

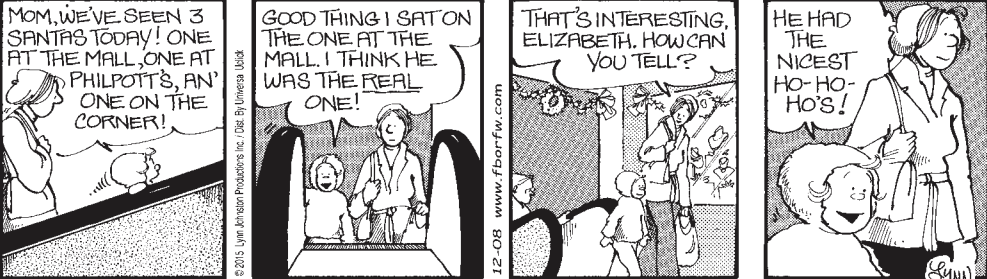
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



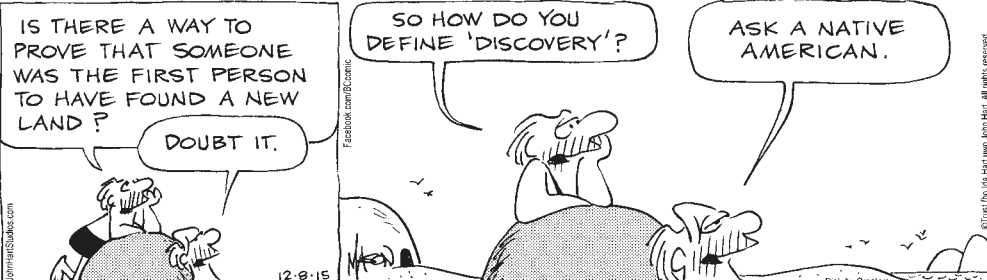
FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



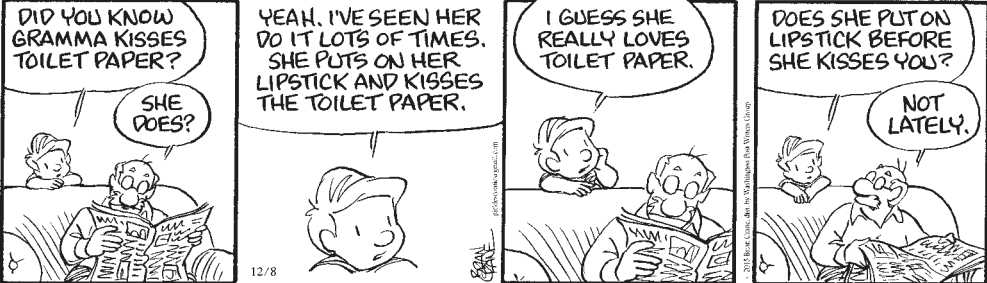
B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



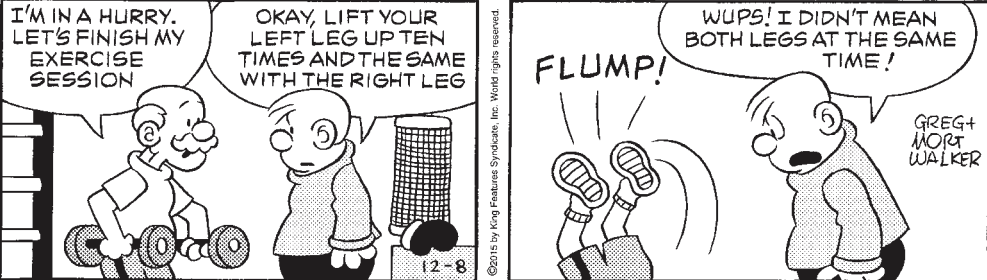
PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



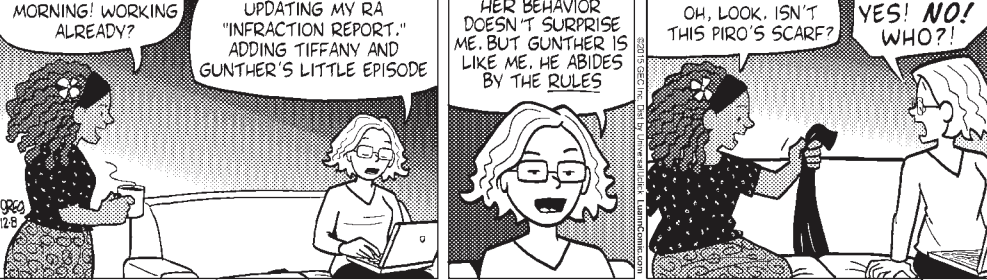
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Daughter's changing gender identity baffles her family

Dear Abby: A good friend of mine recently found out his daughter, "Rhonda" (who is over 18), feels she should have been born a boy. "Ronnie" is now living life as a man and plans to change genders completely.

To say the least, my friend and his wife are finding it difficult to deal with. He doesn't understand why she can't just be gay, which he would be fine with. I want to give them emotional support while at the same time supporting Ronnie, but I'm having a hard time relating to their feelings.

Could you provide some resources for them, such as organizations that help families deal with gender changing and all that it entails? — **Wants To Be Supportive**

Dear Wants To Be Supportive: I know an excellent LGBT organization that has been mentioned before in my column. It's called Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). The largest increase in new individuals reaching out to PFLAG is now among trans people and their family members. Ronnie can't "just be gay" because the issue isn't sexual orientation; it is Ronnie's GENDER IDENTITY. PFLAG can help to explain this to Ronnie's father, and he should visit pflag.org for guidance.

