

FOCUS

Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

Donate organs and donate life

DEAR ABBY: I am 17 years old and have had my driver's license for more than one year. While growing up I considered donating my organs, but my mind wasn't made up until I saw a letter in your column. The line I remember best was the statement about "giving my eyes" to a blind person could see. I would really appreciate it if you would run this piece again. It changed my outlook on donating organs, and maybe it will change someone else's.

—JOLYN OWEN, NEWARK, OHIO
DEAR JOLYN: The letter you recall came from the father of a boy named Michael, and now is an appropriate time to return it because this is National Organ/Tissue Donor Awareness Week.

DEAR ABBY: I am not writing for a solution, but hope that sharing our family's experience might benefit others.

After our daughter had been married for a couple of years, we decided to give her and her husband her "inheritance" early so they could buy a house. They had gone together for a number of years, and we felt confident that this marriage would go the distance. We were wrong.

They are now being divorced, and HE is getting the house. In our ignorance, we gave them a large sum of money to buy the house. The papers were drawn up in both their names. Big mistake. Details would make this letter much too long, but our daughter is getting the short end of the stick and is losing much of the money we intended her to have.

Abby, please advise anyone considering giving a sizable check to a married daughter or son to make it out in the name of your child only. Naturally, any appreciation on the house or interest earned on money becomes joint property, but the initial gift would have been our daughter's if we had made out the papers and checks in her name only. —OLDER AND WISER

DEAR OLDER AND WISER: Thanks for a valuable letter.

By popular request, Abby shares more of her favorite prize-winning, easy-to-prepare recipes. To order, send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

PEOPLE

■ Kathmandu is no longer a mystery to Bob Seger. The Michigan-born rock singer tilted a 1976 song with the name of Nepal's capital and finally visited the city in February to see the World Special Olympics.

Seger, 45, wrote in Sunday's Detroit Free Press that he met a fan he didn't know he had: King Brenda Bir Bikram Shah Dev. He said the king asked him, "What made you write that song, anyway?"

Seger replied that he was "always fascinated by exotic places."

"I wrote the song from the perspective of someone who has yearned for a place as far from America as anybody could get," he told the king.

Seger said Kathmandu, nestled in the Himalayas between India and China, was "a very mysterious and beautiful place in a lot of ways, like another planet for me."

His visit will be featured in an ABC-TV special about the Special Olympics to air in early August.

Former football star Lyle Alzado, who has inoperable brain cancer, is recuperating from a seizure, his physician says.

Dr. Gott

Peter Gott, M.D.

Those wacky psychologists

Every once in a while, something deliciously outrageous crosses my mind. The most recent item is a gloriously irreverent book, "The Primal Whimper," edited by Glenn C. Ellenbogen, Ph.D., a paperback published by Ballantine Books. This collection of wacky pseudo-scientific "studies" pokes fun at the self-consciousness and obfuscation of psychiatry, psychology and mental health.

If, the jacket cover states, you are troubled by attacks of optimism, unable to be strict with your parents, and are easily awakened by the firing of cannons, you'll want to read this parody, which contains chapters with titles such as "The Man Who Missed His Wife For a Dishwasher, Adult Children of Normal Parents, and Pathological Lying: An Important — No, the Most Important — Clinical Problem Facing Mental Health Professionals."

My favorite chapter is Moving Diagonals: The Clinical Ontography of Bumper Stickers. In it, the tongue-in-cheek authors suggest that bumper stickers reliably indicate the auto owner's mental "pathology." As a guide, they offer this list, which I have modified.

"Have you hugged someone's else's kid today?" — Sexual perversion, involving minors.

"I love my (picture of pet animal)" — Sexual perversion, involving animals.

"Born to shop" — A Compulsive/ADDICTIVE disorder. "I'd rather be..." — Dissociative disorder with regression. Biblical quotations — Religiosity, possible manic depression or paranoia.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Central figures in the news. Each letter in the other stands for a name. Friday's clue: E. Queen 8.

