

# No compromising here

Dear Annie: My husband and I are at an impasse. He wants to have a fourth child; I want to stick with three. We both have equally valid reasoning for our cases, and we acknowledge each other's points. Neither of us is budging. Whenever we have had disagreements in the past, we have found ways to compromise and come to an agreement that has satisfied us both. However, with this particular disagreement, there is no compromise. Either we have a fourth child or we do not. I am not writing to ask you to pick a side. My question is this: How do my husband and I come to a decision about a matter that is so black-and-white and doesn't have a gray area? — *Standoff in South Dakota*

## DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

Dear Standoff in South Dakota: You and your husband have built a foundation of understanding, love and willingness to compromise — a sturdy platform onto which a counselor or spiritual adviser could step and guide you through this conversation. Even if one of you were to bend and give in to the other's preference, there could be lingering resentment, and talking it out would help clear the air. What-

ever decision you end up making, a loving, nurturing family is what you both want. Keep that front of mind and you will have it.

Dear Annie: This is a plea for adults to see their parents as they are today and try to get beyond the past. I am the mother of five children and have one son who wants to have almost nothing to do with me. He doesn't allow me to spend time with my 1-year-old granddaughter. He always says they have somewhere to go or something to do, but I know they can't be going every moment of every day. They bought a home literally a minute away from mine, which makes this even harder. It breaks my heart to not be able to be a part of his and my granddaughter's lives.

His father and I divorced when the children were young. I admit we stayed together longer than we should and that wasn't good for anyone, especially the kids. I know the bad marriage and divorce hurt everyone, and half of that was me. No one escapes those situations without some scars. I have a wonderful relationship with my other children, and I haven't stopped try-

ing with my son and pray he'll give me a chance one day.

For any readers out there who harbor anger or have issues with a parent: Please take the time to look at your parents today and realize they are human and make mistakes. Think about how much they must love you to be hurt over and over again but never give up. Talk to them and tell them how you feel. Parents can't read minds, and you'd be surprised how much they'd like to talk to you. I'd rather have my son yell and scream if that's what it would take to get it out so we could work past this and have our family whole again.

I learned this lesson later in life: Forgiveness is such a great gift. It frees you and brings peace to your life. I hope your readers will try to look at things differently and give their parents a chance. — *Never Stop Loving Them*

Dear Never Stop Loving Them: Forgiveness is indeed a gift we give ourselves. Though it's hard, I encourage you to keep allowing your son the space he needs. Give the problem over to God and let prayer lessen the pain. I hope that in time, he comes around and your little granddaughter becomes a bigger part of your life.

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** People who make you feel small while making themselves feel big are, of course, toxic for you to be around. If you can't stay away altogether, at least minimize your exposure. Firm boundaries will be key.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Not every day, but certainly today, it will be far more important to take care of the practical matters than to concern yourself with the deeper or more mystical layers of existence. You can ponder and intuit after the storm has passed.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Good work is good work, no matter how humble or herculean the task. There's a victory rush that comes from doing a job to the best of your ability and knowing it's not been done better.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Between too much and too little is the wonderfully cozy waystation you'll hang out in today. It's made even more enjoyable by friends who are similarly satisfied.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** If it's fun but doesn't make sense, consider it anyway. Even computers have evolved to incorporate illogical turns to serve the very human need for surprises and fun. A touch of irrationality will bring magic to your world.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Remember when you felt helpless? If you could have only known that help was on its way, how much easier the moment would have passed. Remember the lesson. Trust that there are forces on your side.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You'll be energized by a steady and deliberate learning process. There is nothing more exciting to do with this day than to move from ignorance to

knowledge on a subject that interests you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You're in a mood to bounce around ideas — your favorite way to learn. While bandying about intellectual and philosophical concepts, keep in mind that not everyone likes to debate. Choose your company carefully.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You are who you are because of what you've experienced. It's why you keep putting yourself in the mix, taking risks and making efforts: You're brave. Courage is a lifestyle.

