

Neighbor dog bite dilemma

Dear Annie: A month ago, my wife was bitten by our neighbor's foster dog. While the dog was healthy and had had all of its shots, the bite became infected and required a doctor's care. This turned out to be a lengthy process, including shots and a prescription. It seems to be healing up.

Our insurance paid the bill, and so far we have not received anything indicating that we owe money. The neighbor has apologized many times and the dog has been returned to the facility.

Our neighbor is very nice and we don't want to create a conflict. Should we just let it go, or should the neighbor reimburse us for any additional costs? — *Not Sure*

Dear Not Sure: If there is no additional cost for your wife's medical bills or prescriptions, we think your neighbor has done all she can — apologized profusely and returned the dog. However, should a medical bill show up in the mail, you ought to ask your neighbor whether she would like to pay it or split it with you. She might actually feel better knowing she has not saddled you with a bill because of the dog.

Dear Annie: I have been crying my eyes out for the last week.

Annie's Mailbox

Creators
Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



Our beautiful, talented, intelligent daughter, "Susie," became pregnant during her last semester of college. The father was a classmate. He comes from a very traditional culture and his parents have a successful business.

When Susie told her boyfriend about the baby, he did not respond. My husband threatened to hire a lawyer, so Susie informed him that he had to tell his parents about the baby. They demanded a paternity test, which proved their son was the father. Although we recommended adoption, Susie opted to keep the baby. The lawyer got a decent amount of child support based on the boyfriend's income. But a month later, the boyfriend suddenly quit his job and moved back to his parents' native country.

Our grandson is now 3, and Susie barely earns enough for child care

and rent. Last week, I got a call from the mother of one of Susie's college friends. Apparently, her daughter had invited Susie to her recent wedding, and Susie sent a note saying she'd be out of town. But another friend saw Susie boarding a bus the morning of the wedding. When I asked Susie, she started sobbing. She said she didn't have enough money to buy a dress and get her hair done for the big day. So she maxed out her credit card to send a nice gift. What's worse, the bride had intended to introduce Susie to her cousin, a nice professional man from out of state. Now he's back on the West Coast and Susie is stuck in a third-floor walk-up.

Annie, I worry that it is too late for Susie, but please warn other young women. When it comes to a pregnancy, it is always the woman who pays the price. — *Broken-hearted Mom*

Dear Mom: Please stop concentrating on whether or not Susie has a man in her life. That is not her focus right now, nor should it be. If she cannot get child support from her reprobate ex-boyfriend, she will need your assistance to get by. Can you help with rent? What about child care? Please think about how you can make Susie's life easier.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). What's making it work? What's holding it up? Your attention to the internal structure will be a theme today. Successful living has a lot to do with being true to the underlying principles of the situation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The thing about good timing is that often if you pause to consider the right timing, the timing of that pause messes up the rhythm. So don't think. Do fall into the groove.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). What is it about that distracting person in your life who always seems to need the kind of help that has you suddenly snagged into the vortex of his or her world? Such people will try to ensnare you in their personal conundrums today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The best persuasion is barely felt, as soft and consistent as water lapping the shore, carving the landscape. Much will be accomplished with soft words in a firm, confident tone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Clarity of mind will come when the stress is reduced and sense of freedom is expanded. Getting to that point will require you to be clear in communicating your boundaries and desires.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Good sense tells you when to resist a natural attraction and when to yield to it, as resistance is both futile and a waste of your precious energy. You might be surprised at how liberal that "good sense" is today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Today's interaction has the potential to get confusing. Don't let it! Understand yourself first, what you're looking for, what you need from the situation, then turn that understanding outward.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You think you

should be able to do your work in any state of mind. Well, guess what: That's an unreasonable belief. The way to achievement is to adjust your attitude and get into the right headspace before you dive in.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Who most needs a miracle? When you focus on that person, your own thinking will become sharp, your purpose will become clear, your selflessness will make it comfortable to be you.

