

Argument on front burner

Dear Annie: I would like your opinion on a recent incident that happened to me. I went to my son's house to go out to dinner with him and his family to celebrate his birthday. When I arrived, the only person there was my granddaughter. My son was meeting us at the restaurant, and my daughter-in-law, "Jean," had been called into work but intended to be back at the house shortly. She still hadn't returned by the time my granddaughter and I had to head to the restaurant, and I noticed a pot of soup boiling on the stove. I thought Jean had forgotten to turn the burner off, so I turned it off.

Well, I was wrong. We all happened to return later at about the same time, and when Jean noticed the burner was off, she asked, "Who turned the stove off?" I told her I had. She looked very upset and said, "The soup was supposed to cook for 12 hours." I said, "Well, it is better to be safe than sorry."

Later, I asked my son whether Jean was still upset with me, and he said she had not been upset with me. I told him I could tell

by the expression on her face that she was. He then said I should not have turned the burner off, that "it was her stove." I told him I was concerned the house might catch on fire, and he said that the house is her house and that if it had

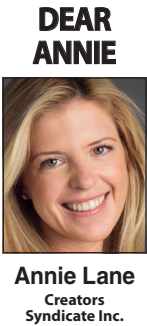
caught on fire, it would have been her concern. I do not like family discord, and I don't usually insert myself into their affairs, but I think that was a foolish thing to do and I acted appropriately by turning the stove off. What say you? — *Safety First*

Dear Annie: I love, love, love your column. I especially love that you listen to your readers and are willing to add to your answers and even alter your advice when you keep treating this as an argument, things will get unnecessarily heated. Wait for things to simmer down before letting your son know about the fire safety issue, and erase all traces of "I told you so" from your tone. When the holidays roll around, consider buying them a slow cooker — much safer to leave on for hours at a time.

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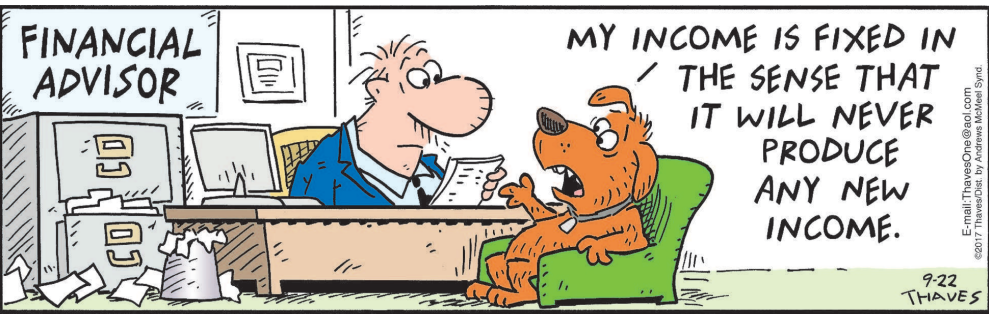
given new information. My comment is about your response to "Missing Life and Happiness," who has been married for over 25 years to a man who turns his back on her in every way possible, basically treating her as a disgusting part of his life. I agree that she should focus on herself, enrich her life and improve her self-esteem. However, I believe she needs to do more than discuss issues with her husband. She has put up with this for too long. I don't believe she should waste even one more second allowing that evil person in her life. From her description, it doesn't sound possible for him to change how he treats her. It's time to remove him and move on! — *Jane G.*

Dear Jane: You're not the only reader who thought I should have told "Missing Life and Happiness" that enough was enough. I wanted to let her reach her own decision about her marriage, and I was trying to encourage her to get into a good headspace for evaluating things. Perhaps I should have worded my response more strongly, as I agree with you: The way her husband has been treating her is unacceptable. Thank you for writing.

