

Popcorn eater ruins movie Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dear Annie: Last week, my husband and I were able to secure tickets to a movie that had been sold out for several weeks. We looked forward to a nice evening until the lady with the popcorn and icy drink sat next to me. As soon as the movie started, she began to chomp and crunch on the popcorn, rattle the paper bag and jiggle the soda, over and over. I tried moving away as much as possible, but it didn't help. Because the theater was so dark, I couldn't tell whether there were other seats available. I was stuck.

Very quietly, I asked her whether she was going to be finished eating soon, because the racket was very annoying. She said she likes to eat popcorn at the movies. Afterward, my husband told me I was rude and that eating during a movie should be allowed.

I didn't expect to be "right," but am I wrong to expect courtesy from those around me? Why can't people enjoy their treats without disturbing everyone else? What do you say, Annie? — *Chomping in Florida*

Dear Chomping: It is customary for people to eat popcorn and other snacks during a movie. But it is also incumbent on those

Annie's Mailbox

Creators Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



in attendance not to be an annoyance to the people around them. Crunchy stuff should be chewed quietly. No one needs to swish ice around in the cup. Your best bet would have been to find an usher and ask for help locating another seat, but these days, ushers are hard to come by. You also could have complained to the manager after the movie, which would not have changed the annoyance, but may have garnered you a comped ticket.

We know there are folks who believe they are entitled to behave however they wish, giving no thought to anyone else. Those are the same people who would be the first to complain were they on the receiving end of such rudeness. In public places, one has an obligation to be considerate. It is selfish to do otherwise.

Dear Annie: I am writing about "M.W.," the retired teacher who didn't want to go to Florida. I do not believe there was a writing campaign from The Villages. We don't need to organize. We Villagers are 102,000 strong and still growing.

When my husband retired 22 years ago, he wanted to move to Florida, and that was the last place I wanted to be. It was hot, unfamiliar and far from family. I had no interest in fishing, golf or crafts. I was ready to leave my husband there and see him only in the winter.

Well, we finally happened upon The Villages and fell in love. There are all price ranges available, and my addicted golfing friends tell me the golfing is amazing. But there is something for everyone: more clubs than you can imagine, a wonderful philharmonic orchestra, choral groups and other musical venues, as well as numerous opportunities for volunteering. I am a guardian ad litem working with teens in group homes, and I love it. I found the calling I didn't know I had. We thrive on helping others here. The Villages is a wonderland for adults. — *A Happy Villager*

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are open to unusual, original and novel ideas, so open, in fact, that sometimes you miss the obvious success key. That's why it helps to have a very pragmatic friend in your mix.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Strategy will be better than impulse. Plan your attack, and at least three people around you will support you. Earth signs will be especially helpful — that's Virgo, Capricorn or a fellow Taurus.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). At first you'll ask without much luck in the way of a response. "I don't know" will quickly change to "I know" when you ask a different question. Prod if you must to get to the root of your problem.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Many sales techniques hinge on the belief that the things that are most desirable are in limited supply. Think twice when you're urged to "buy now because there are only three left." There are many more than three left.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have a talent for levity and an instinct for fun — lead with laughter today. There is no need to be self-conscious and overly concerned about what others think.

VRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People who feel pressured are likely to act out of fear, and the result will lead to regret. How can you take the pressure off? How can you make it fun?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You value honesty, but do be gentle, because the people around you are more sensitive than usual. Much will be accomplished with a compassionate tone of voice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You seek

the kind of understanding that can only come from putting yourself in another person's position. You don't mind walking a mile in another person's moccasins as long as that person's shoe size is similar to yours.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You approach the day as if it were an experiment, and your curious, playful mindset will keep you from getting frustrated. Whether it goes right or wrong, you learn.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). On the subject of personal and emotional space, everyone has a certain comfort zone. You need a bigger buffer than usual today, and you'll favor those who understand and respect your boundaries.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You may be building an event up to be much bigger than it needs to be. Try hard, but don't worry if it doesn't work out. There will be more and better opportunities in your future.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Small issues can escalate quickly. If you run into a problem, meet with the others involved straight away and face-to-face for speedy resolution. Lose old baggage. It's not relevant to who you are now.

THURSDAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 14). Tenacity breeds success. June shows you regularly seeing someone special. July brings second chances and a homecoming. A friend will excel within an area you long to master. It's not a contest. Accept the help that's offered to you in September. Barriers to forward movement are eliminated in November. Leo and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 1, 22, 20 and 14.

