# **COFFEE BREAK**

### **PEANUTS**









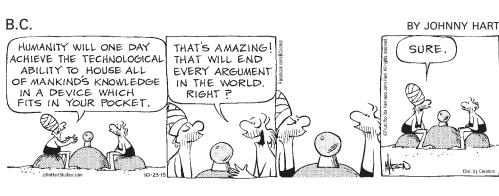
## FOR BETTER OR WORSE











**PICKLES** 









**BEETLE BAILEY** 

I FEEL WEAK





**GARFIELD** 







# **BLONDIE**



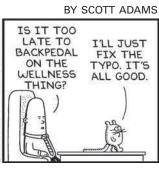




**DILBERT** 

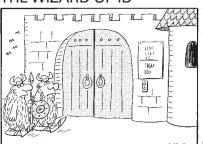






THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART

















BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



## **DEAR ABBY**

# Paying Grandma for child care becomes divorce war weapon

Dear Abby: My daughter and her husband are divorced, and I take care of their twin daughters after school. I love the girls and treasure the time I get to spend with them.

Their parents' combined income is more than \$120,000. I am on a fixed income and ask for only \$10 per day (plus \$10 a week for gas) so I can take the girls places like the zoo or an occasional movie (which usually costs more than I am given). I feed them one meal a day on this budget as well.

Whenever discussions about money occur, the ex-husband repeatedly tells my daughter he thinks it's "offensive" that a grandparent charges money to watch the grandchildren. He uses it as a tactic to threaten to not pay for other needed expenses. How do I tell him I think he's out of line for making me feel bad for requesting the money? — **Stunned And** Hurt In Tempe, Ariz.

Dear Stunned And Hurt: Your former son-in-law may have some bitterness because of the divorce. Whatever his reason, his children should not suffer for it. Frankly, he should be ashamed of himself.

If he raises the subject of being "offended" with you, remind him in PLAIN ENGLISH that you are on a limited income, food is expensive and if the money wasn't NEEDED you wouldn't ask for it. It's the truth. It's nothing to be ashamed of and certainly not offensive.

Let's do the math: Your granddaughters go to school five days a week; that's \$50, plus \$10 a week for gas. That's \$60! If they were in day care instead of being looked after by you, the

**JEANNE** 

PHILLIPS

Advice

cost would be many times that amount.

Dear Abby: I am an executive assistant. A few years ago, my boss passed away after a long illness. My 13 years with her accounted for the longest consistent span of my career, and for obvious reasons, I was not able to get a letter of recommendation. It was difficult applying for jobs without being able to provide a first-hand reference from my longest employer.

I am now happily employed, but I worry sometimes about what if it happens again. My current boss is in his early 50s, but not in the best health. I have no intention of going anywhere, and I don't want to send him the wrong signal, but I'm wondering if it would be inappropriate to ask him for a reference letter, just to make sure I don't find myself in the same situation again. BTW, he knows about my former situation, so I think he would understand, but I'm not sure. — Executive Assistant In Georgia

Dear Executive Assistant: I'm sorry about the death of your former employer, but your lack of a letter of reference should not have prevented you from finding another job. Your length of employment should have been proof enough that you were an asset to the company.

I do not think it would be a good idea to approach your boss about giving you a letter of reference for a couple of reasons. First, it might be regarded as a signal that you are not happy with your job. And second, because of fear of litigation, many employers today are reluctant to give out any information about an employee other than the length of time the person worked for the company.

## **DAYS GONE BY**

#### 100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Oct. 23, 1915

One of the most successful skin-grafting operations ever performed in the state or in fact in the northwest is the work of Dr. I.U. Temple upon a farm hand named Burrows. Burrows has been in St. Anthony's hospital since last harvest season and is steadily improving. He will soon be able to be about. Burrows was injured while at work on the ranch of Jim Wyrick, the skin of one of his legs below the knee being horribly torn and mangled. The man was taken to the hospital and Dr. Temple attended him. Taking the good skin from the upper portion of the man's leg, the physician grafted it to the bruised part. The operation has been a complete success and Burrows will suffer no ill-consequences from his injury.

