

# COMICS

## MARMADUKE



"I hope you get a brain freeze!"

## HERMAN



"D'you believe this?! I said, 'Umbrellas 50% Off.'"

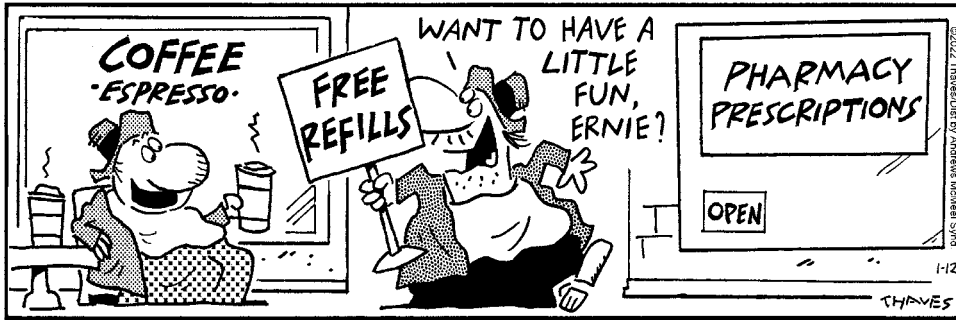
## REALITY CHECK



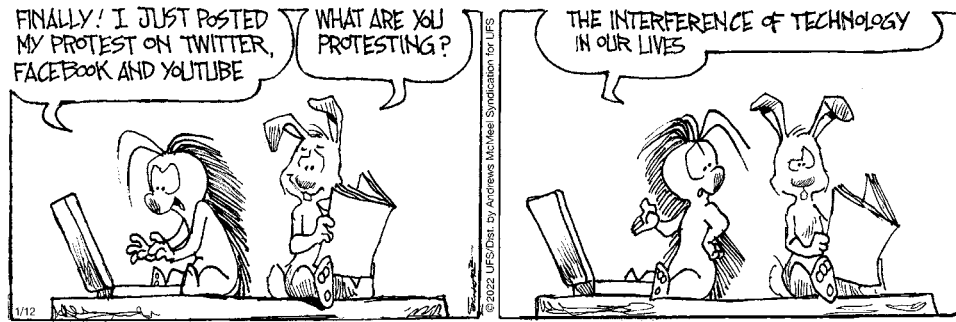
## MODERATELY CONFUSED



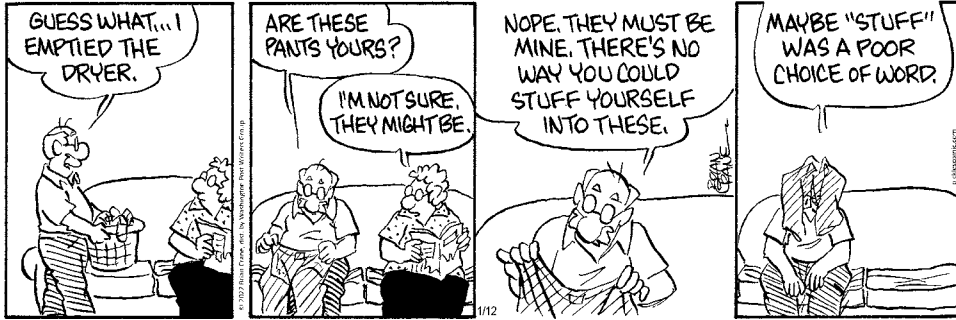
## FRANK & ERNEST



## THE GRIZZWELLS



## PICKLES



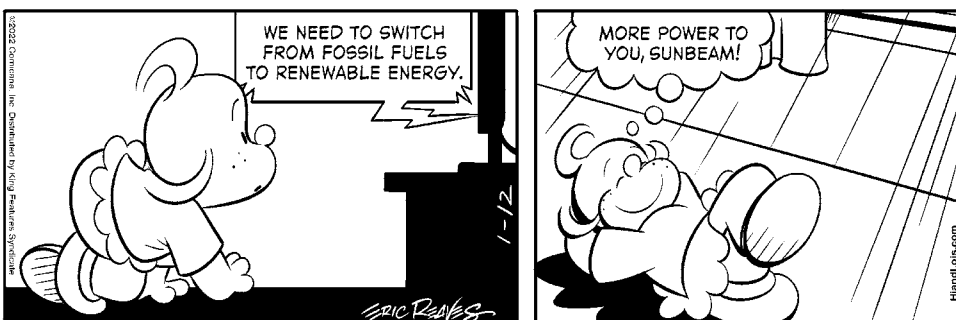
## BLONDIE



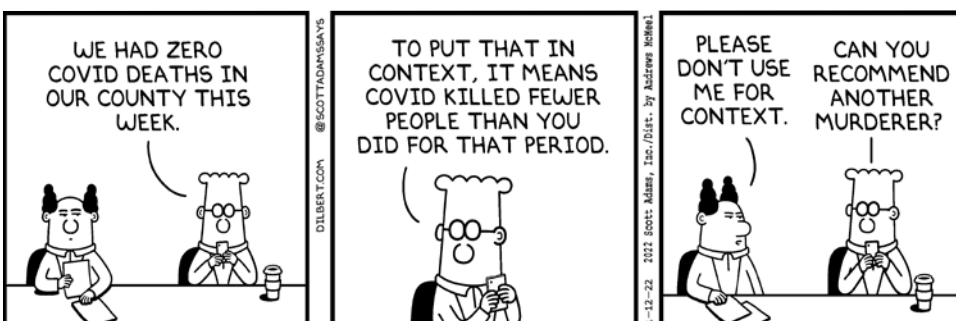
## BORN LOSER



## HI AND LOIS



## DILBERT



# Going Mobile

Dear Annie: When I was 10, I began asking for a phone. Every kid in my class had one, and I was being left out and bullied because I was the only kid without one. Now, three years later, I finally have a phone!

But my mom has restricted my access to it; I can use my phone only when she says so. I'm not allowed to text my friends -- even though it's the only way to keep in touch now that we aren't in any of the same classes. The same applies to social media. No Instagram or Snapchat. My mom doesn't love technology, and she doesn't understand that this is the only way to keep in touch. Is she right that I'm being unreasonable? Please help! -- Odd Girl Out

Dear Odd Girl Out: I have no doubt that she has your best interests at heart and is trying to protect you from some of the very real dangers that social media and even text messaging can have. Nonetheless, technology is something that not only is here to stay but is going to become even more present in our lives. Have a conversation with your mother about this, and try to understand her reasons for keeping you off social media.

Perhaps once you have that conversation, you will better understand why she is hesitant and you two can



ANNIE LANE  
DEAR ANNIE

come up with a compromise, such as putting privacy settings in place, restricting certain features and ensuring that the social media sites know your age.

Dear Annie: I've been reading letters from people complaining and/or asking about what to do about not receiving thank-you acknowledgments. Here is the other side of that dilemma. What does one do when receiving gifts that for whatever reason are unfortunate picks for the receiver? I feel as if I'm lying when I say "thank you." I've tried not sending a thank-you, but that felt icky and did not work. -- You Shouldn't Have

Dear You Shouldn't Have: Tell the gift-givers that you've appreciated all their gifts over the years but decided to ask for donations in your name to your favorite charity instead of physical presents. That's something you can all feel good about.

