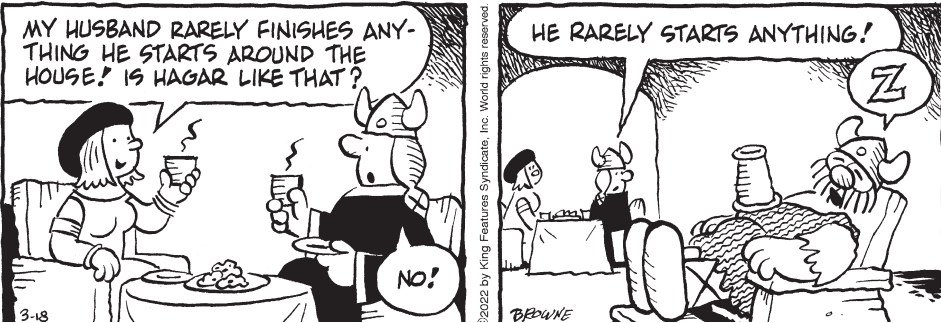


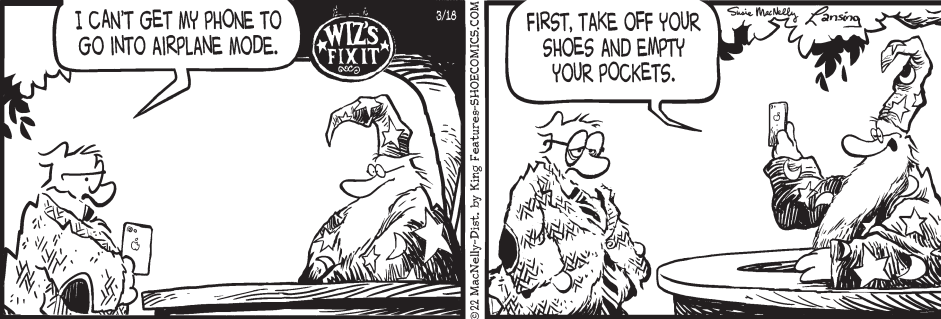
Peanuts



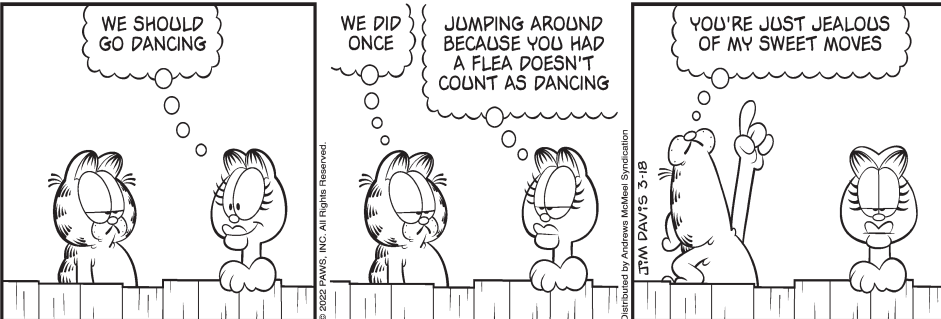
Hagar The Horrible



Shoe



Garfield



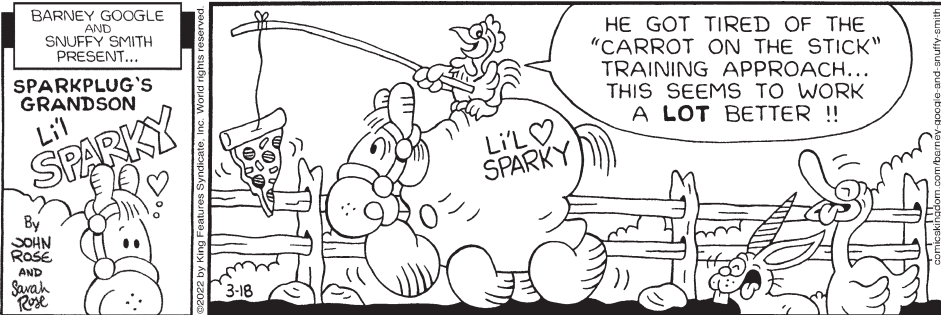
Frank and Ernest