#### 50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Oct. 23, 1965

The Rev. Owen Douglass, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, resigned his pulpit last Sunday. Mr. Douglass is acutely allergic to Russian Thistle, and doctors have advised

that he must not remain in this area. He and Mrs. Douglass will leave Nov. 2 to assume the pastorate of the Pleasant Home Baptist Church near Gresham.

#### 25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Oct. 23, 1990

force promoting continuing education for teen-aged parents hopes to open an infant-care center by the first of the year. Karen Graybeal, chairman of the Eastern Umatilla County Teen Pregnancy Task Force, said financing is the only hurdle for the community-based project, which has been gathering steam for the last two months. Graybeal said the task force has applied for financial assistance from a variety of organizations, including the Pendleton Youth Commission, the Pendleton Foundation Trust, Blue Mountain Community College, service organizations and churches. The task force and its goals stem from new welfare reform legislation, which took effect Oct. 1. The reform requires teen parents who receive welfare — Aid For Dependent Children — to work toward high school completion.

# THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 296th day of 2015. There are 69 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On October 23, 1915, tens of thousands of women paraded up Fifth Avenue in New York City, demanding the right to vote.

On this date:

In 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain, created by the Acts of Union between England and Scotland, held

its first meeting. In 1864, forces led by Union Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis repelled Confederate Mai. Gen. Sterling Price's army in the Civil War Battle of Westport in Missouri.

In 1925, talk show host Johnny Carson was born in Corning, Iowa.

In 1935, mobster Dutch Schultz, 34, was shot and mortally wounded with three other men during a gangland hit at the Palace Chophouse in Newark, New Jersey. (Schultz died the following

In 1942, during World War II, Britain launched a major offensive against Axis

forces at El Alamein in Egypt, resulting in an Allied victory.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of Leyte Gulf began, resulting in a major Allied against Japanese victory forces.

In 1956, a student-sparked revolt against Hungary's Communist rule began; as the revolution spread, Soviet forces started entering the country, and the uprising was put down within weeks.

In 1963, the Neil Simon comedy "Barefoot in the Park," starring Elizabeth Ashley and Robert Redford, opened on Broadway.

In 1972, the musical "Pippin" opened Broadway.

In 1983, 241 U.S. service members, most of them Marines, were killed in a suicide truck-bombing at Beirut International Airport in Lebanon; a near-simultaneous attack on French forces killed 58 paratroopers.

In 1995, a jury in Houston convicted Yolanda Saldivar of murdering Tejano singing star Selena. (Saldivar was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.)

Todav's Birthdays Baseball Hall of Famer and former U.S. Senator Jim Bunning, R-Ky., is 84. Movie director Philip Kaufman is 79. Soccer great Pele (paylay) is 75. Rhythm-and-blues singer Barbara Ann Hawkins (The Dixie Cups) is 72. ABC News investigative reporter Brian Ross is 67. Actor Michael Rupert is 64. Movie director Ang Lee is 61. Jazz singer Dianne Reeves is 59. Country singer Dwight Yoakam is 59. Community activist Martin Luther King III is 58. Movie director Sam Raimi is 56. Parodist "Weird Al" Yankovic is 56. Rock musician Robert Trujillo (Metallica) is 51. Christian/ jazz singer David Thomas (Take 6) is 49. Movie director Chris Weitz is 46. CNN medical reporter Dr. Sanjay Gupta is 46. TV personality and host Cat Deeley is 39. Actor Ryan Reynolds is 39. Rock singer Matthew Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 32. Actress Emilia Clarke is 29.

**Thought for Today**: "Just be yourself — it's the only way it can work." — Johnny Carson (1925-2005).

# PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN





BY DANA SIMPSON

# **ZITS**

LUANN







**BIG NATE** 







AND SAME

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

