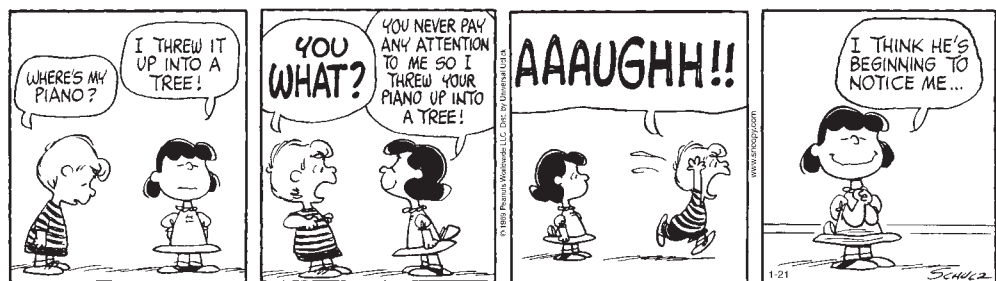


PEANUTS

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



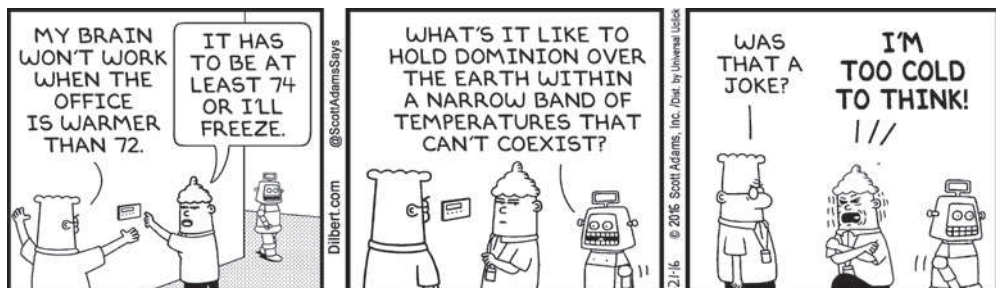
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



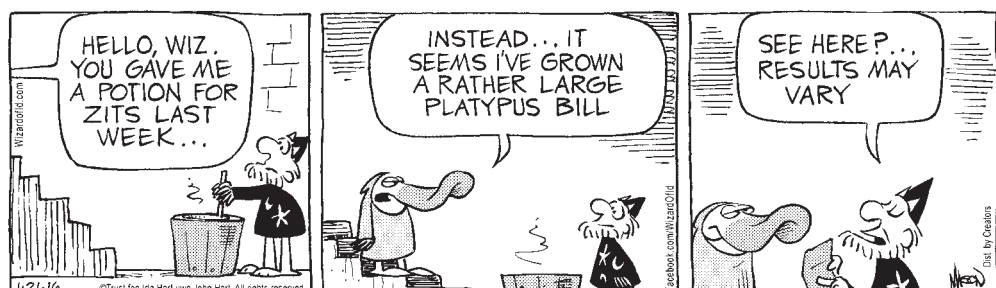
DILBERT

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

Couple's future grows murkier after man has second thoughts

Dear Abby: My boyfriend, 'Jimmy,' and I have been together for two years. After about four months, out of necessity we moved in together and it was great.



JEANNE PHILLIPS Advice

Not long afterward I got a job two hours away. Since I moved, we get to see each other only every two or three weeks. The separation has been tough, but when we're together, everything is perfect and all is right with the world. I feel we were fated to be together.

Before the move, Jimmy and I often talked about marriage, and although I am not crazy about it, I knew it meant a lot to him, so I proposed (ring and all). He initially said yes, then sort of asked me to take back my proposal. Since then, he has been avoiding all discussions about our future, and I don't know what to do.

I'm willing to quit my job and go back to be with him, but I'm scared he's going to get cold feet. Obviously, I'm hopelessly in love with him, but now I'm feeling lost and confused. — Hours Apart In The South

Dear Hours Apart: Please allow me to offer some clarity. Do not quit your job because if you do, you may find yourself not only without a job but also without a place to stay.

When someone (man or woman) asks that a proposal be rescinded, it usually means the person feels he or she may have jumped the gun by saying yes. Jimmy is avoiding all discussion about your future because he doesn't want one, and he's afraid to say it directly because he knows it

will hurt your feelings.

For your own sake, have an honest conversation with him about this. It may be painful, but it will be better than living in limbo the way you are. As the saying goes, "When a door closes, another one opens."

Dear Abby: Last Friday was Grandparents' Day at my kids' preschool. My parents attended and were well-behaved for the most part, but then my mother made a faux pas. She asked one of the directors when her baby was due. Well, Abby, the woman isn't pregnant.

