

Should mom threaten druggie?

Dear Annie: I have a beautiful daughter who is in rehab for drug addiction. For the past two years, she has had an abusive boyfriend who also encouraged her drug use. He broke up with her before she entered the facility, but I just discovered that she has been calling him.

I want to call the boyfriend and tell him not to accept her calls or I will turn the names of his dealers over to the police. What should I do? — *Worried Mother*

Dear Mother: Instead of issuing threats, contact the facility and let them know that your daughter is maintaining contact with an abusive, drug-using boyfriend. This is probably against the rules, in which case, they would take away her phone privileges. Ask the facility for help with the drug dealers. This could be dangerous.

Then contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline (the-hotline.org) and ask for their help in disentangling your daughter from her abusive relationship. This is not going to be easy, Mom. We hope you can transmit some of your strength to your daughter.

Dear Annie: I am writing about the responses to "Please Leave Animals at Home." I am touched by the people who wrote in support of ser-

Annie's Mailbox

Creators Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



vice animals. I know firsthand the independence they bring through their trained skills. I have been using a service dog since 2001. However, I feel it is important to correct some information that these supporters mentioned.

Service animals are defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. They include only dogs or miniature horses. They must have a trained skill that is directly related to the individual's disability. Emotional support and companionship are NOT service dog skills.

Service animals are allowed in all places the public is allowed to go. They are to be under control of their handler and working when in public. Stores cannot require that they ride in shopping carts. When it is not obvious what service an animal provides, only limited inquiries are allowed. Two questions may be

asked: (1) Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability, and (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to perform. You cannot ask about the person's disability or demand medical documentation, nor can you ask that the dog demonstrate its ability.

Service animals are not required to wear special vests or tags. But they must be harnessed, leashed or tethered, unless this interferes with the animal's work. The team should have good public behavior. Allergies and fear of dogs are not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to people using service animals.

The rules for visiting therapy dogs or emotional support animals are different. They must have documentation and do not have public access rights. Emotional support animals are addressed under the Fair Housing Act and the Airline Carrier Access Act. Service dogs deserve respect and access for the work they are doing. — *Kristin Hartness, Executive Director, Canines for Disabled Kids*

Dear Kristin Hartness: We appreciate your clarifying the difference between trained service animals and emotional support animals. Thank you for writing.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You've so much experience to share, though you don't always have receptive people around you that make it worth your while to do so. Today is different. You'll teach and they'll eagerly take the lesson.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can see that someone needs help even before that person realizes it. A dance will ensue, in which you take pains not to step on the other person's toes or pride.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Someone is trying to fit you into a role, but you have other plans. You may have to stop being so nice about this. It's better to declare your stance now, while it's still early in the process.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sometimes the best preparation is the awareness that whatever you bring, it won't be all that is needed; you'll still have to improvise. Good thing you are a first-class, brilliant improviser!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Work could tie up your mental energy in politics and power struggles, but love will be a reprieve from all of that, due to your uncomplicated, light-hearted approach to relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll create beauty. It won't be the kind you can hold and keep. This beauty is situational and born of your keen awareness of others and complete immersion in the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The new situation will seem daunting. It's natural to fear it for a moment, but you're a pro. You'll live with the fear and move forward anyway. Start with what you know and take a step.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The glitch

isn't a reason to quit; rather, it's a prompt to reboot. As for those who turn around at the first sign of trouble, let them go. You need a strong team who will face the obstacles just like you do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). No one is going to grant you the time, freedom and resources to do what you want to do. If you're passionate enough, you'll figure out a way to reorganize your life around your own priorities. It will feel like thievery.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To the untrained eye, the mirage looks like a very real answer to thirst. You're more skeptical, as you've been tricked by the elements before. The only way to find out what's really on the horizon is to move forward.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). False gossip is harmful, and true gossip is even worse. Don't spread it or even listen to it today. Keep your own cards close to the vest, as there are those out there who can turn anything into a scandal.

