

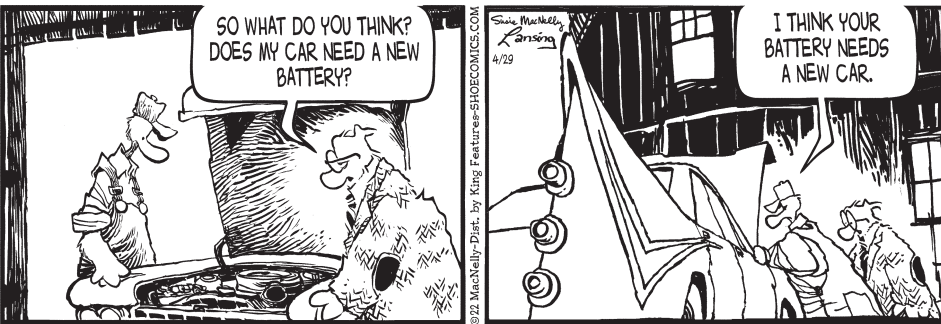
Peanuts



Hagar The Horrible



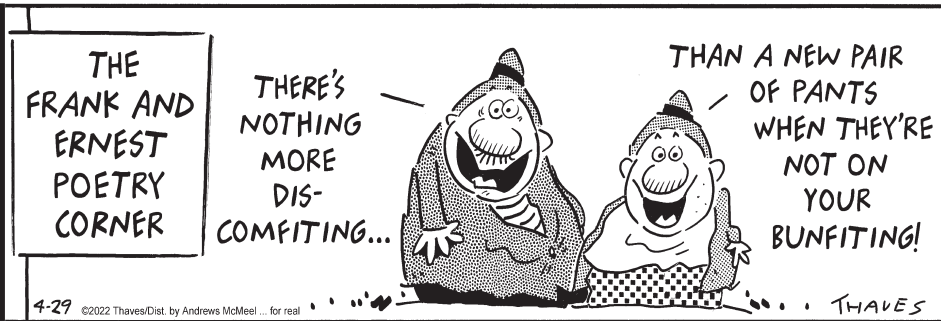
Shoe



Garfield



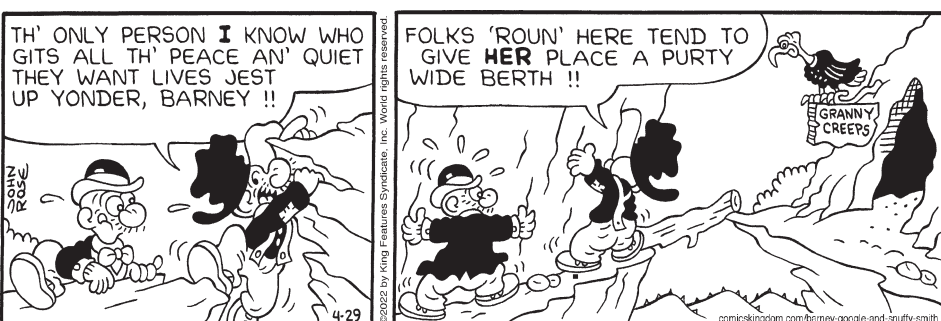
Frank and Ernest



Blondie



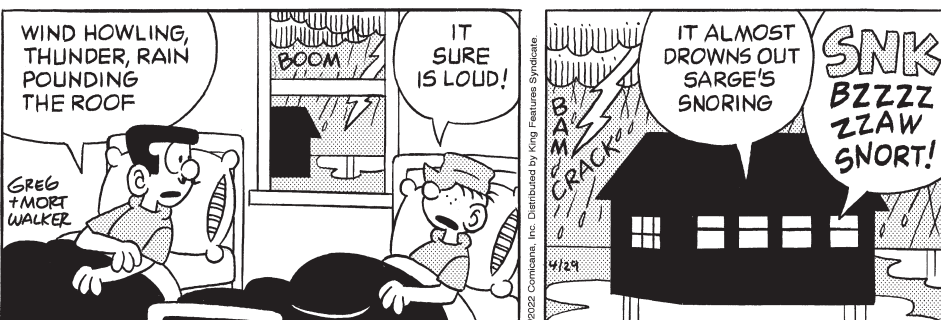
Snuffy Smith



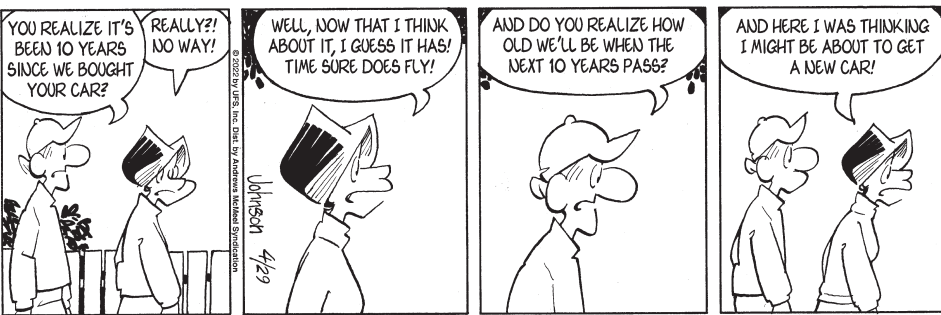
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Arlo and Janis



Your Birthday today:

Arrange your plans any way you see fit, but don't count on others to help you pull things together. You'll get plenty of input about what you already know, but not a lot of hands-on help or information that will help you gain ground. Own what you say and do, and stick to a logical path. Rewards will come your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Use your imagination and put an intelligent plan in place. Make a positive change by going through the proper channels and tidying up paperwork. Leave nothing to chance for best results.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Leadership builds strength. Don't let someone steal your thunder with empty promises. Show compassion and understanding, offer incentives and do your part to make a difference.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Let experience guide you to bigger and better opportunities. Refuse to let someone's emotional restraint stop you from embracing the changes that lead to the type of lifestyle you want to live.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You may not like how others respond, but your decisions and actions should reflect what's in your heart. Don't let anger lead to regret; follow through with your commitments.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Gather information and unite with people who share your concerns and can help bring about change. A family gathering or outing with a loved one will lift your spirits.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Tally up your assets and liabilities. Knowing where you stand financially will help you make decisions regarding expenditures and your lifestyle. Discipline and moderation will help.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take care of unfinished business before engaging in social pastimes. Put more emphasis on how you look and how you present yourself to others. Discuss your intentions with someone important.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- A stable front will help head off interference. Someone will play with your emotions, and guilt will set in if you are too accommodating. Look out for yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- When dealing with friends and relatives, patience is required. You can offer suggestions, but don't get involved in other people's decisions. Personal improvements are favored.