

# Mom-in-law sabotages sale

**Dear Annie:** My husband and I have been happily married for 20 years. After the kids were grown, we decided to downsize. We put our home on the market and moved to a different state.

My husband's mother did not want us to move. She started interfering with the real estate office that was showing our house. She was given written warnings to stay away from the property. She then stripped all our perennials and trellises and took the picnic table and hoses — anything she could get off the property. She left a huge mess, and I had to pay someone to clean it up.

She wouldn't stop, so I finally called law enforcement. Now members of the family have labeled me "psycho" because I filed a complaint, but the local police haven't done anything. Mom continues to arrive at showings and claims she is the caretaker. What can I do to stop this woman without breeding more ill will? — *Fed-Up Psycho*

**Dear Fed Up:** Your mother-in-law's behavior is out-

## Annie's Mailbox

Creators Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



geous. Where is your husband in all this? He should quite firmly inform his mother that her punitive and destructive actions must stop immediately or she risks estrangement from his family. It is obvious that she is so frightened and upset by your departure that she believes her only recourse is sabotage. You both need to reassure her that living elsewhere will not keep you from calling, writing and visiting often. If she is incapable of adjusting, however, suggest she get professional help. It sounds like she could use it.

**Dear Annie:** I am a 15-year-old freshman. My best friend, "Ella," recently told me she is constantly depressed. She said

she's tired of living behind a mask and wants people to understand.

Ella told me she's thought about cutting herself. She is usually a bright and cheery person, so this came as a shock. I can't help thinking that maybe I never knew the real girl. She absolutely refuses to talk to her parents because she dislikes them. To me they seem like great parents, but I don't live in her house.

What should I do? I don't want to let Ella down in her time of need. — *Trying To Understand*

**Dear Trying:** If Ella won't talk about this with her parents, encourage her to talk to the school counselor, a favorite teacher or another trusted adult. Suggest she get some exercise. It boosts endorphin levels and could make her feel better. You are a good friend to care about Ella's mental health. Both of you can get more information through the teens site at kidshealth.org. You also should discuss this with your own parents so they can help you work on it.

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Send your imagination soaring. At the intersection of fantasy and reality will be a truly memorable bit of fun that could only happen under tonight's rather perfect circumstances.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You'll be ready for the spotlight to swivel in your direction, not because you formally prepared for it, but because you're so filled with confidence and levity now.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** The dreams of yesteryear are what make tonight so sweet. It's as though someone is answering your long-ago wishes in ways you never could have imagined at the time.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Hesitation is for those who fear making mistakes. Halloween reminds you not to fear. Go ahead. While the insecure wait, you'll get busy making mistakes, learning from them and becoming a master.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You don't scare easily, but when you do get spooked, the adrenaline rush could send you into the arms of a heroic or comforting type who is very happy to have you there.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Each person you interact with gets a different version of you. (Everyone is this way to some extent.) You'll have an increased awareness of how a certain person makes you feel about yourself.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Your ancestry will play into your choices tonight — where you go, how you dress, whom you talk to. It's as though you're being whispered to by the ones who walked there before you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You'll have a

heartfelt exchange with someone who, like you, is a giver. There's more of this to come — good! You deserve to be with a person who is going to meet you at least halfway.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You'll be energized by your accidental place in the events of the day. The principles of randomness and chance will favor your restoring your belief in your Jupiter-ruled guidance system.

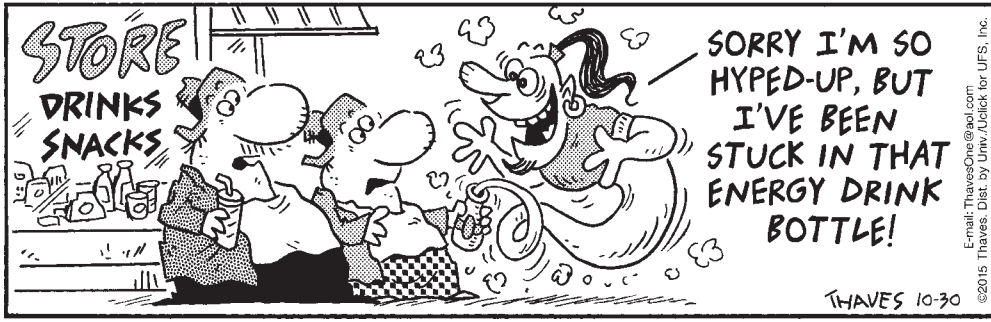
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You've hit your tolerance with being correct and tasteful in all matters. A wild, adventurous spirit takes hold. This will be reflected in your costume and/or approach to the night's shenanigans.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** It's the details that make your efforts effective and your night one for the ages. When you share your astute observations, someone will think you're either a psychic or a mind reader.

