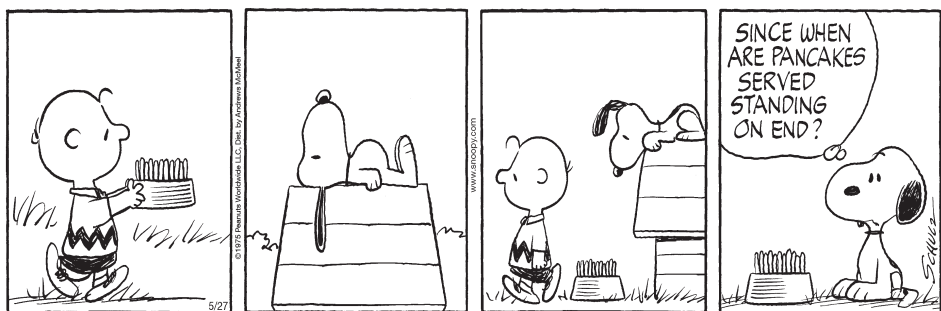


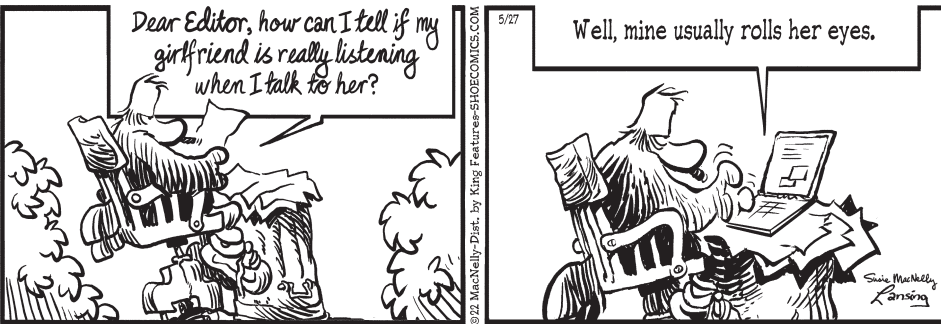
Peanuts



Hagar The Horrible



Shoe



Garfield



Frank and Ernest



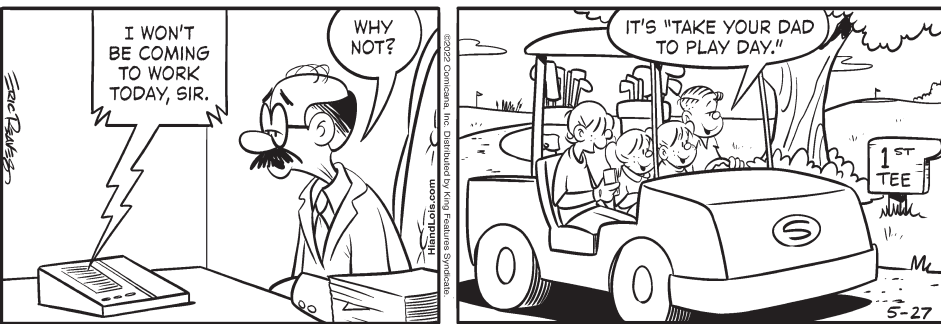
Blondie



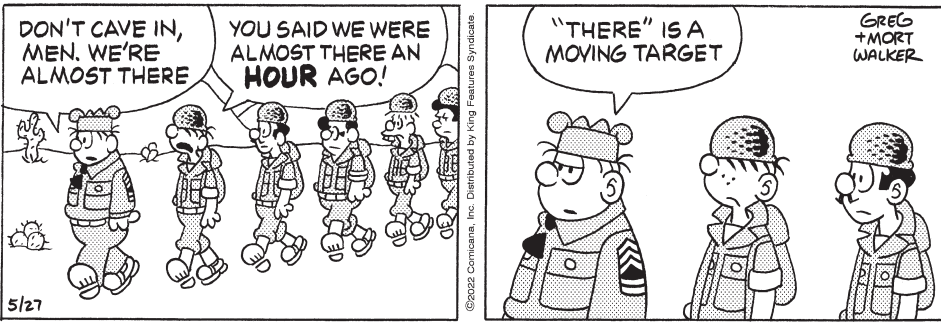
Snuffy Smith



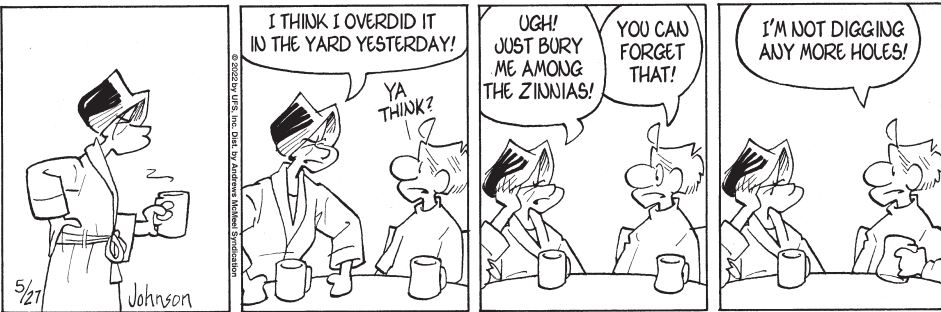
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Arlo and Janis



Your Birthday today:

Pull out all the stops, and force issues that will clear up unfinished business. Cutting ties with the past will give you the freedom to use your knowledge, skills and experience to branch out and do something interesting. Protect your health, position and reputation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Take a leadership position, and find a way to express your beliefs, opinions and plans. Show compassion and offer solutions that will help you gain support. Don't sit on the sidelines.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Keep life simple, your responsibilities doable and your spending moderate. You don't have to impress anyone; just be yourself. Don't fear change when it's time to embrace new beginnings.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Pay attention to what you say and do to avoid jeopardizing your position or reputation. Live up to your promises and focus on personal improvements. If you want to excel, updates are necessary.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Be the instigator, and you'll gain points. Your suggestions and the changes you initiate will stimulate conversation and help you make headway. Put your energy and intelligence to work.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Push for what you want. Expand your interests and seek out allies. The information you accumulate will help you craft an impressive strategy. Personal growth and romance are on the rise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Address your responsibilities, and search for a way to delegate some of the work. It's up to you to say when something is too much or ask for help. Speak up and defend your position.