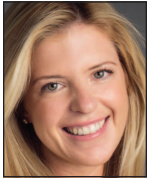


# Leaving your past behind

Dear Annie: I have been divorced for many years. I was married to the same man for 25 years. I put a lot into the marriage, including helping raise and support stepchildren and his grandchildren. No one knows what went on behind closed doors to cause the marriage to end but him and me. We live in the same community. We respect each other and remain cordial when we see each other.

## DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

However, when the marriage ended, I informed mutual friends and family that I would like to keep my past in the past and move on with my life — that I had no desire to keep up with what is going on in his life and I would appreciate their not sharing information about what is happening in mine.

When someone begins to give me updates on his life, I say, "I don't really care. I wish him the best, but his business is none of my business. We have both moved on."

What is the purpose? It is really annoying and disrespectful.

If anyone reading this is guilty of this infringement of privacy,

please stop. You don't know what pain or memories you might be stirring up. The past is the past for a reason. It's not your business to be a busybody. — *Mind Our Own*

Dear Mind Our Own: The problem you speak of is at least 2,400 years old. Plato once said, "Justice means minding one's own business and not meddling with other men's concerns." Knowing humans, I'd guess we've been talking about one another's lives for as long as we could talk.

So though I agree that people shouldn't continue giving you updates on your ex-husband's life after you asked them not to, there's really not much you can do aside from what you're already doing. Try to shake it off. Keep focusing on yourself. Stay too busy to be bothered by busybodies.

Dear Annie: Thank you so much for the answer you gave to "Deliberating Diarist." Although I have never kept a journal myself, I know only too well what it is like to live with an alcoholic. My father and my ex-husband, both now deceased, were alcoholics. In my

ex's case, he never stopped drinking, and just as I and others had predicted many times, it led to his death.

Living with an alcoholic is an awful experience. Though I can understand "Deliberating Diarist's" hesitancy in letting others know the embarrassing, nasty and uncomfortable truth, I would encourage her to let her diary be. If anything, it can be a lesson to her family about what alcohol can do not only to the drinker but to those around him or her. Being related to an alcoholic makes you much likelier to become one, as well. If you have a parent who is, you have a 50-50 chance of becoming one yourself. I personally feel it is so important for people to know what this devastating disease can do. In her case, it is also a testament to what can happen when an alcoholic makes the decision to become sober. What a beautiful thing that is; I am only sorry that my ex never did.

"Deliberating Diarist" has much to be thankful for and proud of, because her husband chose family, life and sobriety. That is such a wonderful life lesson to pass down to her family. — *Been There*

Dear *Been There*: Beautifully said. Thank you for writing.

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You were lucky enough to come into this world with so much talent. Now you have to be talented enough to get lucky. Go where there are a lot of socially connected people, and talk about what you do.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** The known and unknown will come together in a beautiful yin-and-yang-type balance. So don't rush to know the next thing. Stay awhile in this mystery: It's quite literally "wonder"-ful.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You said yes to something that, upon further reflection, now seems like a bad fit for you. The ink hasn't dried yet, so no worries. Go back and ask to be released. You'll be let off the hook.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Your environment has become too familiar. You're not seeing what's there, because it looks too much like what was there yesterday. For understanding and appreciation, look with your heart instead of your pupils.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You'll be called to service, not by an official phone call but by the need you see in the world. It's not in your nature to stand by and witness incompetence when you know that you can do something about it.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Seize the chance to speak publicly. Most people avoid this, and that's precisely what makes it such a fine opportunity for you. Maybe the reasons are not so obvious to you, but there's money to be made, and this is the first step.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Everything you own but don't want, need or love is a drain of your energy. Most things just take a tiny bit of your energy every time you look, touch or think about them, but that little bit adds up. What can you get rid of today?

