

Adult daughter a hoarder

Dear Annie: My 55-year-old daughter is a hoarder. She cannot pick up her clothes or keep them in order. She lives in two bedrooms in our mobile home and they are both a complete mess. Lately, it's been so difficult for her to get into her rooms that she has started sleeping on the couch. She picks clothes off of the floor to wear. (She's been doing that her entire life.)

In the past, I have cleaned up her room, but it isn't long before it's a complete mess again. Right now, it's overwhelming. Please help. — *Mom of a Hoarder*

Dear Mom: Why does your 55-year-old daughter live with you? Does she not have a job? Is there a history of mental illness that makes her incapable of living on her own?

Hoarding is a serious problem, especially when it means your daughter can no longer enter her rooms because the clutter is piled so high. Please contact the International OCD Foundation (iocdf.org) for information on hoarding and perhaps some referrals for therapists who may be able to help.

Dear Annie: I am tired of women using menopause as an

Annie's Mailbox

Creators
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excuse not to be intimate with their husbands. Marrying someone includes a commitment, and sex is part of that commitment. I don't understand women who think they can just say, "We're not going to have sex anymore."

I am a 63-year-old woman and a breast cancer survivor. Yes, intercourse can be extremely painful, but why does everyone think that sex has to be intercourse? There are other ways to satisfy your partner that don't involve anything painful. I am sure most of these sex-starved men would be deliriously happy with the alternatives.

If you love someone, you work on it. Instead, these women decide they're no longer interested, so their husbands shouldn't be interested, either. And then we wonder why men

stray. We vilify men for wanting something that's a natural function of being human. I don't believe women should kowtow to men. I simply think that in a marriage, love should trump excuses for putting yourself first. — *Austin, Texas*

Dear Austin: We agree — although some of our female readers will not. But we've said it many times. Marriage is a partnership. You cannot make a unilateral decision that affects the other partner negatively and not expect repercussions.

According to our mail, most of the men who are unhappy with their sex lives aren't looking to stray. They love their wives and want to show that love in a physical way. And they want their wives to love them enough to be physical, as well. This is how they demonstrate their affection.

Intimacy is not all about sex, and sex is not all about intercourse. It is important to make the effort, whatever the result, and be willing to discuss what can be done to make both partners reasonably happy. This usually requires compromise, something that seems to be in short supply these days.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). As for this recent baffling twist, don't try to figure it all out just yet. At the very least, it will be more fun not to know right away. And if you never find out at all — well, the mystery is something delicious. Milk it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's a day for physical daring and endeavoring to act before thinking about whether you should. The result might be a performance of stunning grace, but there are other risks you'd be wise to consider as well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's some excitement, and it will enhance your experience of the day as long as you remain slightly detached. The drama will be fun if you take a step back and refuse to be overly serious about it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll probably have to alter your plan in order to accommodate weird circumstances in the morning. Your flexible attitude will contribute greatly to your success.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Everything is aligned. You say what you want, and then you do it. Your purpose is unencumbered by doubt or obstacle. Your focus is narrow and laser-sharp. Go!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you distance yourself from the forces that would rob you of your peace, you're not running away: You're protecting and fortifying yourself so that you can bring the best "you" to life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Small-scale trials, tests and transformations are getting you ready for the bigger changes life will surely bring. Think of this afternoon's test as a drill for the real deal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Beware of those who would benefit from you thinking that the solution to the problem can be bought in a product. If this could really be bottled, it would be the most popular product sold on earth.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The thing you used to do for fun may now seem quite the opposite, but that's the very nature of fun: Novelty, newness, risk and reward are all a part of the equation. It's time to search for new fun now.

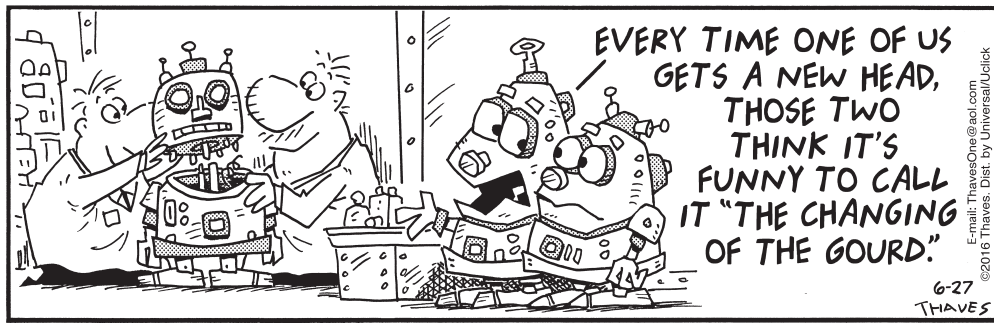
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Success is rather simple for you today. Do what you say you'll do. This is made even easier if you don't say you'll do anything, freeing yourself up completely for a change.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Everyone has a heart, but not everyone leads with it like you do today. You'll wind up at a magical destination, all because you followed your heart's dictates.

