

Generational divide on dating

Dear Annie: I'm lucky in that I feel as if I can talk to my parents about everything — everything, that is, except my dating life. My parents met in high school and got married while still attending their local state college. I'm in my mid-20s, and though I'd like a family one day, I'm currently working on getting my master's degree and working part time. This leaves little room for dating. My parents get their hopes up every time I tell them I've met a guy, and it crushes me to disappoint them when it doesn't go anywhere. It's tiring trying to explain to my mom that going on a few dates with a guy doesn't mean that we're on the road to marriage. Twenty-first-century dating is so complicated. I can't imagine having a conversation with my mom about navigating Tinder or reading into Instagram likes or being ghosted. I've stopped telling them about my dating life because it seems easier that way, but it also feels as if I'm hiding part of my life from my parents. Annie, how do I bridge this generational gap? — *Single Sally*

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
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Dear Single: Give your parents more credit, Sally. You think your

generation is the first to experience guys disappearing after a few dates? Imagine only having a landline to communicate. Though you don't have to share the nitty-gritty details with your folks, it sounds as if they want to be there for you to share in the good times and the bad. This "gap" is of your own making. Though potentially awkward, explaining dating apps to your mom could be enlightening and even fun.

Your parents should appreciate your dedication to finding the right man, as opposed to just settling down. Better to be the tortoise who takes her time getting married than the hare who's speeding toward her second divorce.

Dear Readers: Recently, I printed a letter from "Snoring in Slumberland," who was waking himself up with his own snoring. I received responses from readers on both sides of the bed.

Dear Annie: My hubby snores. I can go to a spare bedroom at the other end of the house and still hear him.

I have done a lot of searching online for a solution to my problem.

Here is what I found: If the snorer can keep his mouth shut, he will not snore. Snoring happens through the mouth. This is probably why you can buy those little bands that fit around the chin and head. In any case, Hubby won't try to curb his snoring or move to another room, so it has been up to me to find a solution. Mine has been an iPod, noise-canceling earbuds and soothing music. It helps some, sort of like white noise.

For myself, I have decided I never want to put someone through this, so I have learned to sleep with my chin tucked firmly against my shoulder to keep my mouth shut. — *Married to a Snorer*

Dear Annie: Tell "Snoring in Slumberland" to go see a pulmonary disease doctor.

My wife discovered that when I was sleeping, I was not breathing at times. After seeing the pulmonary doctor, I began using a machine that pumps air into my nose. Some weeks later, I got a "chin strap," which keeps my mouth shut while I sleep. (I had also noted a dry mouth.) I was waking while snoring, apparently. The addition of a chin strap solved the problem. To Mr. Slumberland: Good luck with your sleeping! — *Catching Zzz's Once Again*

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some say we live in an age of narcissism, but the reasons a person might post selfies are usually much more complicated and nuanced than that. Healthy self-expression will be the hallmark of the day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Truth-seekers like you are trustworthy, though you should be very skeptical of truth-finders today. The more certain a person is of being right, the less likely that is to be the case.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It feels as though you've come a million miles but you're still doing the same things. The Zen proverb says, "Before enlightenment, chop wood, carry water. After enlightenment, chop wood, carry water."

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If the mountain is so tall that you can't see over it, you're unlikely to want to climb to the top. Who has time for an infinite journey? We all need hope, a vision of the pinnacle, a reason to think there is one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Many people document special events, but it takes an artistic mindset to want to archive routine parts of life. You'll capture what's interesting about the day-to-day and later be glad for the reference to this time period.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Others will be bothered and hurt by things you can't predict and may never fully understand. You're more experienced. You're tougher. But you're still sensitive to the fact that everyone has a right to their feelings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you had any resistance to authority, you'll drop it now. You need a leader more than you need to be the

leader. Anyway, a power struggle would only waste time, when there's so much learning to be done.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Not knowing what to say to that person who is hurting, many will keep their distance. That's why you'll side up. Acknowledge the pain in the voice of compassion. You don't have to solve it, just acknowledge, "That must hurt."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This is no time to doubt, worry or over-think. This is a time to keep on trying, doing, going. The direction is simple and clear: forward, forward, ever forward.

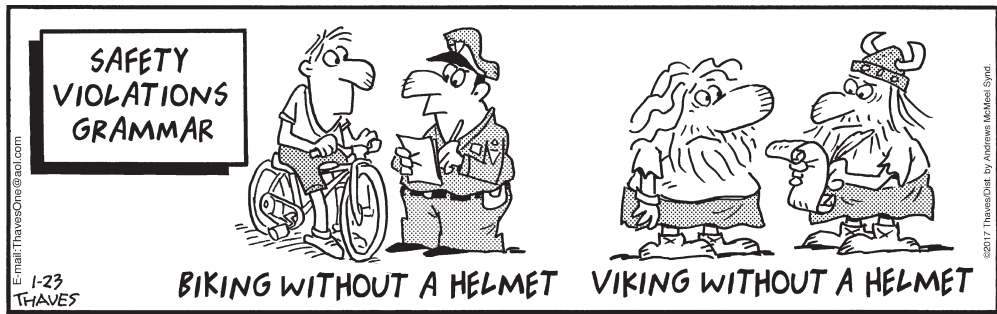
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Even though you really want to know the whole story, you'll resist the urge to push the matter, because privacy is sacred. You respect everyone's right to it, including your own.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). While you can't force everyone to get along, you can create an atmosphere of support, tolerance and calm around you. Others are likely to relax into it today.