Dear Annie: I have a resource for "Heartbroken Sibling," whose sister was in a car accident and is now living with a traumatic brain

injury. I would encourage "Heartbroken Sibling" to look into LoveYourBrain, an organization created by former professional snowboarder Kevin Pearce. After Pearce sustained a nearly fatal brain injury, he and his brother Adam started LoveYourBrain to create a community of survivors of traumatic brain injuries and their caregivers. The organization empowers survivors to take their healing into their own hands and has many helpful resources and workshops that could bring peace, new meaning and even healing to "Heartbroken Sibling" and his/her sister's lives. -- Reframe Your Mindset

Dear Reframe Your Mindset: Thank you for letting me know about LoveYourBrain. It seems to be a wonderful resource. Readers can find out more at <http://www.loveyourbrain.com>.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology -- featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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## ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Evaluate your living arrangements and do whatever it takes to add to your comfort. A healthy state of mind will ensure that you do your best in every aspect of life. Gravitate toward the people, activities and events that will encourage you to follow a satisfying path and support the lifestyle you want to live.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Take the time to assess your priorities, and make sure you do something that puts a smile on your face. Surround yourself with people who are uplifting and eager to join the fun.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Take a creative approach to the way you handle a friend, relative or colleague. Offer to do your fair share; you'll be surprised how quickly things progress.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- You'll receive sound advice or an opportunity from someone who knows your capabilities. A change in direction will boost your confidence. Set up meetings or interviews, or send out resumes.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Keep your wits about you and your finger on the pulse. Update information and carry on with confidence. Refuse to let what others do distract you. Channel your energy into preparation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Don't overthink what you must do. Trust in your ability to do what's right, and you'll avoid mistakes and deter someone from trying to take control. Stand tall and give your all.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Put your energy where it counts. Learn all you can, and