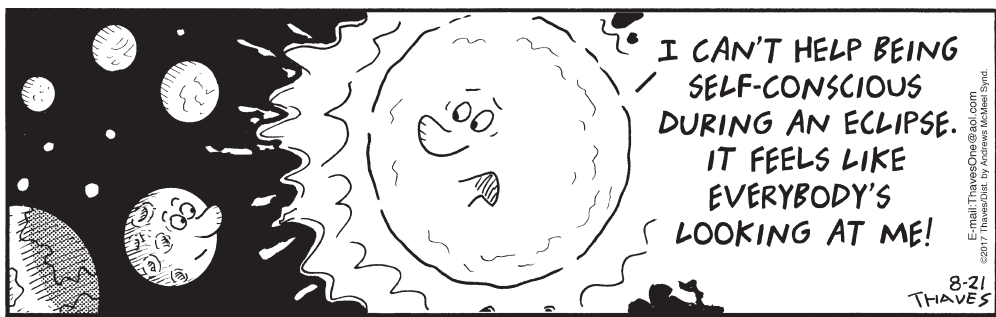
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** If you have to turn it into a competition, make yourself the opponent. The only nobility worth striving for is the kind where you top your finest effort thus far.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** With so many people looking for somewhere to pass the blame, it's important to note that blame never solves anything. It gets better once someone starts taking responsibility for it.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Perhaps it seems counterintuitive that you would be in a position to teach what you don't know, yet it happens all of the time. The added pressure of having to present information will make you learn super-quickly.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 22).** Many small matters will be cleared up right at the top of this solar return, and you'll soon realize that you wield a transformational power. You will heal the ailing parts of your life with your heart, not your head. Your compassion and warmth will melt away the obstacles blocking your progress and happiness. Cancer and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 44, 48, 20 and 18.

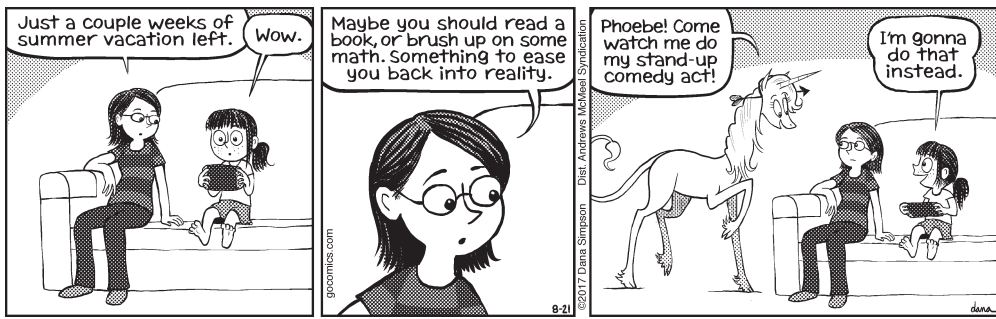
## FRANK AND ERNEST



## THATABABY



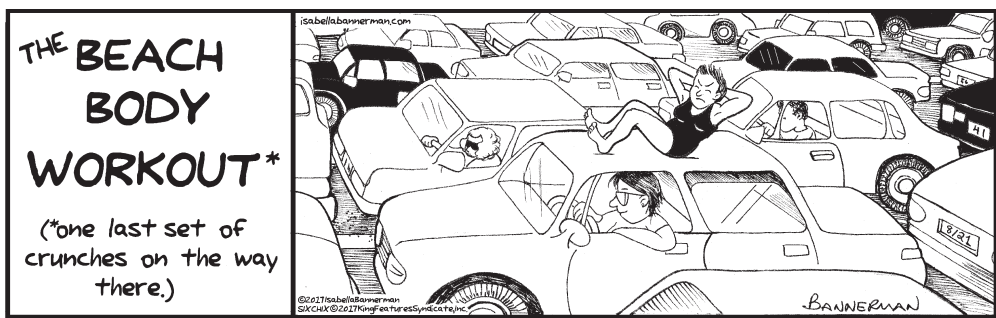
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