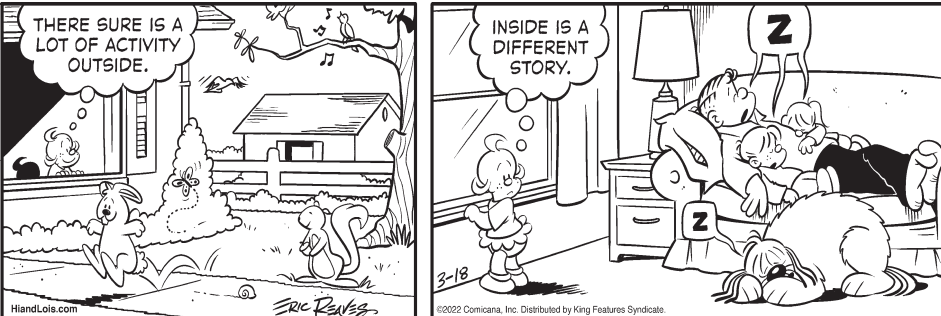
Blondie



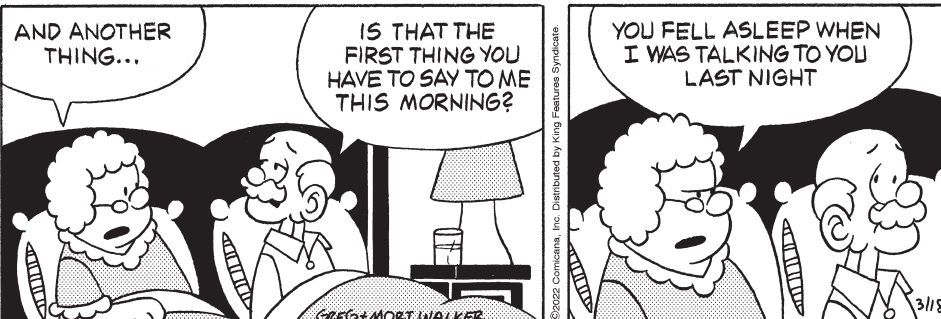
Snuffy Smith



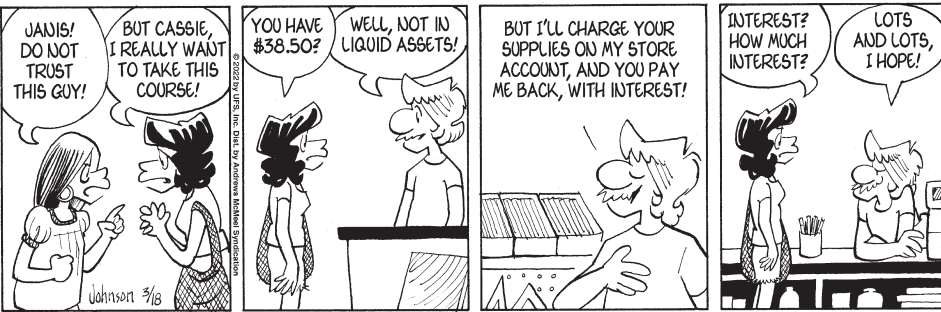
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Arlo and Janis



Your Birthday today:

