

# Tipping housekeepers

**Dear Annie:** You frequently write about tipping, but I've never seen a column about housekeepers, which is one of the hardest jobs, in my opinion. I am 67 years old and have been employed for four years at minimum wage.

We clean up to 20 rooms a day. For example, today I cleaned 16 rooms and received one \$3 tip, which I appreciated. If guests left even a dollar or two, it would be great. Please address this issue. — *Working Hard for the Money*

**DEAR ANNIE**



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

**Dear Working Hard for the Money:** I'm printing your letter as a reminder to anyone staying at a hotel to leave a tip for the housekeeper. From what I gather, \$2 per night is standard. And based on what I've heard from other hotel housekeepers who have written to me, it's best to leave the tip each night rather than just at the end of a stay, because housekeepers rotate shifts.

**Dear Annie:** I once

befriended a neighbor I had met on trips that were organized by my town's Parks and Recreation Department. She and her husband were both elderly, and they had no children. As she aged, our friendship grew, especially after her husband died, and we spent pleasant times together over tea. I'd take her on her errands.

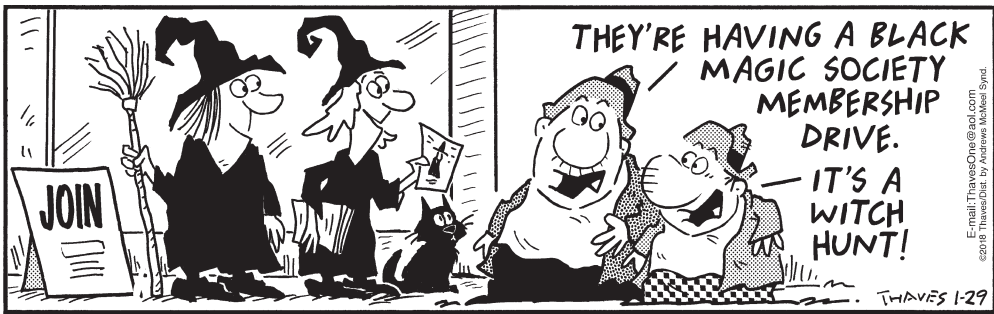
Once or twice when I stopped by, her nieces were there. Word got back to me that these nieces thought I was trying to get into my friend's good graces so that she'd remember me in her will, which certainly wasn't true. I never wanted more from my friend than a cup of tea and a belly laugh, which I always got. These were people who, she told me, could not even trouble to phone her every day to make sure she was still in the land of the living.

When she was in her 90s, her nieces persuaded her to come and live in their attic.

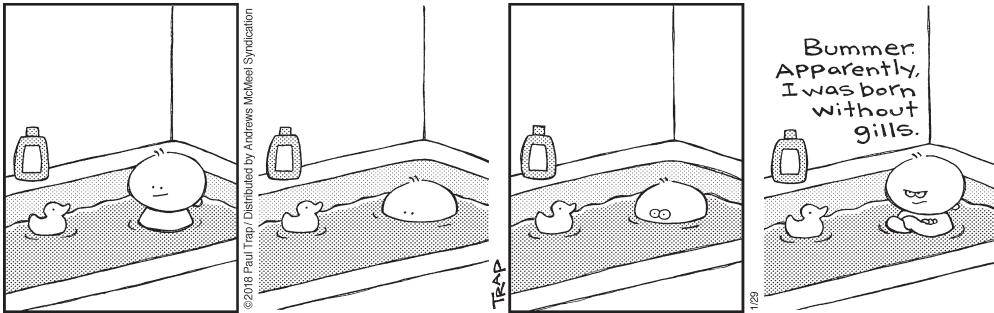
They sold her home and took her away. They would never give her my messages, and I never heard from her again. I can only imagine what she must have thought. I realize that there are people out there who take advantage of the elderly, but I wasn't one of them. I know that I am not the only person who experienced this, nor will I be the last. How can we protect our own reputations, as well as our friendships? — *Lisa in Newtown, Conn.*

**Dear Lisa in Newtown:** I'm sorry your friend's relatives did that. But take solace in two facts. First, your friend knew you; her nieces didn't. And you knew your friend well — probably a lot better than her relatives ever bothered to get to know her. Trust that she was wise enough to see through their charade. And in the future, should you find yourself in a similar situation, there's nothing wrong with coming right out and assuring a friend that all you want is a cup of tea and a belly laugh. That's sweet.