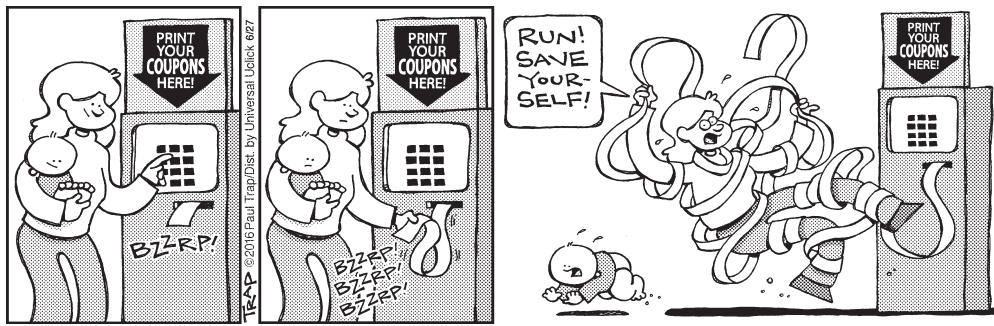
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you're not careful, your tangents will go off on tangents until you are so far from the main road (conversationally, geographically, creatively or otherwise) that it'll take a major transportation upgrade just to get back.

TUESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 28). Your cosmic gift is a deep sense of belonging. The person who understands you does this so fully and with so much love that you feel more like yourself than you've ever been. July and August see you renewing contracts and bringing your home into the future, too. There's travel to look forward to in September. Capricorn and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 3, 40, 19 and 25.

