

# Mom supports teen's sexuality

**Dear Annie:** My 12-year-old daughter confessed to me this evening that she believes she is bisexual. She was quite upset about a comment made by another girl today. I immediately comforted her and explained that I love her, no holds barred. She will always be my baby.

I know your column has recommended some websites for parents and personal support, but I am unable to recall them. I want to become more educated in order to help guide my child on how to be happy with who she is. This information will also help when she decides to tell her father and stepmother. Thank you. — *Love My Child*

**Dear Love:** We commend you for being a supportive, loving parent. Please keep in mind that sexuality can be more fluid than we sometimes realize, especially for teenagers, so we hope you will continue to be supportive while your daughter sorts it out. A great website for parents is PFLAG (pflag.org). And if your daughter is being bullied because of her sexual orientation, contact the school immediately. This should not be tolerated.

**Dear Annie:** I saw the letter from "Frustrated," the nearly

## Annie's Mailbox

Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell  
and  
Marcy Sugar



90-year-old man whose wife is now in a nursing home after a stroke. He said his oldest son won't visit and becomes angry when asked. It's truly sad how dynamics between parents and children can get completely off track when well-meaning parents, either through a lack of knowledge or mindfulness, do not understand the pain they cause to their children by the underlying critical messages they convey.

At first glance, a son who won't visit his elderly mother in a nursing home would seem to lack compassion. But the frustrated father who wrote the letter conveyed an unspoken tone of disapproval by implying that the older son should feel guilty for not measuring up to the example of his supportive younger brother.

Based on the son's reported outburst and his stated feelings of

never being heard, this has likely been the pattern of a lifetime, however unintentional the father's comparisons may have been. If the father truly wants to maximize success in having his older son visit, I suggest that a sincere, unqualified apology for not understanding how he previously failed to acknowledge his son's perspective, along with your advice to extend an unpressured invitation, would go a long way toward achieving that. — *Been There*

**Dear Been There:** It is a common problem between parents and children that they see the same events through very different lenses. What's worse is when one of them tries to convince the other that their perspective is wrong. This is a recipe for resentment and defensiveness. Parents want their children to love them, and children want to be loved. But a lifetime of misunderstandings and skewed perspectives can get in the way. In order to move past these issues, you sometimes have to be the bigger person and apologize, whether you believe it's warranted or not. The objective is not to be "right." It's to have a close, loving relationship. That often takes both forgiveness and generosity of spirit.

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Even though you don't want to play favorites, there is someone in your life who you love saying hello to and hate saying goodbye to. You'll figure out how to spend more quality time together.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** It's not all distraction and whimsy. You will establish boundaries that will help you be at peace with your devices. We have incarnated at this time to experience the lessons inside the wonders of the modern world.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Once you make peace with the past it will have less influence over your present. Most likely, this is just a matter of letting go of guilt and blame. You weren't perfect, and neither were they.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Today's main issue will arrive on the scene with such a humble presence that it's impossible to tell yet how important it will be to you in a week or next month. This is one to watch, though. Write down some thoughts about it.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** A loved one will lean on you with more than the usual amount of problems, but don't worry. This person is not expecting you to fix them all, only to make facing them a little less lonely.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Time heals. Wanting the healing process to be faster won't make it so. Relax and give it time. Impatience is a very unflattering tone that doesn't look good on anyone.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** It is very difficult to discover your own blind spot. But trust that it's there. When someone points out where you've made a mistake, this is a gift. You'll be grateful for the enlightenment.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Some say

that love doesn't exist except in evidential form. Others say it's a verb. Lately it feels to you to be a pre-destined agreement made between soul mates. It's like you're knitted to another with invisible thread.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You can't help it that you're curious about how other people live. This makes you an excellent conversationalist now, even though it might also lead you to learn more than you wanted to.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** A friend will be so much more to you than merely a companion on the raft of life. There are certain friends who seem to show up with their own ships, ready to set sail for an epic adventure.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** By creating happiness for yourself, you will help others be happy, too. Let that be your guiding principle as you sort out something that's been causing you stress. This isn't selfish! It matters.

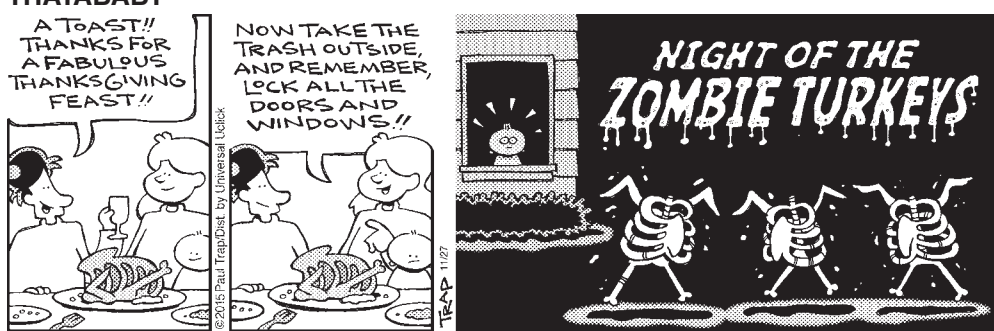
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Loved ones can push your buttons better than anyone else, because experience has taught them where those buttons are. It comes with the territory of intimate relationships today.

**SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 28).** New and mysterious friends decorate your life, and it will take the better part of 2016 to get to know them better. A contract in January will bring in more money for you and yours. February will feature a passionate challenge. You won't be judged on how successful you are, but, rather, on how well you empathize. Libra and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 16, 9, 38, 11 and 42.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



## THATABABY



## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



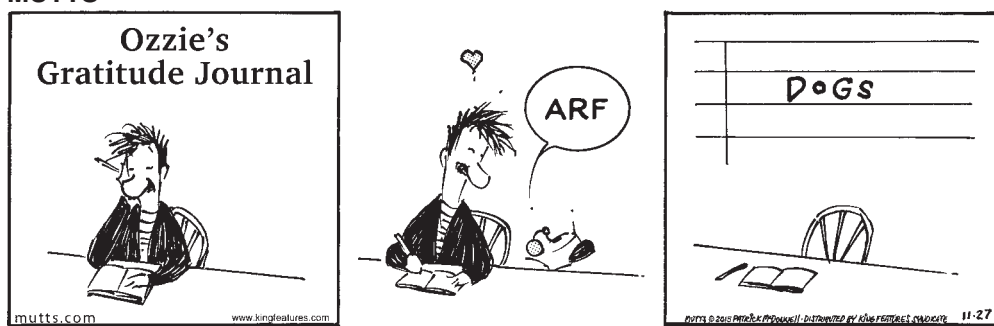
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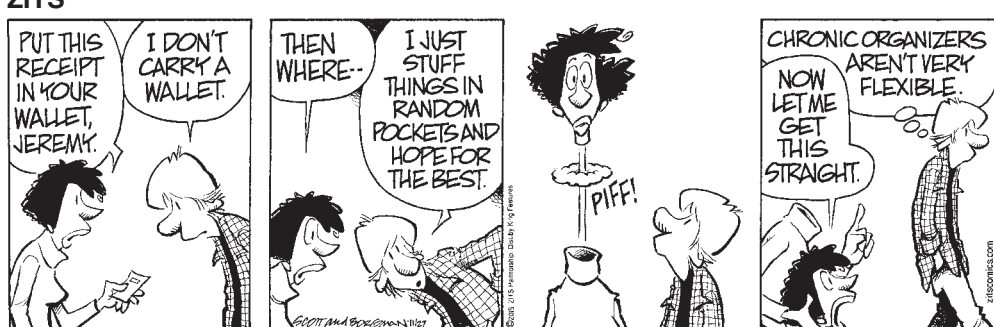
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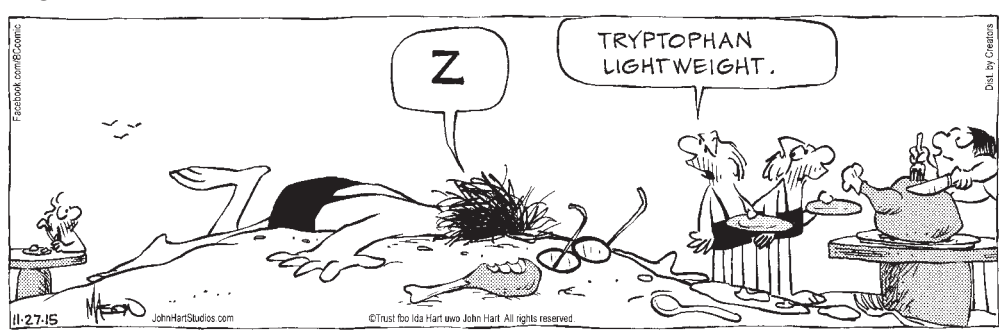
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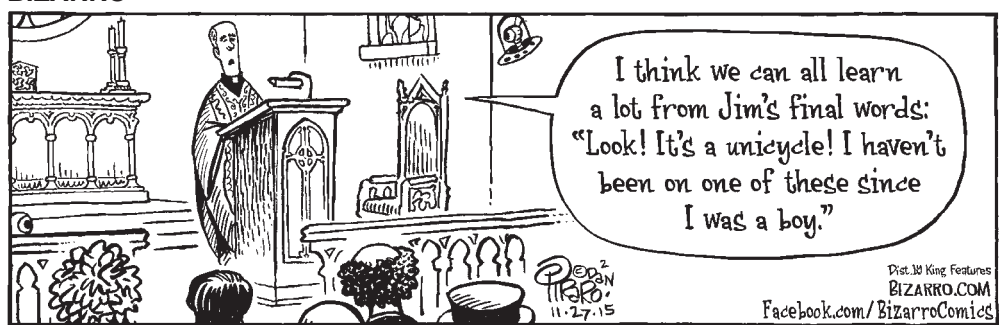
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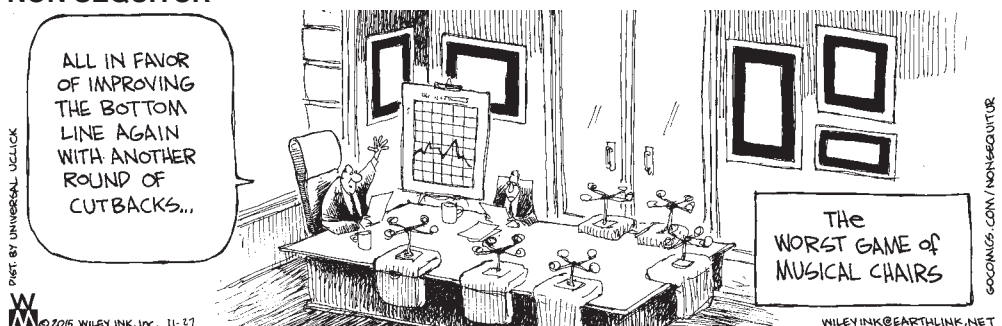
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## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