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Take it upon yourself to get things done. If you count on someone other than yourself, you will be disappointed. Channel your energy where it will do the most.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Spend more time nurturing meaningful relationships and making your home comfortable and convenient. Don't hesitate to initiate change or to do things differently.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Disregard what others do; focus on what's important to you. Changing how you use your money, skills and intelligence will lead you in an entertaining and fruitful direction.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- It's OK to dream, but don't lose sight of what's tangible. Ask someone trustworthy for advice before buying something you don't need or that cannot help you. Get your facts straight.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Be careful not to let your emotions take control. Be smart and deliver precise information to avoid being blamed for spreading inaccuracies.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Decisiveness will be required to get where you want to go. Leave nothing to the imagination or to chance. Know what and who you are up against, and do your best. Believe in yourself.

DEAR ABBY

Advice written by
Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: I have a gay friend I'll call "Allen." We have been close friends for 13 years. Allen has visited me often with his friends from England, and two years ago, when I could finally afford to visit him, he invited me to stay in the home he shares with his boyfriend, "Rupert." Rupert took an instant dislike to me. He treated me rudely and mocked my American accent the entire time I was there. I let it be and concentrated on the beautiful scenery, the beautiful people I met and my longtime friend.

On my last day there, Rupert offered to take me around London, which surprised me. But I was happy to get into the city, so I agreed. It was extremely unpleasant. He berated me loudly in public, called me old and ugly and yelled at me at top of his lungs in a gift shop.