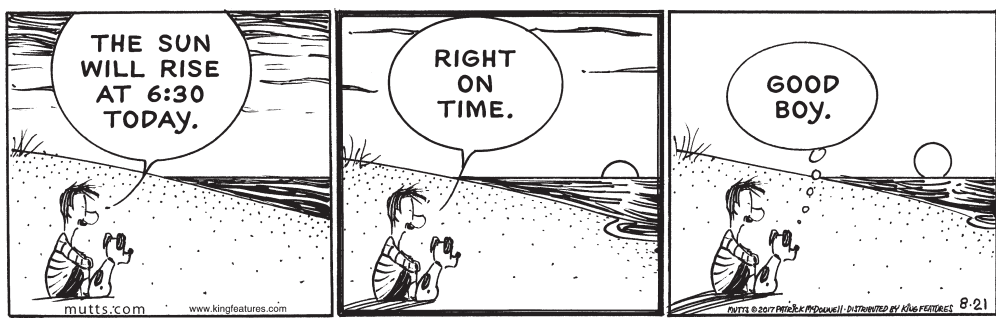
## LOLA



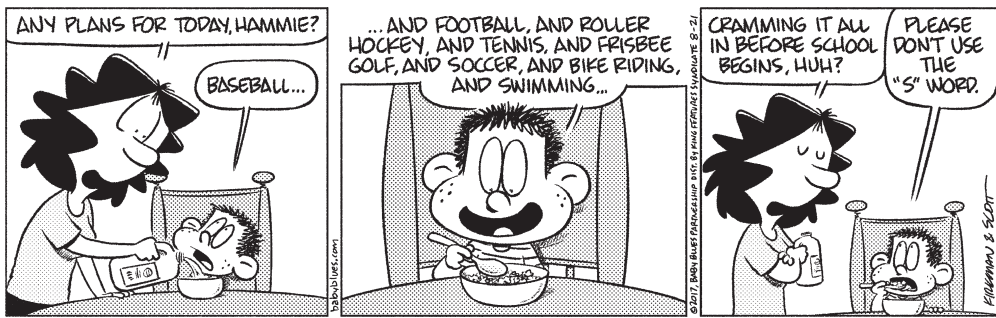
## SIX CHIX



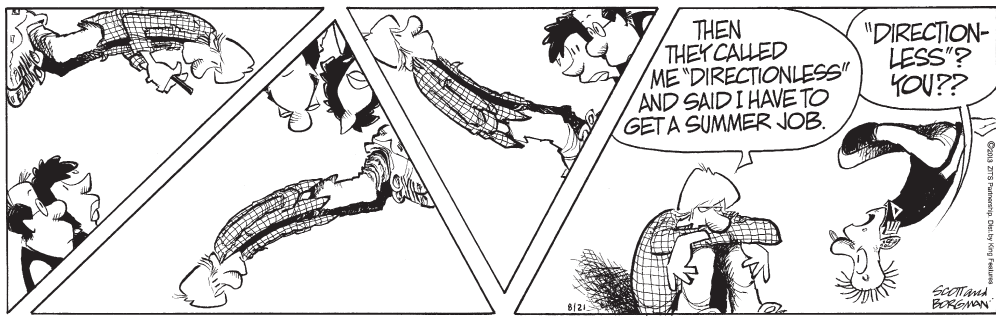
## MUTTS



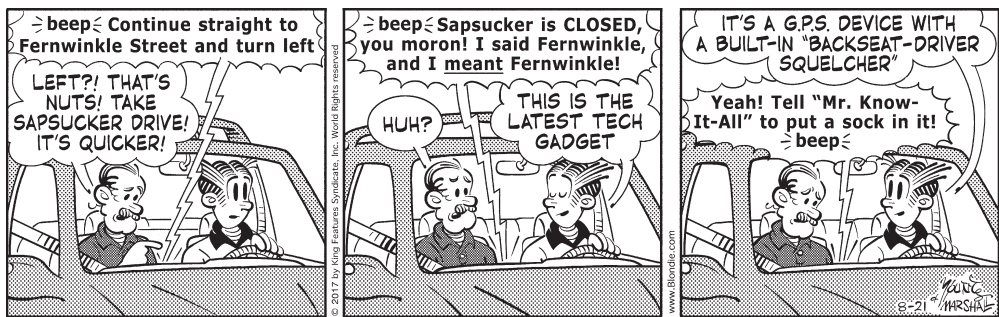
## BABY BLUES



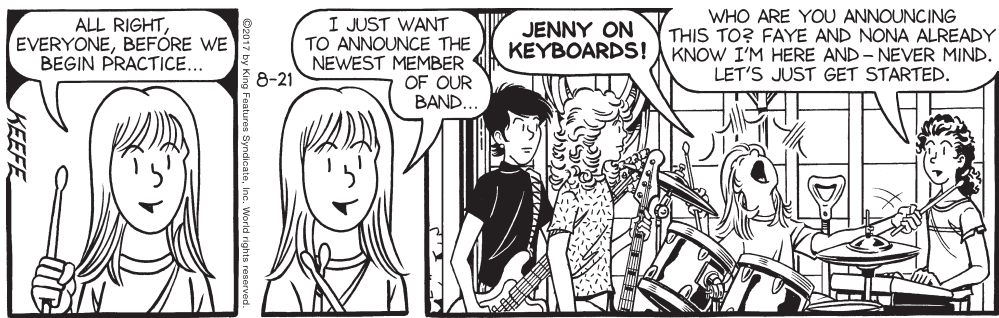
