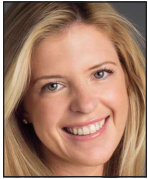


# What about business cards?

**Dear Annie:** While clearing out my desk and bookshelf for some late spring-cleaning, I came across a few business cards from folks I, at one time, thought I would definitely need or want to stay in contact with. But I haven't thought about them since their cards got lost in the shuffle. This got me thinking: How important or valuable are business cards these days?

## DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

In my experience as a young professional, there are two things I know for certain about how things are done these days: It's all about whom you know, and a lot of networking happens online, whether through LinkedIn or email. Don't get me wrong: I enjoy handing my card out to people I meet (especially a cute guy at a bar). It makes me feel confident and reputable. (Can you say "adulting"?)

But is the move refreshing and old-school, or is it a waste of paper that will get stuck between a pile of receipts and valet stubs? — *Clever or Never?*

impression that can help someone remember you even if he or she loses your card. And making an impression is what old-fashioned, technically-no-longer-necessary niceties are all about. It's why it's still advisable to send a handwritten thank-you note after a job interview even though you could just send an email. When you give out your card to people, just be sure to get their contact info, too, so you can follow up online.

Dozens of print companies now offer business cards that are recycled, recyclable, biodegradable — even seeded, meaning your new contact can bury the card in the yard and, in a few months, have tomatoes. Talk about a lasting impression.

**Dear Annie:** I'm a pre-veterinary student. When I came back to campus this fall, my apartment complex was overrun with cats. I recognized one that belonged to a neighbor who graduated and moved out last May. I took the cat to an animal shelter that I worked with in the past. But the people there turned down the cat and said accepting stray animals isn't in

their mission statement. They told me to just spay the cat and turn her loose.

The vet wanted \$395 to spay her, which I couldn't afford. My friends said euthanasia is murder, but none would help pay for spaying her. I couldn't keep her because my lease doesn't allow pets. And I couldn't just set her loose, because she would inevitably end up having more kittens. Stray cats often end up contracting diseases, being hit by cars or suffering other painful fates.

The only compassionate option left was euthanasia. It cost \$50, much less than spaying her. After I took her to the vet, I lied to my friends and said I had dumped her in the country.

I want to beg college students everywhere not to get kittens. When summer comes, they just get dumped on the streets. Then someone like me will catch the abandoned cats, have to pay to have them euthanized and then live forever with that shame. — *Ashamed in Idaho*

**Dear Ashamed:** I, too, implore students to take animal adoption seriously. When you take that furry friend home, it's meant to be forever, not for a semester.

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** If you have to convince yourself that you're right, you're either A) not or B) oppressed. It is possible that others have squashed your spirit with their own agenda, thus causing you to doubt yourself.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You will get what was promised, but not when it was promised — or maybe it will be the other way around. Hold people to their word. Accountability is the core of human decency.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Do what you can. Take responsibility where it's convenient. You wouldn't believe the burden you might take from another person's shoulders by volunteering to do something that will be very easy and enjoyable for you.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You're aware of the needs of others, the opportunities that are out there and the ways in which you might serve them. But mostly, you're aware of who you are. That's the piece that makes it all come together.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** What if you were never able to change your flaws? What then? Then you'd be forced to accept and make the most of it all. So start there. At this point it's a more powerful position than wishing for a change.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Social dynamics are tricky now. There is such a thing as playing it too cool. People want to know that you care enough to make an effort, but not that you're trying too hard.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** The blurred borders and fuzzy edges that led to so much confusion will come together in a snap. It will be like getting the perfect prescription glasses: The world is suddenly crisp and clear.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Just because you've given doesn't mean you must now give in perpetuity. Those who try to hook you into an endless cycle are repellent to you. You'd rather just solve a problem and be done with it.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** To avoid invoking the envy of your peers, maybe it's better if you keep your hyper-production on the down-low now.

