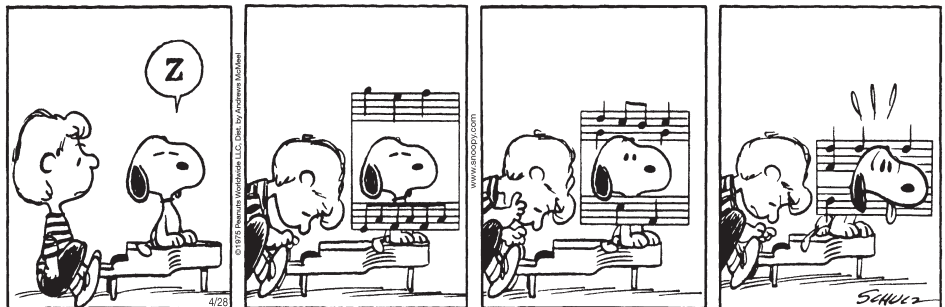
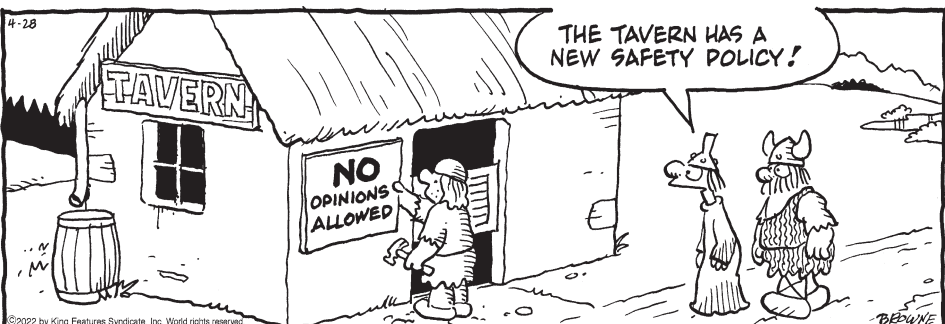