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** There's a strong feeling of ennui, like you've already done all the rides in the theme park twice. That may be so, but you're missing something. To find out what it is, ask for help and advice.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** It's not enough for you to know that you're doing something. You want to see the results, and you want validation from others that the results matter. Build this into your approach and you'll succeed brilliantly today.

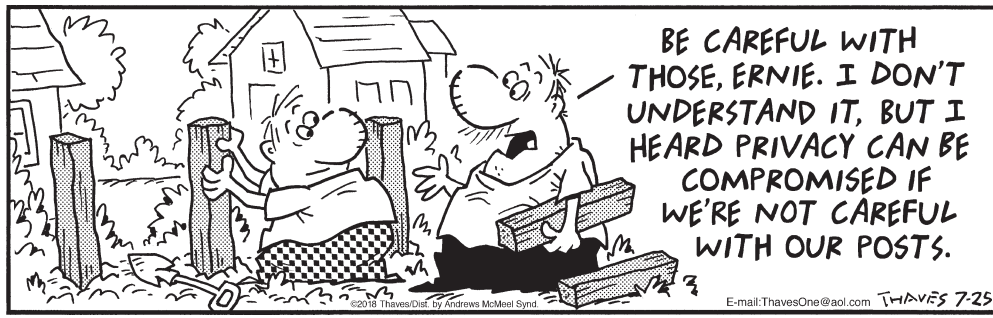
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Of course you don't expect yourself to be perfect (which would be an absurd and immature sort of relationship to set up with yourself), but what you do expect may still be too stringent, or a little off the mark. Give it a think.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** People who give advice are a dime a dozen, but people who take it are extremely rare. That's because following advice is difficult! You have to lose your ego to do it. Today the loss will be so worth it, though.

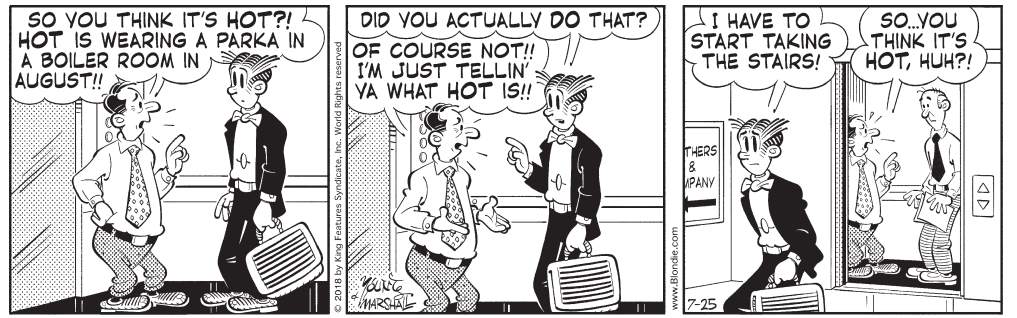
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Now more than ever, many young people know things that many older people do not, but that doesn't mean young people are smarter or wiser. Today works best when the generations help one another.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (July 26).** A short trip in September will rekindle your adventurous spirit. You'll receive many invitations over the holiday season, and one special event will open an exciting network of relationships. Someone works hard to earn your favor. You'll finally get a chance you've been waiting for in February. Extra work will be lucrative. Capricorn and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 45, 6,