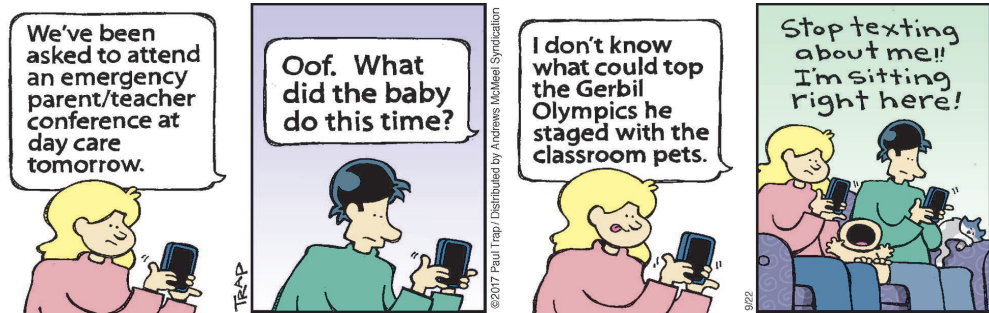


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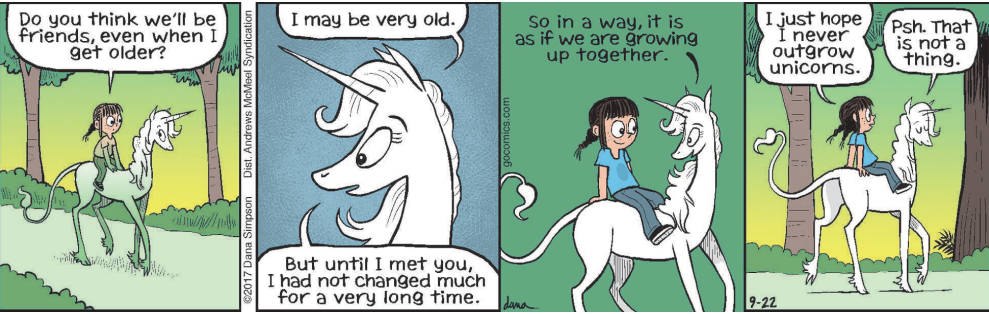
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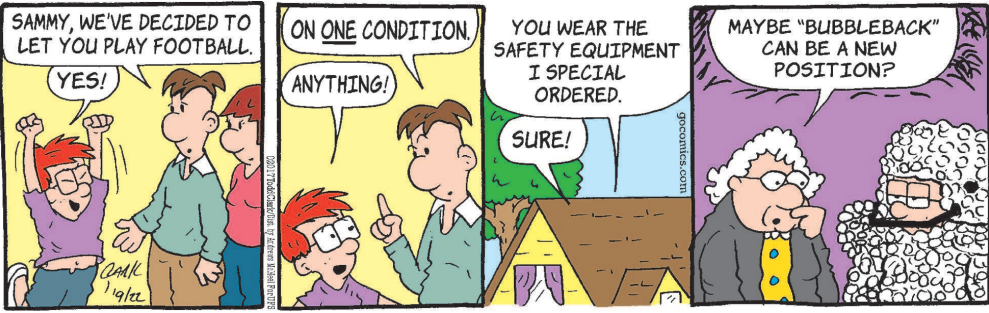
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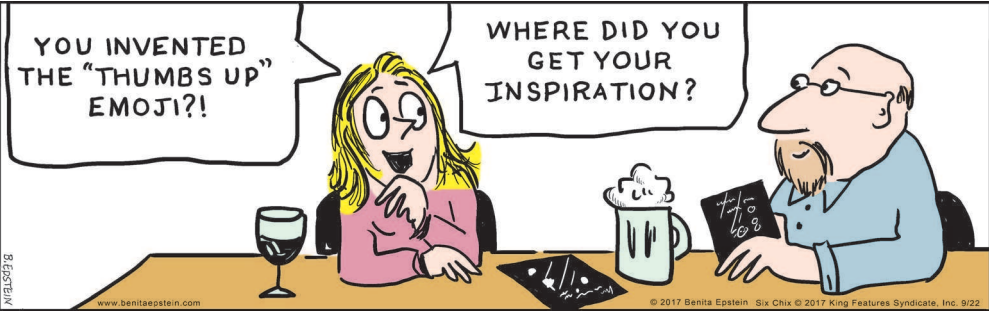
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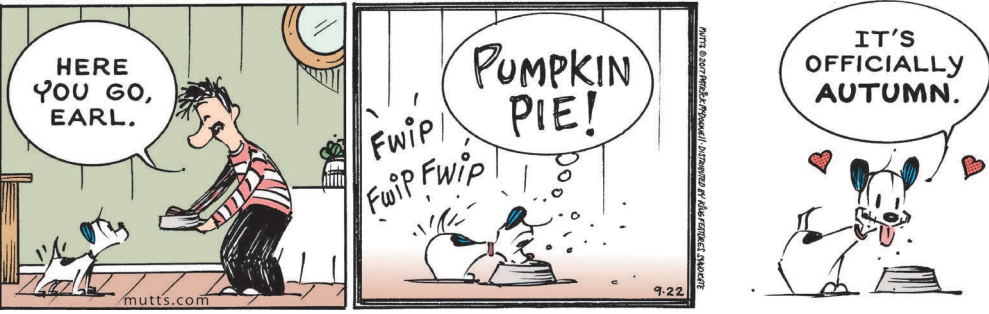
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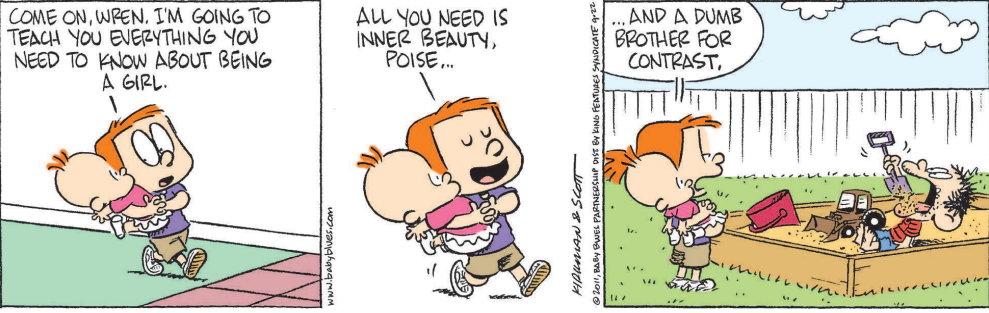
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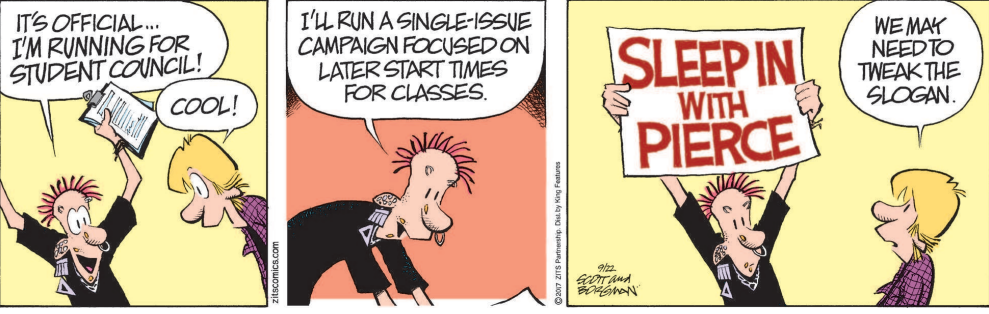
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TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). One solid person who is on your side is better than a dozen wishy-washy ones. Character matters more than numbers. Do not underestimate the difference that one person can make, especially if that person is you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you define yourself by your ability to cope with the thorny bits of life, you are likely to feel personally defeated when things go unresolved for too long. It's just a situation. If you can't unravel it, eventually it will work itself out.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're friendly, and so people let their guards down around you. For this reason, you'll learn more than you want to know. But some of this will be useful later.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People think that they'd like a wider range of choices, but in fact more options will suck the joy out of decision-making today. To go easy on your audience, present them with between three and five options.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You will fear boredom more than usual today, which is why you are loath to do certain very mundane tasks without something good to listen to or someone interesting to join you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Logically you know that you don't need to impress anyone, and yet there are some people who, as soon as you get around them, seem to make you act in ways you weren't counting on. Weird — but human.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You gain your own respect when you follow through on the project that's been on your mind. Your chances of finishing before the end of the month are strong, as long as you do it before you start

