WISDOM continued...
depression and the meaning of life. (Example: "I'm seeing a boy with tattoos, and I don't know what to tell my parents.")

The online Dear Abby must be at least 65, fill out a questionnaire and go through a screening process. At Crownbrite of Indianapolis, an assisted living center; a group of men and women meet weekly to field questions. But most of the advice givers, like Cobb, work via computer from home. Cobb, for her part, fields from three to five questions a day.

Later this year Elder Wisdom Circle will unveil “Advice TV,” which it bills as “the world’s only advice column via webcam video.” Move over, Dr. Phil. —Cathie Gandel

EMPLOYMENT

Is It Time to Say Goodbye to That Gold Watch?

When veteran political columnist Jules Witcover of the Baltimore Sun learned last August that he was being let go, the news came in the form of a two-line letter delivered to his home by overnight mail.

“We appreciate your many years of service to The Sun and its readers and wish you well in all of your future endeavors,” the letter—from the newspaper’s human resources department—said.

As corporations from coast to coast slash costs and payrolls, Witcover, 78, isn’t the only dedicated employee who’s gotten the boot without so much as a face-to-face explanation or thank-you, even if the gold watch and retirement party haven’t yet been doled out, and they’re at the bottom of the to-do list.

“Those are the guys,” says Clar an assistant professor of University of &

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ness. “There are without a lot of players, and et

loyalty to the

As a result, a body’s become looking out for itself—or the

What I hope is that the news from either of h

Sun. (Editor’s Note: The

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