

# Problems with kid's father

**Dear Annie:** There is an issue that has been going on for quite some time now, and I don't know what to do. I have a child who is 2, and his father treats me as if I were the biggest piece of garbage. So we split up. The good news is that I have a fiancé who treats me and my son like gold. The problem is that I don't speak to the father of my child because of the way he treats me and because my fiancé has an issue with it. My ex's mother has my son, and I am currently fighting for custody. Should I be speaking to only her about my child, or should I be speaking to the father, as well? Please help me out with this. — *Confused Mom*

ble. He gave you the gift of a beautiful child. If your fiancé has a problem with that, just explain to him that your son and his well-being come first and that being polite to his father will help you and your fiancé get closer to your son.

**Dear Annie:** We have a close friend who always blows her nose vehemently at the dinner table at least several times while we are eating. Is this appropriate dinner behavior, or should we ask her nicely to excuse herself when she needs to clean her sinuses?

We really need your advice, as other guests are also repulsed. — *Handkerchief Mary*

**Dear Handkerchief Mary:** First off, I'm assuming your dinner guest has her own handkerchief, because if she doesn't and is using a napkin that was designed to lightly wipe one's mouth on her nose, you have even bigger problems. Assuming she

has her own handkerchief or tissues, it is truly not too much to ask that she excuse herself for a moment to blow her nose in the bathroom. Any bodily functions should be performed away from the dinner table. That most definitely includes blowing your nose or even discussing it. Pull your friend aside and tell her that you realize she may have some sinus issues but you'd appreciate it if she could refrain from blowing her nose at the table. Let her know that this rule applies to all guests and not just her. It's not only more polite but also more sanitary for all parties involved.

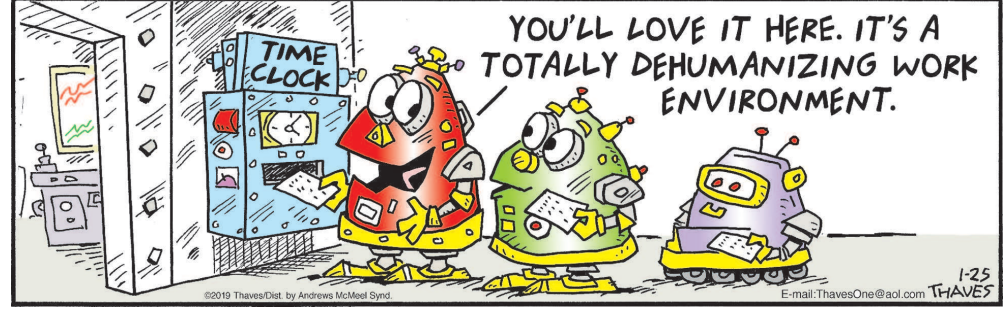
**Dear Annie:** This is in response to "Shortchanged," the woman annoyed by one roommate shortchanging her when paying a share of the utility bills. She should report to her roommates an amount that is rounded up on even-numbered months and rounded down on odd-numbered months. That way, people wouldn't have to type the pennies, and it should average out over time. — *Adam J.*

