

# 'Momzilla' causing drama

**Dear Annie:** My 5-year-old granddaughter was here for a few days and needed her evening bath. The last time she stayed overnight with me, her mother sent bath products that got in her eyes and burned. So this time, I used my own baby shampoo and some moisturizing body wash. Everything went well, but when my daughter saw that I had used those products, she went ballistic.

Later that evening, she sent me a text message saying I had disrespected her authority as a parent. Annie, the baby shampoo didn't hurt my granddaughter one iota and neither did the body wash. From my daughter's reaction, you would have thought I threw acid on the child. We had a huge disagreement via text, and my blood pressure spiked so high I thought I was having a stroke. We haven't corresponded since.

My daughter is 45 and one of those Helicopter Momzillas. She watches her daughter like a hawk, never missing a chance to correct someone who says anything objectionable to her daughter or when another child doesn't play with her the way she thinks is right. She believes she is the only one who knows how to raise a child. I guess

## Annie's Mailbox

Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell  
and  
Marcy Sugar



my 50 years of child rearing experience mean nothing. She acts this way even toward her husband, as if he is a total idiot, and he won't stand up for himself. When I have my granddaughter at my house, I don't want my daughter around because she can be so unpleasant, snapping and biting at the least little thing.

My husband and I have helped my daughter's family from the day the child was born. I have never been disrespectful toward her. This is the first time we haven't been on speaking terms. Will she ever change? — *Momzilla's Mother*

**Dear Mother:** Probably not until her daughter is older and rejects Mom's overprotectiveness. Until then, however, please stop creating a tug-of-war over who is the more sensible parent. She is the child's mother and has her

best interests at heart, even though she is overbearing. When she says to respect her, she means that you don't get to undermine her decisions unless you feel they are a danger to the child, which they are not. Yes, the baby shampoo was fine, but Mom specifically asked you to use something else and you should have done so.

You owe her an apology. Really. Her nitpicking attitude is exhausting, we know, and it isn't particularly helpful to her daughter, either. But you absolutely must bite your tongue and allow her to make these decisions. You raised your kid, Mom. Now it's her turn. Let her be.

**Dear Annie:** This is for "Suffocating in Saskatchewan," whose co-worker has a terrible body odor. My son used to have body odor, but I noticed it only after he showered. It turned out to be his aftershave. When I got up the courage to speak to him about it, the problem was solved and he thanked me for letting him know.

It could be that the co-worker's soap, aftershave, cologne or other product doesn't mix well with his body chemistry. That might be an approach to use when speaking to him about it. — *Been There*

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You're honored to follow an excellent leader, but often the leader isn't excellent and you have to follow anyway. Lead yourself with the structure and discipline you expect from others and you'll soon take the top position.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You're good at managing money today, no matter whose it is. You'll be conservative with other people's funds and daring when it comes to your own. Risk more and win more!

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Nervous energy has the potential to turn neutral information into negative conclusions and overwhelm you with internal chatter. Do what you can to calm down and good things will start happening for you.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Just in case you're tempted to settle for an option you're not excited about because it seems to be the safe choice, the stars align to let you know there really is no safer choice than to follow your heart.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** The pursuit of status isn't as shallow as it sounds now, because you won't be able to influence the group from a low position. Besides, you're not caught up in the chase: You're coolheaded, just playing the game.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You will be as lucky as you are aware. It's not always easy to distinguish good luck from bad, but staying alert to opportunity and responding quickly to everything that comes up will keep you in fortune's grace.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** As for forgetting those old acquaintances, usually you'd protest those lyrics, but, as it turns out, there are a few old acquaintances you'd be

healthier to move on from. The drift apart starts now.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You crave experience, and the cusp of this new year fills you with hope for future adventures. You'll have the most fun where there's a mix of generations and cultures in one place, celebrating together.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Looking fabulous is important to you and your efforts in this regard will pay off. Still, the best thing you'll wear is your mega-watt smile. It's truly the match that lights up the party.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Your infectious attitude will earn you many followers, something you'll have mixed feelings about by the end of the night. With power comes responsibility!

