

Become an organ donor

Dear Annie: Last year, I wrote to you about my beautiful 35-year-old daughter and the kidney transplant she'd just received through the United Network for Organ Sharing. I am "A Very Grateful Mom." My daughter continues to do well and is leading a healthy life. We would like to thank the donor family, but my letter sent to them through the donor channels was never responded to. It's been over a year and a half since my daughter received the lifesaving kidney, and we hope that someday the donor family reaches out to her so a proper thank-you can be given. However, all is not good with her family. My teenage granddaughter has now been diagnosed with the same rare kidney disease her mother, my daughter, was diagnosed with. Although we know that it's a rare genetic one, we have no idea where it came from through the family. This disease has no cure or treatment. The only solution is a transplant when kidney function declines to that point. Our hope is that it will be years before my granddaughter will need a transplant. Please remind your readers about how important it is to be an organ donor.

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

One of the first things I did after my daughter's successful transplant (and witnessing how much better she felt) was to check the box on my driver's license. — *Still a Very Grateful Mom*
Dear Grateful Mom: I am so incredibly sorry to hear about your granddaughter. I'm glad to encourage readers to consider registering as organ donors, if they haven't already. A single organ donor has the potential to save eight lives. Visit <https://www.dmv.org/organ-donor.php> for more information.

Dear Annie: A friend of mine is getting married next year. The wedding and reception will be held at a lovely venue. Is it appropriate to request that guests attending wear appropriate attire? It seems everyone is dressing so casually these days; there is concern that guests might wear jeans. We realize it is the presence of friends and family that really matters, but is it asking too much to expect folks to wear their nicer clothes? — *B.H.*

Dear B.H.: True, everything is getting more casual these days — but jeans at a wedding? I should hope no one's that dense. Fortunately, there's no need to leave it up to hope. Your friend can simply note the dress

code on the invitation. The standard options, from most to least formal: white tie, black tie, formal, dressy casual and casual (and even "casual" definitely does not mean bluejeans). Letting guests know the appropriate attire is not asking too much; it's helpful for everyone.

Dear Annie: "Judged in Jarvis" wrote to you about the troubles she's faced because of her husband's unexpected death and their not having a will. She encouraged readers to make wills, and you did, too. My father died in 1990, and he had a will. After his death, it was probated. The court costs, executor fees and lawyer fees ate up 60 percent of his estate. I was determined not to let that happen to my children. I got a revocable living trust instead. Upon my death, all my property will go to my children as beneficiaries. There will be no lawyer fees. And it cost me less than a third of what my father's probate cost. So please advise your readers in the future to get a living trust instead of a will. — *Christine*

Dear Christine: You make a good point. I'd like to encourage readers to do their research and consider which option is best for them. Whether using a living trust or a will, the important part is to get started on planning well before you think you need to.

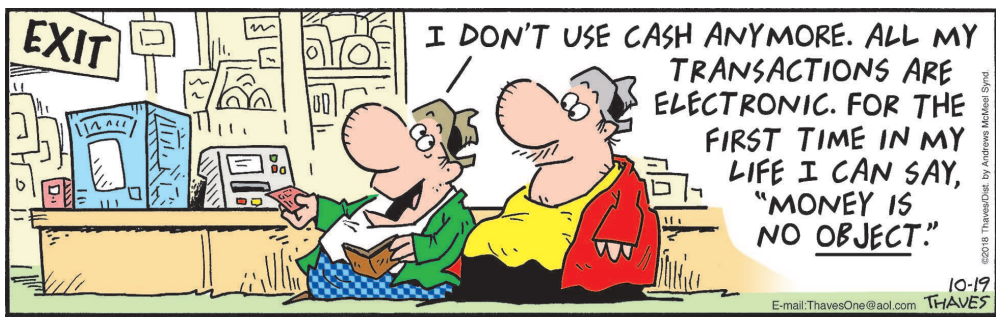
TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

