

# Dogs are everywhere

**Dear Annie:** I love most dogs and have had pets all my life, but there are times and places in which pets should not accompany their owners. Of course, trained service dogs are the exception.

I am seeing so many dogs being exposed to crowded stores and outdoor festivals and sales. They are generally on leashes, but some breeds are so protective of their owners that they can become hard to control when another dog is present. I recently saw a woman who had her medium-sized dog riding in her grocery cart — a cart that others would eventually be using for food.

I think that most dogs are more comfortable in their home environment and should not be exposed to crowded areas. It will probably elicit some angry responses, but please give your thoughts on leaving the pets at home. — *Don't Bring Fido*

**Dear Don't Bring Fido:** If one's dog is well-behaved, it is a nice treat for the owner, the dog and the people around them — the ones who like dogs, anyway — for the dog to go on adult excursions

once in a while. However, I totally understand your concern, and I agree that dogs should not be put into food carts.

There are benefits to being around friendly dogs. Petting them is a known stress soother. It feels good and can lower your blood pressure. Studies have shown that petting a dog or cat helps your body release a relaxation hormone and cuts down on levels of a stress hormone.

**Dear Annie:** I love your column, whether or not I agree with your responses. I've never felt compelled to write before, but this time I'm compelled.

Your response to "Gramps With a Kid's Mind" was totally off base! Thank goodness we still have some grandparents (whose ranks I recently joined) who are filled with wonder, humor, kindness and love for life and haven't become grumpy old men and the kind of grandparents whom kids not only can't relate to but don't want to spend time with. I think most of us baby boomers remember the "pull my finger" gag our grandpas did to us with fondness. — *Grateful for Gramps*

## DEAR ANNIE



ANNIE LANE  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You can be angry with someone and love that person at the same time. You can be disappointed in an action and still stand behind the general plan. Complexities will come into play, and you'll manage them beautifully.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Get centered and do your best without looking around to see how anyone else is doing. The only thing you should be comparing yourself with is your own past performance, and even that might be a bad idea.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** It's easy to get excited about your own idea, but when someone else's idea has you excited and willing to work, you know it must be a good one. Be generous, but also clear about the arrangement going forward.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Experience always grows you. So when the choice is between what you know and what you don't know, you'll choose what you don't know ... as long as it's not terribly inconvenient or expensive.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Relationships improve because you put thought into resolving your issues with another person. And the other person doesn't even have to know about it! Your change is enough to change the whole dynamic.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** The basics of good communication aren't universally distributed at birth. Eye contact, listening, affirming through verbal or nonverbal cues ... this must be learned. And not everyone you'll deal with today has learned it yet.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Oscar Wilde summed up today's predicament very well when he said, "Anybody can sympathize with the sufferings of a friend, but it requires a very fine nature to sympathize with a friend's successes."

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** As an intuitive person, you know that inner guidance can be illogical and sometimes doesn't quite culminate into something you can make sense of. But it does often enough, which is why you'll keep paying attention.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** When you really comb back over what you've been taught, you'll find that you disagree with more of it than you care to bring up over the dinner table. Some battles are best shrugged off. Vive la difference.

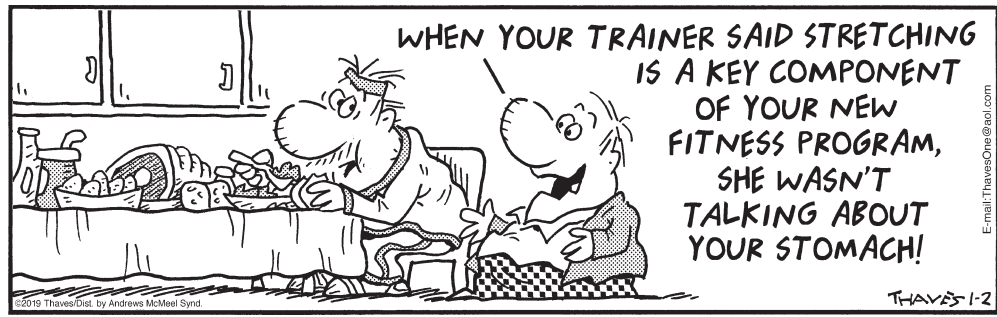
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You'll take notice of who you are around different people — what each brings out in you — so you can surround yourself with people who bring out your best and brightest, and/or a lighthearted, surprising side of you.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Oddly enough, your work will be best noticed when you do not do it. So, pull back on the efforts. Let them feel the void. And then pull back a little more so they can understand the exact nature of your typical contributions.

