

# Arguing over the election

Dear Annie: I'll try to keep this nonpartisan and just give you the bare essentials. My sister and I are both in our late 50s. She's only two years younger than I am, and we grew up extremely close. We went to college together and made

over. But I can't bring myself to do it. Will we ever be as close as we were? — *Family Divided*

Dear Family: This election year has done a number on many families. Based on what I've heard from other readers, the dis-

**DEAR ANNIE**



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

sure never to move too far away from each other or our parents afterward. But she is a member of one major political party, and I'm a member of the other one. The presidential election caused a big strain on our relationship. I thought things would get better after Election Day, but they've actually gotten even worse. She's unwilling to compromise and see my point of view, and to be honest, I can't see her point of view, either.

Before the campaign season started (a year and a half ago), we talked on the phone at least three times a week. Now we haven't talked in two weeks, and I'm worried the distance between us will just continue to grow. I keep thinking I should swallow my pride and tell her she's right on a few points (even though I don't believe it) just to smooth things

It's entirely possible — healthy, even — to love someone who has different opinions. You eliminate a lot of frustration once you realize that yelling never changed anybody's mind. Embrace the relief that comes with agreeing to disagree.

That said, I'm sure that if you two made a list of all the things you have in common, it would be much longer than the list of all the things you don't. You're just obsessing over the latter. Remember: You were sisters long before you even knew what a Democrat or Republican is. Give her a call today, and talk about your children, your health, a good book you're reading — anything but politics.

Dear Annie: This is in

response to "Between a Rock and a Hard Place in Ohio," whose 13-year-old daughter was invited to a birthday party at the mall. A four-hour unchaperoned mall birthday party for 13-year-olds? The invited girl's mother's concern was legitimate.

I would like to point out that many malls (at least in my area) do not allow anyone younger than 18 to wander freely in the mall without parental supervision, for good reason. A more organized party should have been planned by the birthday girl's mother, perhaps with a meal at a designated mall restaurant and an hour of shopping and/or a movie afterward. That would have been more responsible. What was the mother thinking?

And as far as supervision goes, I once walked into a tea shop and watched two girls of about that same age helping themselves to endless cups of tea while other shoppers were on standby for a sample to be provided by the hostess. The supervising adult was present but outside the store on her smartphone and oblivious to what was going on — and she most likely didn't care. Parents, please wake up! — *A Daily Reader*

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You're more likely to keep a commitment to a friend than you are to honor your own private and personal wish. This is why, when you really want something for yourself, you absolutely must get other people involved.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Existential angst can be alleviated through practical means. Environmental improvements will contribute. Maybe this has to do with getting more sunlight and fresh air. Perhaps there's a nutritional issue to be addressed.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Once your internal parent decides what's good for you, your internal child will spend a good amount of time whining, complaining and trying to talk you out of it. Good parents stay true to their word.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** It will take many hours of research and development to make an effective presentation. The amount of time you get to actually present your ideas may be extremely short: Make it count. Relevant details go up front.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You may be interrupted. It's an opportunity to extend respect to the other person, even though he or she is being rude. When you make a mistake, it's an opportunity to show poise. Catastrophes are opportunities to touch your true grit.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** A partnership that drains you is defeating the very purpose of partnership. Partnerships should contribute to your sense of well-being. Go get a partner who shares your goals and complements your skills.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** When you come to the roadblock, you don't automatically turn back. Instead, you move laterally until you find a way through. This is a day when sideways

moves can be counted as progress.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Your least-satisfying lunch would be the best thing a person in another part of the world has had in months. There may be little you can do about that, but a global view should help your mood, at least.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Believing differently from your friend can cause a rift. Well, it's not the believing exactly; it's the expression of that belief. Diplomacy, softness, warmth — this is a dance, and you're a wonderful dancer.