you'll be prepared to take on anyone and anything. Trust in your intelligence and instincts, and you will best a competitor.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- A positive shift is heading your way. Be open to suggestions and offer friendly advice. What you want will fall into place. A partnership looks promising. Use your imagination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Revisit your long-term goals. Make adjustments that will encourage support from those you need on your team. A change of attitude is encouraged.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Tidy up loose ends. Time is of the essence, and living up to your promises will be necessary to avoid criticism. Put your heart on the line, and be open with your affections.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- You're heading in the right direction. The information you gather will help you recognize the changes required to reach your goal. Embrace an adventure, but don't push others to get involved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Explore what life has to offer and how others fit into your plans. Expand your workspace if it will help you get ahead. Attend a meeting or event that offers valuable information.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- If you mix business with pleasure, you'll discover something interesting that will encourage you to use your skills differently. Don't feel compelled to act in haste due to outside pressure.

# CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### ACROSS

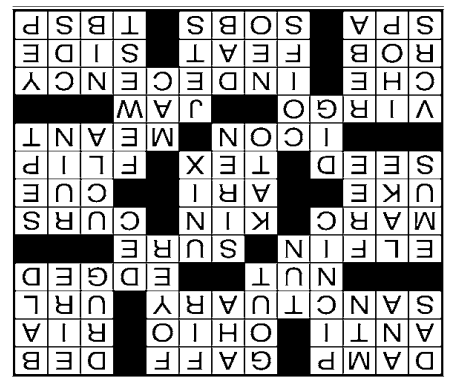
- 1 Foggy
- 5 Spear, as a fish
- 9 Society miss
- 12 One opposed
- 13 Buckeye State
- 14 Narrow inlet
- 15 Haven
- 17 Web addr.
- 18 Filbert
- 19 Inched
- 21 Dainty
- 24 Positive
- 26 Antony or Chagall
- 27 Reunion crowd
- 28 Stray dogs
- 32 Luau instr.
- 33 "Exodus" hero
- 34 Stage prompt
- 35 Pit or stone
- 37 Lone Star guy
- 38 Use a spatula
- 39 Mouse target?
- 41 Intended

- 42 Late-summer sign
- 45 Chat
- 46 Ernesto Guevara
- 47 Obscenity
- 53 Burglarize
- 54 Daring deed
- 55 Team
- 56 Fitness resort
- 57 Weeps
- 58 Cough syrup meas.

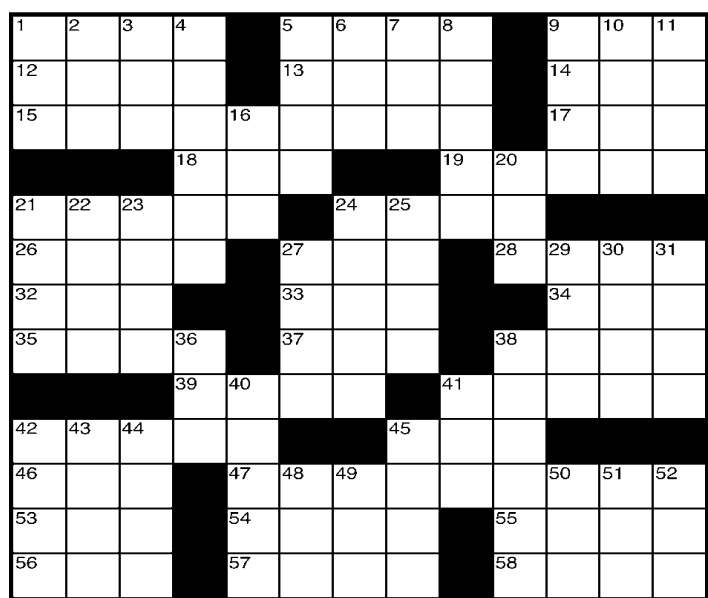
### DOWN

- 1 U-boat movie "\_\_\_ Boot"
- 2 Collection of tales
- 3 Atlas abbr.
- 4 Summer outing
- 5 Toe pain
- 6 Detective's cry
- 7 Fragrant tree
- 8 Lobby

### Answer to this puzzle



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- 9 Medication
- 10 Limerick locale
- 11 Lose hair
- 16 Large vat
- 20 Solstice mo.
- 21 Grounded birds
- 22 Water-ski locale
- 23 Not tied up
- 24 Femme fatale
- 25 Operating system
- 27 Green Hornet's aide
- 29 West Coast campus
- 30 Devastate
- 31 Equinox mo.
- 36 Groove on
- 38 Least
- 40 Hairdos
- 41 Fleetwood --
- 42 Playback machines
- 43 Flapjack franchise
- 44 Singer McEntire
- 45 Gas burners
- 48 Prefix for classic
- 49 Bit of paint
- 50 Robin's beak
- 51 Music media
- 52 "Uh-huh!"