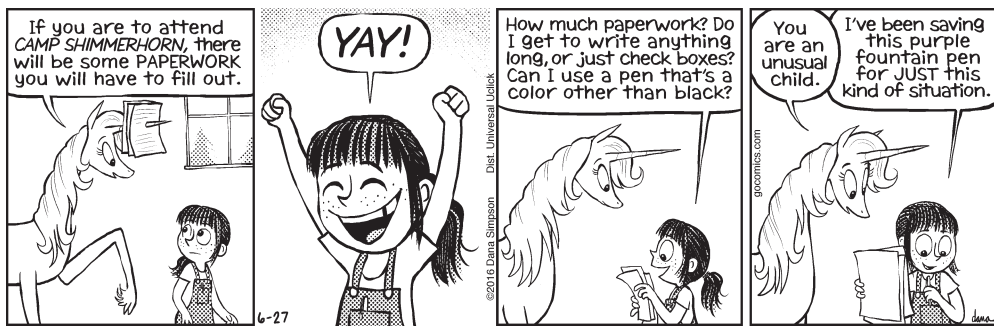
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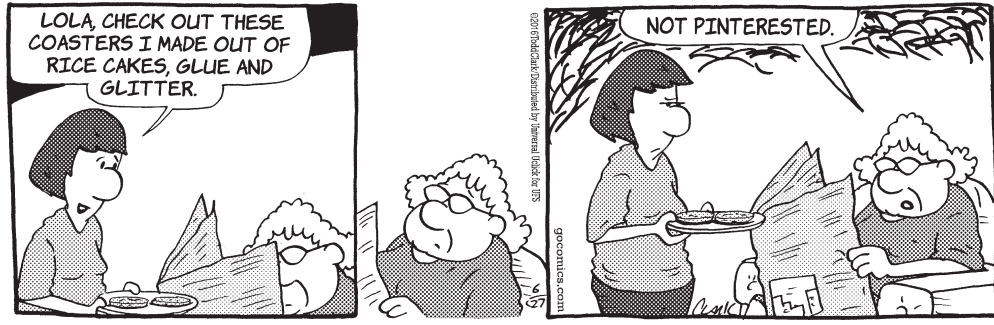
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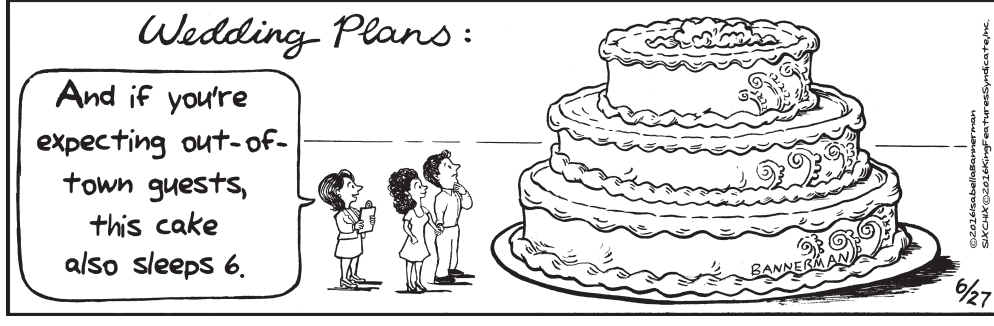
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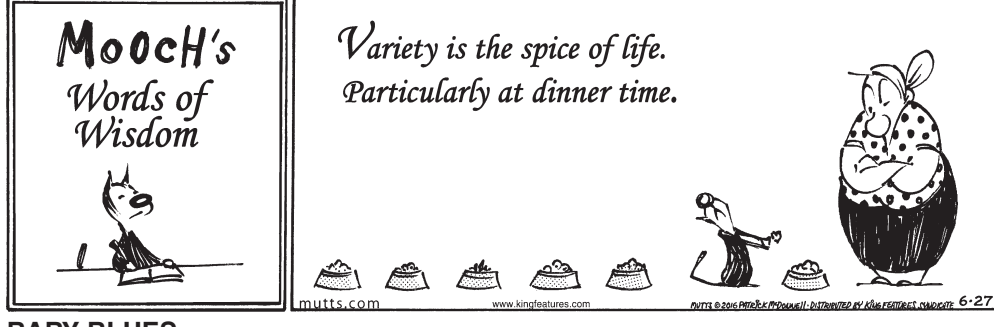
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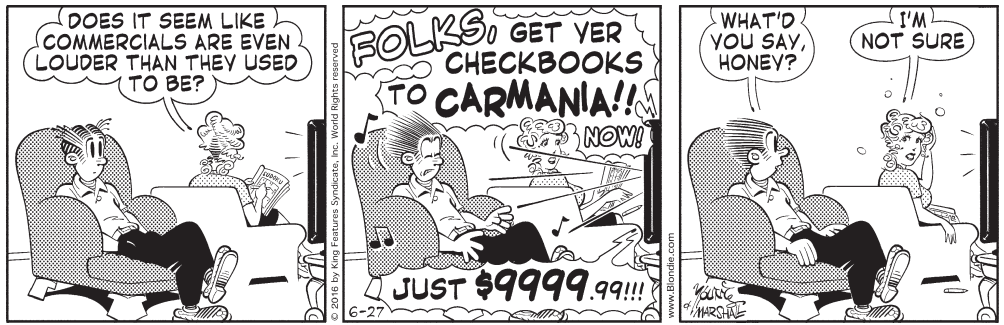
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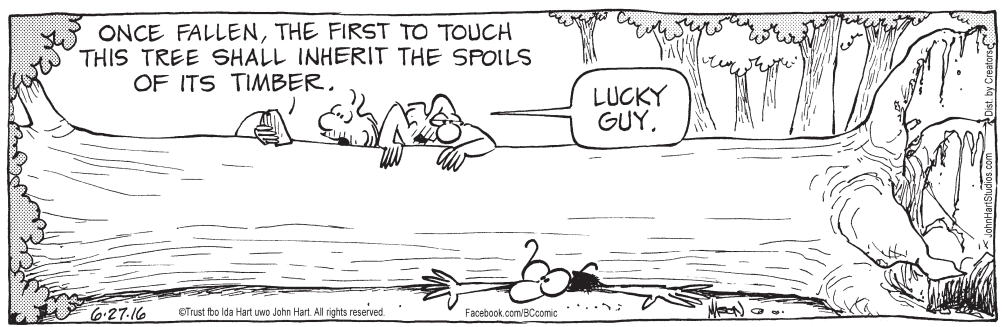
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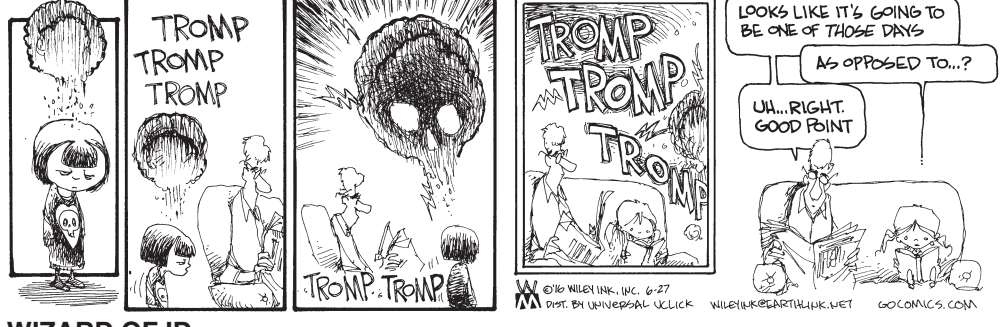
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