Dear Abby: I have been with "John" for 18 years. We married while he was in prison. I know I have outgrown him, but I'm scared to say it's over in case I realize later that we should be together. Over the years, we have both cheated and hurt each other.

I don't know exactly what I am holding onto with him. There doesn't seem to be anyone else out there to choose from, so maybe I should stay. I'm not afraid to be alone,



JEANNE PHILLIPS
Advice

but I am confused. I am suffering from depression over this. Please help. — **Stuck In Des Moines**

Dear Stuck: If the only reason you haven't left John is that there's no one else around to choose from, it's understandable that you would be depressed. The status quo isn't fair for you or your husband.

As I see it, you have two choices: Fix your marriage or leave. Of course, the better option would be for you and John to have counseling to see if your love can be revived. However, if it doesn't work, then it might be better for you both to separate. The reason there is no one else out there right now may be that you are unavailable.

Dear Abby: Call me ungrateful, but I am very uncomfortable receiving gifts. How can I get longtime friends to stop bringing hostess gifts when I invite them over? I don't need anything, and I resent feeling I am obligated to take something to them, too.

Why do women do this and men not feel so compelled? I have tried remarking, "The present of your 'presence' is present enough," but it continues. I need your help. — **Ungracious In Florida**

Dear Ungracious: Women usually bring hostess gifts because they were raised to believe it is the gracious thing to do. ("Don't come empty-handed.") Since "remarking" hasn't gotten your message across, you will have to be more direct with your friends. TELL them that when they visit, you would prefer they bring only themselves and nothing more. Then explain that you are at a point where you have enough "things" and do not need or want any more.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 7-8, 1915

Two local black men, M. McMurray, porter at the Pendleton Shoe Hospital, and Harvey Bazelle, who runs a junk shop on Cottonwood street, engaged in a lively post-election row last evening. McMurray slashed the other's coat with a sharp knife and sent a bullet after him as he fled down the street. The fracas occurred on Water street just east of the Hotel Pendleton and just after the crowd gathered there had partially dispersed. The knife did not cut through the skin but Bazelle was badly frightened, and declared he overtook the bullet which had passed close to his head when fired. McMurray was arrested and a charge of assault with intent to kill has been lodged against him.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 7-8, 1965

A former school superintendent, Melvin L. Bates, was hired Monday to run Umatilla

County's War on Poverty programs. The action came through agreement of the County Community Action Committee. County Judge D.R. (Sam) Cook is chairman. Bates, 38, has been a Pendleton resident 2 1/2 years. He came here from Arlington where he was superintendent of schools four years. Before that time, he coached at Weston and Lexington and taught at Irrigon. His duties will be to coordinate projects under the Economic Opportunity Act.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 7-8, 1990

A Pendleton man could face the death penalty following his conviction in Eugene Wednesday on a charge of aggravated murder. A jury found Robert Wallace Lyons, 25, guilty of strangling Lori Marlene Jones Stabenow in a Eugene motel room on Sept. 23, 1989. The six-man, six-woman Lane County Circuit Court jury is scheduled to reconvene Jan. 7 to consider whether to sentence Lyons to death or life in prison.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 342nd day of 2015. There are 23 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Imperial Japan, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

On this date:

In 1765, Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton gin, was born in Westborough, Massachusetts.

In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the Catholic dogma of the Immaculate Conception, which holds that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was free of original sin from the moment of her own conception.

In 1865, Finnish composer Jean Sibelius was born in Haemeenlinna.

In 1914, "Watch Your Step," the first musical revue to feature a score composed entirely by Irving Berlin, opened in New York.

In 1940, the Chicago Bears defeated the Washington Redskins, 73-0, in

the NFL Championship Game, which was carried on network radio for the first time by the Mutual Broadcasting System (the announcer was Red Barber). **In 1949**, the Chinese Nationalist government moved from the Chinese mainland to Formosa as the Communists pressed their attacks.

In 1962, the first session of the Second Vatican Council was formally adjourned. Typographers went on a 114-day strike against four New York City newspapers.

In 1980, rock star John Lennon was shot to death outside his New York City apartment building by an apparently deranged fan.

In 1982, a man demanding an end to nuclear weapons held the Washington Monument hostage, threatening to blow it up with explosives he claimed were inside a van. (After a 10-hour standoff, Norman D. Mayer was shot dead by police; it turned out there were no explosives.)

Today's Birthdays:

Flutist James Galway is 76. Singer Jerry Butler is 76. Pop musician Bobby Elliott (The Hollies) is 74. Actress Mary Woronov is 72. Actor John Rubinstein is 69. Rock singer-musician Gregg Allman is 68. Reggae singer Toots Hibbert (Toots and the Maytals) is 67. Actress Kim Basinger is 62. Rock musician Warren Cuccurullo is 59. Rock musician Phil Collen (Def Leppard) is 58. Country singer Marty Raybon is 56. World Bank President Jim Yong Kim is 56. Political commentator Ann Coulter is 54. Rock musician Marty Friedman is 53. Actor Wendell Pierce is 52. Actress Teri Hatcher is 51. Actor David Harewood is 50. Rapper Bushwick Bill (The Geto Boys) is 49. Rock musician Ryan Newell (Sister Hazel) is 43.

Thought for Today:

"War does not determine who is right — only who is left." — *Author unknown (although this sentiment is sometimes attributed to Bertrand Russell).*

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