■ Demi Moore says the commercial success of movies with women in the lead roles may finally convince Hollywood that actresses can carry movies on their own. Moore cited her own film, "Ghost," along with "Silence of the Lambs" and "Sleeping with the Enemy."

and straight. Madonna also speaks at length about her affinity for gay men. She said she felt like an outcast as a teenager until she discovered gay dance clubs. "I just felt at home. I had a whole new sense of myself. ... I started spending a lot of time with dancers and almost every male dancer that I knew was gay. Then I went through another kind of feeling in West Hollywood."

■ Demi Moore says the commercial success of movies with women in the lead roles may finally convince Hollywood that actresses can carry movies on their own.

These movies are simply good cinema in which women carry the leads, the actress told The Tennesseean in an interview published Sunday. "They're big at the box office, and that's the one thing that always gets the attention of the people with money in Hollywood."

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Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter for each square to form four ordinary words.

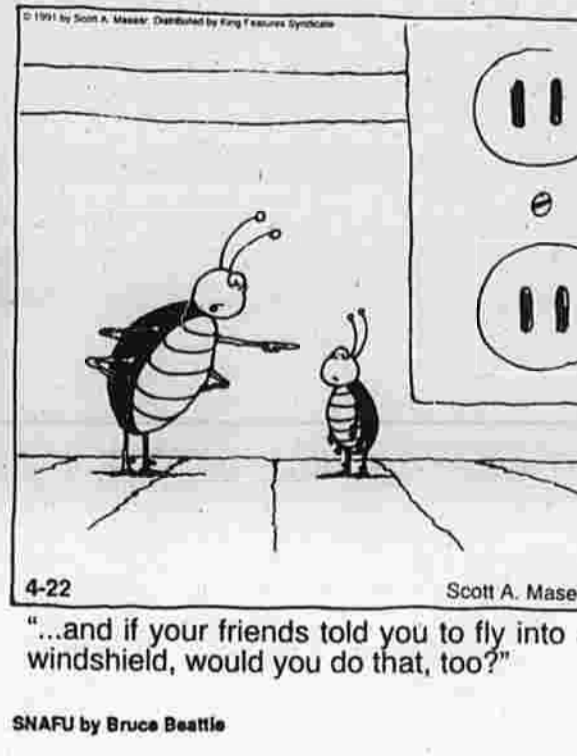
Jumble puzzle with words: MIRGY, BOREP, FLUIFT, TERRAH.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Central figures in the news. Each letter in the other stands for a name. Friday's clue: E. Queen 8.

Celebrity Cipher puzzle grid.

THE NEW BREED



SNAP!



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter for each square to form four ordinary words.

Jumble puzzle with words: MIRGY, BOREP, FLUIFT, TERRAH.

THE PHANTOM



HAZARD



ALLEY OOP



ROBOTMAN



BLONDIE



ARLO AND JANIS



WINTHROP



ERIE



THE BORN LOSER



OW!



FRANK AND ERNEST



PIPPITS



MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1991—PRIME TIME. Table listing TV channels and programs from 6:00 to 2:30.



DICK KLEINER

Q. Please settle an argument. I say the MC on "Wheel of Fortune" in the morning is Bob Dolan. My brother says his name is Bob Golin. — T.J., Lowell, Mass.

A. Your brother is closer. His name is Bob Golin. He used to host "Perfect Match" and "Home Shopping Game." Before that, he was a sports announcer.

Q. I want some help. Twice I have taped Clark Gable and Greer Garson in a movie called "Strange Adventure," or maybe just "Adventure." Anyway, neither time have I gotten all of it and I don't know how it ends. Is it on video, so I can order it and find out? — Mrs. L.H., Abilene, Texas

A. Sorry, you'll just have to watch for "Adventure" to pop up on a late show. That 1940 film — which was Hollywood right after World War II with the memorable line, "Gable's Back and Garson's Got Him!" — was such a bomb that it has never been issued on VCR.

Q. Tell me about that scene in "Three Men and a Cradle" with the ghost of a boy in the back ground. Was it really a ghost? — J.C., Juneau, Ala.

A. You had lots of letters about that, and I've answered it before. But, for the record — no, there was no ghost. That "boy" is really a cardboard cutout of Ted Danson's prop that was intentionally put there. And that scene was shot on a sound stage, not in an apartment where anyone died. So it's all balderdash.

(Send your questions to: Ask Dick Kleiner, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10166. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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