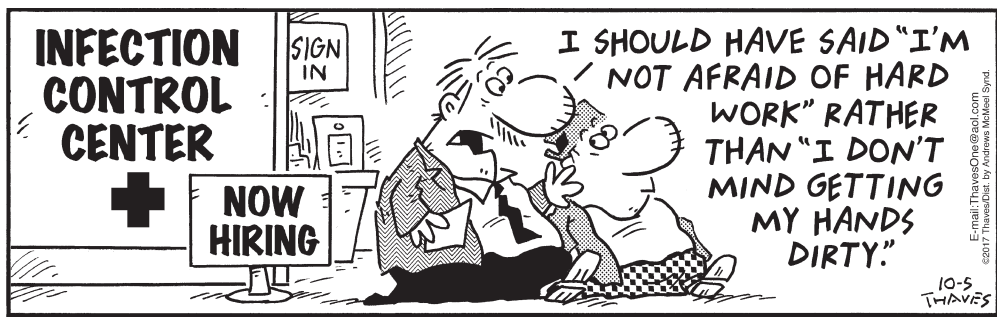
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** People who make decisions based strictly on how they feel may worry you, but no more than those who decide strictly based on research, spreadsheets and cost comparisons. As for you, you'll do a little of both ways.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** No one is handed initiative. Initiative is something you have to take. What you do is really secondary today. The impact is created in how and why you do it. A power move is a move that's initiated by you.

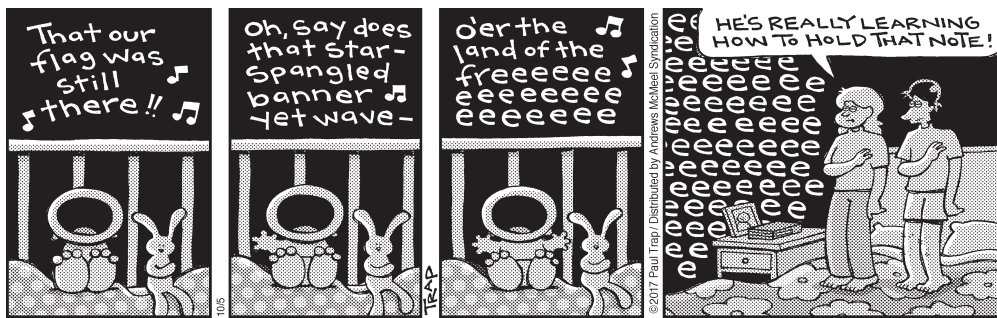
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Ruled by Neptune, the dream king, Pisces need to dream like a fish needs water. New inspiration will help you fulfill that need today. Blow out the limits.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 6).** You'll be the spark that brings a project to life. Soon many will be involved, and many more will be affected by the beautiful and useful thing you started. Family will grow. Your heart opens in new ways because of who comes into it next month. There's a move in March that will require you to get more education. Pisces and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 38, 41, 16 and 9.

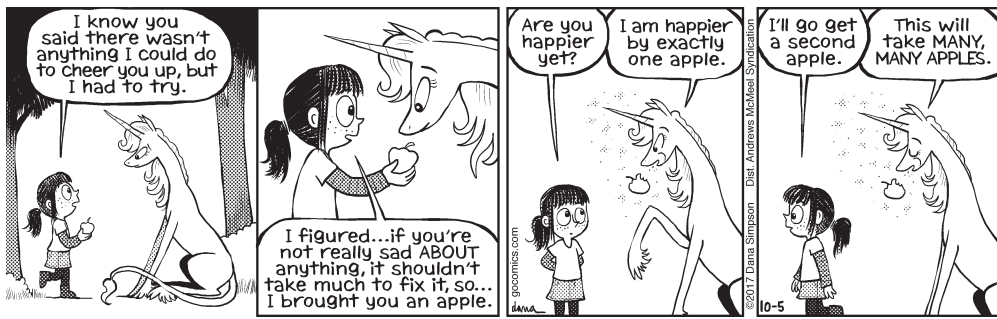
## FRANK AND ERNEST



## THATABABY



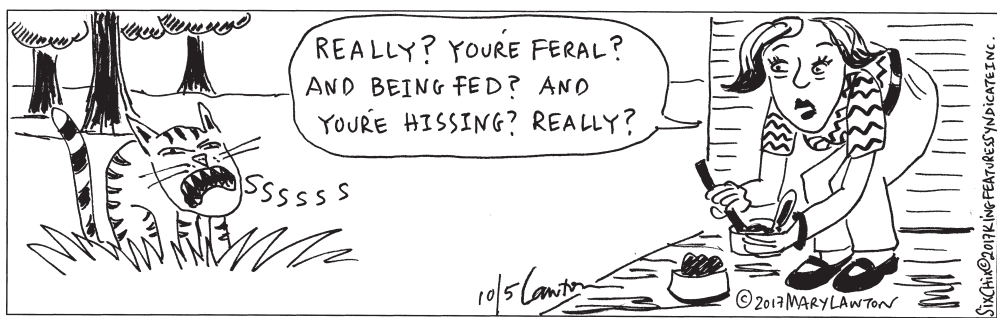
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



