

Concern for daughter's home

Dear Annie: My 26-year-old daughter is in a serious relationship with a partner 10 years her senior. He comes to the partnership with an established home. What would you advise my daughter to expect or require going into this marriage-like arrangement? Should she expect to be put on the house deed as soon as they are married? What would be fair for all concerned? She is just beginning her career, so she is presently renting but saving for a home. — *Troubled Dad*

Dear Troubled Dad: Whether or not to add her name to the deed is up to and between the two of them. I am sure your intention is to just ensure your daughter is squared away; she'll always be your little girl, after all. But tread lightly here — because if her partner heard you showing such concern for his assets, he'd most likely be troubled himself.

Dear Annie: I recently moved into a large apartment complex in the heart of downtown. I was thrilled to snag a unit. There's just one problem, and it's an uncomfortable subject. A few nights a week, the couple who live upstairs are ... intimate.

I wish I didn't know this, but they make it impossible for me not to. I've lived here for two months now, and they've shown no signs of subsiding. How could I politely bring this to their attention without things becoming really awkward every time I run into them by the mailboxes? — *I Hear You Up There*

Dear I Hear You Up There: The path of least awkwardness here would be to buy a sound machine and/or earplugs. (Really, I'm beginning to think all apartments should come with those. It would make the living easier.) If that doesn't take care of it, then it's time to let the neighbors know they have an involuntary audience. Though I'm usually a strong supporter of talking things out face-to-face, this is one circumstance in which a note is just fine. Keep it simple and upbeat; add warmth with a smiley face or exclamation points. I know that seems silly, but seemingly silly little things can make all the difference when it comes to getting along with neighbors.

Dear Annie: I don't understand why everyone is in such a push to outlaw cellphone use while driv-

ing. If a distracted driver crashes into me, I don't care if the person was answering a call, eating lunch, looking for a song or dealing with toddlers in the back seat; the person should have pulled over to deal with the distraction.

Our focus should be on educating people that driving is a full-time job. A University of Maryland study showed that at 30 mph, you have over 1,320 things occurring around you and in your car every mile you travel. So if we want to outlaw distractions, we cannot just outlaw phones. Eating in the vehicle, having pets in the vehicle, audio entertainment and talking to passengers would need to be outlawed, too. You'd be down to a one-seat car with no accessories in it.

Of course, that is ridiculous, as is thinking that outlawing phones is the answer. It is up to all drivers to limit their distractions as much as possible so that they are obeying the laws and rules of the road at all times. — *Retired Traffic Cop and Driver Safety Instructor*

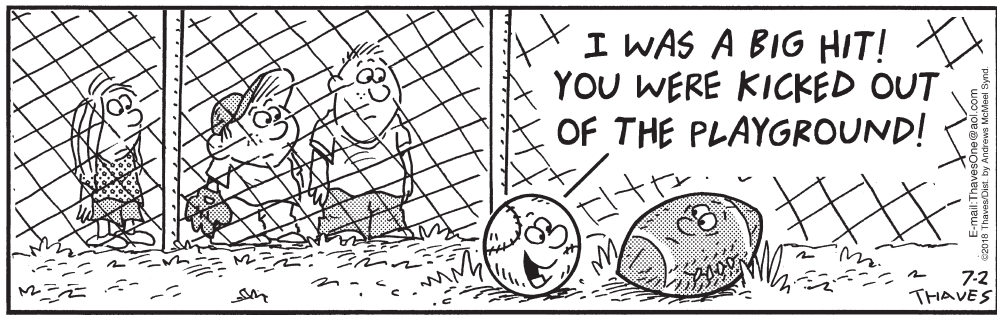
Dear Retired Traffic Cop: You make a great point. Distracted driving is distracted driving, whatever the reason. Thanks for sharing your informed opinion on the matter.