Do your part, be passionate about your beliefs and make a difference. Speak from the heart, and command attention when needed. Trust your instincts and listen to opposition, complaints and criticisms, and you will come up with valuable solutions that pave the way for a better future.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Share your grievances, deal with the backlash and move forward knowing you've done your part. Look on the bright side and make decisions that bring you the happiness you deserve. Take responsibility.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Overthinking will hold you back. Concentrate on getting things done. The progress you make will inspire you to keep going. Refuse to let uncertainty kick in when forward motion is what's needed.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Throw yourself into what you must do and refuse to let yourself become overwhelmed. Dedication and hard work will help you meet demands and build the self-confidence needed to take on your next task.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Let your actions speak for you. Whether it's a hobby, a physical goal or an important relationship, give it your all. You will excel. There will be no downside to going big.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Refuse to let what others do confuse you. Focus on what's important and necessary. Believe in yourself and avoid joint ventures or shared expenses. You'll do best if you take control.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Get together with people who share your views. Kick back and enjoy life and what it has to offer. A show of appreciation and gratitude is encouraged. Do something that makes you feel good.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Network, socialize and participate in events that offer personal growth and opportunity. Evaluate your relationships and see who is interested in going on an adventure with you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Share your feelings with someone who affects your physical and emotional well-being. Search for a way to improve your life or make your surroundings more comfortable and stress-free.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Relying on others will lead to disappointment. Think outside the box. Surround yourself with people who are not afraid of change. Embrace what you find intriguing, and you'll discover inspiration.

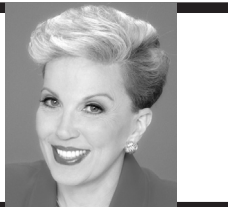
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Sidestep someone else's dilemma. You aren't likely to get the whole truth if you rely on one source for information. Focus on personal gain, health and how best to handle your finances and love life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Take control of financial or health situations. Let your thoughts be known, and don't deviate from your plan because someone complains. Do what's necessary to ensure your safety.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- You'll have second thoughts about money or shared expenses. Don't let your emotions interfere with necessary adjustments. A positive change that relieves stress will pay off in other ways as well.

DEAR ABBY

Advice written by
Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: My stepson "Ryan" is an active senior in high school. He's a great kid, and I love him. I'm proud and delighted that he says he loves my home-cooked meals, which he doesn't get at his mother's house. They eat a lot of takeout or pre-made foods. Not everyone likes to cook, so I don't judge.

My concern is Ryan eats his food at an alarming speed, especially if it's something soft, like lasagna or casseroles. His plate is nearly finished before anyone else has more than a couple bites of theirs. I don't want to shame or embarrass him, but it seems unhealthy for his digestion and possibly even dangerous with certain foods. It's also very unpleasant to watch.

Last night, Ryan inhaled an entire enchilada in two or three bites swallowed whole. He didn't chew once. My husband will gently tell Ryan to slow down if I give him a well-timed look. Otherwise, he seems unfazed by it. Ryan frequently eats most of a serving dish or something if we don't point out that others might want seconds, too.

I hesitate to make a big deal out of it because he's a great kid, and my husband is a wonderful father, outside of not teaching his son good eating habits. Ryan was a chubby little boy, but has become tall and lean after a huge growth spurt. I feel bad saying this, but I'm grossed out and worried at the same time. Your guidance is appreciated. -- COOKING STEPMOM IN THE WEST

DEAR STEPMOM: It is years late, but please have a serious talk with your husband about the fact that his son never learned basic table manners. From your description, he eats like an animal. He seems to not only be eating too much, but also too fast, which is visually unappealing as well as unhealthy.

Table manners are important. Not having them could have a negative impact on his social life and even his career in the future. Please point this out to your husband and to Ryan, because it's important they both hear it. It may take reinforcement and constant reminding, so be prepared.

DEAR ABBY: My wife's 90th birthday is coming up soon. Our younger daughter is giving her a birthday party at a nice restaurant and inviting only women. When I asked her why I wasn't invited, she said the party will be "more fun" with only ladies. I don't understand or agree with this. I would enjoy visiting with the ladies. What do you think about her decision? I think it stinks. -- NOT INVITED IN TEXAS

