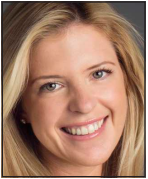


Couple's thrill is gone

Dear Annie: My wife's sexual desire disappeared with menopause, although there was little desire even before then. I still like, need and enjoy sex. We have had many discussions about this conflict between us but have been unable to resolve it on our own. Apparently, one of us will be unhappy about the outcome regardless of what we do. My question is: What do your readers do to resolve this conflict so that they and their spouses stay together? Do you have any recommendations? It is my strong impression that many marriages suffer from the same conflict. — *Still Interested*

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

important to discuss the former before getting into medicinal treatments. Is she stressed about work or finances? How is your marriage outside the bedroom? How does she feel about your sex life? For more insights, check out "Wanting Sex Again: How to Rediscover Your Desire and Heal a Sexless Marriage," by marriage counselor and certified sex therapist Laurie Watson.

Lastly, if you haven't done so already, consider seeing a marriage counselor. With good communication, you and your wife could work through this together, just as you've worked through countless issues over the years. Be patient.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Daughter in Distress" and anyone who is concerned because a parent is in a nursing home and keeps asking to go home. Please listen to my experience.

My beloved mother suffered from gradually progres-

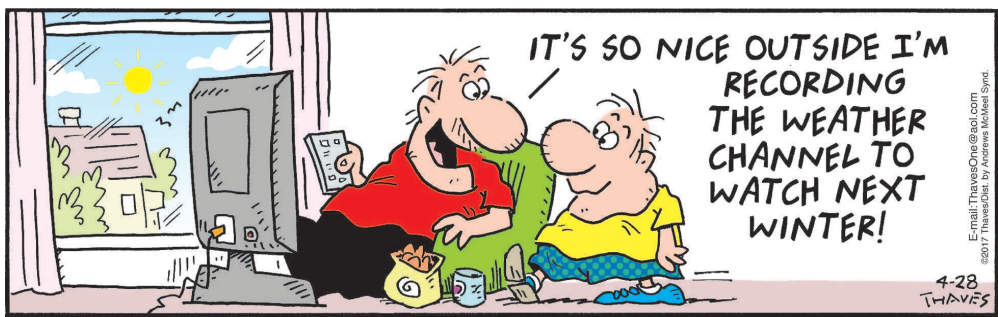
sive dementia for the last 10 years of her life. Because of our circumstances, she was able to get care from us in her own home, but still she used to plead, "I want to go home." A very kind caregiver explained to me that what she meant was she wanted to go back to a better time, not a different place.

This realization has come to me fully, as I still mourn the loss of my parents and my husband and find myself crying out, "Please take me home. I want to go home." I want to go back to the emotional comfort of earlier times, not to a different place.

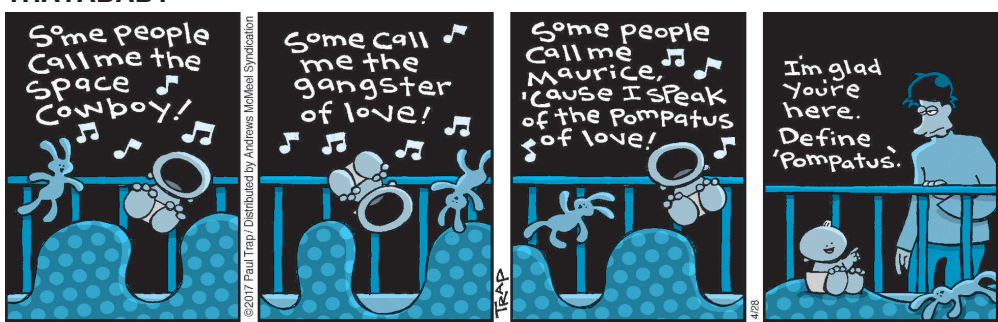
People should not ever feel guilty when they place their aging loved ones in well-run, caring facilities to optimize their care. — *From a Different Perspective*

Dear Different: What a beautiful, insightful and heartbreaking letter. I'm so sorry for your loss. I appreciate your reaching out even in your grief, as I'm sure your words will resonate with many readers.

