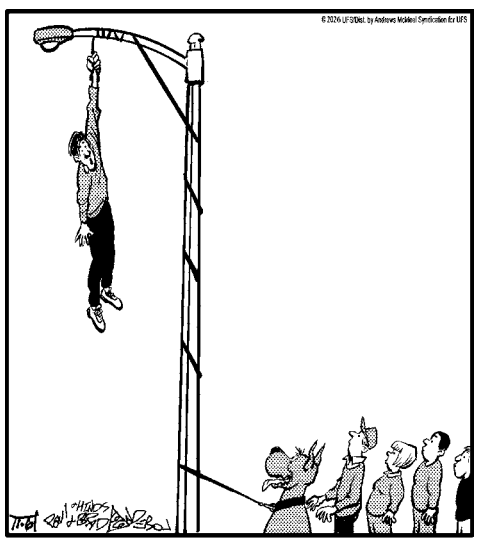
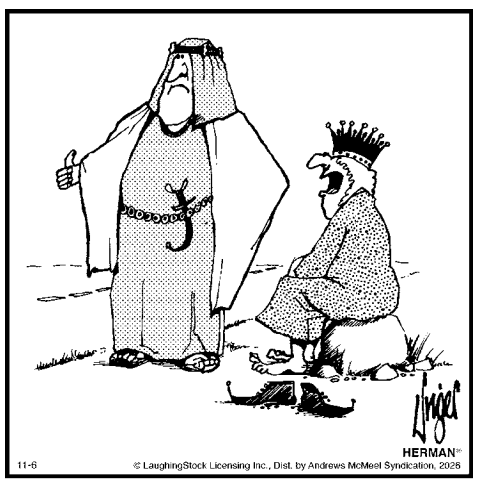
COMICS

MARMADUKE



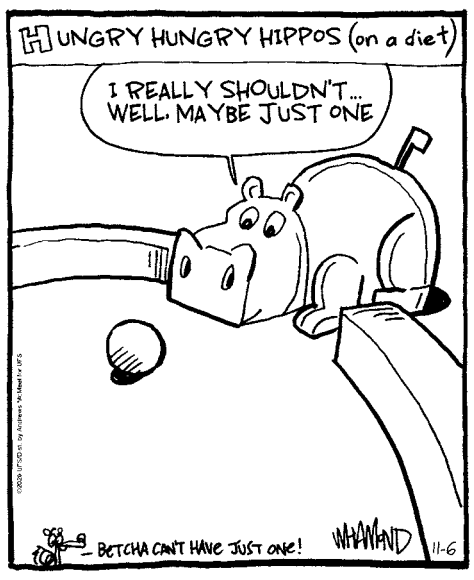
"Well, that certainly was some walk."

HERMAN

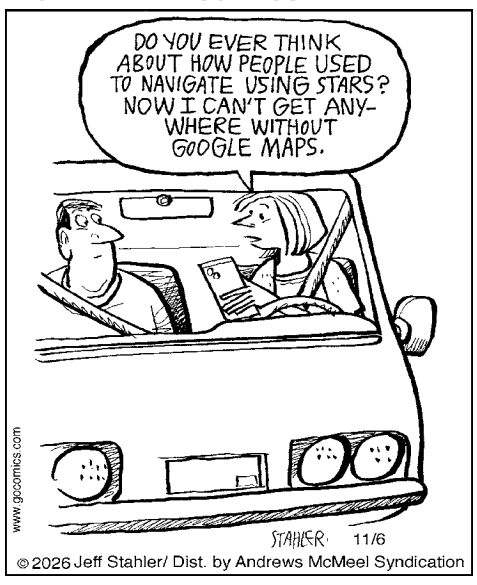


"Herman, couldn't you fill up the car BEFORE getting dressed up as a Saudi prince?"