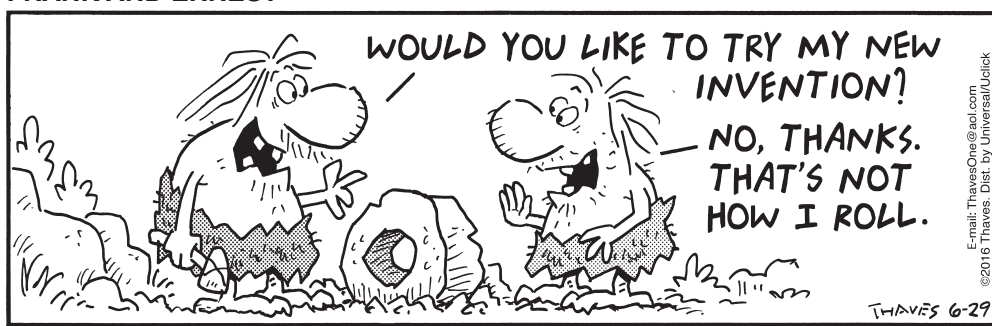
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). How long your current situation is likely to last matters a lot less than what you do with your time. Whether you'll stay a day, a year or a decade, the way you'll make a difference is by focusing on the moment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If your project is worthy of you this will be one of your favorite days. So choose carefully. Make it your choice. Don't kowtow to anyone who emotionally leans on or manipulates you.

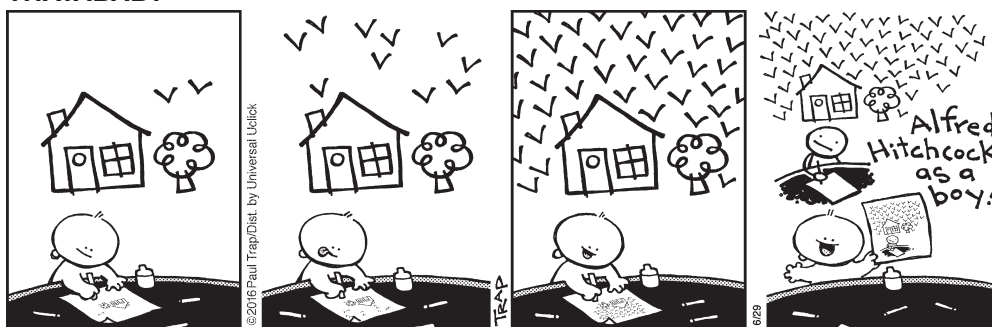
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Try to create solidarity within the group. It won't be easy, but when you can successfully meld, if only with one person and for a moment, the group will bond and the next three things that happen will be pure magic.

THURSDAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 30). Your heart is true and you express it beautifully, to tender and enthusiastic reception. The best projects have humble beginnings but take root quickly in July. The bare-bones way things start will be in stark contrast to the lavish way they end up in April 2017. Your involvement in a church or school will open you to good fortune in August. Capricorn and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 2, 39, 30 and 44.