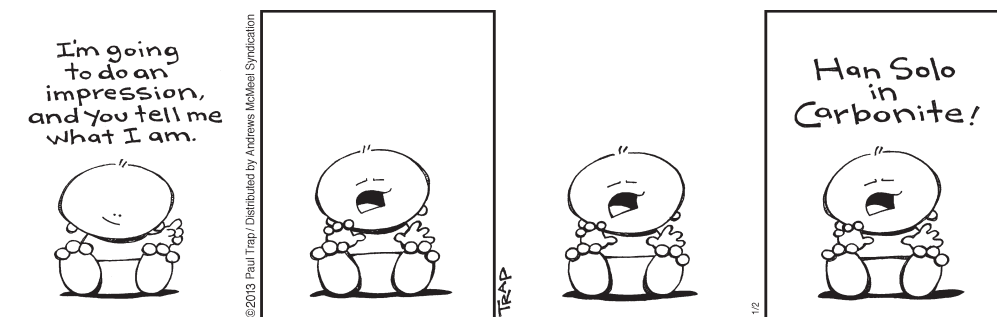
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Basic niceties are well within normal expectations, but the problem is that not everyone was brought up with the same manners and customs. You may have to gently educate others about what you need.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 3).** The beauty of this new chapter is in its breeziness. A burden drops within five week's time, leaving you physically buoyant, mentally unfettered and emotionally exuberant. After that, a bout of financial luck creates further ease. Keep it small, save up and don't complicate things with too many partners or contracts. Gemini and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 31, 4, 47 and 37.

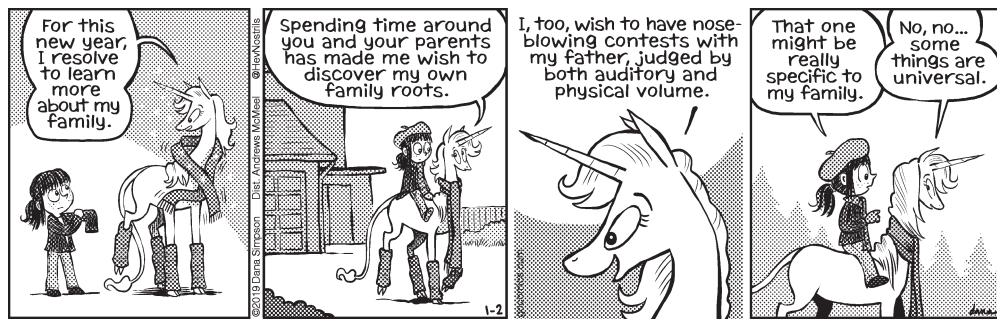
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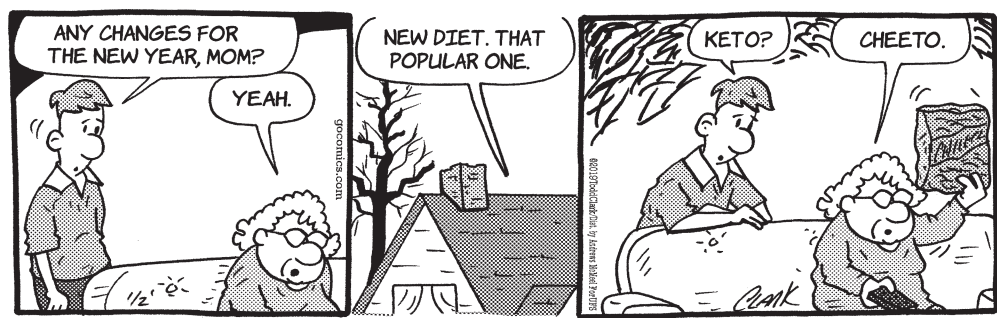
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## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