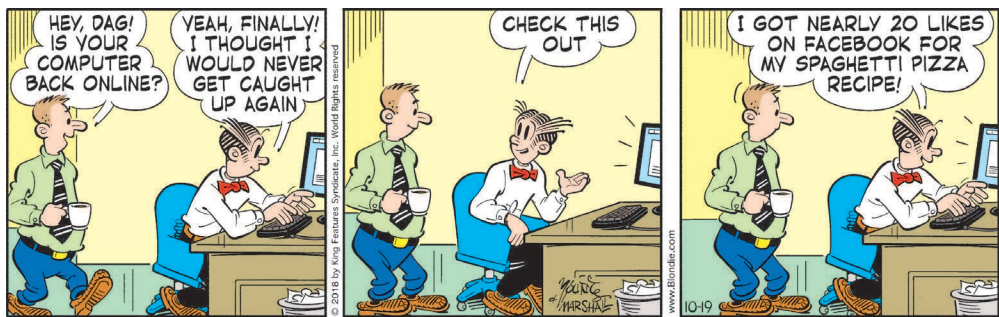
ARIES (March 21-April 19). Everyone knows when it's not working, but few have the guts to call it out. You, on the other hand, have many options and very little time to waste on one that's clearly not going to work.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll show up early, stay late and do whatever it takes to make a project great. Is there a point in which the extra work actually makes things worse instead of better? Yes. Stay aware and you'll see it.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The writing will be on the wall, for anyone who has those special sort of glasses that can see such things. Most people will walk right by. Much depends on how much you want to know.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Bounce the conversational ball. You want to know more about a person, but you also want this person to know you, and you'll make sure things are balanced. All in all, great exchanges are in store.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Here's a friendship test: If it's important to you, it's important to your friend. It's not a foolproof test. But generally speaking, if they don't take your side today, it will raise questions. If they do, it will raise grateful joy.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a saying about throwing out the first pancake of the batch, but life doesn't always follow this rule. Today, your first try will turn out astoundingly beautiful results — the equivalent of a pancake covergirl.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). To some extent time will be elastic to you, and you'll be strong enough to bend and play with it, slow it with your mind, cling to it as it passes and hold on tight to the very best

moments.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't sell it if it's already sold. Not only does it do no good, it could harm the deal. You know this and live this and you'll teach the less experienced through your example.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sometimes the star of the evening is invisible — the cook in the back of the restaurant, the one who made the room gleam before everyone got there, the originator of the playlist. You'll enjoy a key, quiet role tonight.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're almost, but not quite, ready to give something up. As legendary comedy writer Robert Orben suggested, "Most people would like to be delivered by temptation but would like it to keep in touch."
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You may know what makes you happy. You may also be wrong. Experiment with an open mind and you'll find out surprising things about yourself and this elusive thing called happiness.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The best thing you can do for your future is to commit an anonymous, selfless act of generosity now. Your powers of observation are all the way turned up. You'll hatch the perfect plan.
TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 20). This solar return, your heart will be satisfied. It will also yearn, sparkle, pound from marathon-esque exertion, and skip beats gleefully at the surprises of your life this year. Other highlights include: a family development worthy of documentation, an adorable love story and a competitive prize. Scorpio and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 11, 14, 33 and 28.