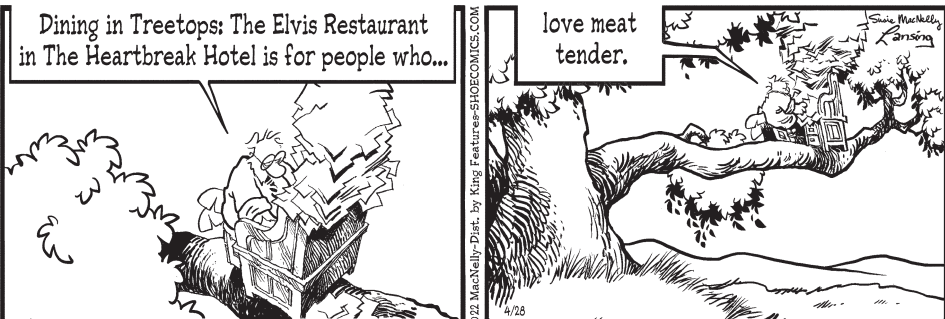
Peanuts



Hagar The Horrible



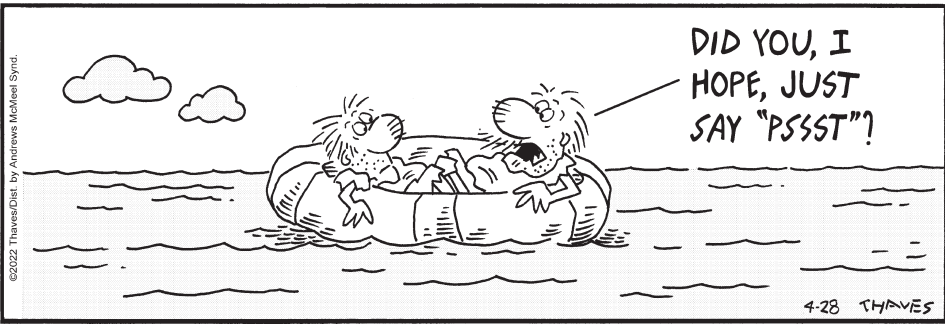
Shoe



Garfield



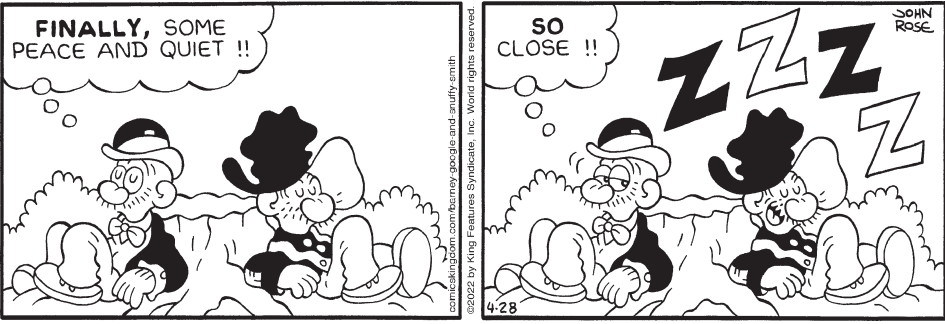
Frank and Ernest



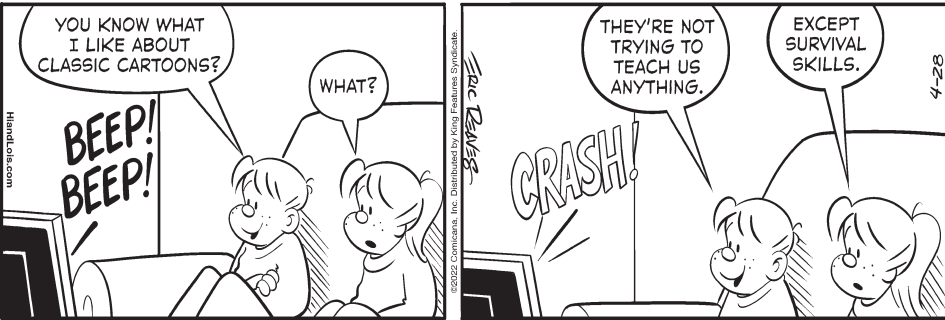
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



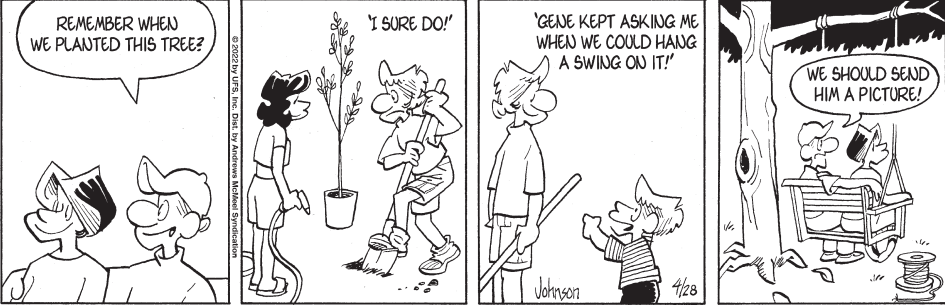
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Arlo and Janis



Your Birthday today:

You'll pick up useful tips if you watch the experts this year. Don't be afraid to ask questions or use the information you discover to suit your needs. Branching out and exploring how you can make the most of whatever situation you face will enable you to reach a better understanding of what's possible. Make self-improvement a priority.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Consider what others expect of you and do your best to exceed the mark of excellence. Be true to yourself and your beliefs when dealing with people who have different ideas and opinions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Take heed of suggestions, but don't rule out what your gut urges you to do when facing a tough decision. With a little discernment, you'll discover a path that can help you reach your goal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Don't let your emotions create instability. Be open to suggestions and put your energy behind good ideas. A change will turn out better than anticipated and give you the boost you need.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Watch what's happening around you and make sure that you can take advantage of any opportunity that comes your way. Be aware of what others want, but don't let their decisions influence yours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Invest in something that brings you joy, and it will change your life. Making a move or taking in new scenery will lift your spirits and encourage you to connect with people who share your beliefs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Think about your lifestyle and domestic environment and what you can do to make improvements. Put together a budget or plan that will help you reach your goal. Organization and discipline will pay off.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Work hard, and what you accomplish will put your mind at ease. You'll develop a masterful plan that will help you better handle your finances, health and contractual matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Slow down, look where you are going and think before speaking. Your insight and resources won't let you down if you back your decisions with action. Organize your space.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Don't let your emotions ruin a good thing. Be a good listener and refrain from taking control. How you treat others and delegate responsibilities will boost your reputation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Let others fend for themselves while you take care of what's important to you. Reevaluate how you earn a living and handle money, and you'll come up with a sound plan.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- You can't lose if you act decisively. Set your sights on what you want and make a beeline in that direction. Energy, enthusiasm and well-thought-out ideas will not disappoint.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Think matters through. If you act from an emotional impetus, you will make mistakes. Someone will neglect to give you enough information to make a sound decision. Don't reveal your intentions.

DEAR ABBY

Advice written by
Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: My wife of 41 years passed away four years ago. I'm in my mid-60s. I have sought grief counseling to fully process her loss. The counselor has encouraged me to maintain and expand my peer relationships. The counselor has also encouraged dating, which I have tried, but no romances have resulted.