anything else.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). In regards to the current project, chances are you just don't have time to learn the hard way. Flatten out that learning curve with key tips and tricks from someone who knows the ropes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There was a time in the evolution of the tribes of humanity when strangers were more likely to be killed than welcomed. Approaching strangers is still scary today, but relax: You'll be warmly received.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The cosmic call is for quick reflexes. It will help if you stay aware as you walk through your life. As the saying goes, if you stay ready then you won't have to get ready.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you're wondering whether you might have some latent talents that could be put to use, it's pretty much guaranteed. If you're wondering if their applications might also be lucrative for you, the answer is yes — if you put in the time.

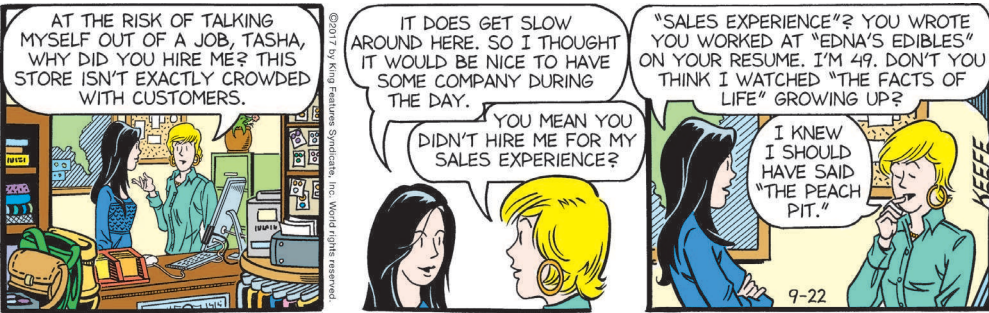
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Because our world is round, we can never arrive at the horizon. We declare and travel toward a distant landmark, but once we come to the marker the horizon will be farther still, unreachable. There's a strange peace in this today.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 23). As you focus on creating fun scenarios and joyful relationships, everything falls into place. Go on and promote yourself. It will pay off in unexpected ways at the end of 2017. Your friend circle grows and this will energize you. Less stress, more harmony and much healing will take place in 2018. Virgo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 40, 22, 28 and 13.