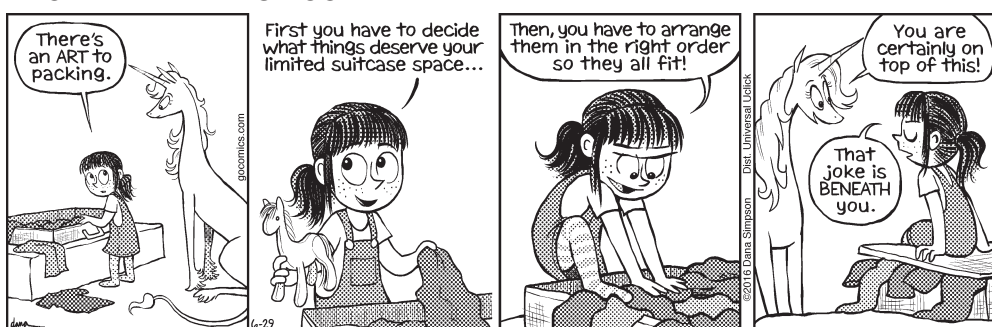
FRANK AND ERNEST



THATABABY



PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



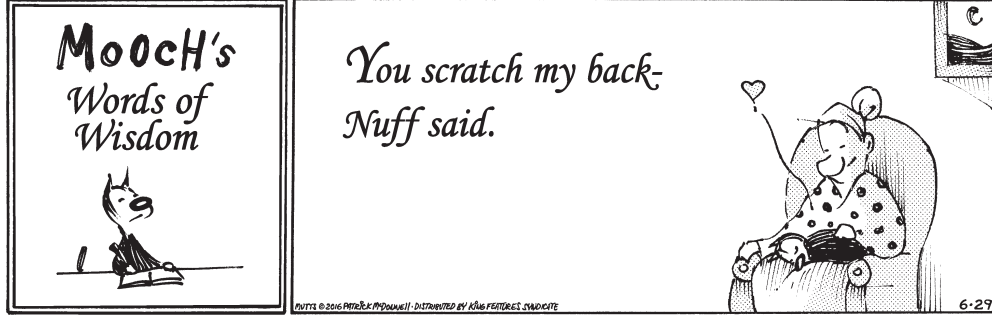
LOLA



SIX CHIX



MUTTS



BABY BLUES



ZITS



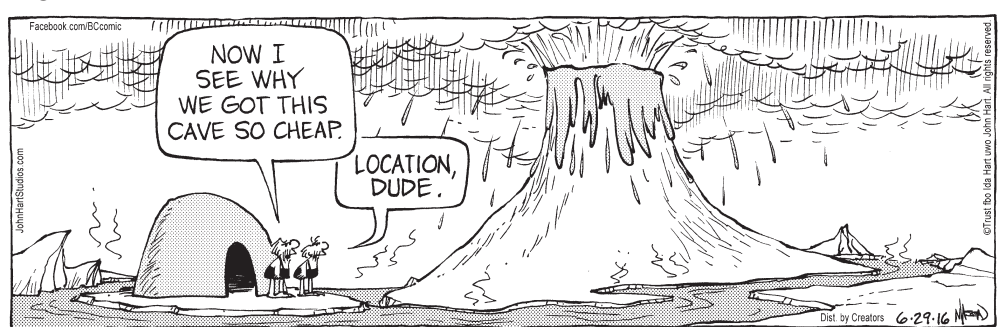
BLONDIE



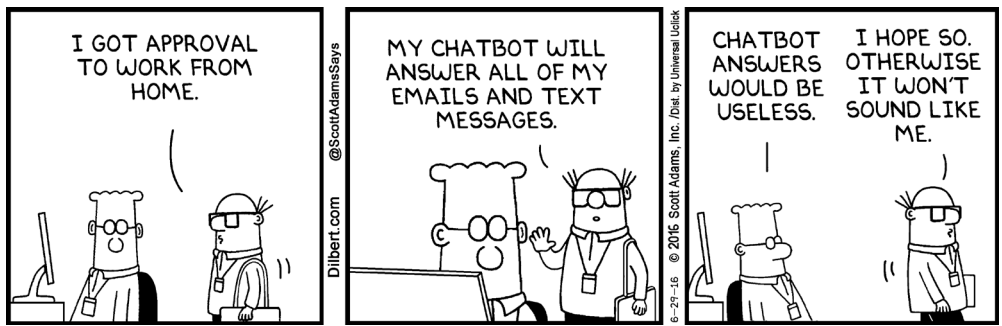
SALLY FORTH



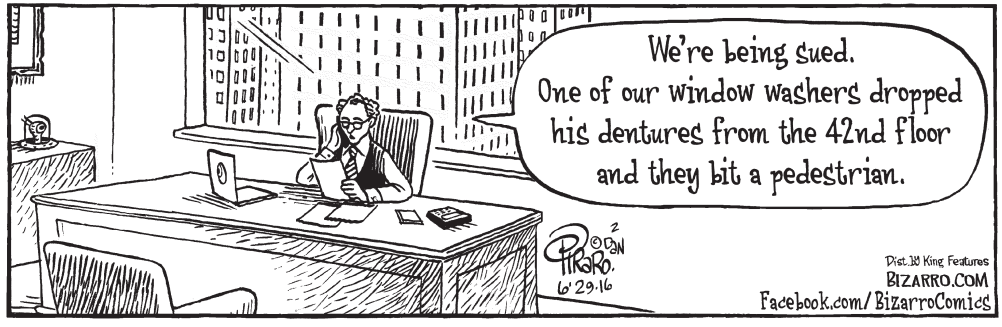
B.C.



DILBERT



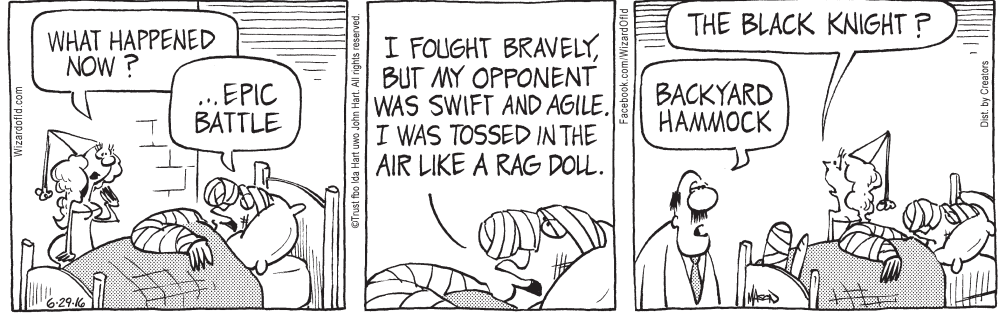
BIZARRO



NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

