A
S	T	A	N	D	■	R	O	M	A	N
T	A	L	K	S	■	O	R	A	T	E
A	R	E	S	■	■	W	A	N	E	S

Previous Puzzle

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



4-4

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Metal sources
5 Blokes
10 Ali —
11 Lounged around
13 Shortly, in poems
14 Charm
15 Aware
17 Karaoke singer's need, for short
18 Whatever person
19 Sheep cry
20 Chopping tool
21 Grasped
22 Hard to pin down
25 Analyze grammar
26 Writer Kingsley
27 Decimal system base
28 Brewed beverage
29 Joseph Conrad book
33 Building wing
34 Radius or ulna
35 Lacquer ingredients
37 Sighed word
38 Masonry finish
39 Gershon of "Bound"
40 Secret agents
41 Beholds

DOWN
1 44th president
2 Arrested
3 Dark wood
4 Levee items
5 Composer Debussy
6 Christmas plant
7 Maximum amount
8 Pipe pro
9 Soap operas
12 Century division
16 Guileful
21 Clutches
22 Library stamps
23 Egg dishes
24 Calls
25 Salon job
27 Some sculptures
29 Jousting weapon
30 "Maleficent" star
31 Plain silly
32 Monument Valley sights
36 Here, to Henri

A	L	G	A	E	■	C	O	L	O	R
L	O	O	N	Y	■	A	D	O	R	E
A	T	O	N	E	■	M	I	X	E	D
■	■	V	E	R	E	E	N	■	■	■
O	N	E	■	O	N	O	■	G	I	L
H	A	R	O	L	D	■	S	O	D	A
G	O	B	A	L	L	I	S	T	I	C
O	M	I	T	■	I	N	T	O	N	E
D	I	G	■	D	N	A	■	W	A	D
■	■	■	F	I	E	S	T	A	■	■
C	O	U	R	T	■	T	A	S	T	E
A	R	N	A	Z	■	E	L	T	O	N
B	O	O	T	Y	■	W	E	E	P	S

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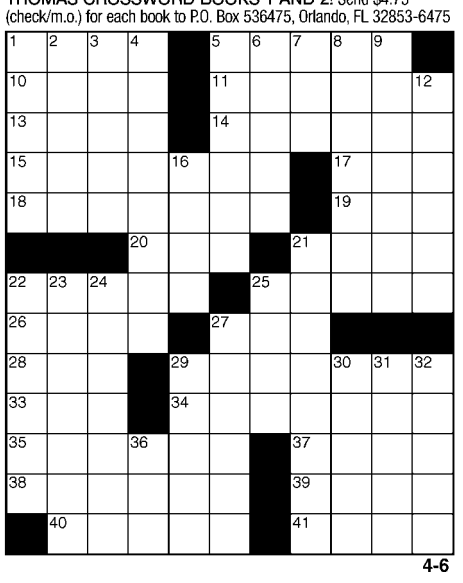

4-6

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.

4-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

O M T M G R Q O T W P P T J K I W T S N J G Q N J Q T T M V J S P M O C H H J N , P I J N J W O G M P N C J T M B J W G P I W O V M N T S . — W O Q S M N Q S C G K Q G

Previous Cryptoquote: THE DETAILS VANISH IN THE BIRD'S-EYE VIEW, BUT SO DOES THE BIRD'S-EYE VIEW VANISH IN THE DETAILS. – William James