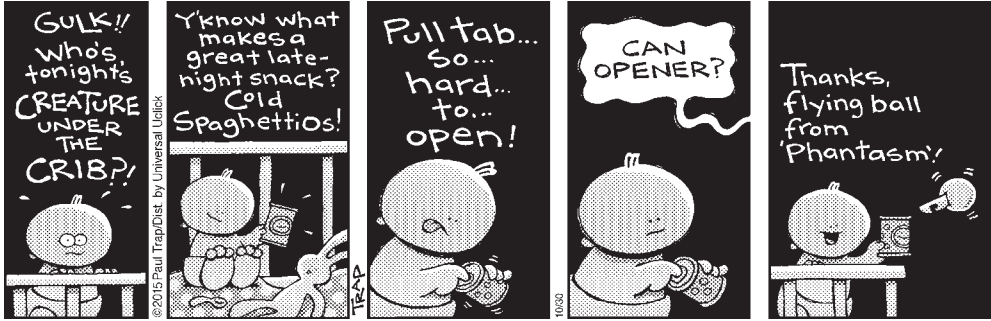
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Not all ghosts are wailing, see-through creatures. Some are exes, acts of the past that come back to haunt you or desires that keep showing up unannounced and uninvited in your being.

**SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 31).** This year features more time with people you're excited to be with — people who make you laugh and think differently. A new role in November develops into an exciting venture of 2016. Travel will change your worldview. A sacrifice will free your options, and by May you'll find this was well worthwhile. Cancer and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 39, 48, 2, 19 and 6.