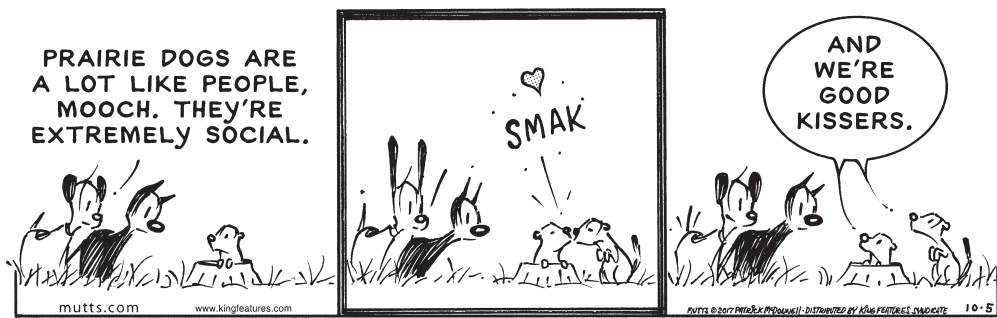
## LOLA



## SIX CHIX



## MUTTS



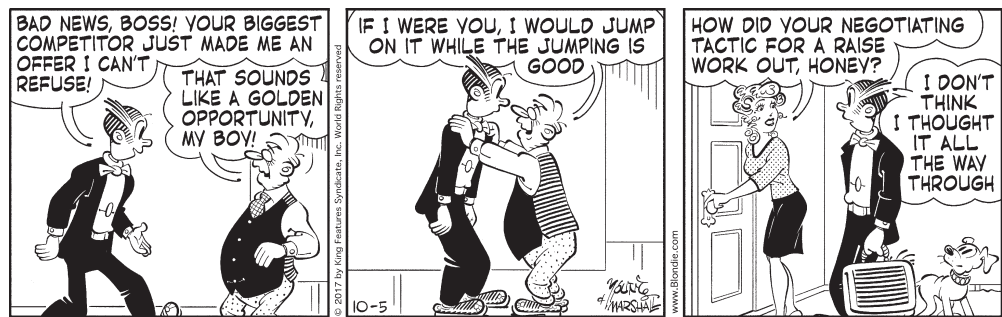
## BABY BLUES



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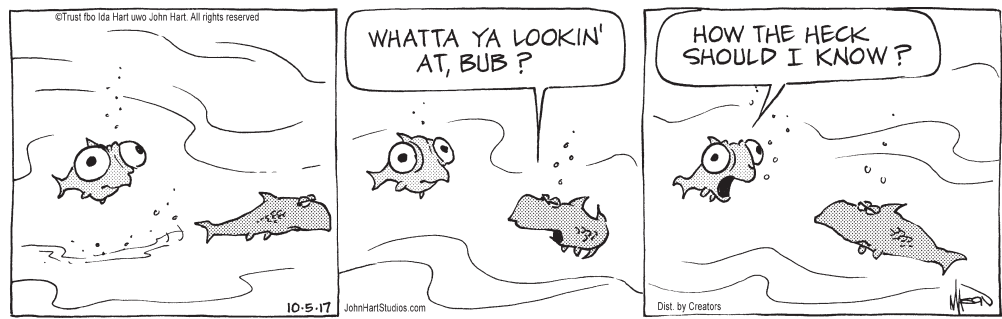
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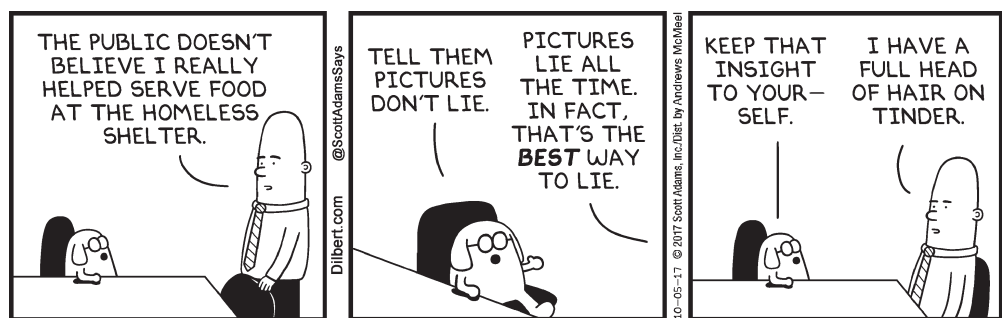
## SALLY FORTH



