

Keep records handy, just in case

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dear Annie: My husband has been dead for years. He was strong, handsome and successful, but not faithful. Women shamelessly threw themselves at him and he took advantage. He once had to send me to a doctor to be tested for STDs, and I was so angry and embarrassed that I decided the only way to keep the marriage intact for the children's sake would be to forget about romance and approach it like a business.

The problem is, one of his affairs may have produced a child. The woman was married at the time and still is. Her husband is considered the legal father, and for all I know, he may be the biological father. My husband and I never spoke about this baby boy, but everyone else did because we lived in a small town. I always told myself I would speak to the woman if I ran into her, but I have not, mainly to protect my children's inheritance.

But I worry that someday this information may have to be dealt with. Should I put a letter in with our family records to be discovered after my death? Or is this something I should take to my grave? — *The Wife*

Dear Wife: If there is a likeli-

Annie's Mailbox

Creators Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



hood that your husband fathered a child by someone else, you should keep medical information available in case the child decides to search for his father. But it is unlikely that he would be entitled to an inheritance, especially if many years have passed and the money is gone.

Dear Annie: I'd like to vent about people who plan things at the last minute. My sister-in-law has the rude habit of "planning" parties on a minute's notice. She has five children, and I'd love to attend their birthday parties if I had more than four hours' notice. Her excuse is that they are so active in sports and can't plan ahead because games run over or they didn't expect to "still be in the playoffs." She has even scheduled parties on short notice and then texted to cancel them.

The most absurd example was her husband's 40th birthday, again planned with a few hours' notice. And all of these invitations come via text message. If my phone is charging, or I left it in my car, I will never see the invitation until the party is over.

I have become so fatigued at her last-minute invites that I have stopped making any effort to attend. Why should my children and I be expected to drop our plans to appease her? I don't know what to say to her kids when they ask why I wasn't at their party. Any suggestions? — *Any Minute Auntie*

Dear Auntie: Your sister-in-law is either disorganized or enjoying a power trip. We'd give her the benefit of the doubt. Trying to arrange parties when you have five children in sporting activities is difficult. She could plan for overtime games by scheduling the party later in the day, but she seems too frazzled to think that far ahead. Nonetheless, you are not obligated to attend any party planned on such short notice and subject to cancellation. If you want to let the kids know that you care, we recommend getting them a birthday gift and dropping it off at another time.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Those who are trying to go "under the radar" don't always get quiet or hide. Sometimes they talk — a lot. "Talking much about oneself can also be a means to conceal oneself." -- Friedrich Nietzsche

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Decisions by committee rarely lead to the best outcome. When it's your name on the line, don't let the group sway you too far beyond your vision.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be working with a small group of creative people, and you have plenty of questions, comments and suggestions to share. It's better to do so in the early stages of a project than in the later stages.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you look out onto the horizon of your plans, you do recognize a few constraints. Embrace them. Your ability to work within them will lead to unexpected benefits.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When others don't give us the love we want from them, it's disappointing. But this isn't Hollywood, and the others weren't handed your script to read from. The best we can do is discover the true dynamics and play the scene from there.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The gold in this day will only fall into your pockets if you muscle up and do the thing you've been putting off for the past few weeks. No more waiting, hoping the work will go away. Get in there and handle it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There is a potential liveliness in a routine activity that you will find once you decide to change one element of it. A slight shift will snap you to attention. You'll see it all differently.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're drawn to the kind of toys that keep you fascinated and fully engaged in the moment. Luckily, today's toys won't cost you much, and the time you spend in play will pay you back and then some.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You like to be on when you're required to be on and then switch it off for a while. The one you really love is the one you can relax around unconsciously and without worry.

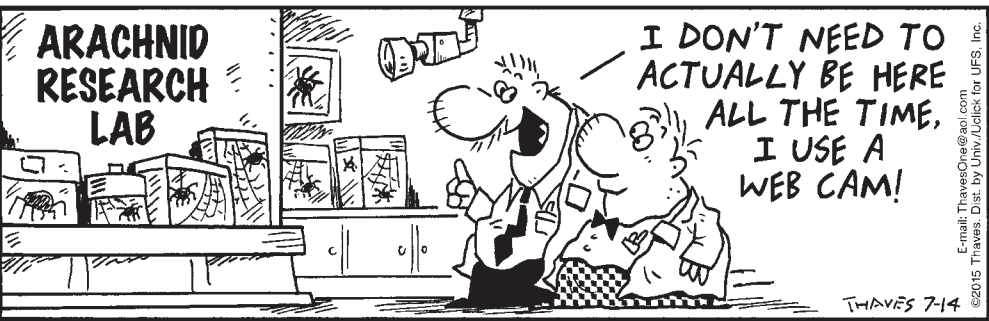
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Sports, reading, dancing, exploring, dining, crafting... There are so many things you wish you had more time for. The resolution to make time will go a long way under this new moon.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The seemingly mundane will be alive with psychic information. Because you are paying attention, you'll get signs from things that are a normal part of the daily routine: food labels, junk mail, clouds.

