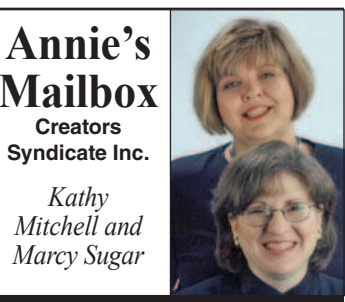


Should teacher be corrected?

Dear Annie: Yesterday, I tried to help my son do his third-grade homework. One question was: “If Sue runs around the track twice, and John runs around the track four times more than Sue, how many times does John run around the track?” My son submitted his answer as 8, but the teacher said the answer was 6.

Do I speak up? Should I simply assume the lesson here is a “life lesson” to respect the teacher’s answer even if it’s wrong, and explain to my 8-year-old son that there is sometime more than one right answer? — *Perplexed Dad*

Dear Perplexed: If the problem had read “four more times than Sue,” it would be an addition problem, but “four times more” makes it a multiplication problem. The teacher made a mistake (she added instead of multiplied) and should be told. She may have been using an answer sheet that was incorrect, and she certainly wouldn’t want to use it again with another class. Most teachers have email addresses. Write to her and say that your son cannot figure out how the answer could be 6, and neither can you, so perhaps there was an oversight when the paper was graded. Be nice. Tell her you know how



easy it is for these things to happen and thought she’d want to know so she can correct the papers that were mismarked. The life lesson for your son is how to stand up for himself and register an objection without becoming objectionable.

Dear Annie: My husband passed away 10 years ago, when I was 57. After a year, I began dating again. I have met many nice gentlemen. Often, I am introduced by mutual friends, but I have also used online dating. Perhaps your readers would be interested in what I have learned about meeting dates online.

I quickly learned to weed out the ones who are just looking for money. Many of them are incarcerated. If they cannot meet in person within one week, I block them from contacting me. I never share my name, address or phone num-

ber. I will take their number and call after blocking my own number from displaying on their cell-phones or through caller ID.

I am attractive, get my hair styled regularly, use makeup and take care of my body and my health. I wear a size 4. I watch my diet and go to the gym. I have a good income and insist on paying my own way.

My profiles say I am interested only in dating. But after a few dates, many men tell me that they want to marry me. They are hurt that I am not interested. If a man is looking at online sites and wants something long-term, he should not be contacting a woman whose profile clearly states that she wants only to date. I am upfront about this and always feel bad when I have to break it off because the man gets too serious. — *Self-Sufficient Suzie*

Dear Suzie: You seem to have a good handle on meeting men in a safe way. (We would add to meet them in public places for coffee, not dinner.) You also present yourself as an attractive, independent woman and we suspect your insouciance about marriage makes you quite appealing to men who are more accustomed to women who seem desperate or clingy.

Tomorrow’s horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The reason there is now a silent force field growing around you is that you’ve decided on a certain goal. You’re going to need more energy to accomplish this, and your environment is rearranging itself to accommodate.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There’s an art to pleasure. How can you bump it up to the next level, so you’re not only enjoying whatever leisure time you have; you’re reveling in the sweetness of it?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your energy will be quieted through emotional control and physical discipline. This in no way dampens your spirit. If anything, everyone experiences your vibrancy because there is less interfering with it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don’t have to cut people out completely just because they wave red flags at you; however, it would be foolish to ignore this. Collect the flag and stick it in your pocket. Hold on to it so you don’t forget.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Endings may be challenging for you now. Conversations will rattle on. Project details will ceaselessly stream in. Guests will be impossibly slow to leave. Maybe you just don’t want to say goodbye!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your memory may not serve the honest-to-goodness facts very well, but it will serve the emotional truth of things. Glance back and let that inform you, but don’t dwell there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The more you express, the more you open yourself up to criticism. How much is too much? It depends on your desired result. Before you present your side of things, give your project deep thought

and make a strategic plan.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). That thing you wished for long ago has yet to come to fruition. If this one is ever to see the light of day it will be granted through your own sweat and clever dealings. Are you ready to work on it again?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You’re likely to be needlessly hard on yourself, perhaps because you keep comparing what you’re doing to some glamorized and possibly completely fake version. Meanwhile, you’re impressive without trying.

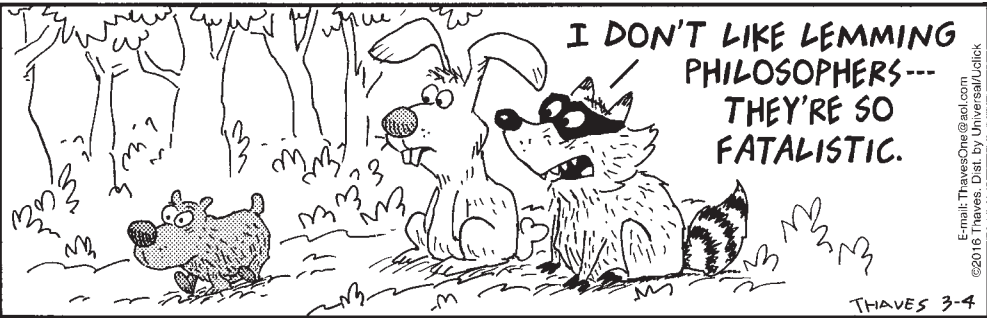
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your friend matches your sensibility in some areas and then loses you completely in other areas. Quite frankly, you may be happy to be “lost.” The important thing is to celebrate where your interests overlap.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have the right contacts, but you’re not utilizing them to their best potential. When you dial this in, everyone will benefit. Put thought and conversation to the subject of how you and yours can better serve one another.