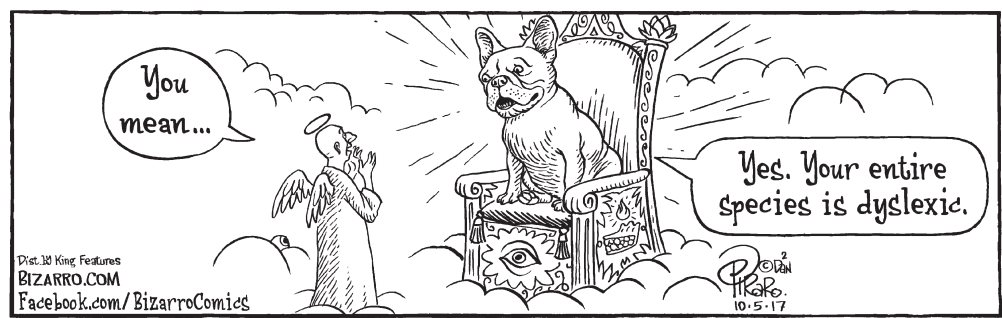
## B.C.



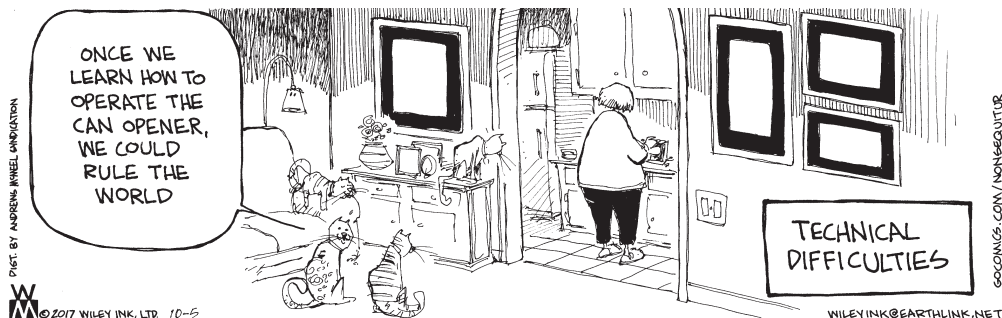
## DILBERT



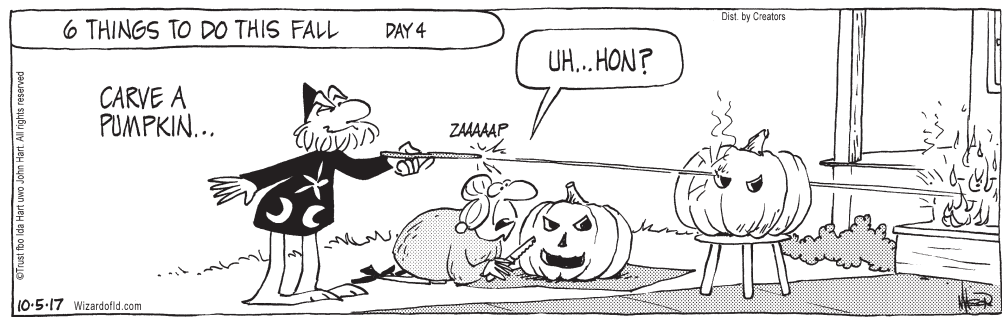
## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