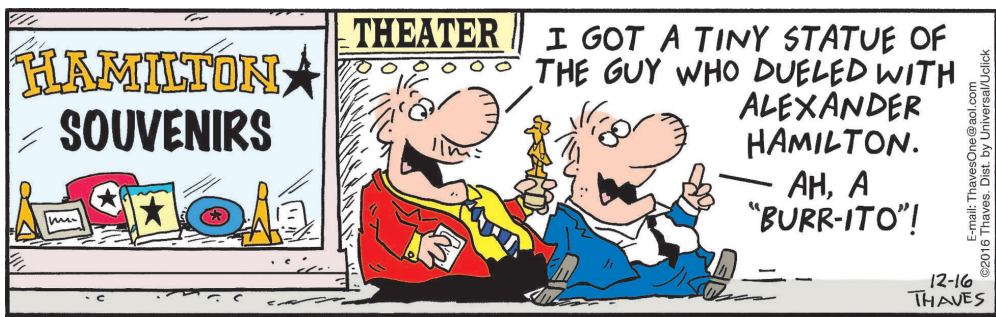
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You know what you want to do, yet you're not doing it. Baffling! You may have to trick yourself to get going. Write down the "when" and "where" in your calendar. Once in motion, you'll figure out the "how."

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Give and receive and receive and give. That's the way the day will go. Try not to pay too much attention to the math of it. Dollar amounts will be particularly deceiving. It's the care. Focus on the care.

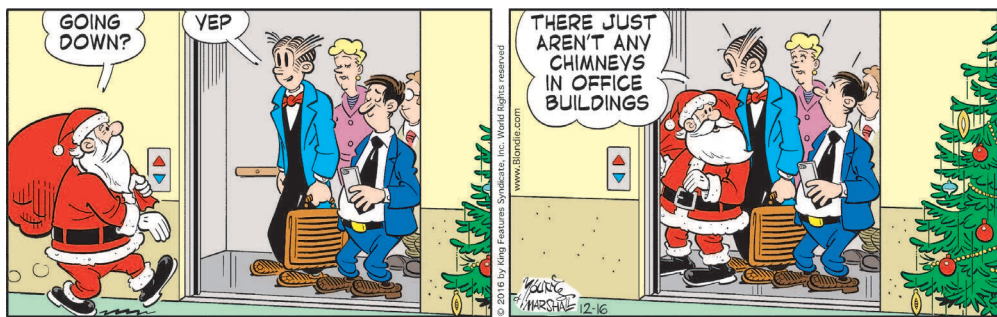
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Socializing with a friend or partner has its unique challenges. If only you could telepathically convey the message "stop talking" or "save me," it would smooth the way. Perhaps you could work out a signal.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 17).** Your intensity will be appreciated by equally intense individuals. This is a bigger blessing than most people can understand. Your unique style and concerns — the one who pays attention to this will be of particular interest. Weddings happen in July and October. Family expansion is an exciting boon of March. Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 20, 33, 10 and 50.