## FRANK AND ERNEST



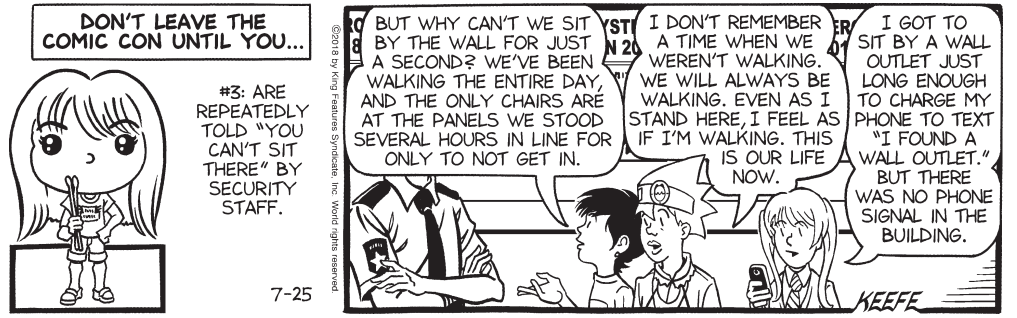
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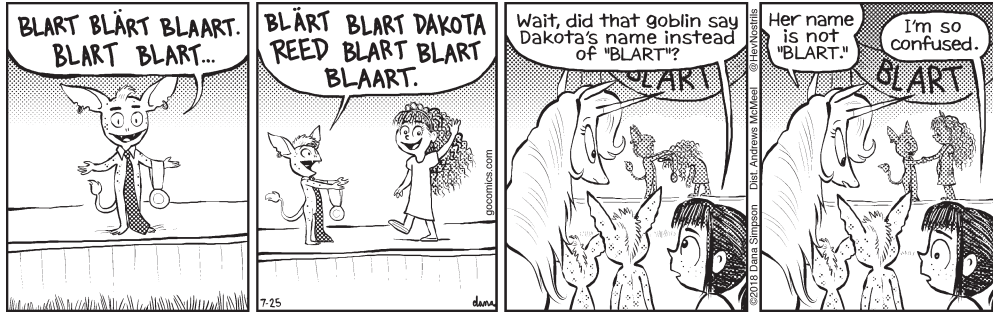
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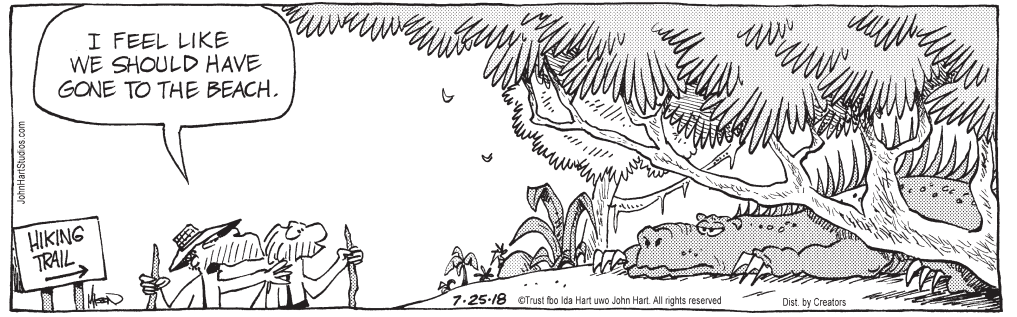
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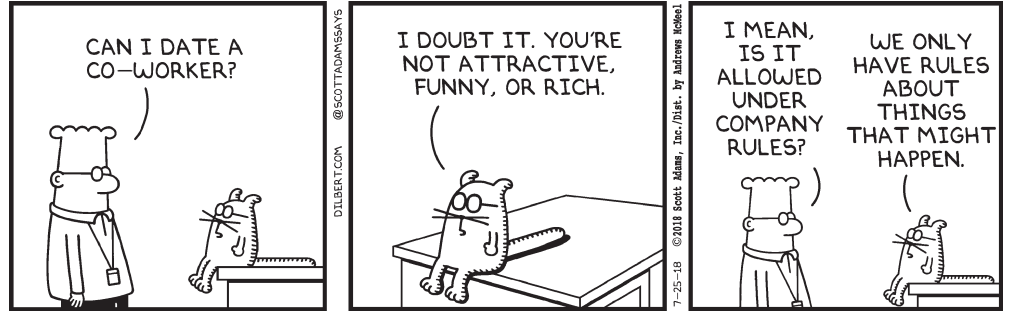