REALITY CHECK



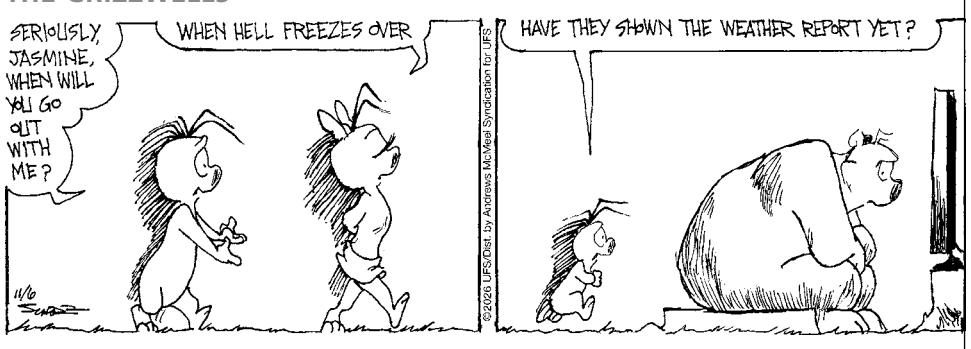
MODERATELY CONFUSED



FRANK & ERNEST



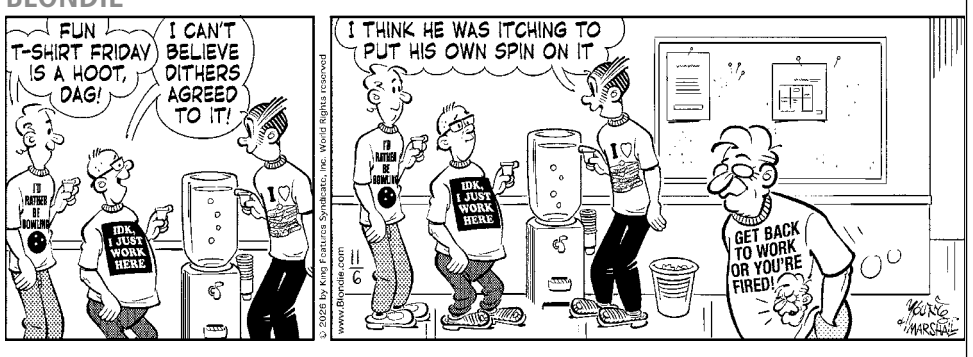
THE GRIZZWELLS



PICKLES



BLONDIE



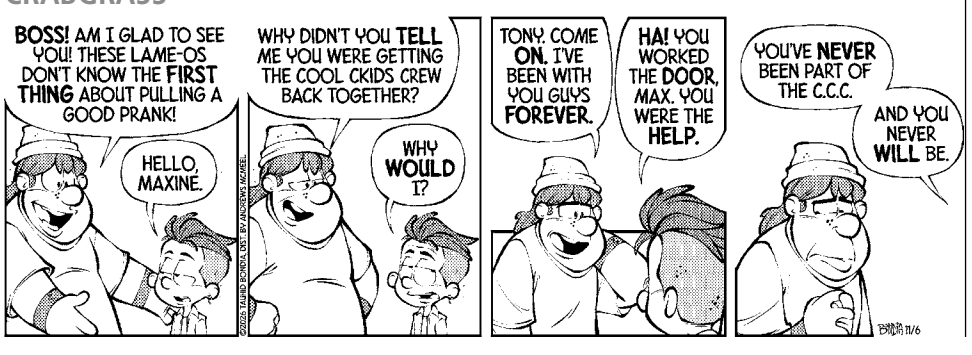
BORN LOSER



HI AND LOIS



CRABGRASS



Looking for Love in Lifes Second Act



ANNIE LANE

Dear Annie

Dear Annie: I was married for 30 years, and some of them were very happy. The man I fell in love with was joyful and excited about life. Over time he grew bitter and withdrawn and critical about nearly everything I did. We tried counseling twice. In the end, we were two people who were no longer compatible, and we divorced.

I'm now 60 and newly single. I'm healthy, I love my job, and I have good friends and hobbies I enjoy. But I still want someone to grow old with. I've been out of the dating game so long I don't know how to get back in. Most men my age are married, still mourning a wife or content as lifelong bachelors. My girlfriends are all married except one, who is widowed and swears she'll never remarry, so I have no one to relate to about this. -- Starting Over at 60

Dear Starting Over: You're in better shape than you think. Healthy, employed and well-liked puts you ahead of most candidates at any age. And while dating at 60 has its challenges, it has its advantages, too. You've collected decades of wisdom and emotional maturity. Now it's time to reap the benefits.

You're already social and open to new people, so you only need a few small adjustments, not a lifestyle overhaul. Take that energy to places where single men show up -- church, volunteering, a pickleball league, a hiking club. Pick things you'd enjoy even if no one asks you to coffee afterward.

Ask your married friends, too. Their husbands know single men, and an introduction beats a cold start. Then, just start accepting invitations -- even from men who aren't your type. You never know who you'll meet, or where an introduction might lead.

Dear Annie: I've worked in the same office for decades with several longtime co-workers. Every holiday season, we exchange Christmas cards.

Last year, I took Christmas week off for the first time in a very long time. Another employee usually takes that week off, so it was unusual that I was away. I passed out cards the week before I left, but I did not receive anything from the people I work closely with, either before or after my time out. It really bothered me that I was ignored this time around, and it felt very hurtful.

Now that the holidays are approaching again, I find myself thinking about what happened. Should I just get over it? -- Scrooged

Dear Scrooged: When a standing tradition suddenly changes, it's natural to wonder why. Maybe your co-workers overlooked you because you were away, or maybe they decided to skip the exchange altogether. It's hard to know without asking directly, but I'm not sure a Christmas card is worth making things awkward over.

This year, send cards to the people you genuinely want to wish well, without expecting anything in return. After all, the holiday spirit is about giving, not keeping score.