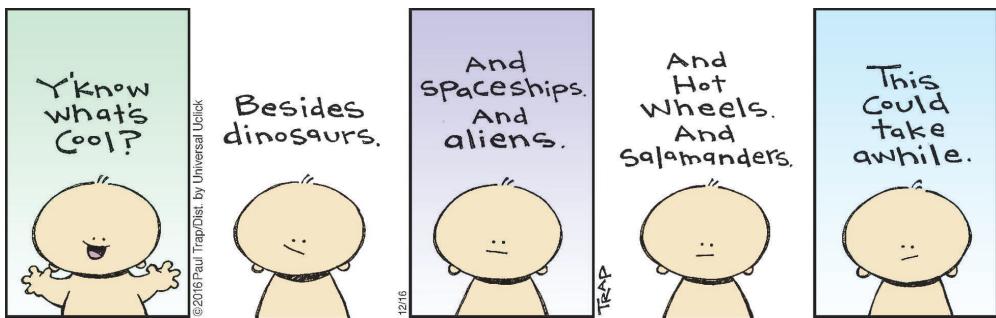
**FRANK AND ERNEST**



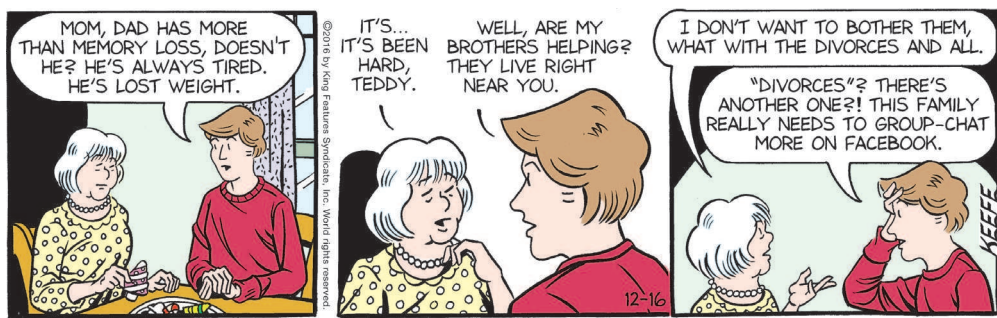
**BLONDIE**



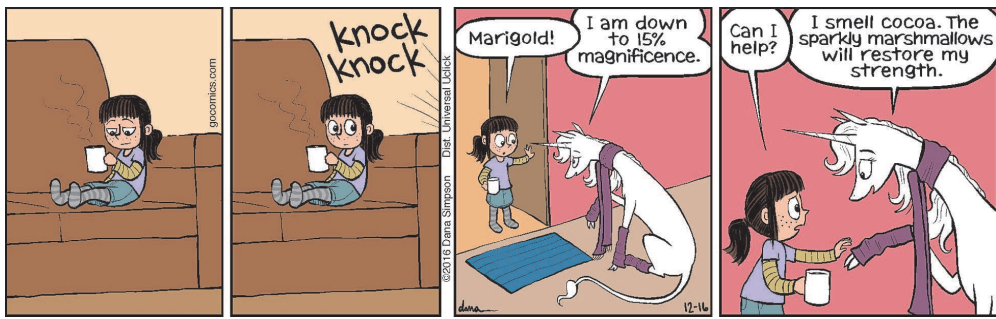
**THATABABY**



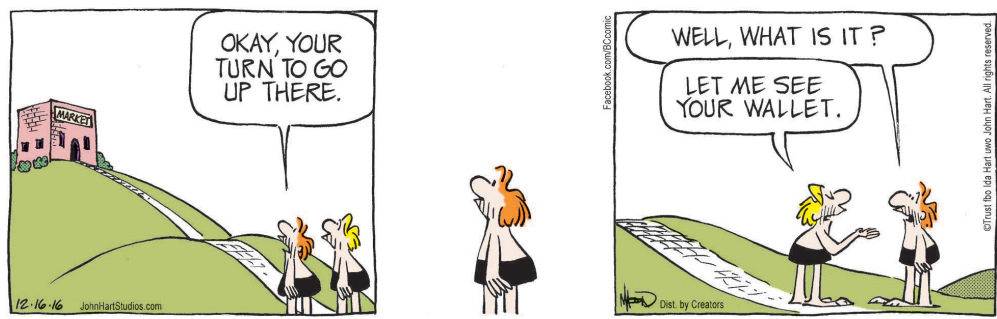
**SALLY FORTH**



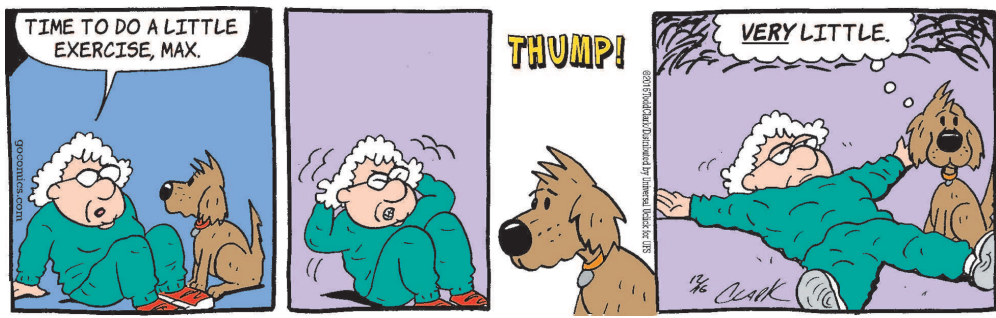
**PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN**