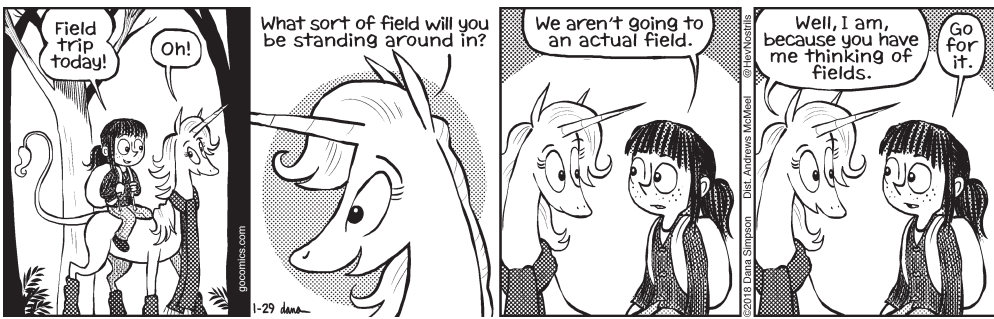
## FRANK AND ERNEST



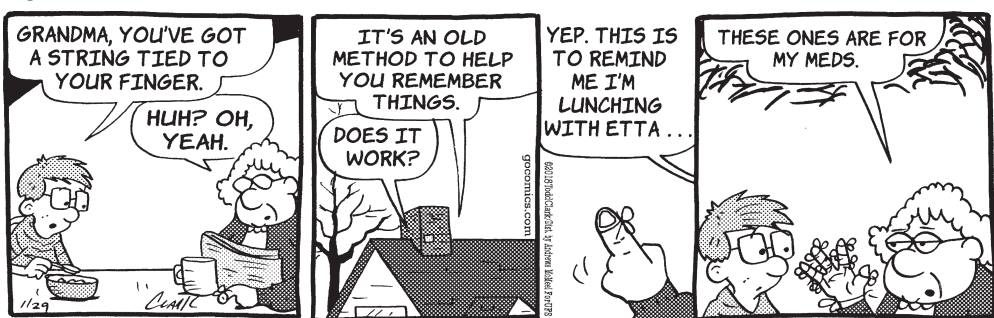
## THATABABY



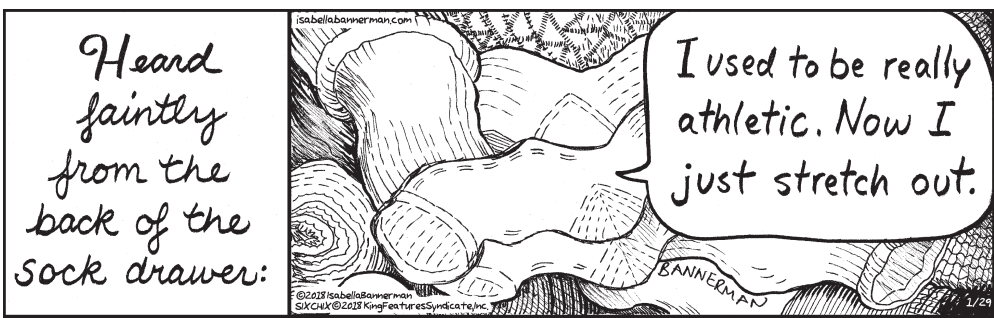
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