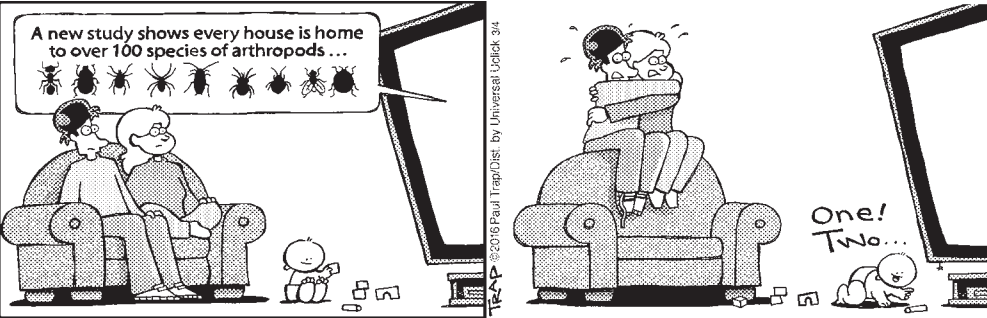
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). No, you are not imagining it. Someone is flirting with you. How you handle this surprise twist will have a profound impact on your social schedule in the weeks to come.

SATURDAY’S BIRTHDAY (March 5). Give thanks in advance for the astounding good fortune coming to you this year — the pre-show gratitude will not only reinforce your faith but also make you 10 times luckier. You will break through the limits of what you thought you could do in June and August. The financial boon will come in September. Pisces and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 9, 35, 37 and 41.