FRANK AND ERNEST



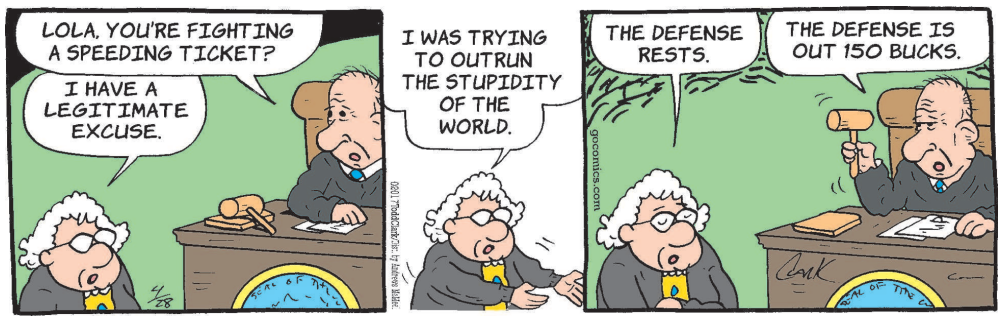
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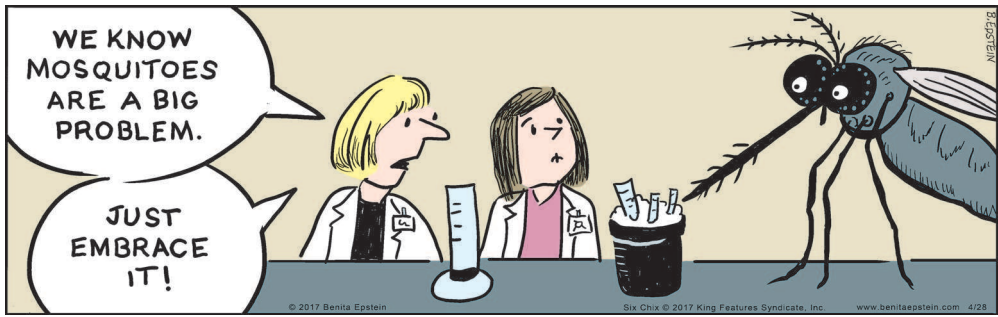
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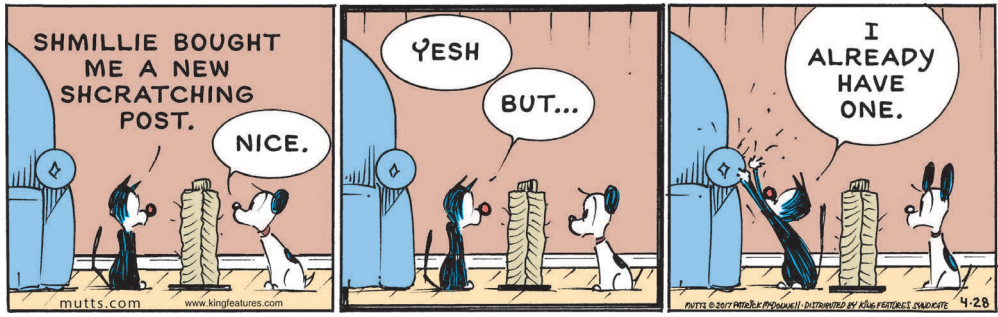
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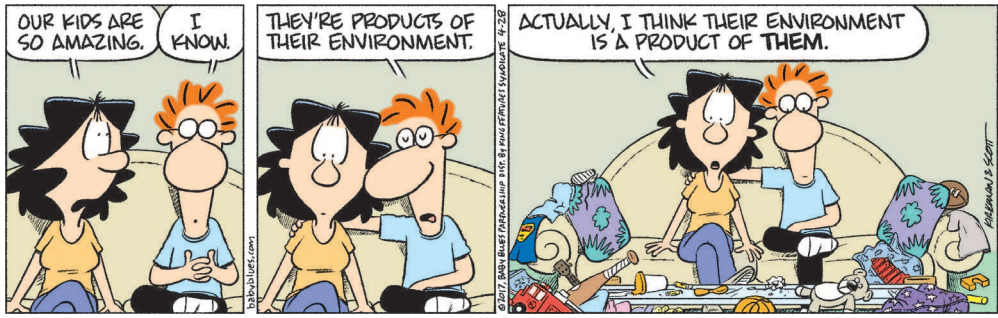
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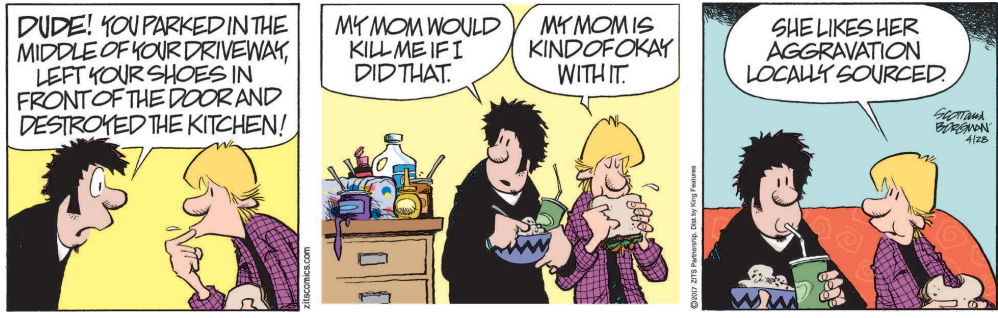
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TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's said that nothing worth having comes easily. Of course that's not true. People luck into easy, worthwhile things all the time. Wise people know to appreciate such good fortune. You'll be such a person today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you're disappointed in the actions of those around you, just know that their perceptions are very different from yours. They are only acting on what they know. Perhaps you can educate them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your mojo comes and your mojo goes. You can ingratiate that special charisma to stick around with you, but you can't totally control it. Be your own best friend regardless of how popular you seem to be at the minute.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll enjoy working on your personal style. It could mean adding new words to your lexicon, spiffing up your wardrobe or getting your domestic life running in a more organized and/or elegant way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). One of your talents is dealing deftly with people who others find difficult. You're a way of bringing out the best in others, perhaps because you really see something to love in practically everyone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Once you know that you're perfectly fine on your own, you can enjoy circumstances for what they truly are instead of using any pursuit or person as a means of escape.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's time to break a certain pattern that once served you well and has since gotten stale. This most likely involves another person. The interruption will add energy to your day, peace to your night.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today, people will take your lead about what to think about you. When you feel great about who you are and what's going down, they'll accept it without question.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The one who is flirting with you may have ulterior motives, but those reasons are likely not the only reason for the extra attention. You are, after all, fun to flirt with!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Many relationships don't start off with a lot of reciprocity. It may take a while for the mutual feelings to start flowing. One-sided interest is perfectly acceptable for a while until a solid dynamic starts to take form.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If today were a slot machine it would be coming up all sevens: only, the payout isn't in coins; it's in fortuitous connections. Seize the opportunities. This type of luck doesn't come along very often.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). One thought leads to the next and the next. It's a mental chain that you'd do well to break. No one else is bringing up your past mistakes, so you should let them go, too. Distract yourself with adventurous fun.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (April 29). Far-fetched dreams will come true this year. What happens over the next 10 weeks turns you into the boss or another kind of powerful figure. Use your talent for sensing people's strengths, and assign tasks accordingly. You'll like the turn your personal life takes in June. August will bless your family. Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 19, 44, 38 and 11.