## ZITS



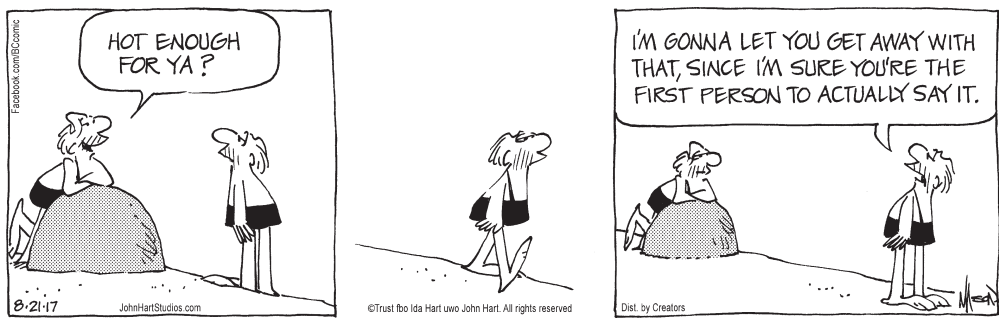
## BLONDIE



## SALLY FORTH



## B.C.



## DILBERT



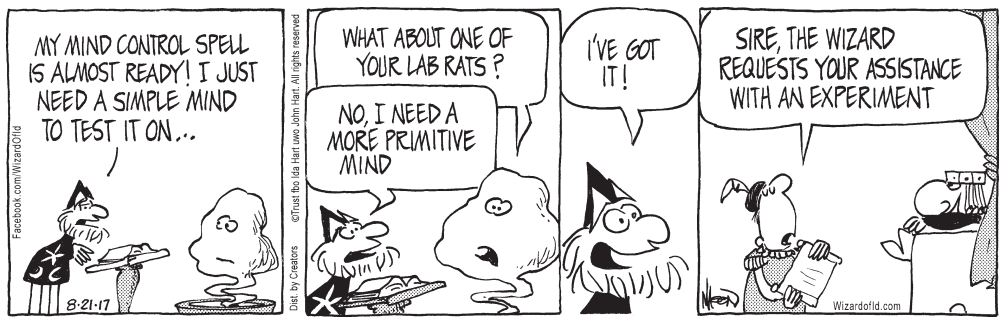
## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