## DEAR ANNIE

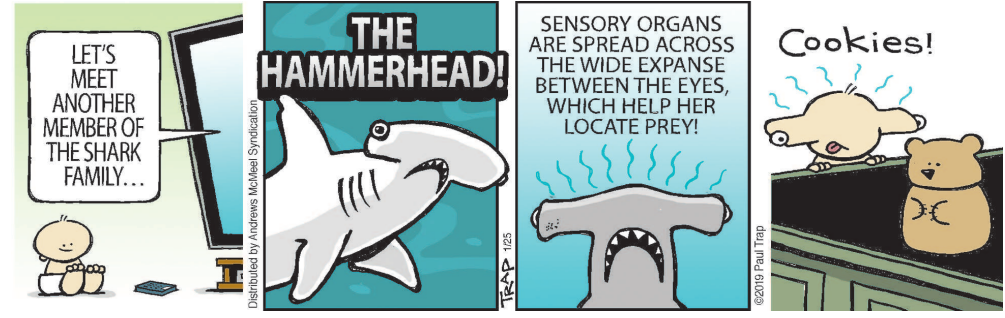


ANNIE LANE  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



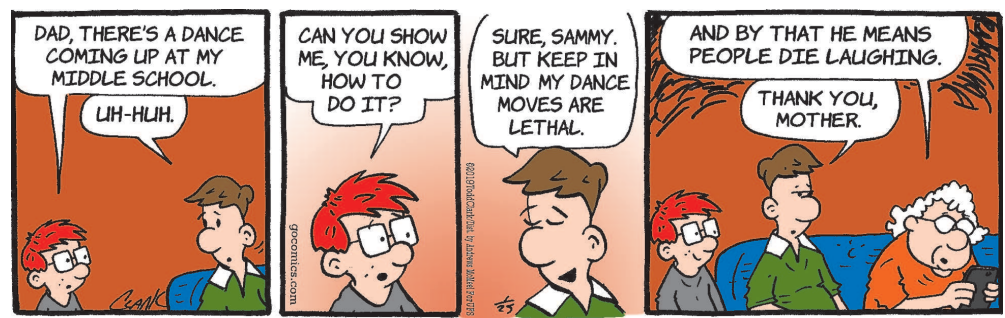
## THATABABY



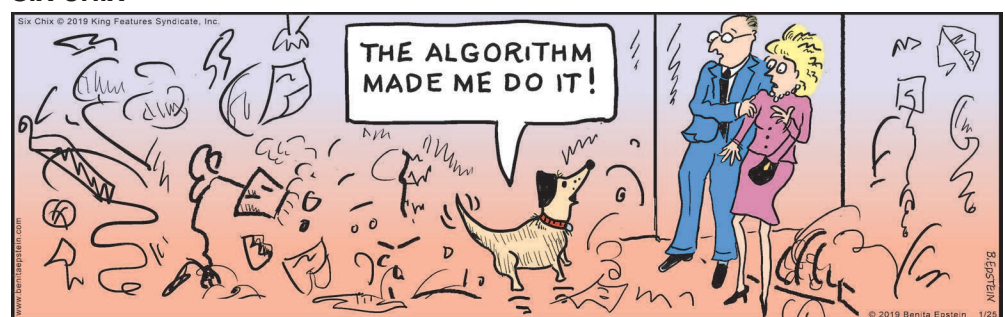
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



