

Donate organs and live on

Dear Annie: Several years ago, you printed a poem about organ donation. I carried it until it ripped to shreds. I'm in end-stage renal failure and want people to be aware of the importance of organ donation. Please reprint it. — *Not Giving Up*

Dear Not: Here it is, with our hopes for your recovery:

"To Remember Me" by Robert Noel Test (1926-1994)

The day will come when my body will lie upon a white sheet neatly tucked under four corners of a mattress located in a hospital busily occupied with the living and the dying.

At a certain moment a doctor will determine that my brain has ceased to function and that, for all intents and purposes, my life has stopped.

When that happens, do not attempt to instill artificial life into my body by the use of a machine. And don't call this my deathbed. Let it be called the Bed of Life, and let my body be taken from it to help others lead fuller lives.

Give my sight to a man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or love in the eyes of a woman.

Annie's Mailbox

Creators
Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell
and
Marcy Sugar



Give my heart to a person whose own heart has pain.

Give my blood to the teenager who was pulled from the wreckage of his car, so that he might live to see his grandchildren play.

Give my kidneys to one who depends on a machine to exist from week to week.

Take my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body and find a way to make a crippled child walk.

Explore every corner of my brain.

Take my cells, if necessary, and let them grow so that, someday, a speechless boy will shout at the crack of a bat and a deaf girl will hear the sound of rain against her windows.

Burn what is left of me and scatter the ashes to the winds to

help the flowers grow.

If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weaknesses and all my prejudice against my fellow man.

Give my sins to the devil. Give my soul to God. If, by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you.

If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Upset in Montreal," whose friend, "Rhonda," has become rude and unsympathetic. Rhonda sounds just like my mom. Mom was wonderful, compassionate and caring until the past decade. She has some form of dementia and has lost all filters. She says anything that comes to mind, most of it rude, cruel or at the very least, inconsiderate.

Your advice to have "Upset" ask Rhonda when she'd last seen her doctor was spot-on. My bet is that Rhonda is beginning to suffer from dementia. — *Wyoming*

Dear Wyoming: Any change in personality should send alarm signals to seek medical advice. Thank you.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The little civilities that restore your faith in society will be in large supply. People will hold the door open for each other and place their orders to the cashier with the appropriate "please" and "thank you." Nice!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You will be moved to pick up trash and solve problems that do not technically originate with you just because it feels good to be a part of the solution.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Human communication is so nuanced that it often gets misconstrued. So many times the things we say actually mean the opposite of their literal definition. You get it, though, and will process today's messages accordingly.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've had your worries, but they will subside as you realize that you are richer than you think. That's what you'll claim on this beautiful day, a sense of optimism that only rests in the most grateful of hearts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). As much as you value loyalty and are impressed by unbridled enthusiasm, you usually behave more like a cat than a dog. Today you will be independent, discerning and graceful in your approach.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If indeed the universe really does have a purpose, this is one of those rare days in which the universal purpose lines up more or less directly with your own.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Mark Twain suggested that man is the only animal who blushes, or needs to. You'll resonate with this statement today, as someone hits a subconscious trigger that creeps up

on you like pink heat.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are a powerful communicator. Getting through to others has more to do with preparation than anything else. Practice and perfect your messages. Your self-assured words will inspire action.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Instead of adapting to the circumstances that others have laid out for you, your desire is to create your own niche. You'll succeed in finding a compromise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Avoid deprivation. Give yourself a little of what you want. If you have trouble stopping after just a little, then try to divert your attention to other things you enjoy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll meet with people who would like to join your cause. Keep asking questions. Find out what they need. In the end, if you feel you can meet those needs, you'll be most persuasive.

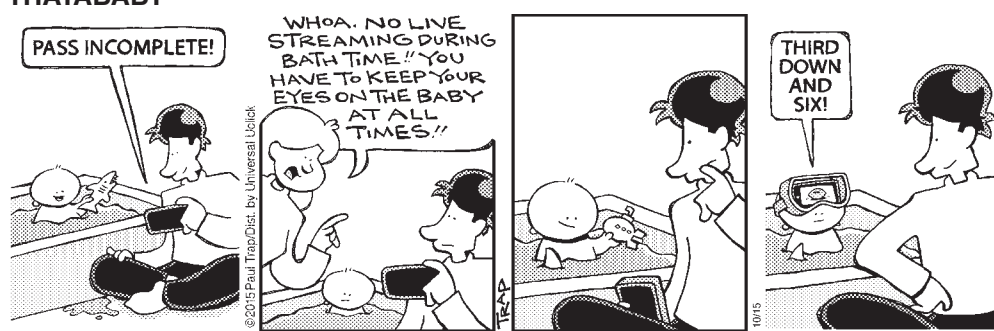
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You will present things that people already know in a way they have never heard before, helping them form new neural pathways and emotional connections.

FRIDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 16). This is a year of claiming your own and working to keep it beautiful. The next 10 weeks are your best in regard to finance. You'll be proud of how you help family this month. November brings a symbol of affection you'll cherish for years to come. Professional gains in December lead to March travel. Virgo and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 13, 22, 11 and 18.

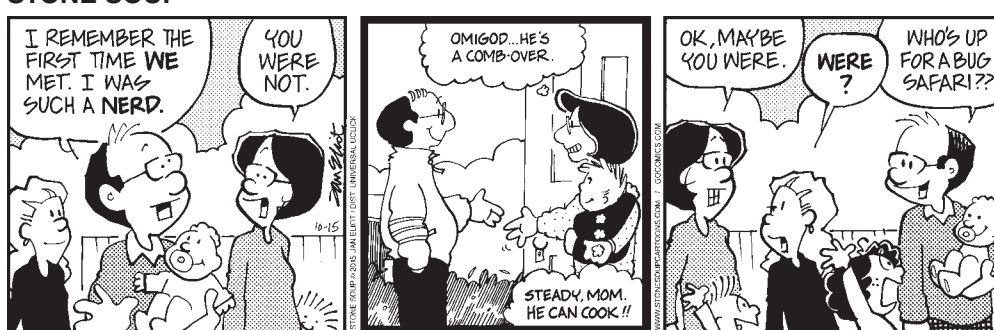
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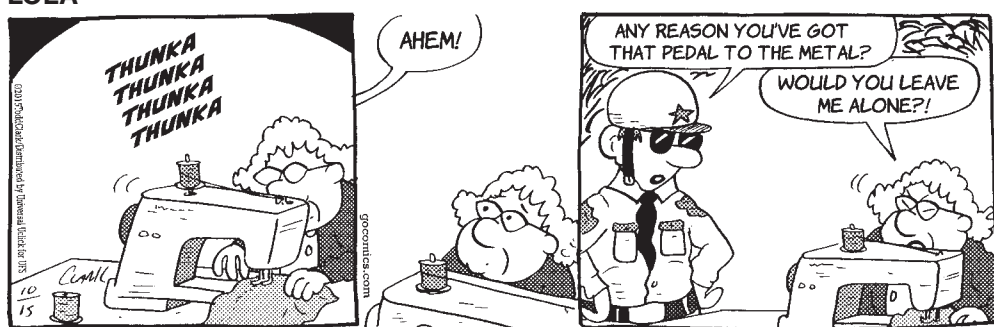
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STONE SOUP