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Put together a strategy that will benefit you financially and make room for something you want to pursue. Worry less about what others think or do and focus on what's important to you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Keep an open mind, and you'll discover new ways to make the most of your skills, experience and knowledge. A change of plans will work in your favor and give you a chance to discuss your intentions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Keep promises to a minimum. If you take on too much, it will cause emotional angst, stress and criticism. Have a strategy in place and a backup on hand. Avoid making assumptions if possible.

DEAR ABBY

Advice written by
Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: I am a newlywed. My husband and I are looking for a house to settle down in, but we're struggling to find one we like that we can afford. My in-laws, who are moving, offered to sell us their house for a very generous price. The house is in a great neighborhood, but it's old and outdated and has HVAC and plumbing problems.

I think the house would be the perfect place for my husband and me to raise a family if we had some renovations made. However, we have talked to my in-laws about this, and they are very attached to this house and very against having any renovations made to it. My husband is happy to buy it and not have the renovations made, but I'm not so sure. What should I do? -- HOUSE HUNTER IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR HOUSE HUNTER: You and your husband should talk with your in-laws together. While I understand their sentimental attachment to the house, they are being unrealistic and controlling. If they were to sell it to strangers, you can bet the first thing that would happen would be renovations. HVAC, plumbing, electrical and roof problems cost a fortune to keep fixing over time if they are not dealt with. Don't they want their grandchildren raised in a nice, safe home in a great neighborhood? If the answer is yes, they need to loosen the reins. If not, then you should keep looking.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a veteran with a nonservice-connected back injury. I need artificial discs between several vertebrae. The hospitals and clinics ignored my condition for the past 25 years. I will have an MRI soon. My fiancée is a nurse and does not have the money for the operation I need. A wealthy female friend has offered to fund it. Should I ask my fiancée for permission since this friend is a woman? -- GETTING A CHANCE IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR GETTING: You should definitely clear it with your fiancée. If she loves you, she will agree that you are fortunate to have such a generous friend. However, if she's insecure, you will then have to decide which is more important -- your health or your relationship. I know which one I'd choose.