## LOLA



## SIX CHIX



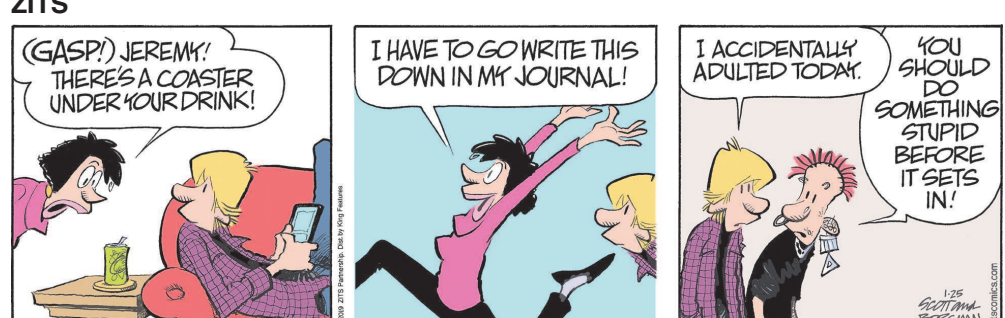
## MUTTS



## BABY BLUES



## ZITS



## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** It's better when loved ones don't struggle at the same time, that way they can hold each other up as need be. But alas, these things can't always be helped. One solution is to widen the circle of support to include more people.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** What you do for another person is done out of love and caring. You believe that acts of friendship shouldn't be burdened with stressful promises and obligations, and you avoid those who seem to attach strings to their gifts.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You make a bigger impact than you realize. You're walking down the street, minding your own business, but not everyone is doing the same. They're noticing you and the positive feeling you bring.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** To find joy, position yourself to look inward. There's no one you need to outshine, no one who can outshine you, just you befriending yourself, orienting your perception so there's no one to compete or compare yourself with.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** It won't feel like you're making decisions. It seems your body, conditioning and subconscious is making many moves for you. Still, every move you make, however small, gives birth to a new reality.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Whatever you do to use what you have efficiently, clean up and waste less will not be celebrated or maybe even noticed, but it will make you feel good to know that you're contributing to the solution, not the problem.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** In carefree times, stupid things seem important — and they are. That is, they are until you get to the less carefree times. Being

able to live in different sorts of times is a privilege, and a spiritual exercise, that makes you wise.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** The role of rituals cannot be underestimated now. Consider the ones that you don't recognize as rituals — the daily habits that have become a part of this current incarnation of you. What do you want to keep going forward?

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You're asking questions that don't have answers. It's a sign of intelligence; then again, there's a line to walk. On one side is a state of wonder, and the other is a state of confusion.

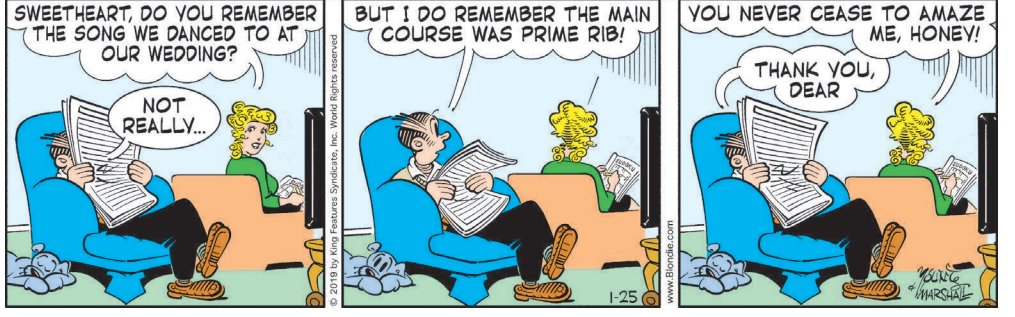
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** It's pretty simple. You wanted to get noticed, and now you're getting noticed. Keep your cause in mind at all times. Direct the attention where it will do the most good.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** The thing is that everything seems brighter when you're around. So people want you around. It's a blessing and a curse. Sometimes you lose yourself in the interaction. It's OK. You'll find yourself later. Let go.

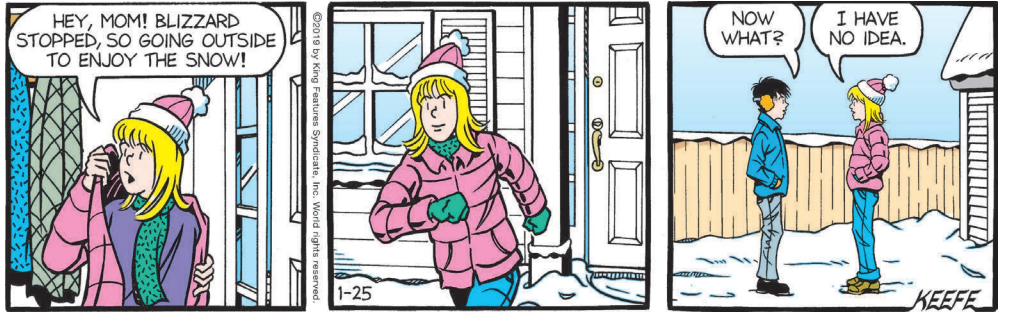
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** A presentation that's too long will lose the audience. This is true at all levels — a one-to-one conversation, a performance, a media event. It's the same. Be aware of limited attention spans.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 26).** You were meant for the good life; the universe got the memo. What's "good" to you is a little offbeat for others, and you'll love how this plays out over the next 10 weeks. Your keen intellect will get you into an elite situation. May brings someone new to admire, and it inspires you toward impressive feats. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 22, 49, 1 and 40.