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** It takes courage to lay your heart on the line. Then again, the potential gains you could get from telling someone how you really feel may overwhelm your desire for any other option.

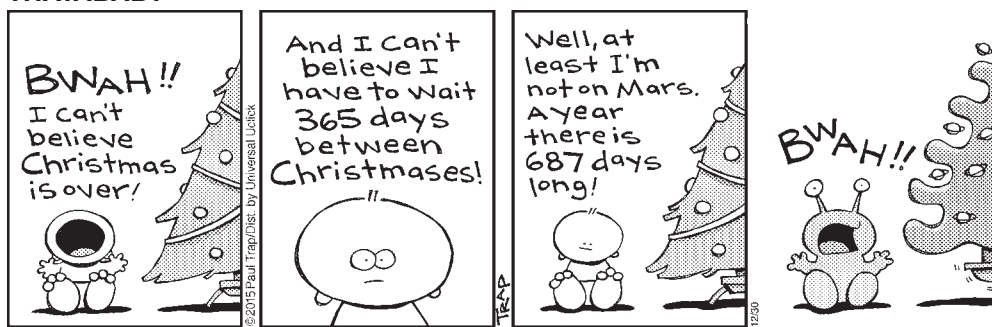
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** When opportunity meets you for coffee, you don't let it pay. You'll show initiative, style and the kind of smiling attention that charms opportunity into coming around more often.

**THURSDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 31).** Love has your soul singing. With strong enthusiasm and unwavering optimism your year gets off to a brilliant start. The life improvements you want for 2016 won't happen alone. Enlist qualified help and together a transformation is not only possible; it's as good as done. You'll buy, sell and make a profit in August. Leo and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 5, 34, 32 and 19.