FRANK AND ERNEST



BLONDIE



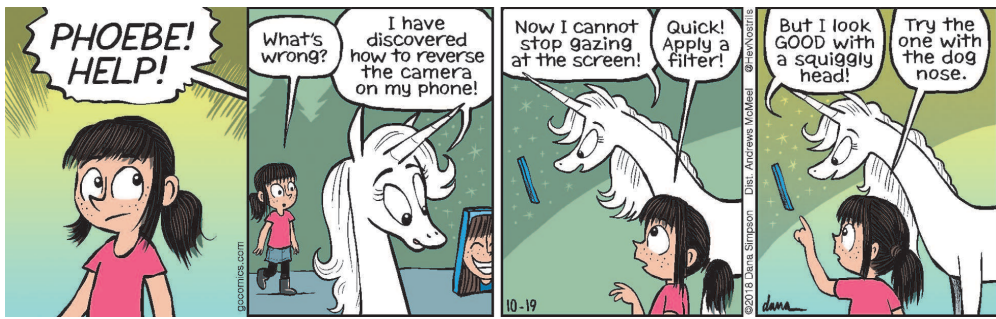
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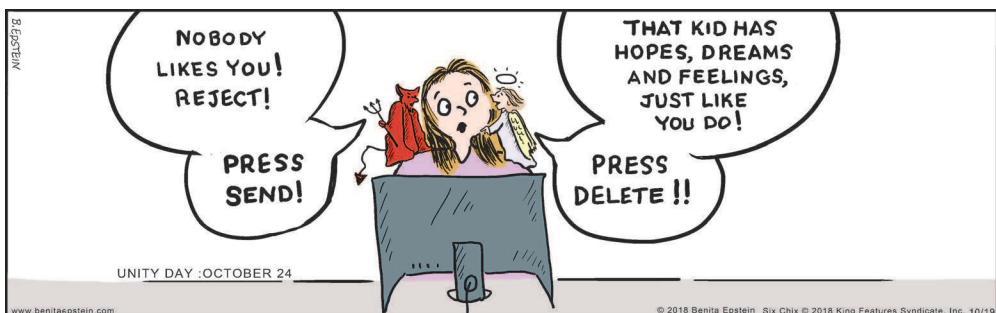
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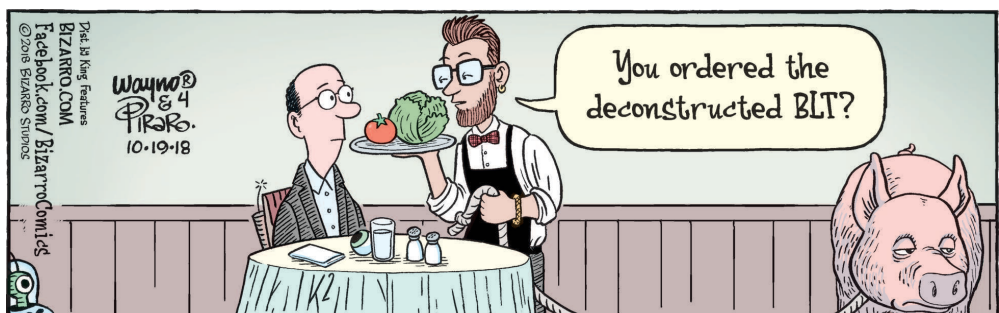
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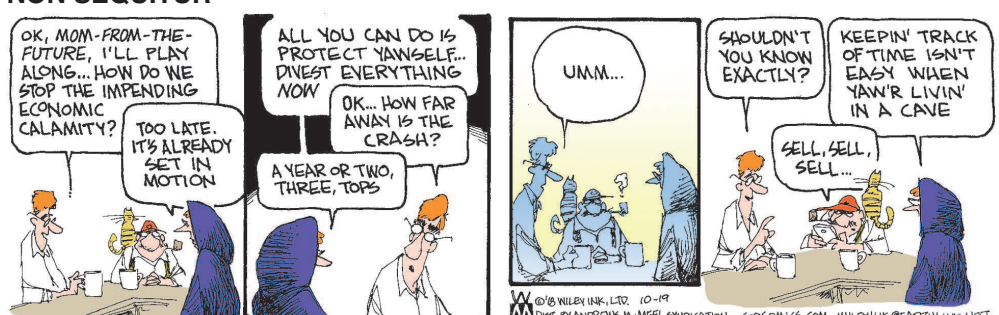
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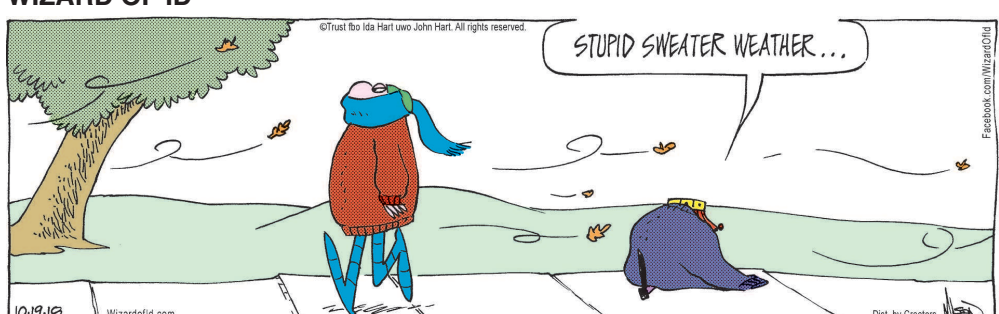
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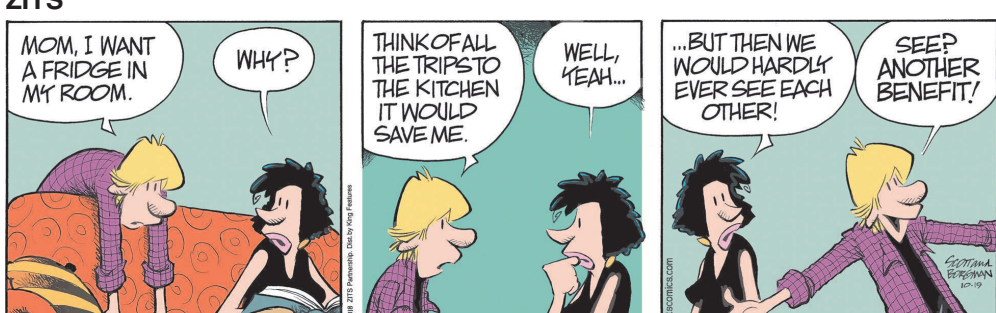
BABY BLUES



WIZARD OF ID



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ROSE IS ROSE