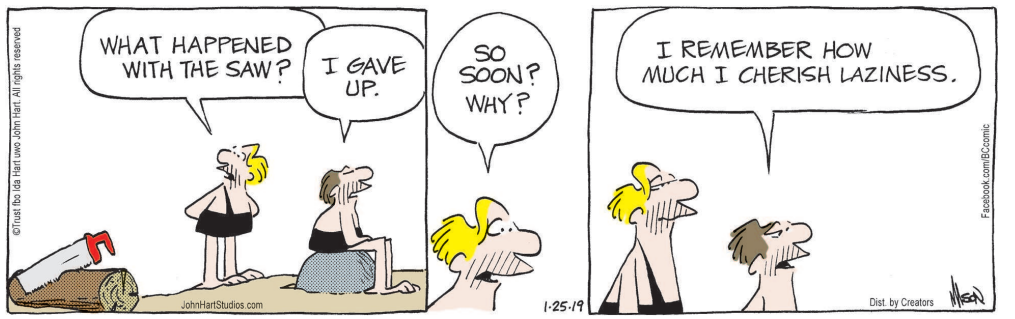
## BLONDIE



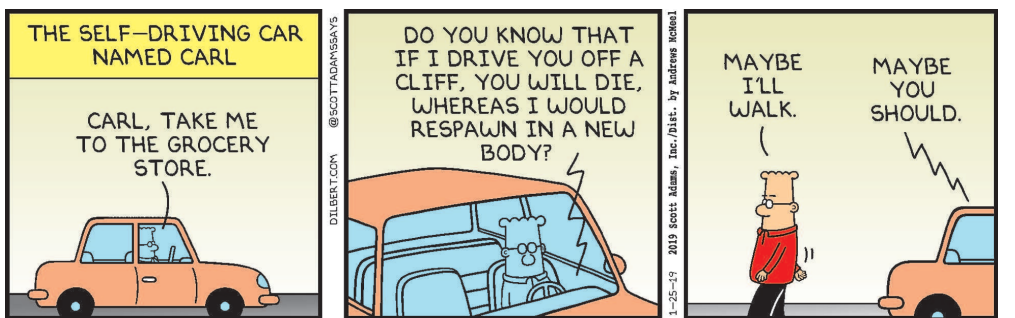
## SALLY FORTH



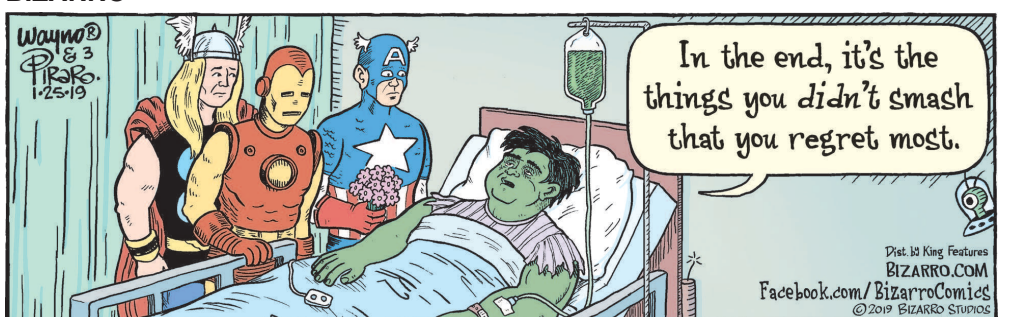
## B.C.



## DILBERT



## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