I texted Allen later that day asking if I could stay the last night at a hotel instead of their guest room. He replied by telling me all the stuff Rupert had texted to him that day about how I had been treating HIM badly. I was shocked. I hadn't mentioned anything about Rupert, but simply asked if he would be able to drive me to a hotel near the airport for my last night in England. I have since tried to reach out to Allen to explain my side of the story, but he continues to ignore me. Any advice on how to move forward would be helpful. -- SAD TRAVELER IN NEVADA

DEAR SAD TRAVELER: For whatever reason, Rupert regarded your long friendship with Allen as a threat, so he used the afternoon in London to cut you off at the knees. As long as Allen continues to ignore your efforts to mitigate the damage, consider him unreachable. With the passage of time, he may eventually realize how devious Rupert is, but this is a conclusion he must arrive at without your help. Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your friendship, which I am sure was important to you.

DEAR ABBY: Everywhere, it seems, there are books and guides for caring for aging parents. But what about aging siblings? The age difference is smaller, so it can end up with the elderly caring for the elderly -- especially if there isn't a next generation of family members on whom to rely.

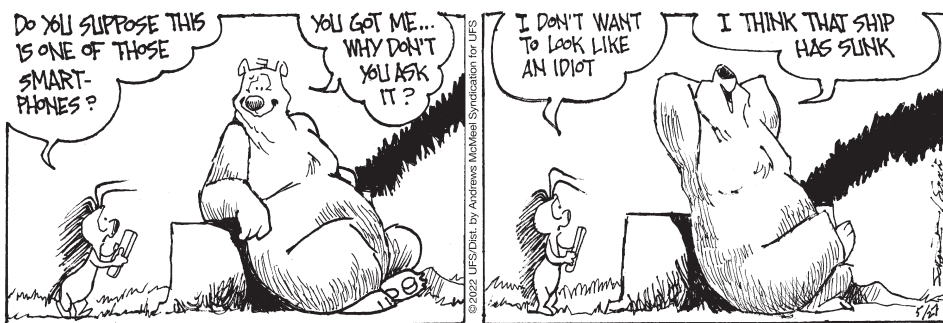
As we baby boomers hit our 70s, we can find ourselves caring for siblings in their early 80s, and they're even less likely to listen to us than our parents were. Frankly, some of us are already worn out from caring for elderly parents. We're at the point of concern about our own health and that of our spouses. When you've got a 73-year-old trying to take care of an 80-year-old who is childless and lives 700 miles away, and who says only, "I'll let you know when I need you," it's frightening. Any guidance? -- DAUNTING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR DAUNTING: Yes, I think you should follow the directive of your 80-year-old sibling and wait to be asked for help instead of "hovering." Familiarize yourself with what senior services are available in their community and cross your fingers they will not be needed. In addition, take whatever relevant guidance you can from the books on caring for parents, because in many ways, there may be great similarities.

Brevity



Grizwells



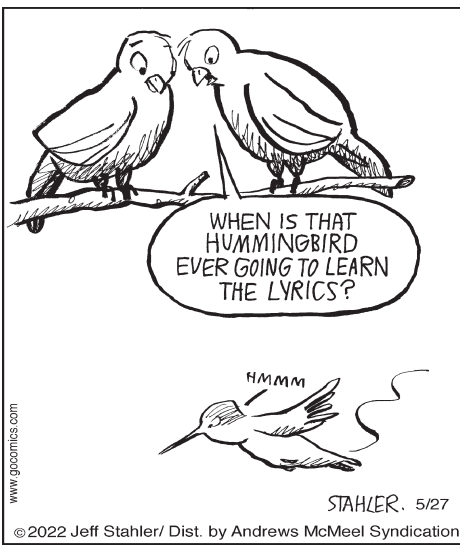
Heart of the City



Herman



Moderately Confused



Born Loser