"Out of Bounds: Estrangement, Boundaries and the Search for Forgiveness" is out now! Annie Lane's third anthology is for anyone who has lived with anger, estrangement or the deep ache of being wronged -- because forgiveness isn't for them. It's for you. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Follow Annie Lane on Instagram at @dearannieofficial. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Make plans, set goals and put a budget in place. Consider changes this year that further your agenda. Network, learn and share your vision with people who can offer insight into what you want to pursue. Too much too fast will be your downfall. Start small and build momentum. Trust your instincts, research and stick to your budget. Look for tax cuts, incentives and anything else that helps you reach your goal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Satisfy your needs first. Don't bend to the demands of those who dictate instead of doing for themselves. Size up situations, know what you want and put your plans in motion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Create breathing room and a space to learn, grow and find your bliss. It's time to expand your mind, to let go of the past and to explore new possibilities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Take control instead of being controlled. Problems will arise if you give someone carte blanche to make decisions for you. Reiterate what you want, and get agreements in writing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Change requires time, energy and forethought. Don't veer off track trying to please others when it's you who needs to be comfortable with what unfolds. Meet-and-greet events are in your best interest.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Check expiration dates, sign documents, renew contracts and tend to medical issues. Being on top of personal and financial matters will put your mind at rest. Take time to have heart-to-heart conversations.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Evaluate your relationships with others. Size up what and who you have time for, and adjust your plans to suit you. An investment or financial change you implement will pay off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Simplify your plans. Living within your means and taking care of responsibilities will encourage you to avoid temptation and those who pressure you to indulge in something that benefits them more than it does you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Live, learn and prosper. Take your attributes, beef up your qualifications and apply for positions that pay you to do something you enjoy. Put some muscle behind home-improvement projects.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Think before you act. Problems will arise if you don't fact-check. Don't assume everyone is on the same page as you. Someone will take advantage of you if you believe everything you hear.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Choose your words wisely and make a difference. Anger solves little, but common sense, healthy alternatives and a positive attitude will improve the outcome. Romance is on the rise, and a lifestyle change looks inviting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Estimate the cost involved before you commit to invest, donate or participate in a joint venture. Having an open discussion with someone will shed light on potential losses. Don't give in to someone.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Let your emotions guide you and your conscience help you make the right decision. Discipline, ingenuity and creativity will help you bring about positive changes at home or through educational pursuits.

Answer to this puzzle

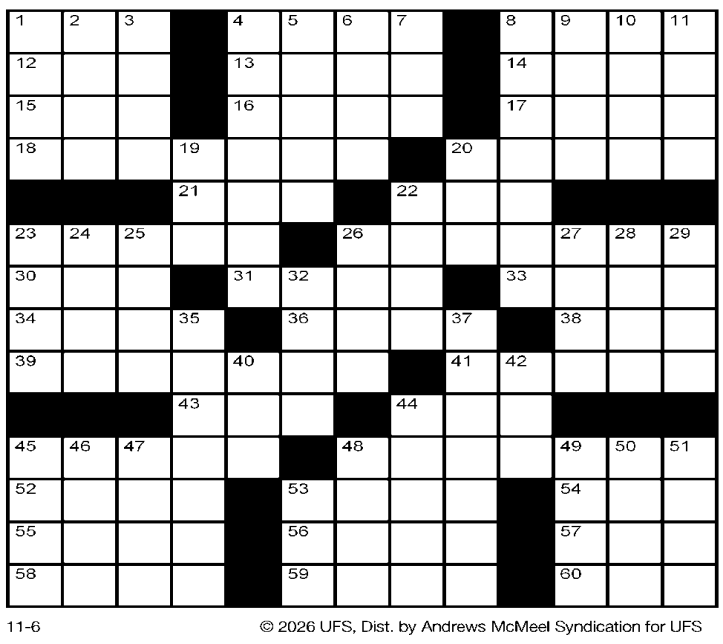
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I	C	E		O	B	O	L		T	O	G	O
F	E	D		C	A	F	E		S	T	A	T

ACROSS

1 Nourished
4 — au lait
8 RBI or ERA
12 Rink surface
13 Old Greek coin
14 Like drive-thru orders (Hyph.)
15 That girl
16 Cozy corner
17 Money in Madrid
18 Optimistic
20 Untamed
21 Not at home
22 Chip go-with
23 Mends
26 Term of endearment
30 Old European coin
31 Actor — McGregor
33 Always
34 Mideast ruler
36 Walk in the woods
38 Actress — Gabor
39 Lays bare
41 Pondered
43 Harden
44 — and haw
45 Denominations
48 Overage
52 Transport
53 Dalai —
54 Fall mo.
55 Bone: Prefix
56 Racetrack shape
57 Ga. neighbor
58 Do a gardening job
59 Watch over
60 Label

DOWN

1 Aquarium denizens
2 Repeat
3 Profound
4 Make muddled
5 Concerning
6 Jester
7 Antlered animal
8 Pointed church tower
9 — de force
10 Taj Mahal site
11 Implement
19 Many years
20 Evergreen tree
22 Dark and wet
23 Act
24 Summit
25 Destroy
26 Raised platform
27 Currier and —
28 Actress — Campbell
29 Alum
32 Sharpen
35 Stole cattle
37 Green gem
40 — Moines
42 MLB official
44 Earthling
45 Display
46 Facilitate
47 Adorable
48 Keep for later
49 Attic
50 Bruins' sch.
51 Antlered animal
53 Destiny



11-6

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