FEATURES

Wait for shift change or new job?

Dear Annie: For the past year, I have been working as a licensed nursing assistant, taking care of residents. I love the patients, and I've gotten very close to them. But the facility administration itself doesn't work with employees to

meet their needs. I have requested to work morning shifts for months now because my man gets out at 4 p.m. and I want to be able to spend my nights with him and my family or friends. I've made multiple requests, and the administrators can't seem to work around my schedule to give me the shift I'm asking for. After a few weeks of feel-

ing unheard and pushed aside, I started looking at other options for my career. There is a job that could pay me more and still offer benefits I need for my family and future. Should I expand my opportunities and leave or just wait till the shift I want becomes available? — A Girl *Trying to Make a Living*

Dear AGTTMAL: I think the answer is in your question. You said that leaving this job would mean expanding your opportunities. If the position you're considering makes sense as a career move (beyond just the convenience of the schedule), go for it. But before you give two weeks' notice to your current employer, be sure you've secured the new job — i.e., you have an offer letter in hand. Good

DEAR ANNIE

Annie Lane

Dear Readers: Recently, I printed a letter from "Overwhelmed in Michigan," who complained that his wife doesn't help enough around the house. His letter hit a nerve, it seems, as I received many responses from readers. Here are a few of my favorites.

Dear Annie: "Overwhelmed in Michigan" really hit home! I'm 67 and grateful every day for the good fortune of living to enjoy my retirement years. "Overwhelmed" appears to be a workaholic who expects others to buy into his inability to smell the roses. Maybe "Overwhelmed" should calculate how much his partner's cooking, cleaning and other services have contributed to his lifestyle over the years.

The complaint against his wife and niece relates to a scene at the end of the movie "Mary Poppins." Maybe "Overwhelmed" needs to

stop the rat race he has created and say "let's go fly a kite" with his wife before it's too late. — Enjoying Retirement

Dear Enjoying Retirement: You're not the only one who thought "Overwhelmed" should go fly a kite. Read on.

Dear Annie: I am writing to "Overwhelmed in Michigan." My wife is the same — a bit negligent around the house but attentive in her relationships with loved ones. If her kids call and need a baby sitter, she goes instead of cleaning the house. We had a close friend who had cancer, and my wife organized all our friends to be there for her and was always ready to do whatever was needed. When our friend died, my wife was there helping with the arrangements and consoling the family.

Everyone thinks she's the most wonderful person in the world. And you know what? So do I.

Mr. Overwhelmed, if your wife wants to go fly a kite with the grandkids, put down your tools and join her. Hold off on the grumbling. You'll be so much happier. — Happily Married in New Hampshire

Dear Happily Married: Beautifully said. Thanks for writing.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't expect to think differently if you're using the same references as everyone else. For this reason and more, it's time to go digging deeper for new influences.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Knowing your weakness is the first step. From there you can build on your strengths enough to compensate, find a way to capitalize on the inherent gift in your weakness, or work directly to develop the weak area.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People may ask about your plans, but you might want to show them what you've already done instead. That will speak with more volume and clarity, leaving no room for doubt.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's something to be said for feeling like you have to impress a person. It will be interesting to see how the nearness of such a person changes your approach. Of course, it's nicer to be with people who already get you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're so close to success on a project, though you may have to redefine it. For instance, success may be simply finishing the thing so you can move on and never look at it again.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Breathe. Of course, that's not your only job in the process of helping this thing along. Breathing in; breathing out; plus investing some of your faith: Hit those three, and then step back. Your iob is done.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It might sound like a mean thing, but a big part of your happiness, success and well-being is just knowing who to stay away from. It's better to be alone than with an influence that makes

you behave as less than you really are. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). On this day of cosmic change, you'll adapt more easily to the transition than most, if only because you

long ago accepted the temporary nature of all things. For this reason and more, someone wants to hold your hand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't have to wait until tomorrow to get your second chance. By then you might not even want it anymore. To a person of action, now is the second chance — and now and now

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The bottle of water by your side helps you stop and think while you stop and drink. A more thoughtful (and hydrated) approach to speaking with people and doing your work will lead to an important breakthrough.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be in a position to defend a person or idea, and because you're so loyal you'll do this well. For this reason, knowing whether the person or idea is in the right will be crucial. Find out first. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's that

one person you like to have around — the one who's like a candle in a dark room, mysterious, warm and always casting a lovely quality of light on you.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 21). Your creativity is going strong through the end of the year, but it's your practical efforts and team building actions that carry a plan to the payout. Give your body a new way to express your energy in 2018. You're strong, graceful and competitive. The places you see will invite you back: This is love. Leo and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 27, 15,

FRANK AND ERNEST











SALLY FORTH YOUR DAD LEARNED I'M REALLY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR GRANDPA, HILARY.



BLONDIE



KNOW, IT'S SAD AND, UH, TOUGH

AND I'M SORRY YOU'RE

I KNOW IT'S A TOUGH TIME AND YOU NEED SPACE, BUT IF

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO



LET ME HELP YOU GET OUT OF THIS. WHAT DID YOU GO AS FOR

THIS. WHAT PIE HALLOWEEN? A "WONDER TWIN.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS, IT WAS THE LAST COSTUME THEY HAD, AND WHEN I FOUND

OUT HIS POWER IS "BECOME WATER" I WANTED

BACK.

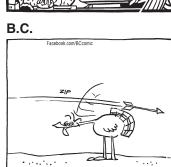
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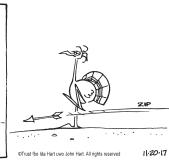






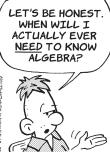


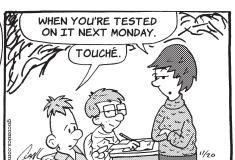






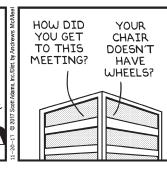






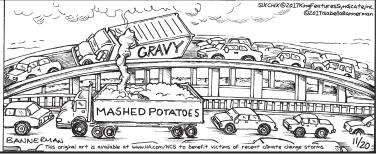






SIX CHIX





BIZARRO



FRESH

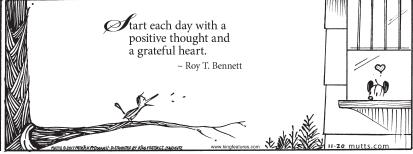
LOCAL

BEARIES!

BEARLES

MUTTS





BABY BLUES





WIZARD OF ID

NON SEQUITUR

OK...SO THEY

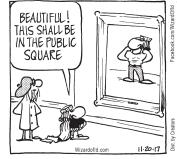
THIS TIME OF

YEAR AND IT'S MISSPELLED,

BUT WHAT'S THE

WORST THAT CAN

HAPPEN?







WILEYINK@EARTHLINK,NET

ZITS







ROSE IS ROSE