FRANK AND ERNEST



BLONDIE



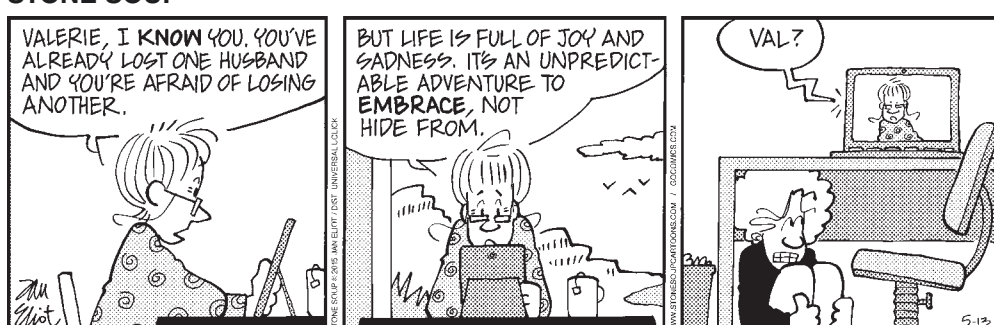
THATABABY



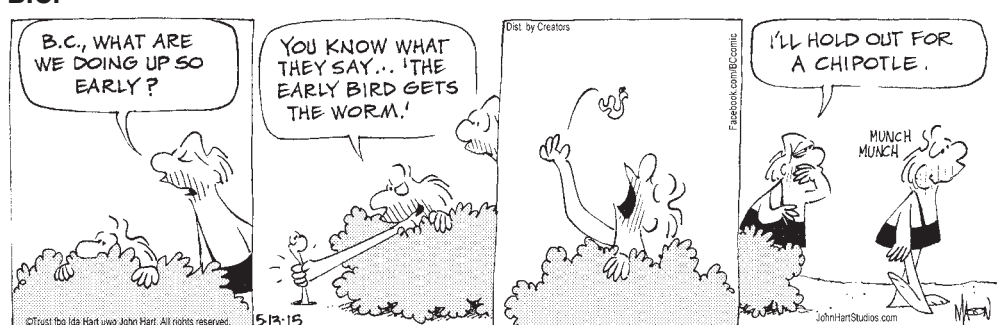
SALLY FORTH



STONE SOUP



B.C.



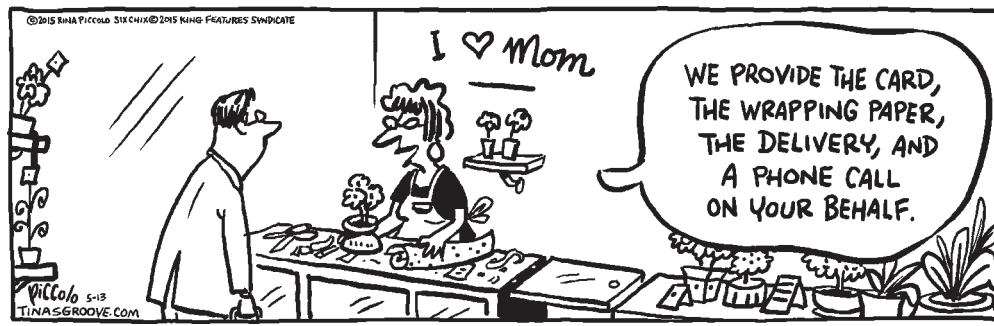
LOLA



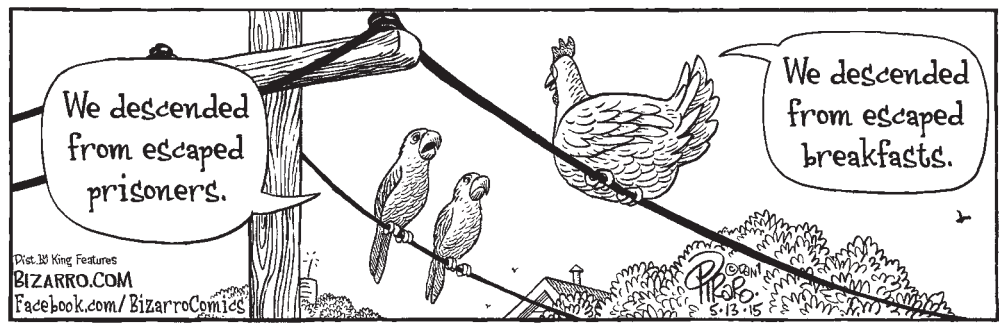
DILBERT



SIX CHIX



BIZARRO



MUTTS



NON SEQUITUR



BABY BLUES



WIZARD OF ID



ZITS