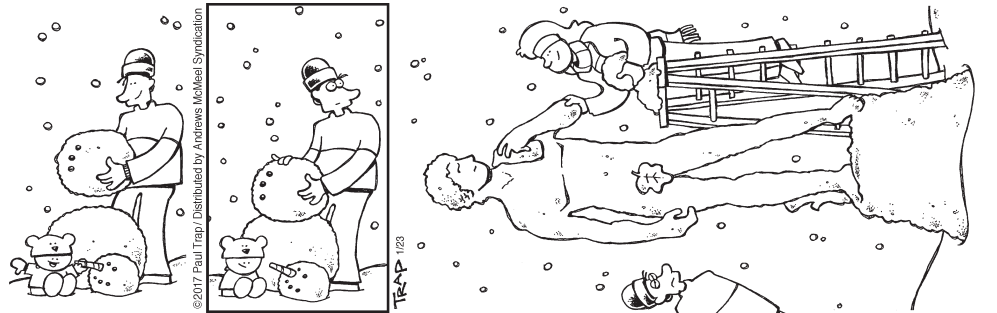
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The human body has a delayed response to satisfaction. If you keep eating until you're full, you'll usually discover that you're over-stuffed instead. That's why, with food and most other pleasures, it's best to take it slow.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 24). Because your individual spirit and unique vision are so strong this solar return, in most matters you will set your own course. You'll feel your power surge to help you with a challenge of your own making through the next 10 weeks. Taurus and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 9, 40, 33 and 19.