DEAR ANNIE

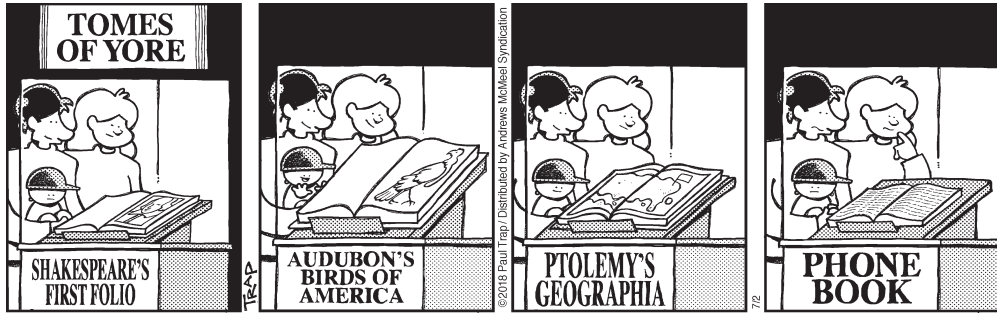


Annie Lane
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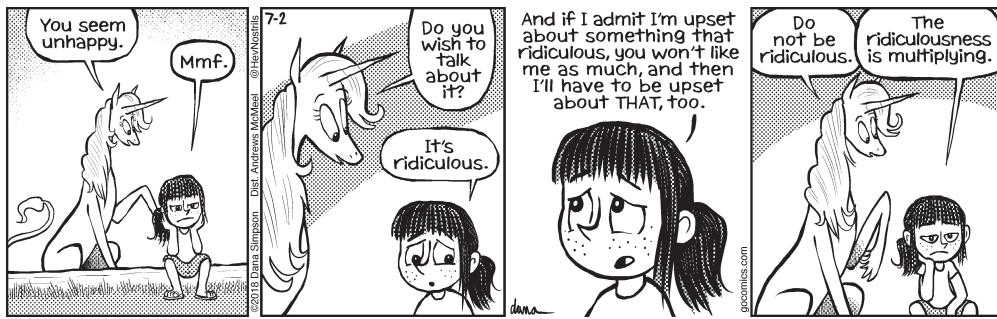
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PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



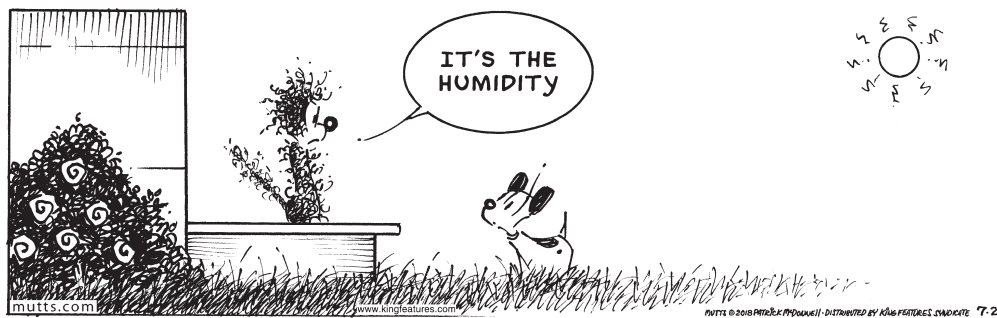
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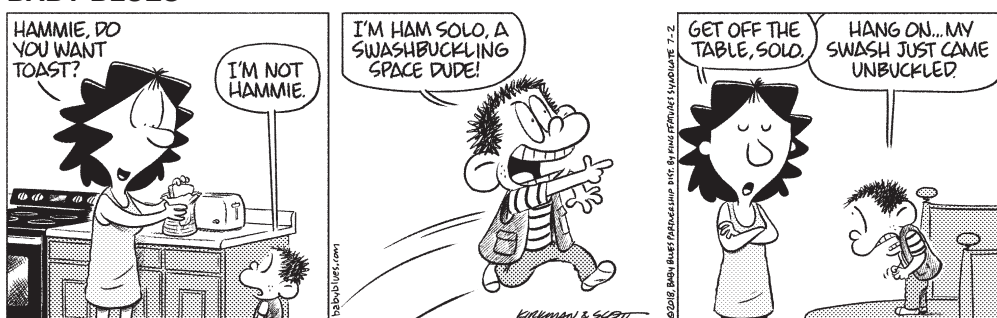
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TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In a daring mood, you may be inspired to break a few rules, but only to promote the good guys who are being kept down. "Vivacious renegade" is your new title, and you wear it so well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Don't worry if your efforts seem a bit scattered right now. When you see how ineffective this approach is, you'll get focused and make a better plan. A checklist will serve you well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're even more outgoing than usual, and the connections you make will benefit you in many ways. So follow the instinct to get to know someone. New friendships will be casually ignited.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You make wonderful things out of scraps, leftovers and the raw materials that no one else can figure out what to do with. It will be a fun thing for others to watch, so you'll have an audience.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). New endeavors may frustrate you, but you probably just haven't committed enough practice time to be excellent at this yet. Keep working. Before you know it, those small daily efforts will add up to the results you desire.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your high emotional intelligence shows up in your ability to empathize with a rather difficult person. Once you get a sense of how this person is feeling, future dealings will be much smoother.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Those who opt for over-the-top expressions of love and affection may actually care less than the mild-mannered person who chooses subdued but specific ways to help and honor you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Left unchecked, destructive emotions can eat away at the body, mind and heart. When you get a negative feeling, own it; name it; let it speak to you. Your feeling will tell you precisely what it is that you need to let go of.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What you have is not exactly what you want. You're going to find a way to make it work. Do the business at hand and the business you wish for will eventually happen.