When I picked up my kids, I had no idea what had happened. The director was having a conversation with one of the teachers when I walked in, so as usual I smiled and waved as I walked by. I did sense something was off when she didn't respond, but I figured she was preoccupied. When we met my parents for dinner, my mother told me what happened.

I am mortified. I managed to make it out of the preschool this morning without crossing paths with the director, but I'll be seeing this woman for the next couple of years. What, if anything, do I say to her? — Horrified In Michigan

Dear Horrified: You did nothing wrong, so stop avoiding the woman and behave as you usually do. If you notice that she treats you differently, all you should say is: "I heard what happened with my mother, and I'd like to apologize for her behavior. As you can see, she sometimes puts her foot in her mouth, but we love her anyway."

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 21, 1916

Bert Johnson, who Monday stabbed Ray Hicks twice during an altercation, yesterday afternoon gave himself up to the officers. Johnson declared to the officers that he used the knife in self defense after he had been beaten up by Hicks' fists. He did not go into explanations regarding the cause of the dispute, probably through a desire to protect the lady over whom it is said to have arisen. He stated that he met Hicks on Main street during the noon hour and that, after a few words, the latter told him he intended to have it out with him. Accordingly he said they decided to go to some place where they would escape arrest. He said he did not know that he had stabbed Hicks until the latter told him of it, and that he drew his knife to keep Hicks away from him.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 21, 1966

Former Hermiston Police Chief William A. Silvey testified here Wednesday that he was fired Nov. 18, 1964, because of defamatory statements made by Mrs. Gerald C. McCoy, Hermiston. The testimony came as

trial opened in Umatilla County Circuit Court of a \$75,000 suit Silvey filed against Mrs. McCoy. He has filed a similar suit against Marjorie Bartlett, publisher of the Hermiston Herald. Silvey charges that Mrs. McCoy said Silvey "had been living with another man's wife for two weeks." She denied using those words and claims in addition that she had the right to report what she considered poor conduct by the chief.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 21, 1991

Winter again has driven hundreds of Rocky Mountain elk off public lands and onto private property at lower elevations in the McKay Creek drainage. For the elk, the migration means the difference between foraging for food in deep and crusted snow or on a more plentiful food source elsewhere. But the presence of the herd on private lands is at the core of a debate that has slowly grown in complexity and urgency over the past decade. Ranchers, fee-hunting operators, wheat growers, the Indian community and wildlife biologists all are local players in the debate. Each group has its own explicit opinion concerning the presence of elk, while the elk itself is an innocent bystander.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 21st day of 2016. There are 345 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 21, 1976, British Airways and Air France inaugurated scheduled passenger service on the supersonic Concorde jet.

On this date:

In 1793, during the French Revolution, King Louis XVI, condemned for treason, was executed on the guillotine.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis of Mississippi and four other Southerners whose states had seceded from the Union resigned from the U.S. Senate.

In 1908, New York City's Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance prohibiting women from smoking in public establishments (the measure was vetoed by Mayor George B. McClellan Jr., but not before one woman, Katie Mulcahey, was jailed overnight for refusing to pay a fine).

In 1915, the first Kiwanis Club, dedicated to commu-

nity service, was founded in Detroit.

In 1924, Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin died at age 53.

In 1954, the first atomic submarine, the USS Nautilus, was launched at Groton, Connecticut (however, the Nautilus did not make its first nuclear-powered run until nearly a year later).

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter pardoned almost all Vietnam War draft evaders.

In 1994, a jury in Manassas, Virginia, found Lorena Bobbitt not guilty by reason of temporary insanity of maliciously wounding her husband John, whom she'd accused of sexually assaulting her.

In 2010, a bitterly divided U.S. Supreme Court, in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, vastly increased the power of big business and labor unions to influence government decisions by freeing them to spend their millions directly to sway elections for president and Congress.

Today's Birthdays:

Actress Ann Wedgeworth is 82. World Golf Hall of Famer Jack Nicklaus is 76. Opera singer-conductor Placido Domingo is 75. Singer Mac Davis is 74. Actress Jill Eikenberry is 69. Country musician Jim Ibbotson is 69. Singer-songwriter Billy Ocean is 66. Former U.S. Ambassador to China Gary Locke is 66. Former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder is 65. Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen is 63. Actor-director Robby Benson is 60. Actress Geena Davis is 60. Basketball Hall of Famer Hakeem Olajuwon is 53. Rapper Levirt (B-Brock and the Bizz) is 46. Rock musician Mark Trojanowski (Sister Hazel) is 46. Rock singer-songwriter Cat Power is 44. Rock DJ Chris Kilmore (Incubus) is 43. Singer Emma Bunton (Spice Girls) is 40.

Thought for Today: "I honestly think it is better to be a failure at something you love than to be a success at something you hate." — George Burns, American comedian (1896-1996).

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