## LOLA



## SIX CHIX



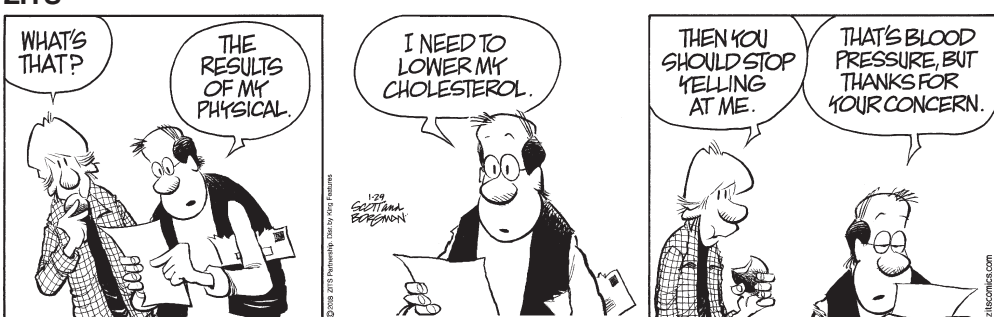
## MUTTS



## BABY BLUES



## ZITS



## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You'll decide quickly and execute just as fast. This is the kind of behavior that makes some people fall in love with you, others want to hire you and still others feel a little afraid of you.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** As the sign of luxury items you have more than the usual tendency for shiny-object syndrome. Today, once again, things that catch the light will beckon you nigh and have you reaching for the wallet.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You can't do everything, but you can do something — and do something you will. And you'll probably be surprised by what a small accomplishment can begin.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** To think a person or idea is either totally right or totally wrong — that kind of mental laziness would make today's dilemma easy for you. But of course you see every shade of gray, and so it's not an option.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Going the extra mile once will put you a mile ahead of the competition. Going the extra mile every day will put you ahead seven miles in a week. A month and the competition will be ... well, no longer.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Technicalities might hang you up, and there's an opportunity in this. Don't wish for fewer problems. Get more skills. Getting better at solving one issue will help you with many more.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** The difference between external and internal wealth is that inner wealth makes external wealth irrelevant. With inner wealth a person can be financially rich or poor, yet always rich.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Normally you

would do some thinking as to whether or not you're doing the right thing, the smart thing or the most important thing. Not today. Today needs a lighter touch. Just do the thing that occurs to you to do.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Whatever it is you feel that you lack, chances are very strong that you either have it and don't realize it or don't need it at all. Anyway, success isn't about having it all; it's about getting comfortable with what is.

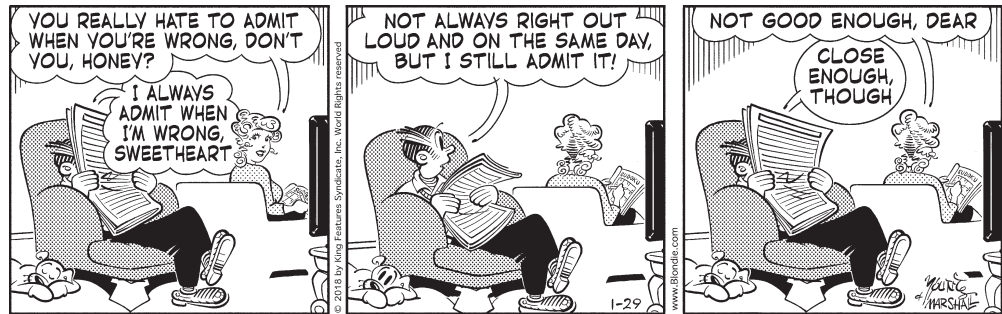
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** It's true there's a potential for getting your feelings hurt or losing something. If there weren't there would be no risk and therefore no reward. Go on. This is worth taking a chance on.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You're about to go into something new, and you still have time to find out more about the situation. Study up. You won't be sorry. The more you learn the better your chances will be for a positive result.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** When two people who don't deal well in emotional territory get together, there's a great potential for cringe-worthy, if not disastrous, scenarios. You're emotionally mature, which comes with the onus of handling people who aren't.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 30).** You'll find the place where your talents are most needed, wanted and appreciated — and you'll have financial proof of this, too. The exceptional progress of a project will catch the public eye. Your curiosity is strongest in April, which is why you wind up in a remarkable setting. Love promises will be made in May. Cancer and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 20, 1, 18 and 42.