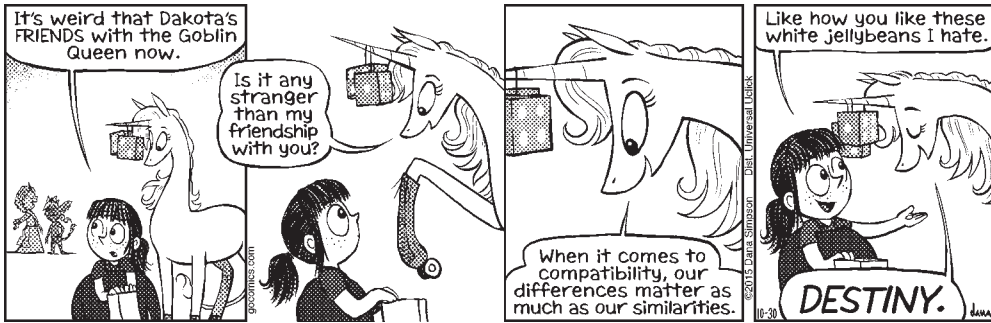
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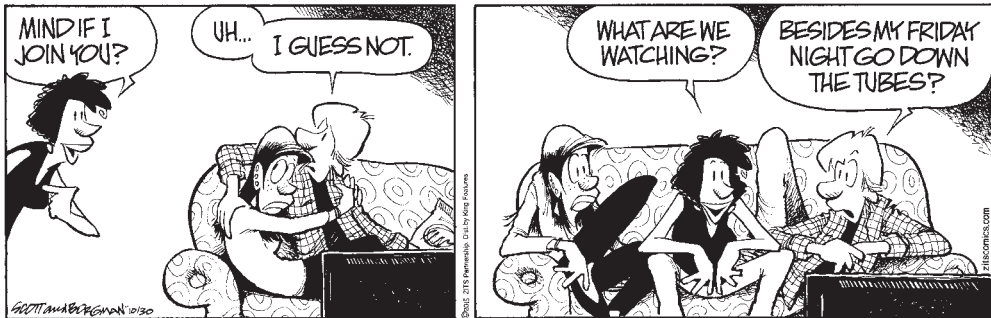
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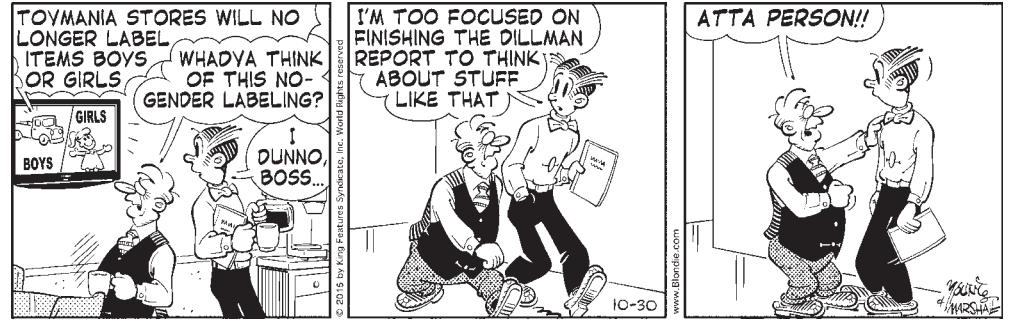
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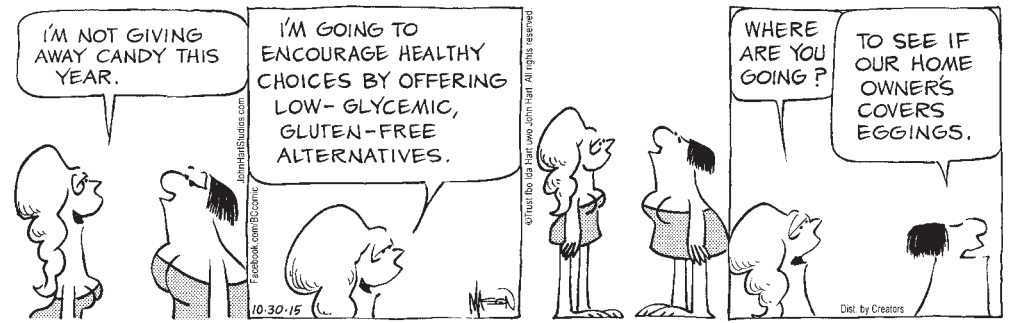
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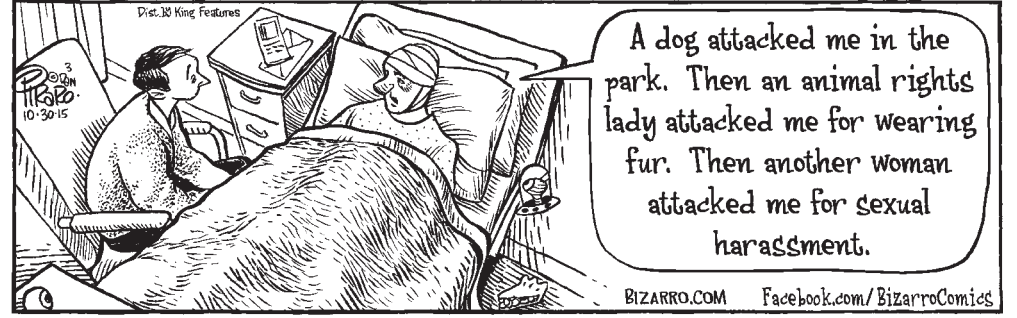
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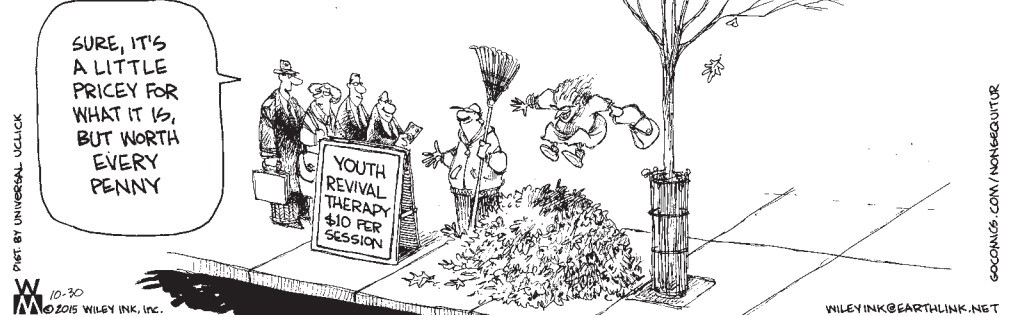
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