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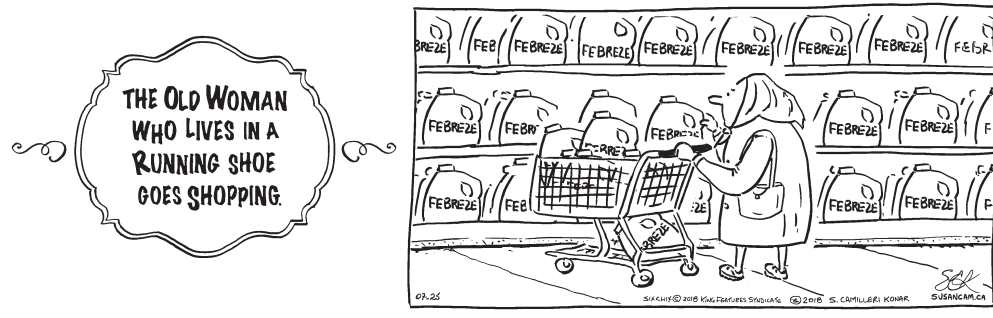
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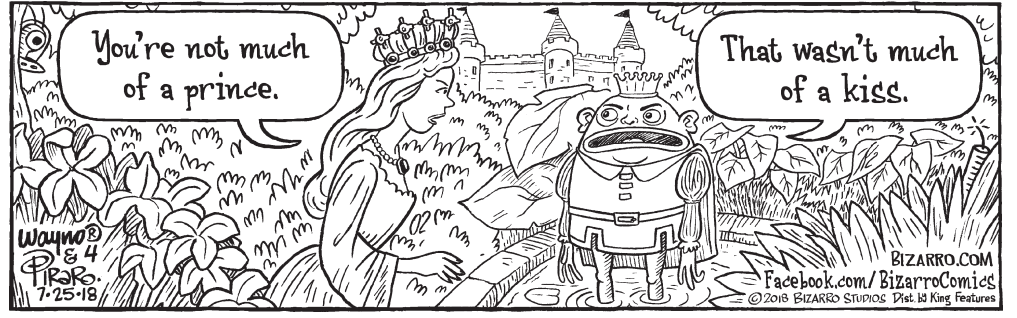
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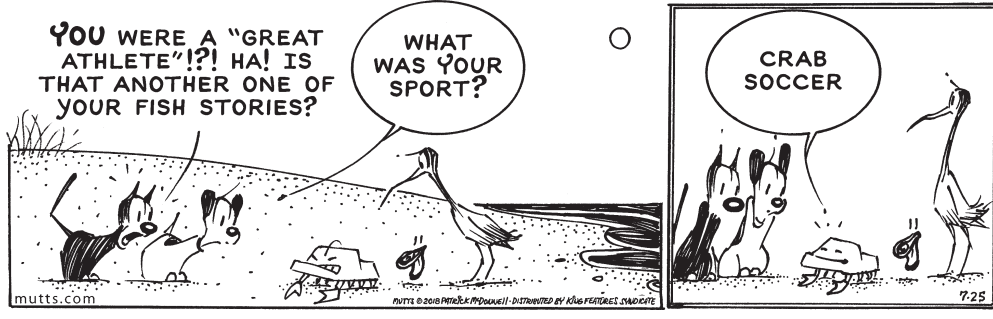
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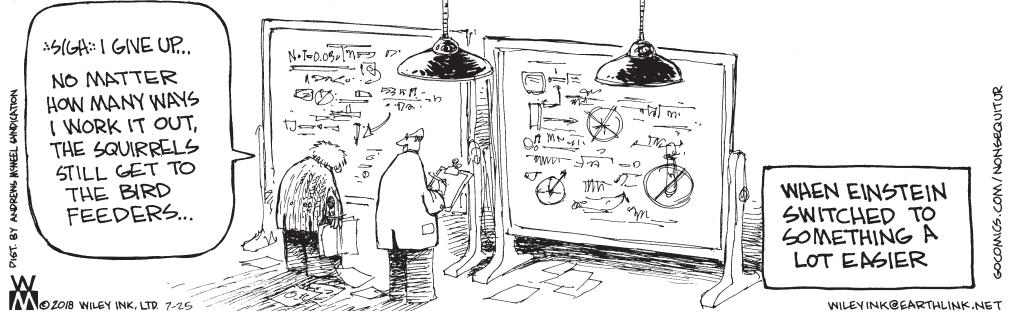