## LOLA



## SIX CHIX



## MUTTS



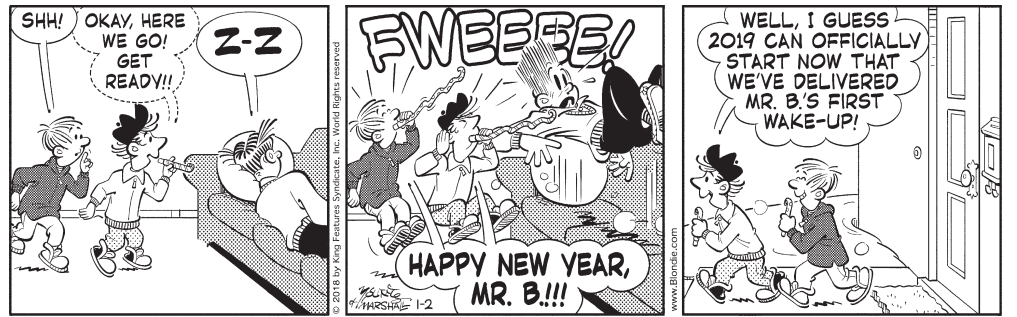
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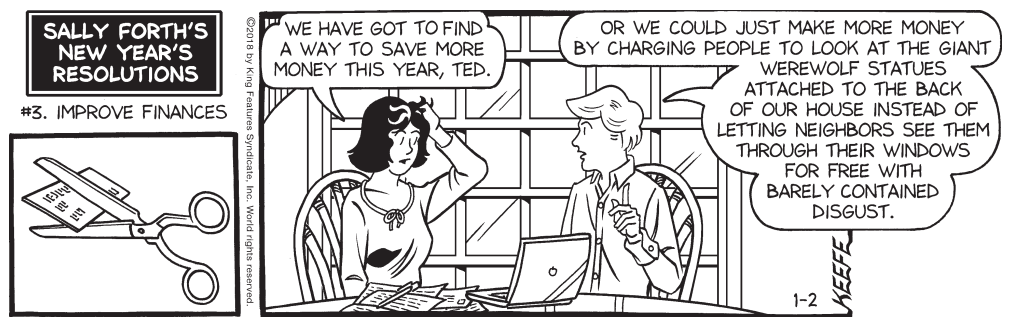
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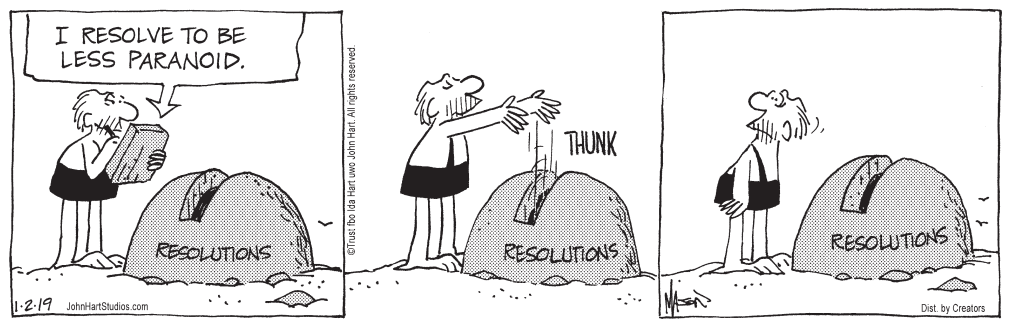
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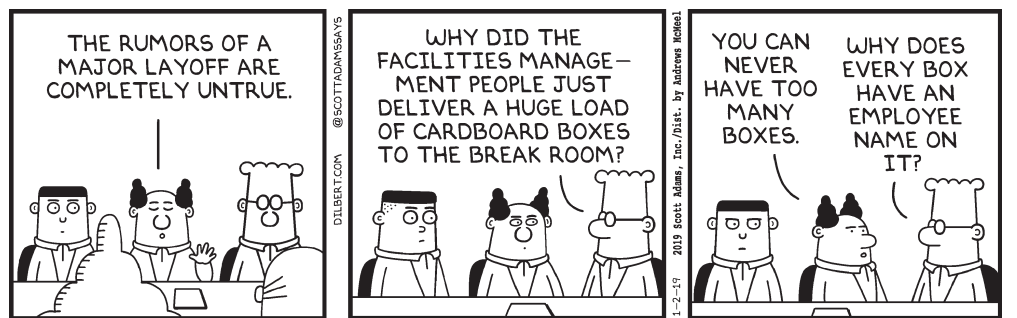
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## B.C.



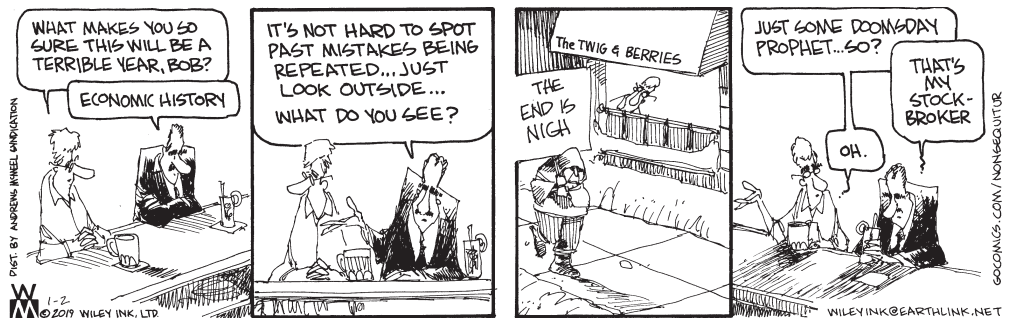
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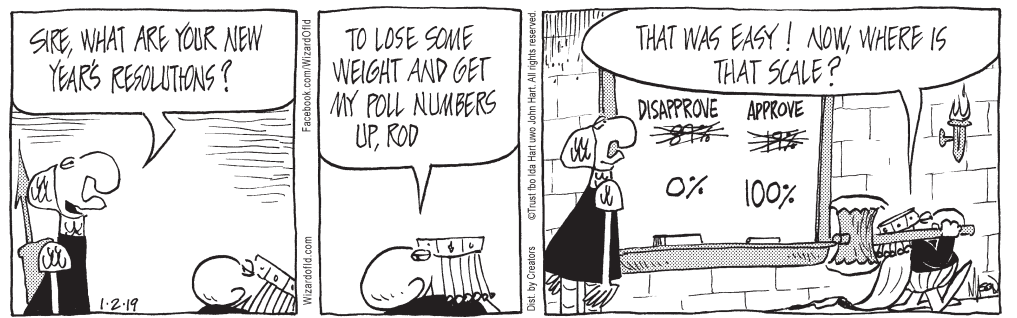
## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