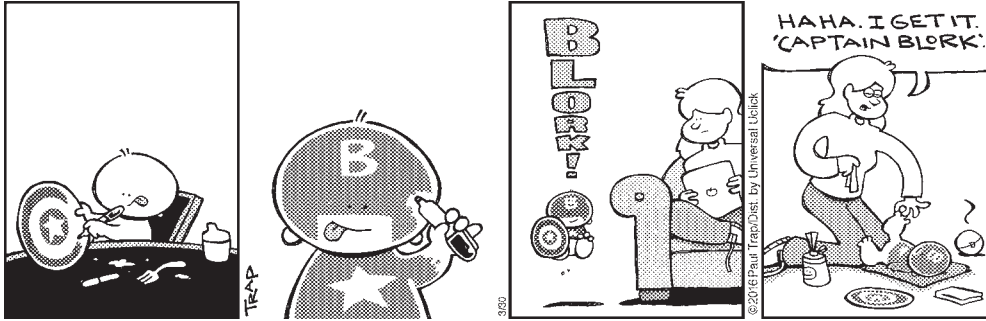
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a formality to today's proceedings, and everyone will be more comfortable adhering to the tradition. A sticky situation may have you brushing up on your etiquette.

THURSDAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 31). This solar return, you shine with such an attractive attitude that you'll find you have more social offers than you know what to do with in the weeks to come. May features exotic scenery. Your comfort and skill with difficult people will lead to big money in June and October. Your eye for collecting will pay off in November. Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 16, 43, 2 and 12.

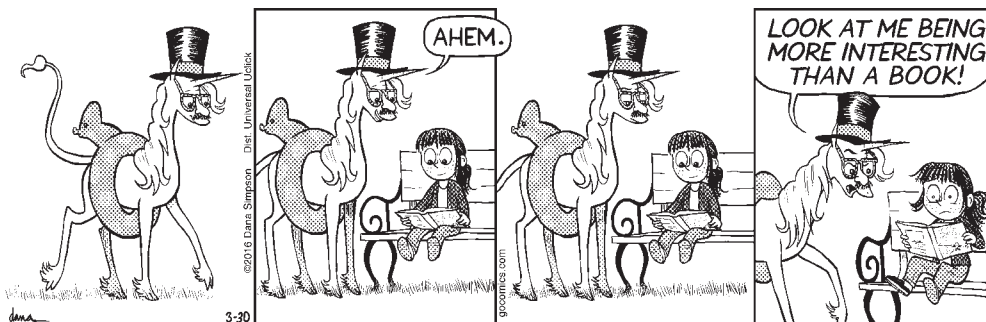
FRANK AND ERNEST



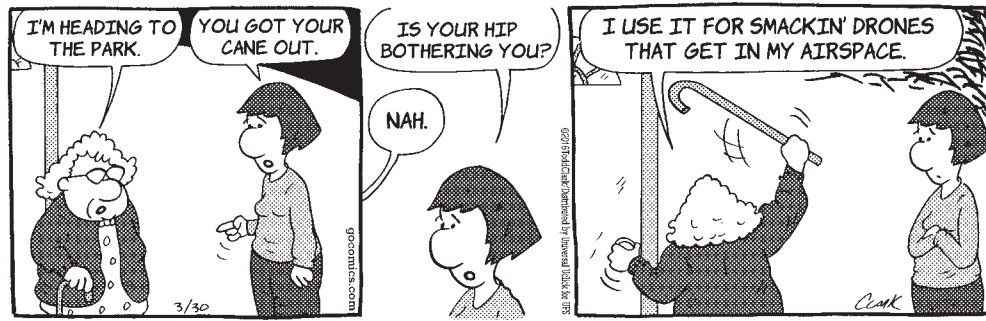
THATABABY



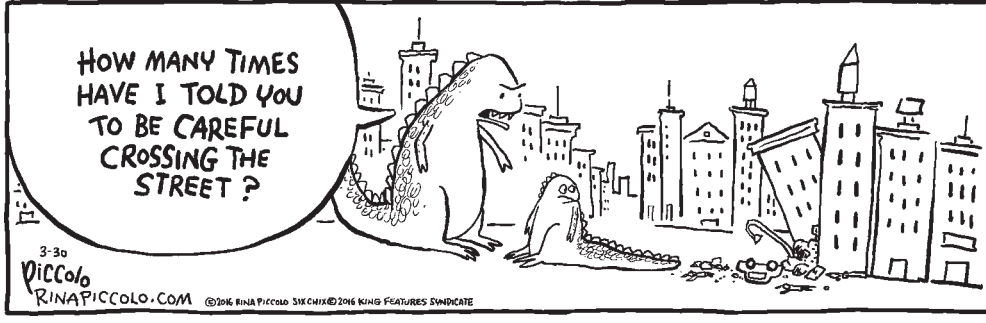
PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