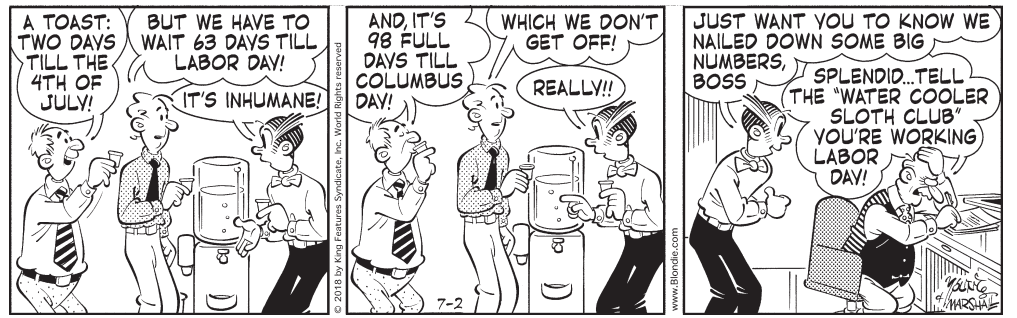
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The multitasking person is not only less effective at all tasks but also less attractive while doing them. Intentional and focused people are charismatic, which is why you'll get so much attention today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Attachment is a form of greed. It's rooted in the belief that more is necessary, which is rooted in a belief that there is not enough. That's where the falsehood lies. Whatever it is, there is already enough.

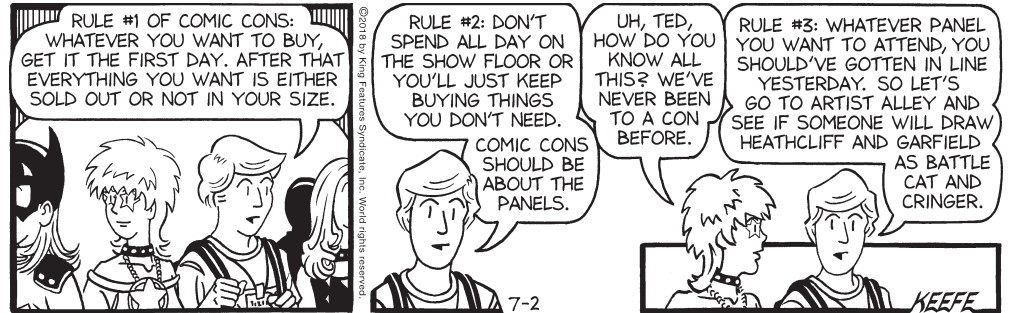
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're inclined to be hospitable to the needs and wishes of others. This selflessness will be the best part of your day. Your efforts will make an experience smoother and more pleasant.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (July 3). Your confidence and self-acceptance will be the basis of great strides this year. You'll stretch outside your usual interests, and exciting things happen there. Love goes right. You'll feel like you are your best self around a certain someone. November features a vote or judgment in your favor. There's a windfall in February. Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 33, 32, 16 and 9.

