

GARFIELD



PEANUTS



ALLEY OOP



SOUP TO NUTS



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



ARLO AND JANIS



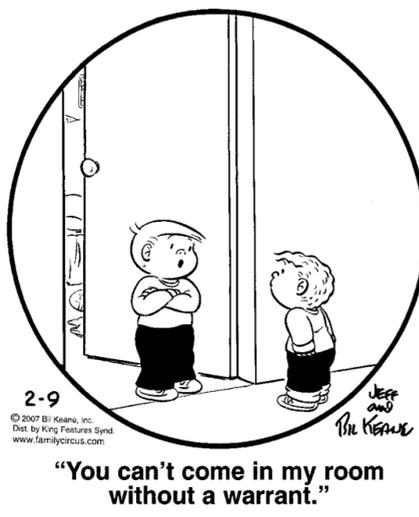
DILBERT



REALITY CHECK



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



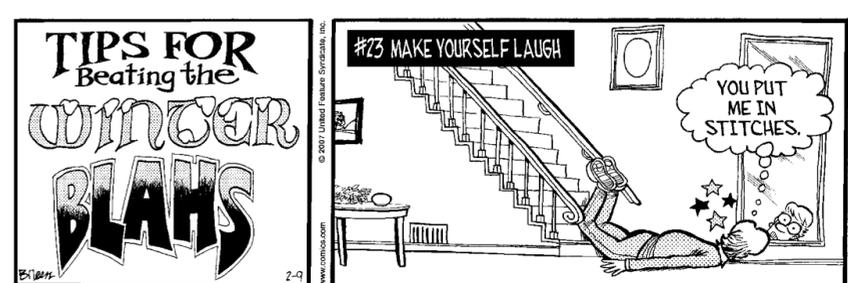
HERMAN



GET FUZZY



GRAND AVENUE



ASTROGRAPH

Your birthday:

Friday, Feb. 9, 2007
The year ahead isn't apt to be run of the mill. There are likely to be a number of surprises in store when it comes to your goals. Most of them will be more pleasing and rewarding than you had hoped.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)
When it comes to important matters that relate to your career or finances, rely solely upon your own instincts and judgment. You'll find your ingenuity will far exceed your peers.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)
If you are trying to promote something very special to you, make your presentation as imaginative and creative as possible. Dramatic touches will enhance your ability to sell.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Let your compassionate instincts dominate your behavior, even in many of your financial situations. Kindness can produce some surprising and remarkable results that you'd never expect.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You can make a big hit at this time with your contemporaries, especially if you let them think that some of those good ideas you come up with were inspired by their thinking and suggestions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Be particularly alert, because some unusual and unexpected opportunities could develop where your work or career is concerned. It's important to spot them before others do.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Your personality can be electrifying

and extremely magnetic, enabling you to draw friends and associates around you like moths to a flame. Use your power to bring everyone together.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Although many of your methods may appear unorthodox to others, don't hesitate to use them when it comes to complex business situations. They'll produce effective, desirable results.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Partnership situations will work out quite fortunate for you and in least-expected ways, mostly because those with whom you associate will prove to be both imaginative and daring.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
If you believe you have a good commercial idea tucked away that you've allowed to gather dust, this is the day to resurrect it, polish it up and do something about it. Get moving now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
When it comes to making social arrangements for your friends, don't leave them up to others. You'll find you're the one who is best equipped to organize a fun activity all will enjoy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
You can be the most effective by not disclosing in advance your plans and intentions to others. The surprise result nobody expects will make a bigger hit than it would otherwise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Where you will be the most successful is by getting involved with projects or ventures that offer something unique. Try your hand at the unusual, not the traditional.



'Dear Abby' by Pauline Phillips and Jeanne Phillips

Parents deny probable cause of son's behavior

DEAR ABBY: My nephew, "Vincent," is 16 and has had problems with obsessive handwashing for years. I have enough professional experience to strongly suspect that he suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder.

My brother and his wife refuse to believe their child has a problem and will not take him to get help. My nephew's hands are chafed and raw, and his parents reprimand him for this behavior. His mother is the biggest problem. She nixes all issues that suggest a problem, and my brother will not stand up to her.

What can I do?

— WORRIED AUNT IN FLORIDA

DEAR WORRIED AUNT: Your sister-in-law may not want her son labeled, but ignoring the problem will not resolve it. And reprimanding the young man for something he can't help is cruel.

Your nephew is old enough to discuss this problem with. Start out by asking him if he thinks he has a problem, and whether he would like to get help for it.

If he's agreeable, suggest he talk to someone at school about it, preferably the student health officer or a trusted teacher. If that's not possible, and there is a free clinic in your area, offer to take him there.

DEAR ABBY: My late Aunt Isabel's wit was legendary in our family. We come from a small town in Connecticut where many roads are so narrow that if a car should stall, the car behind it would be unable to pass.

This is what happened to my aunt one day. While she was trying to restart the engine, the driver in the car behind her began blowing his horn repeatedly. Aunt Isabel set the parking brake, got out of her car and walked over to the driver's window.

When he rolled it down, she smiled warmly and said, "I can't seem to get my car started. Would you be kind enough to start it for me? And I'll stay here and blow your horn for you."

— JOE P., MIAMI

DEAR JOE P.: Thank you for the smile, but when I read what your Aunt Isabel did, my smile turned wistful. Gone are the days. Someone who tried that today would risk a physical altercation or worse.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips. Write to Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Zilch
- Basilica part
- Snow boot
- Late-night host
- Chemist's amount
- Under par
- Klutzes
- Forum site
- Drop — line
- Made before taxes
- Age
- Wool supplier
- Look at amorously
- Tex-Mex dip
- Gives comfort
- Santa — winds
- Bangkok native
- Obstacle
- Grandeur
- Piccadilly statue
- Make ends meet
- Had occasion for

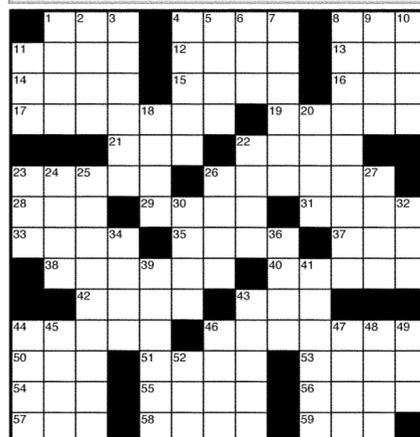
DOWN

- Dragon puppet
- Claw or talon
- Complete for
- Starbucks order
- Mixer
- "The Greatest"
- Scorch
- Wrestling style
- Songwriter
- Janis —
- Vivacity
- Smooth-talking
- Oil-drilling platform
- Former Italian coins
- Not their
- Move toward
- News, briefly
- Defeats
- See eye-to-eye
- Urge
- Miss Kitty's barkeeper
- Appear
- "The Scarlet —"
- Nautical position
- Plaid wearers
- Journal
- Mighty blow
- Monsieur's
- islands
- Columbus' home
- Weaken
- Shortly
- Ruing loudly
- Funny person
- Wine served warm
- Foot part
- Thousand bucks
- Bog dirt
- Get dirty
- Modern locomotive
- Releases (2 wds.)
- Father of sci-fi
- Den
- Jai —
- German industrial region
- Language with clicks
- Kuwaiti leader
- Stick up
- Cotton gin name

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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STIGER
NCFRQ
ASABAT
KACTNS
EWNUTI
STORKX

6

WORD LIST: TIGER, FROG, BAT, NUT, STORK, SNAKE, SAW, SIX, CAT, ANT