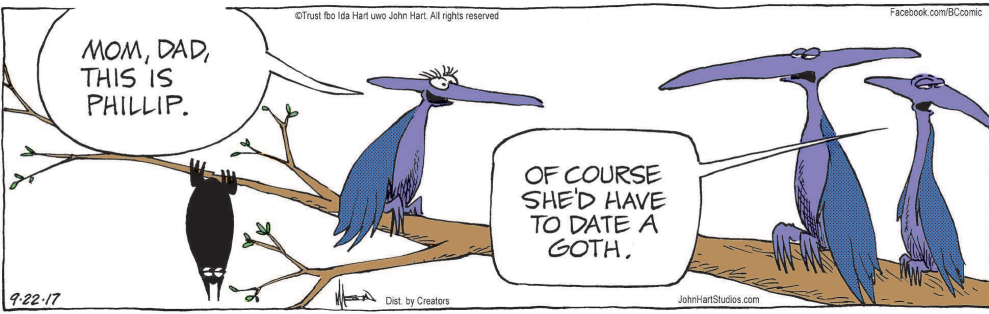
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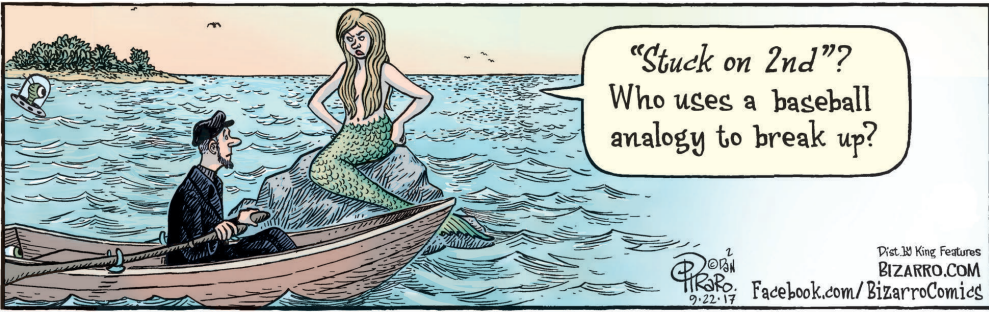
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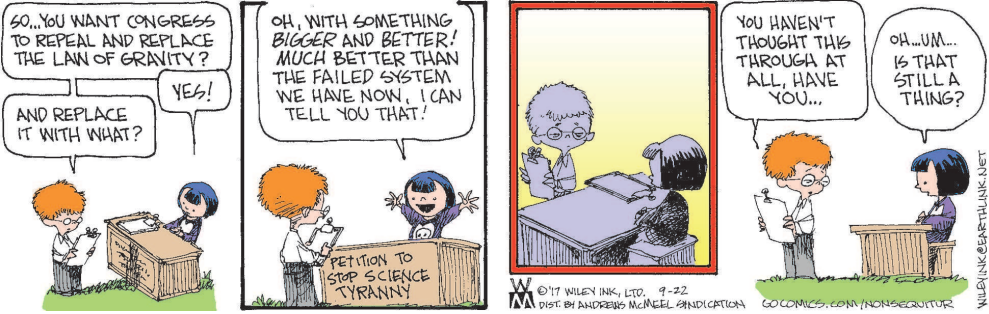
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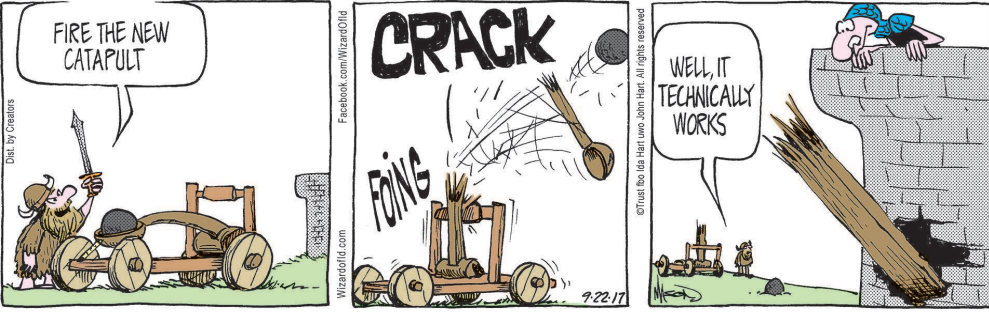
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