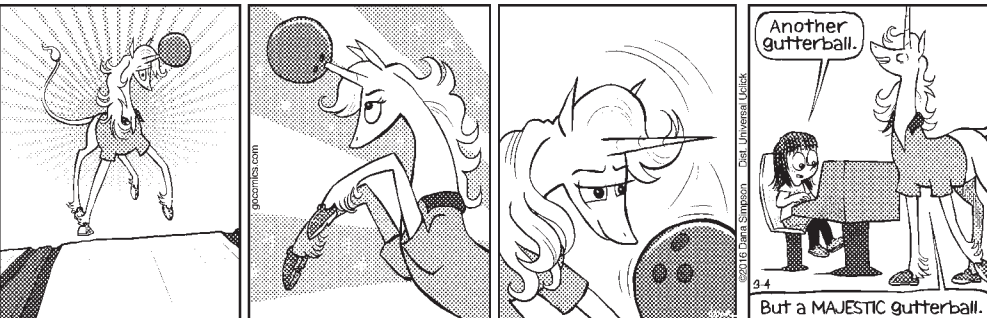
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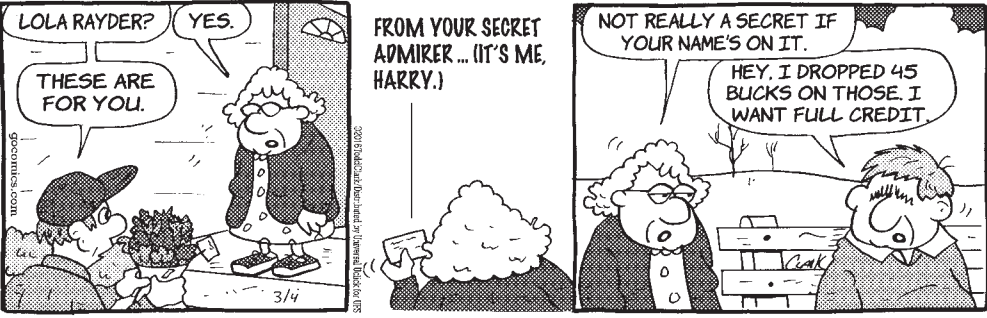
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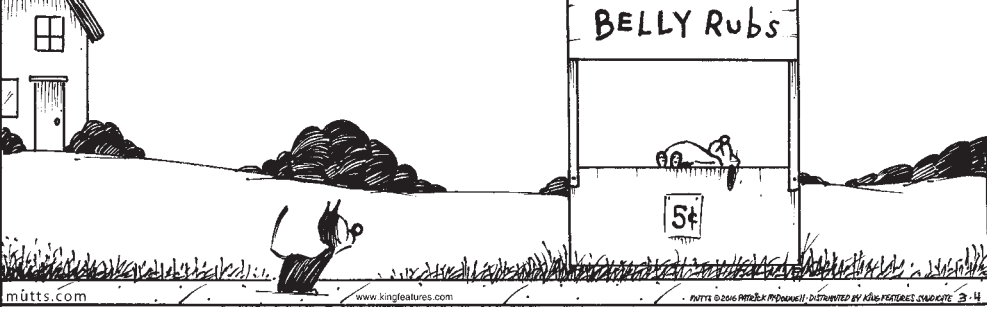
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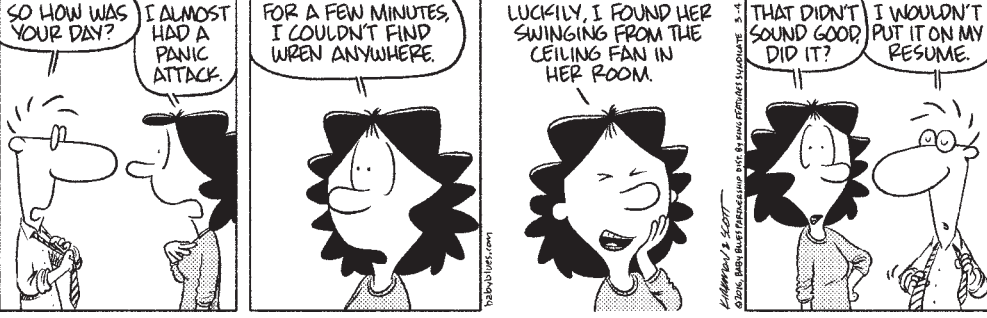
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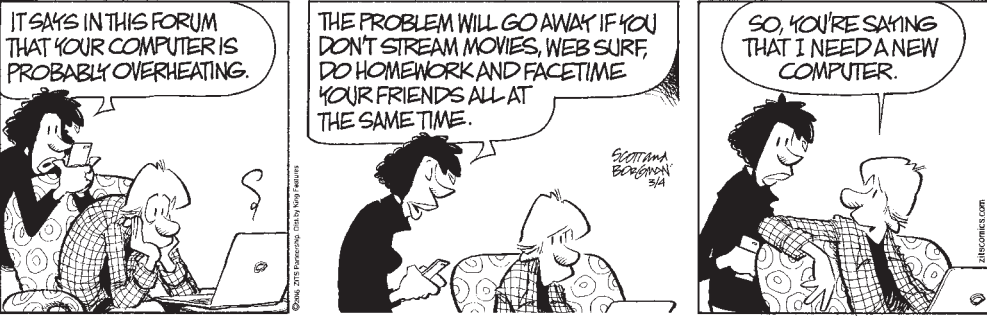
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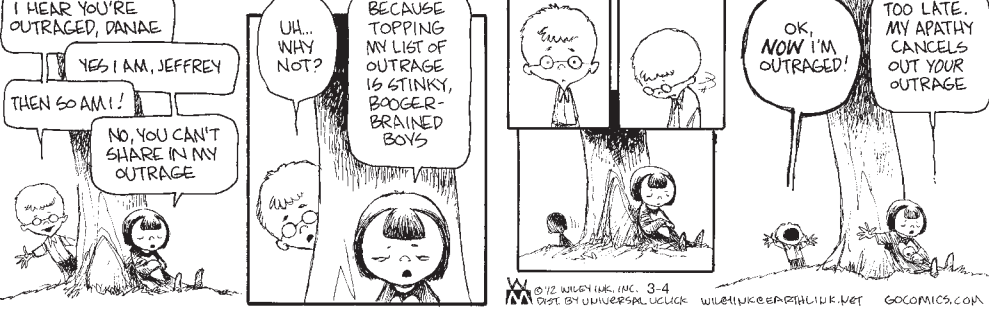
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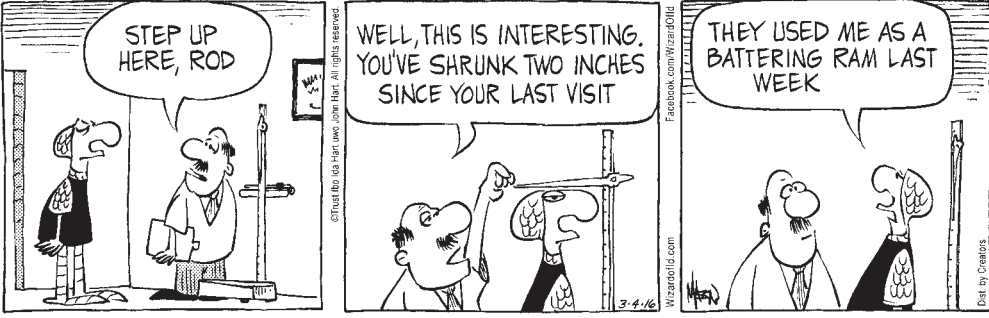
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