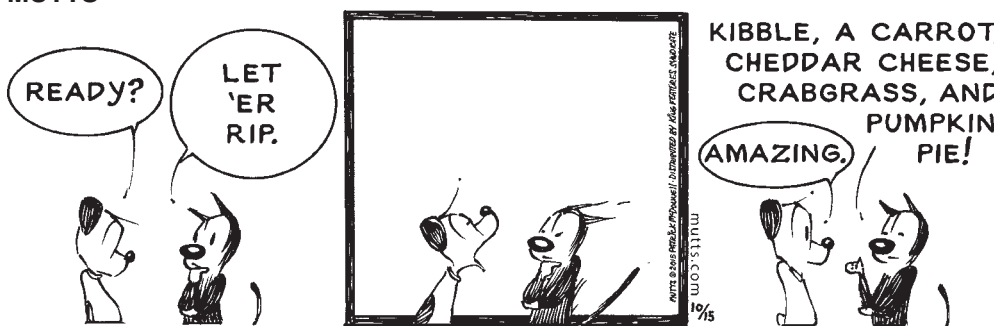
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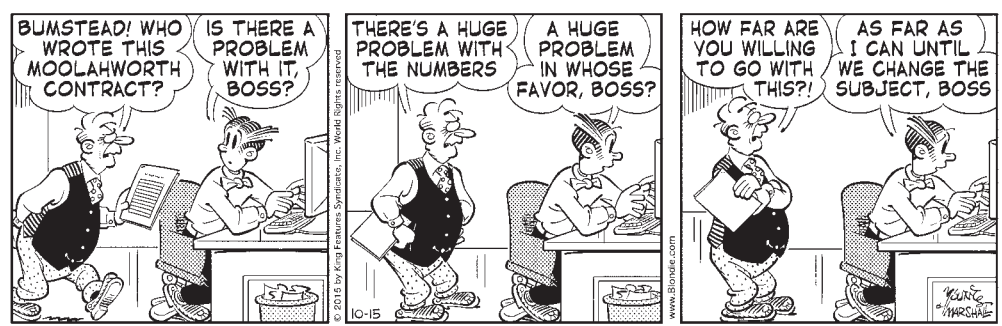
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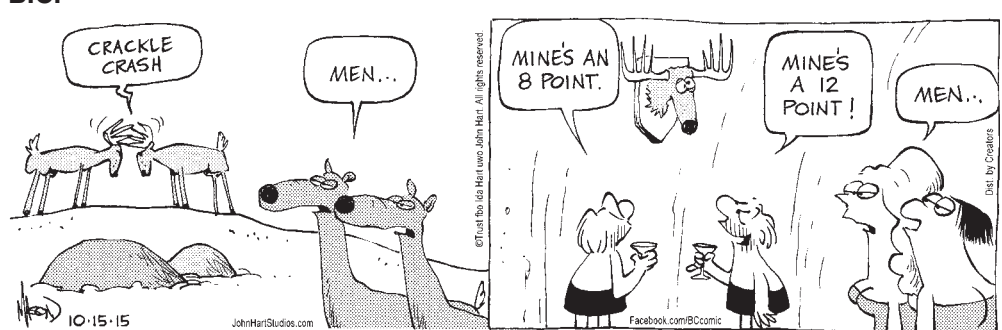
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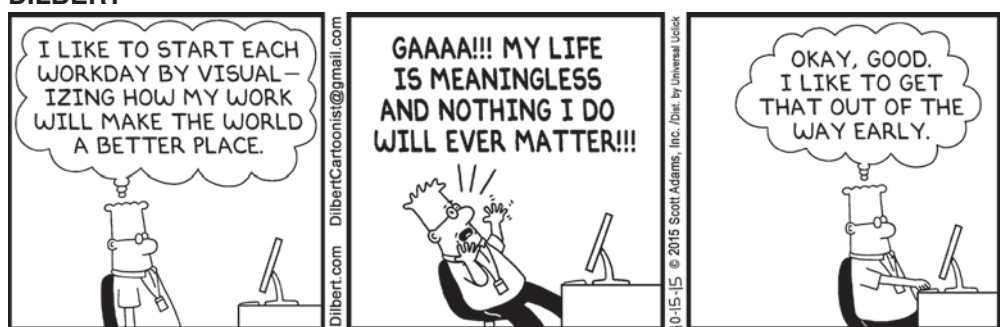
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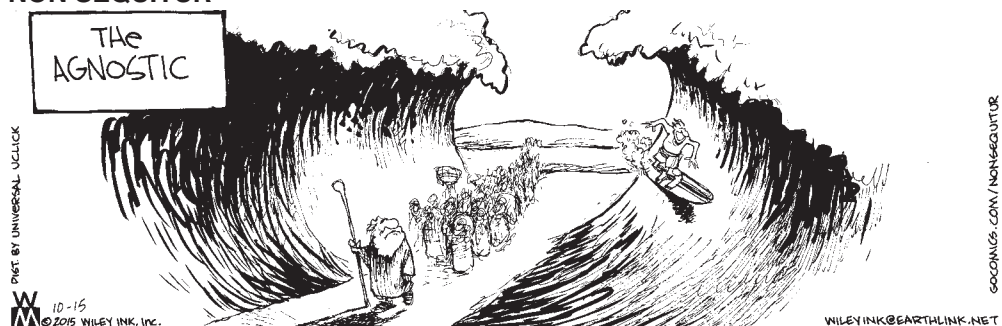
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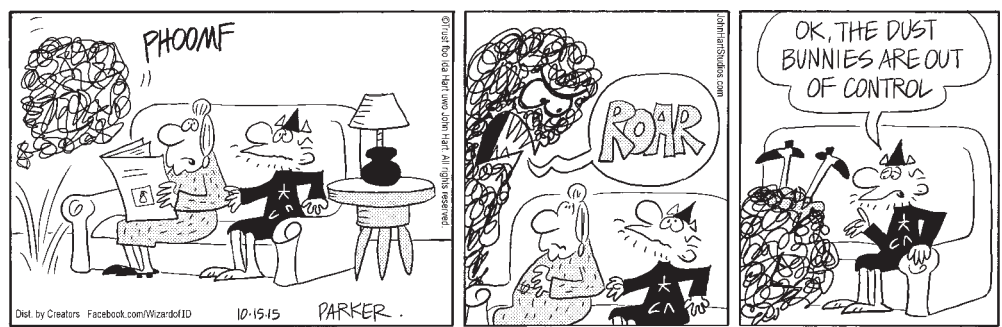
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WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