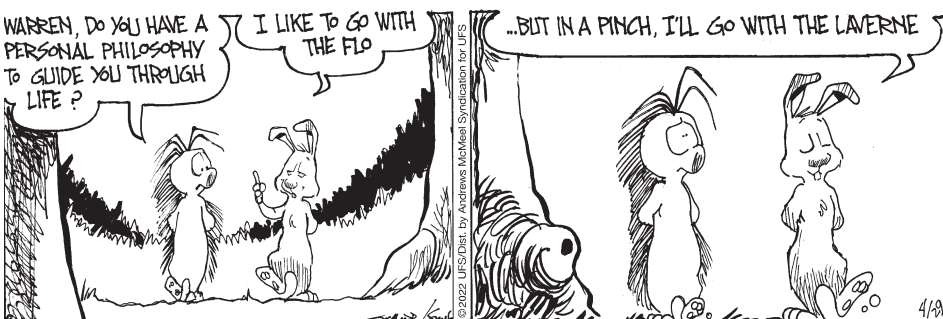
DEAR ABBY: My college-age daughter who still lives with me is addicted to caffeine. I am considering slowly replacing the regular coffee with decaf without telling her. I don't want to tell her, as this may get in her head, and she may react by having withdrawal symptoms. I don't think she would be angry, because she knows I am always looking out for her. What do you think? -- MOM WITH A PLAN

DEAR MOM: Quit being a helicopter barista. Have enough respect for your college-age daughter to tell her the amount of coffee she consumes is a concern for you. Then ask if she would like your help to cut back. Withdrawal symptoms from caffeine are real, and your daughter might wonder what's wrong when she experiences symptoms of withdrawal if you keep her in the dark.

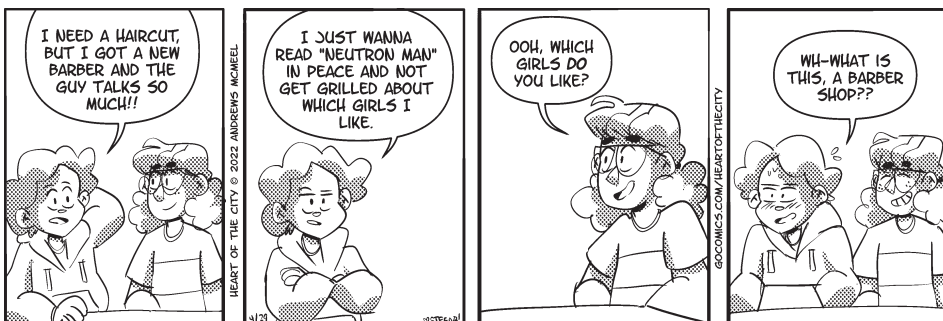
Brevity



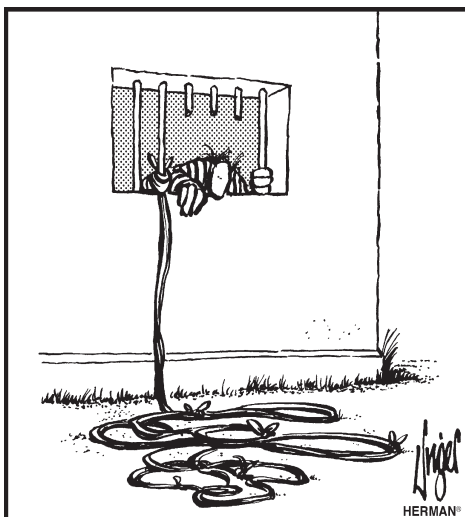
Grizwells



Heart of the City



Herman



Moderately Confused



Born Loser