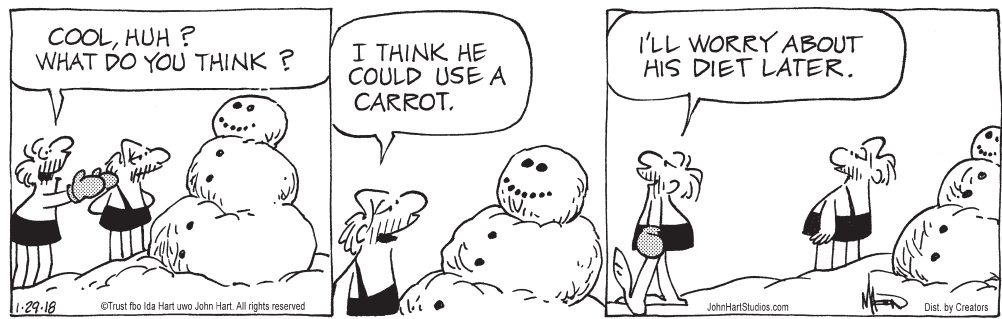
## BLONDIE



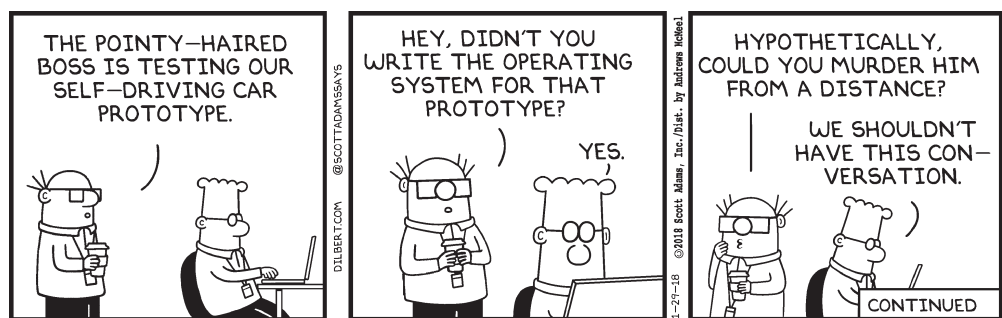
## SALLY FORTH



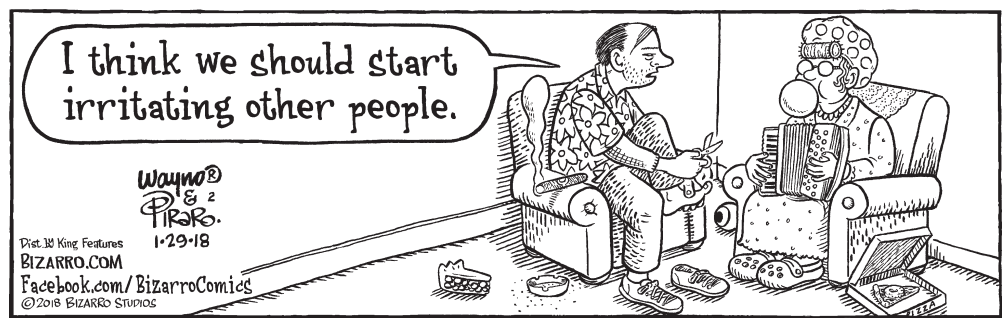
## B.C.



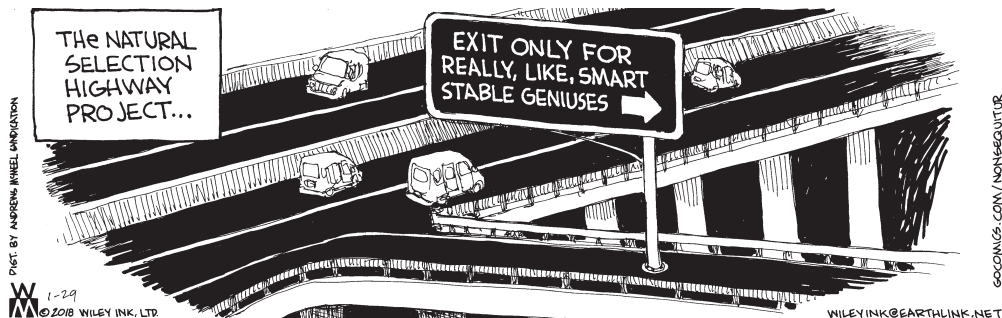
## DILBERT



## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