**B.C.**



**LOLA**



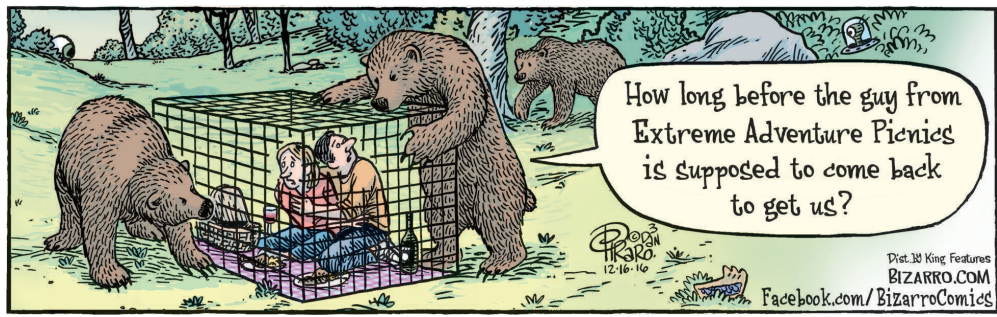
**DILBERT**



**SIX CHIX**



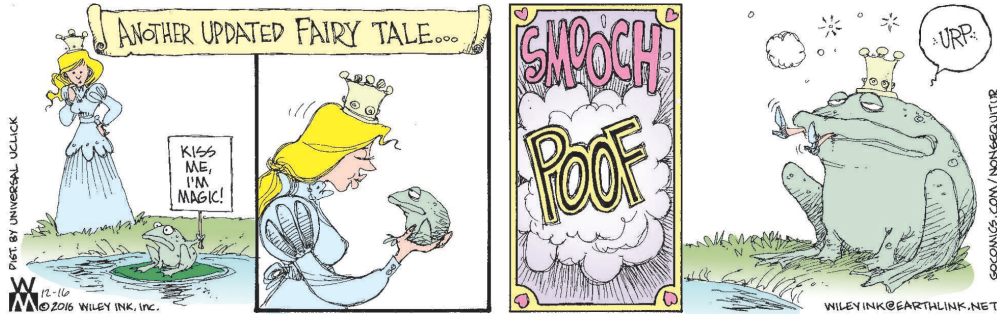
**BIZARRO**



**MUTTS**



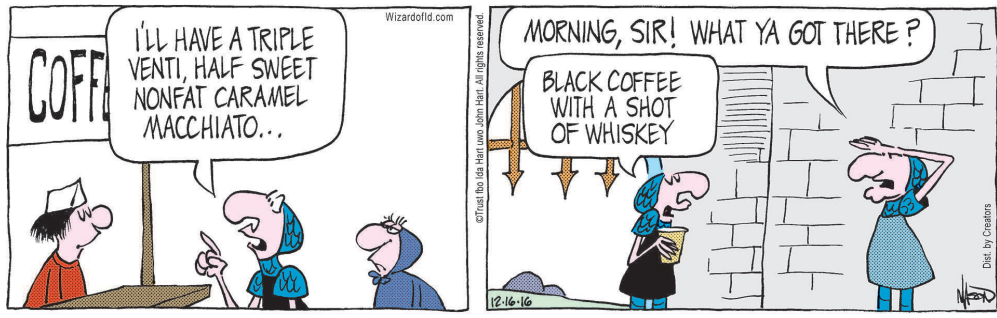
**NON SEQUITUR**



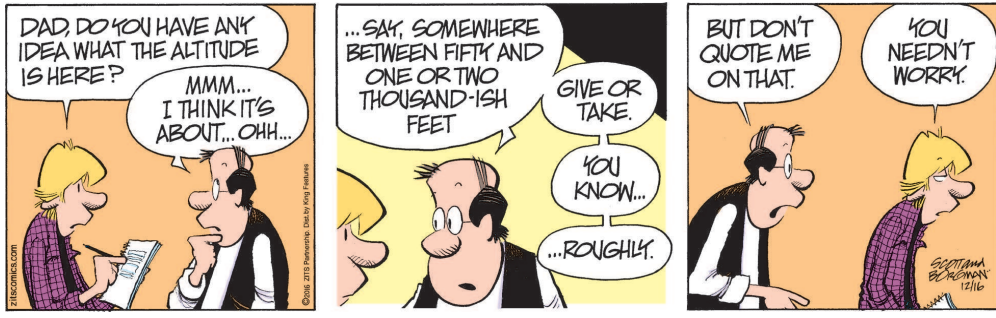
**BABY BLUES**



**WIZARD OF ID**



**ZITS**



**ROSE IS ROSE**