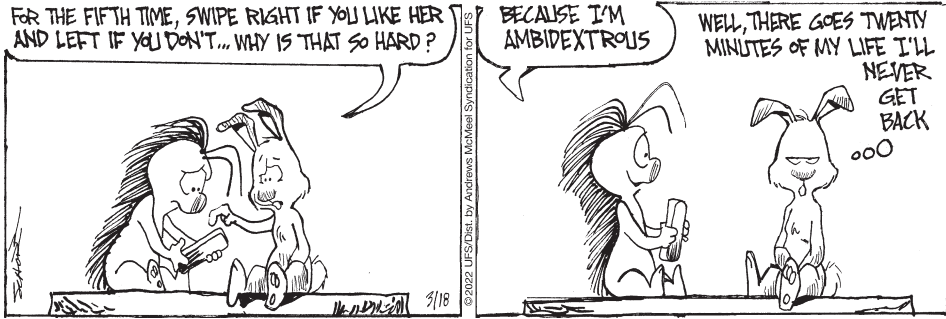
DEAR NOT INVITED: I "think" this decision should have been made by your wife as well as your daughter. At your ages, there's no guarantee how many more birthdays you will have together, and for you to be summarily excluded seems wrong to me. If this is a ladies' luncheon, it's possible "the girls" will enjoy celebrating without their husbands -- if they are lucky enough to still have husbands.

Because this milestone birthday is one you would like to celebrate with your wife, why not take her out for a special dinner -- just the two of you -- or include your children, grandchildren, great-grandkids, etc., and make it a family affair?

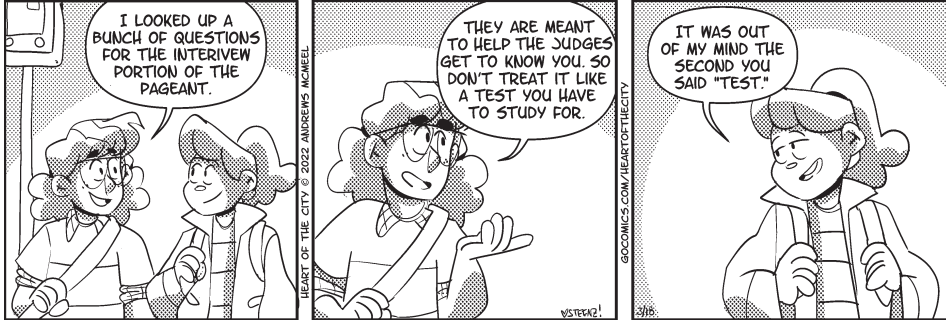
Brevity



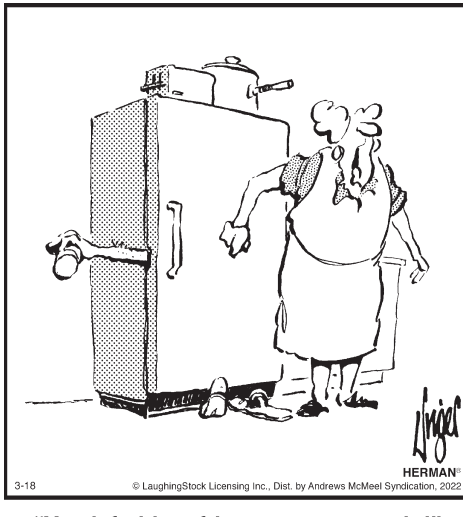
Grizwells



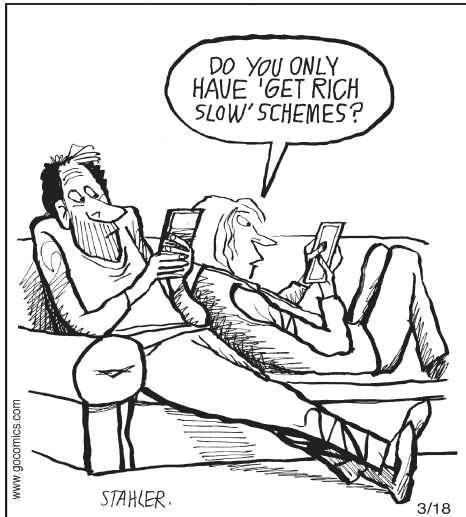
Heart of the City



Herman



Moderately Confused



Born Loser