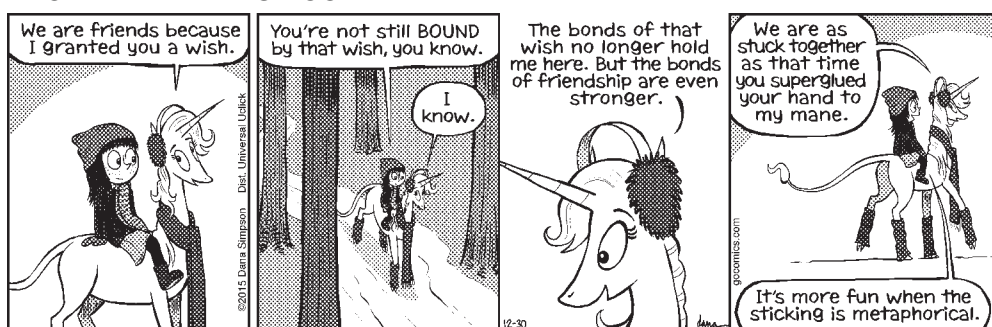
## FRANK AND ERNEST



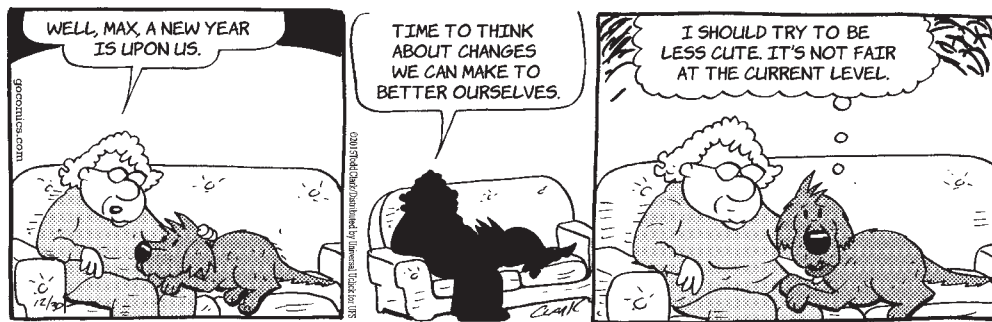
## THATABABY



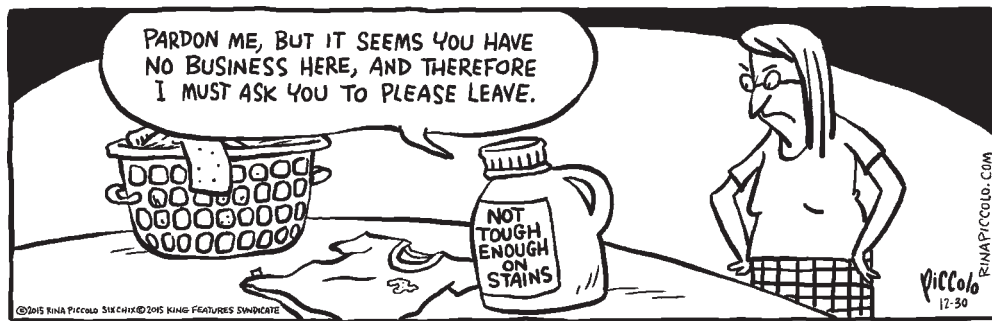
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