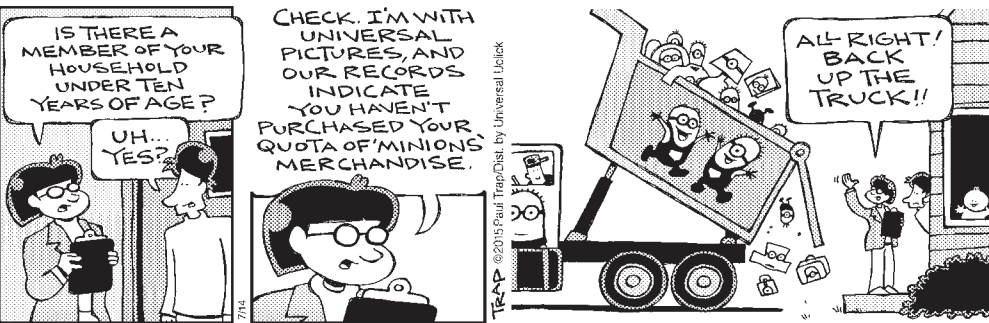
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What would you do with more time, more money and more freedom? Once you know the answer to this question, you'll be willing to let go of the things that are keeping you from these luxuries.

WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 15). Perseverance will be critical to your success. Through sheer determination, you'll make a situation work. Enjoy the star treatment in September — it's a sign of your arrival. You motivate others without coming off as controlling, which is why you'll be put in charge of an important group project at the start of 2016. Aquarius and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 2, 11, 27 and 17.

FRANK AND ERNEST



THATABABY



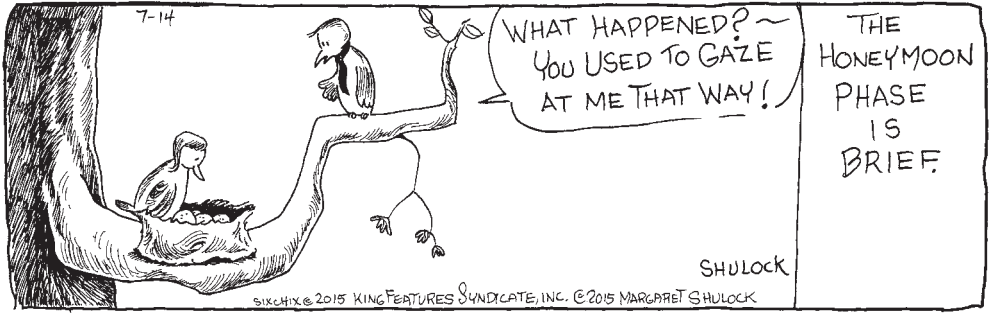
STONE SOUP



LOLA



SIX CHIX



MUTTS



BABY BLUES



ZITS



BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



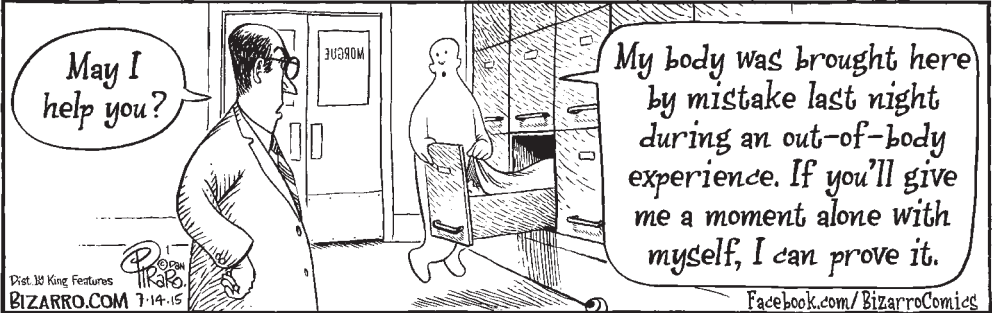
B.C.



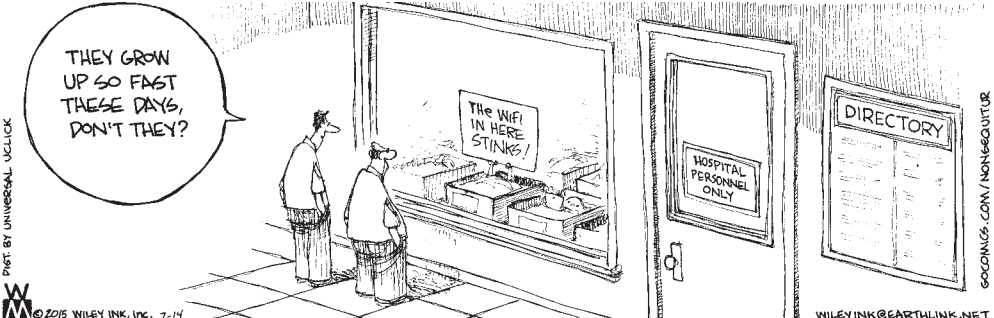
DILBERT



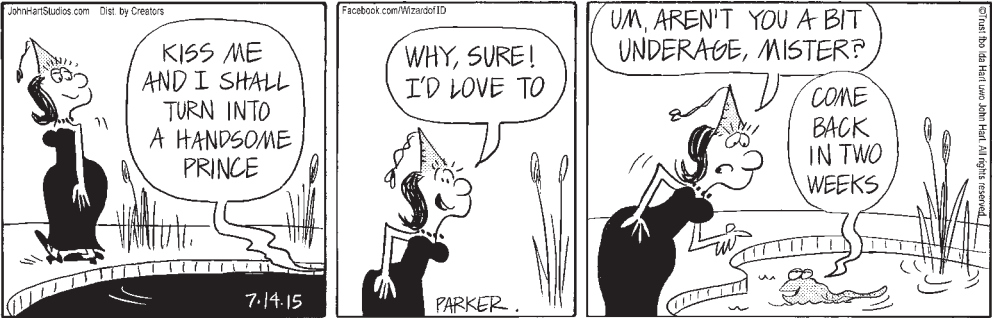
BIZARRO



NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