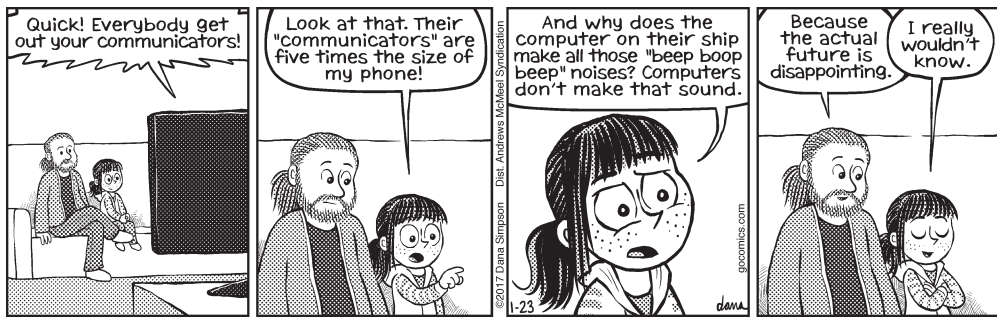
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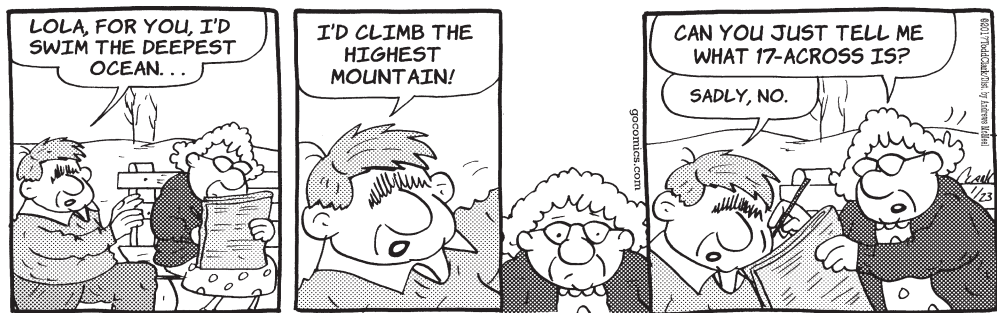
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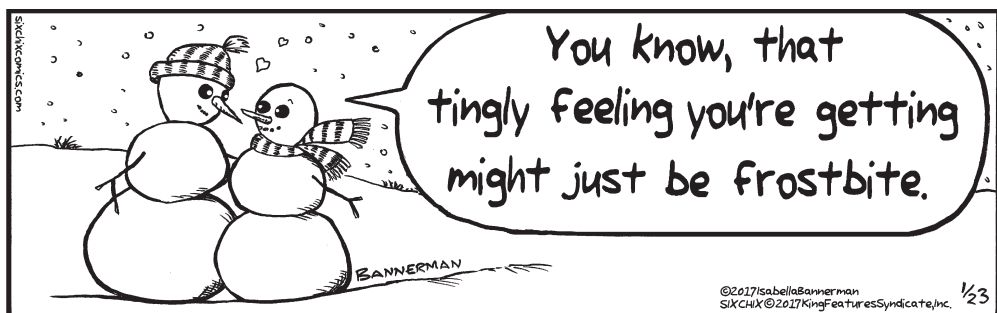
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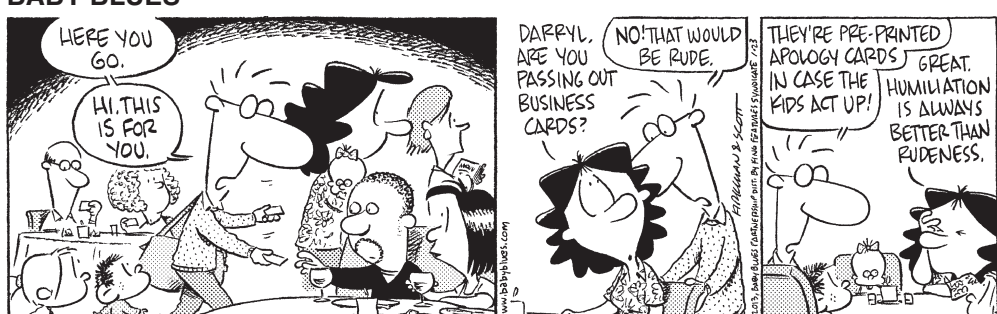
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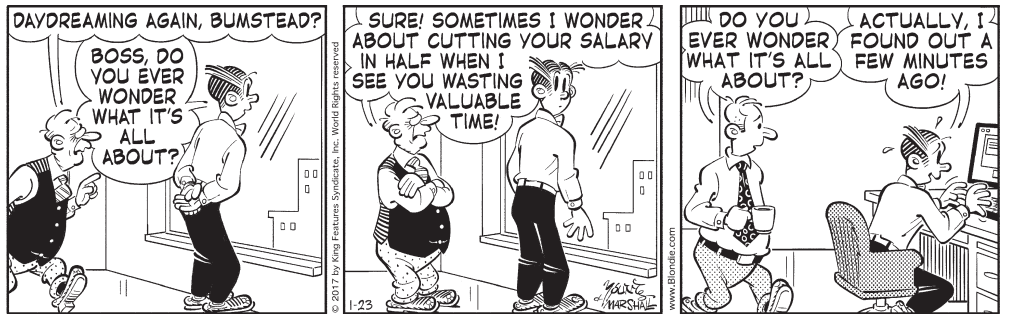
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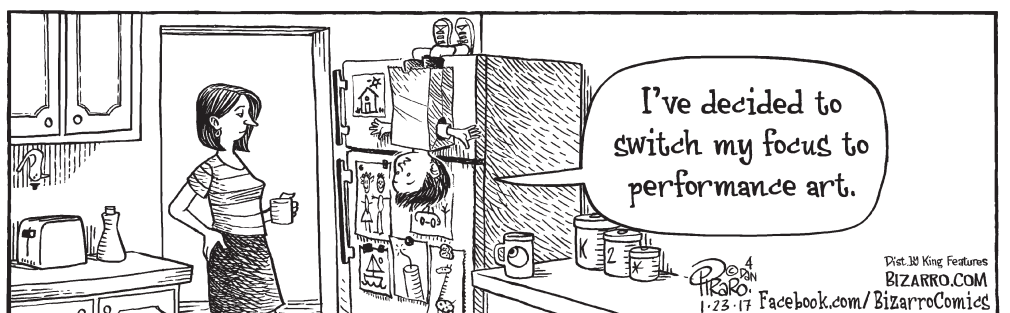
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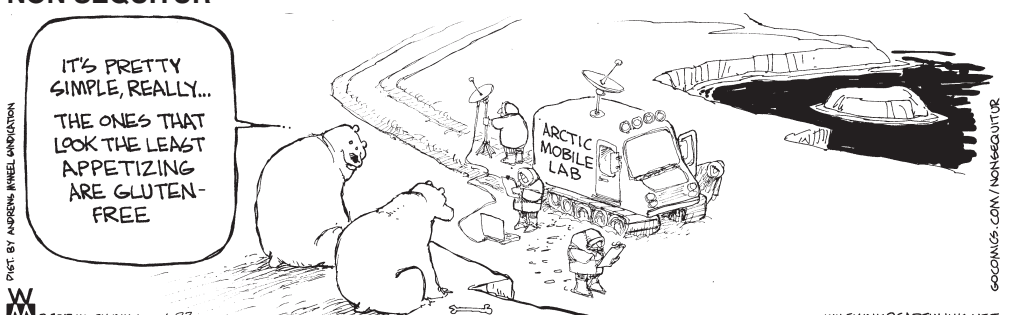
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