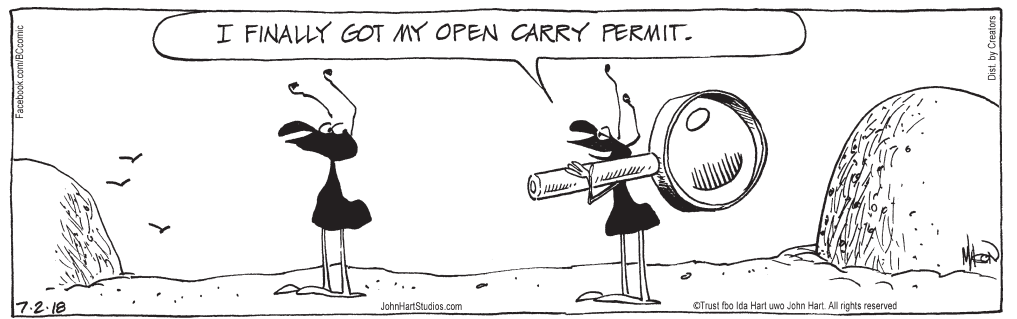
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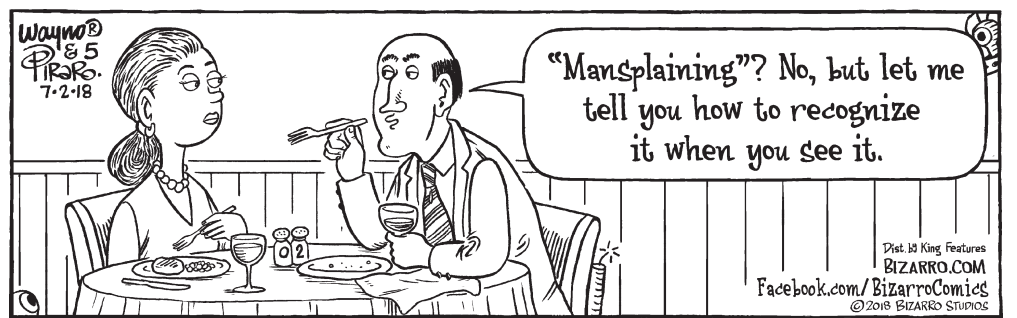
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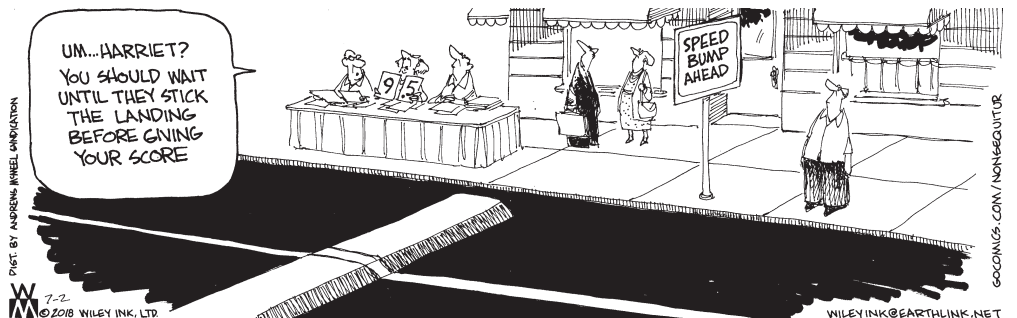
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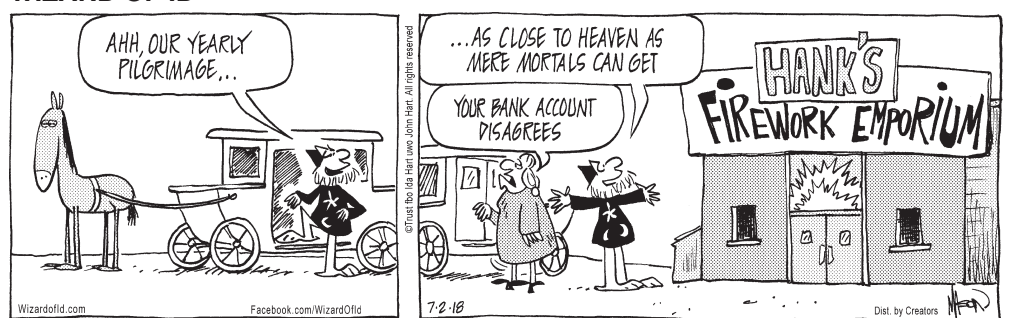
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