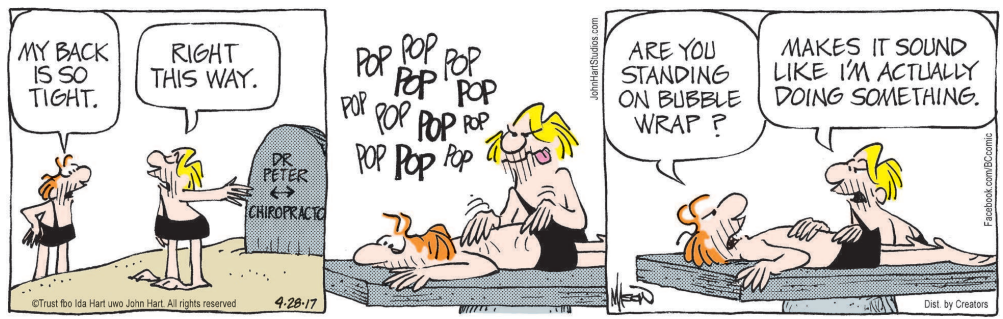
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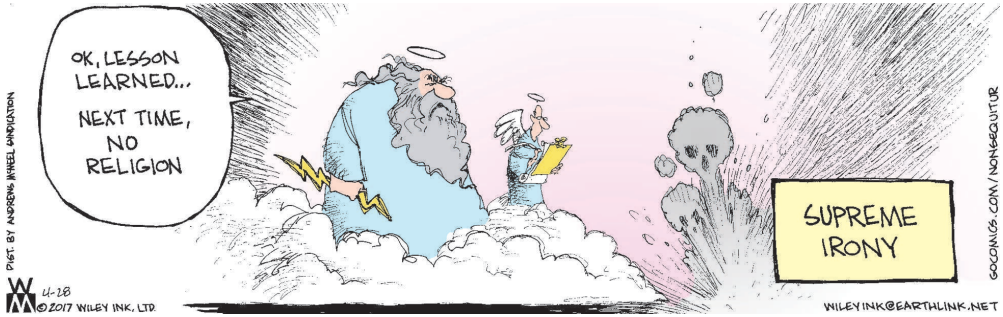
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