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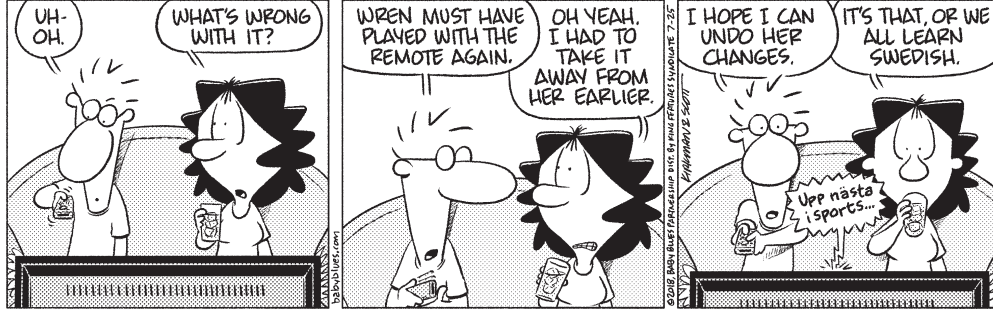
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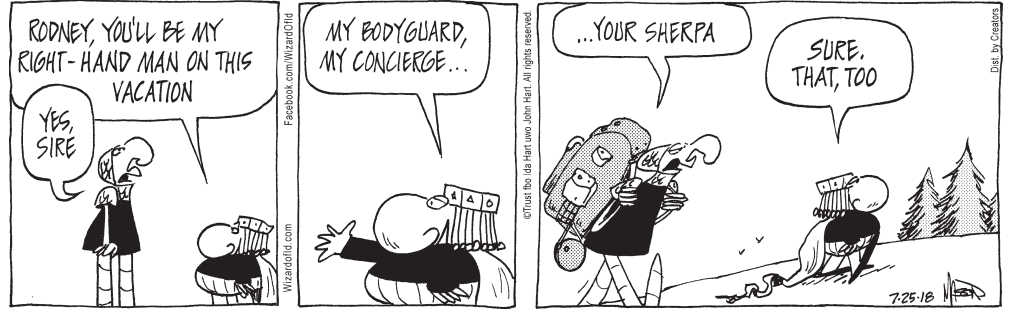
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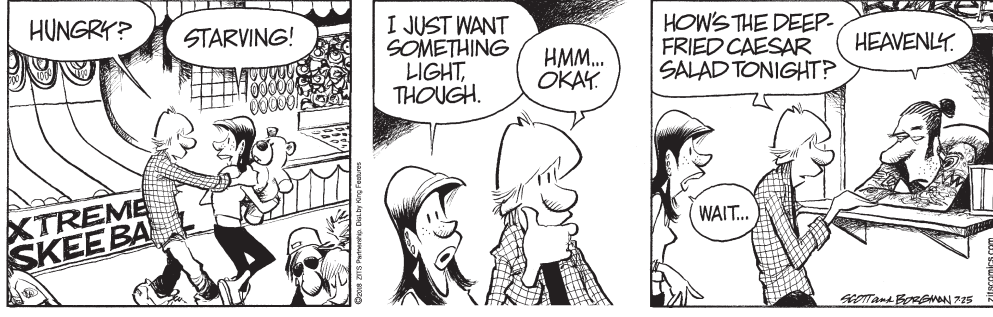
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## WIZARD OF ID



## ZITS



## ROSE IS ROSE