My wife was diagnosed with bipolar type 2 mental disorder, which progressed the longer she lived. When she died, I was glad she no longer had to suffer with her mental illness. With the onset of menopause and the bipolar, her libido had dropped dramatically. The counselor has assured me that if romance develops, sexual relations can happen with women my age.

Because of my religious convictions, I will not have sexual relations before marriage. My question concerns a woman's desire for sexual relations at this stage of life. Are sexual relations something that can be mutually enjoyed, or just a requirement of marriage? -- WONDERING IN IOWA

DEAR WONDERING: Allow me to put your concerns to rest. Seniors are not clones of each other. Some enjoy sex into their 80s; others do not. If both partners are comfortable with their bodies and willing to accommodate the inevitable changes that come as their bodies age, they can enjoy sex as much as couples who are younger.

While your religious beliefs may not allow you to have sex before marriage, there is no reason why the subject can't be honestly discussed, and this is what I urge you to do if you become involved with someone.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, my daughter asked if her girlfriend could stay with us until the two of them move out in a month. To help them out, my husband and I agreed. The problem is, the girlfriend is very insecure about her weight. She's on the heavier side, and my daughter's weight is average. Sometimes when we're talking about fitness or nutrition, it feels like a sore subject for her. I don't want her to feel uncomfortable around us because I watch what I eat. Advice? -- WEIGHTY ISSUE IN WASHINGTON

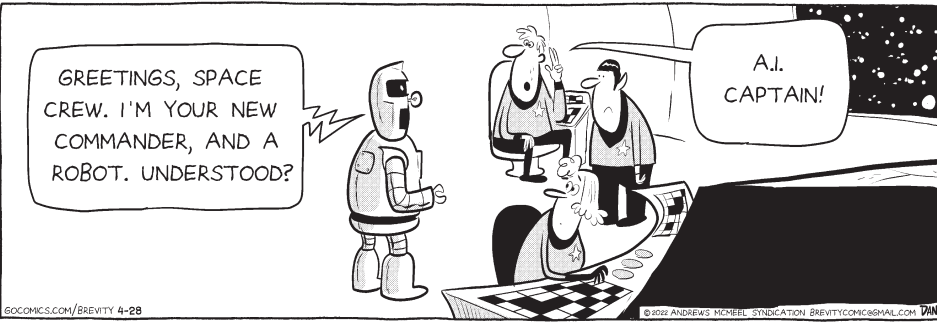
DEAR WEIGHTY ISSUE: Ask your daughter if mentioning these topics makes her girlfriend uncomfortable. Keep in mind that your houseguest will be staying with you only a few more weeks. Until she leaves, refrain from discussing topics that make her uncomfortable in her presence.

DEAR ABBY: I am 60 and disabled. I desperately would like a dog. I'm not a cat person. I can't get a bird because I have lupus. Working at a shelter isn't an option. I added up all the pluses and minuses, and the minuses were more plentiful. HOWEVER, the pluses are SO tempting.

Logically, I know it would not be fair to either of us. The wiser part of myself says no, but I want someone who is happy when I come home, kisses me, sits on my lap and shares my bed. And someone to care for. Any advice? -- NURTURER IN NEW YORK

DEAR NURTURER: Rescue a dog who needs nurturing as much as you do. Adopt an older one from an animal rescue, and you may save two lives at once. That said, it's important you discuss those pluses and minuses with a veterinarian and take out pet insurance -- just in case the need arises.

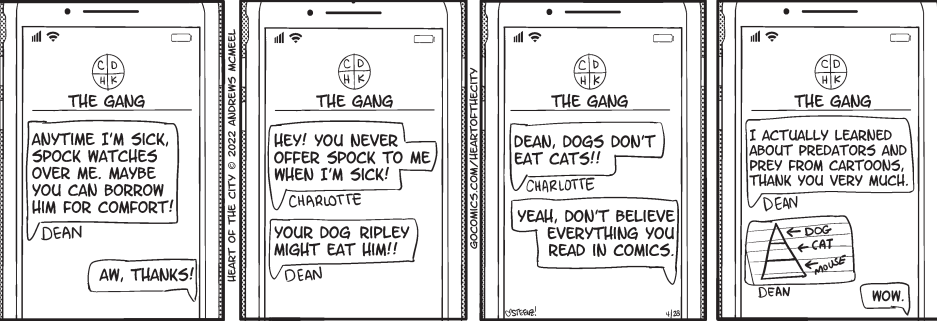
Brevity



Grizwells



Heart of the City



Herman



Moderately Confused



Born Loser