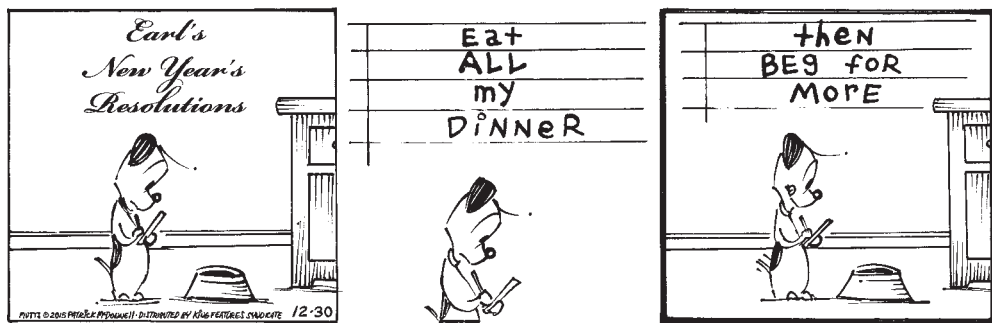
## LOLA



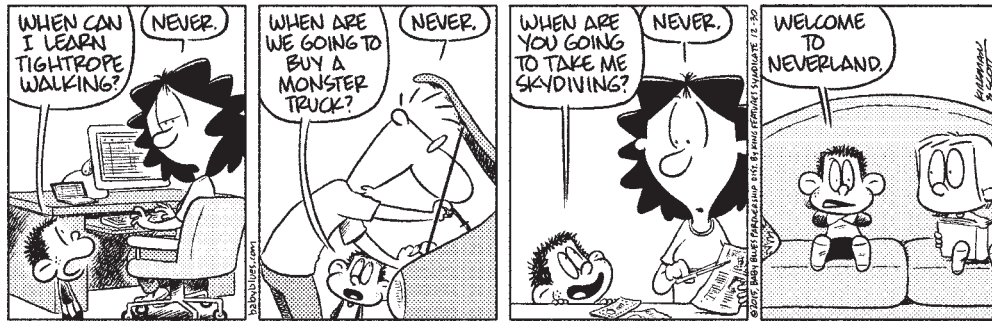
## SIX CHIX



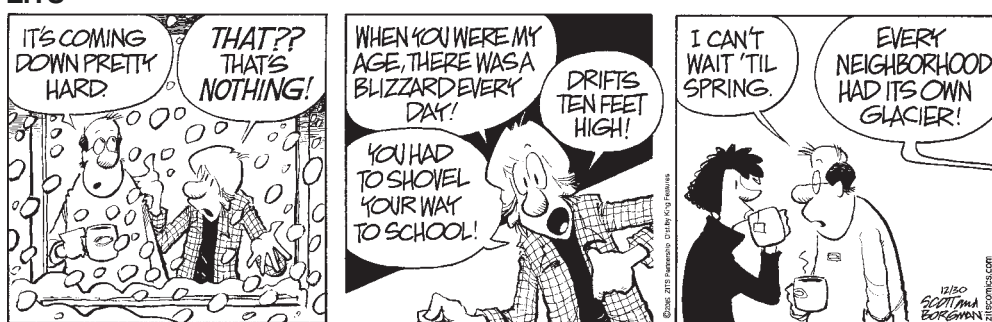
## MUTTS



## BABY BLUES



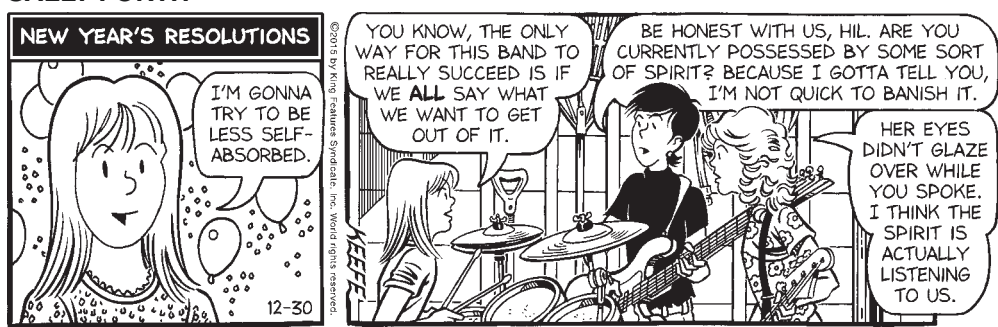
## ZITS



## BLONDIE



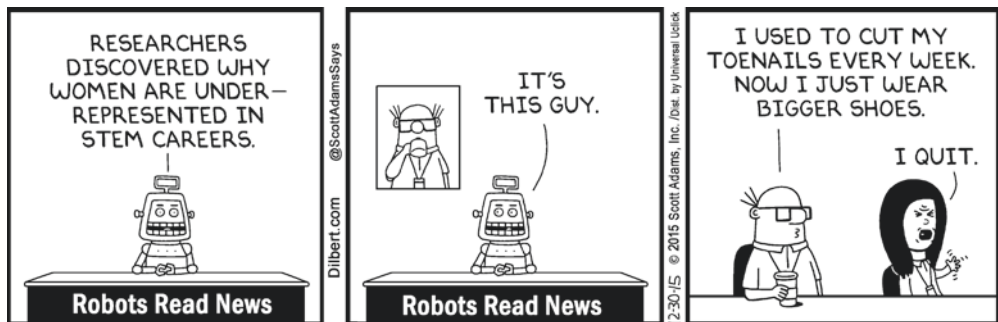
## SALLY FORTH



## B.C.



## DILBERT



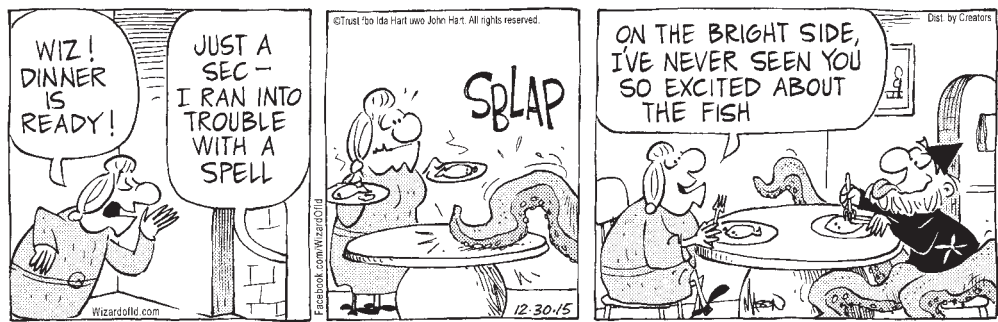
## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