LOLA



SIX CHIX



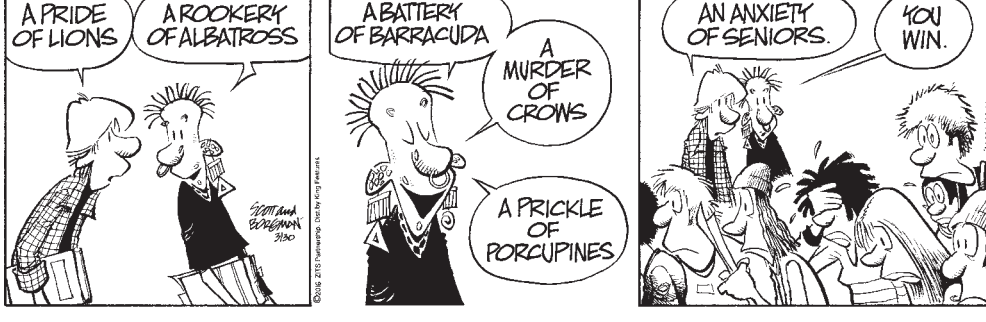
MUTTS



BABY BLUES



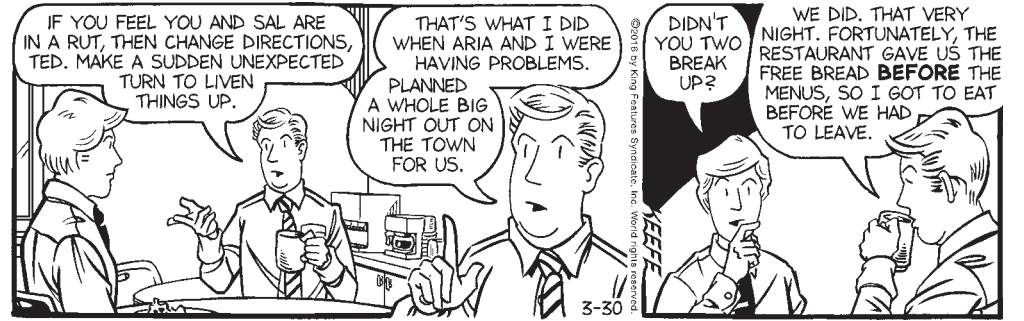
ZITS



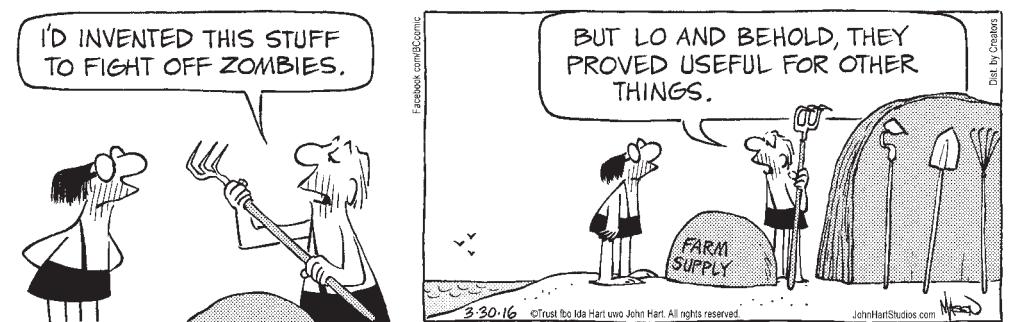
BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



B.C.



DILBERT



BIZARRO



NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

