

PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



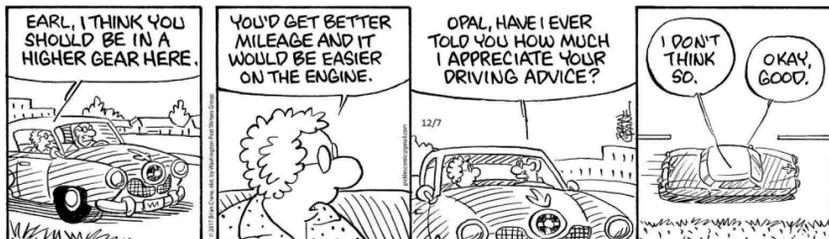
B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



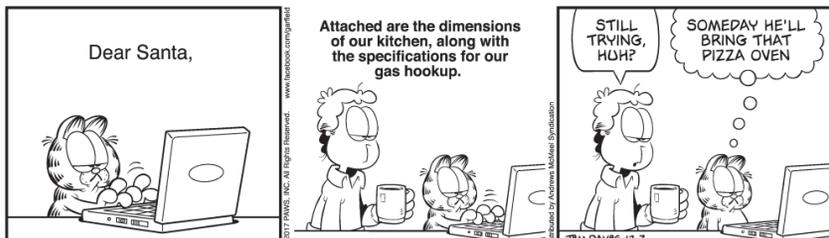
BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



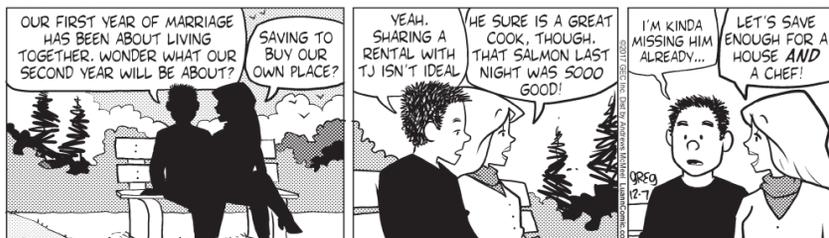
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Non-hugger seeks polite way to keep others at arm's length



JEANNE PHILLIPS Advice

Dear Abby: I am not a hugger. In fact, I pretty much always hate it. But people think I'm rude when I don't open my arms to hug after they've opened theirs. And they also think I'm rude when I tell them I'm not really a hugger. It happens with friends, fellow church congregants and audience members (I'm an entertainer) all the time. Although I let the hugs happen, I'm usually holding my breath the whole time.

know how to proceed. What can I do to maintain a good relationship with her, while staying on good terms with my son? My grandchildren mean the world to me. — **Heartsick In The West**

Dear Heartsick: The last thing you want or need is to get caught in the middle of the divorce. Try your level best not to take sides and be sure to give your almost-ex-daughter-in-law her space.

Once I've "Hey girl'd" someone and offered my warmest smile, what more can I do? I don't want people I like to think I don't like them, or I'm not happy to see them. But I'm fed up with faking it and participating in this ritual that makes me so uncomfortable. If there's a polite, clear way to convey this to people without seeming cold or unappreciative, please let me know what it is. — **Bracing For The Embrace**

Assure her that you care about her and that you deeply regret that the marriage with your son didn't work out. (It's true.) Tell her you have grown to love her as a daughter and hope that, in spite of the divorce, you will always be close. Do NOT discuss any intimate details or assign blame, if you can possibly avoid it, and try to keep your visits upbeat while concentrating on your grandchildren.

Dear Bracing: You are not alone in feeling the way you do. Not everyone is comfortable with being hugged. I think you should simply be honest about your feelings and tell the huggers that you become claustrophobic when people hug you, and to please understand that your reluctance isn't personal. If you make it about you rather than them, it shouldn't come across as rejection.

Dear Abby: My wife and I will soon attend a weekend wedding. We will be meeting a large number of people for the first time. My problem is I have a hard time remembering people's names. I suggested to my wife that I carry a pocket-size notebook and write down names followed by a brief description. She thinks it's a great idea as long as no one catches me doing it. I think, in addition to being practical, it will provide a bit of humor to the occasion. What say you? — **Sensible In Seattle**

Dear Abby: My son and daughter-in-law are splitting up. I'm devastated for them and my two young grandchildren, with whom I'm very close. They live in another state, so I stay with them when I go visit. Although we've always had a great relationship, I'm terrified that my daughter-in-law will not want me to visit her after the divorce. I'm heartsick and don't

Dear Sensible: I agree with your wife. Be discreet, if you can. Rather than carry a notebook, it might be less obvious if you enter or dictate the information in the notes section of your phone.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 7, 1917

Philip Parcher and Paul Amort, supervisor and assistant respectively of the manual training department of the Pendleton schools, will leave tonight to enlist in the U.S. navy. Parcher will go to Spokane to enlist as a second class mechanic and Amort will first go to Corvallis to visit his parents and will then return to Portland to enlist as a second class mechanic. Neither has resigned his position in the school and will not until finally accepted into the service. In the event that either is rejected, the department will be kept open but should both be accepted there is a probability that the department will be closed owing to inability to secure instructors.

complained the agreement between him and the city on operating the ambulance service is "not practical." He said a banker had told him the business was not being conducted "in a business-like manner." Gentner touched on no specific points of the agreement in his plea to the council for help.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 7, 1967

Robert Gentner, operator of Pendleton Community Ambulance Service, Tuesday told the city council he will liquidate the business if he doesn't "get help." The ambulance is subsidized by the city. Gentner

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 7, 1992

It was vintage Heppner football — the 1992 vintage, one the Mustangs will savor for years. Heppner powered its way to the state Class 2A high school football title with a 24-12 victory over two-time defending champion Vale. Vale's loss ended the longest high school football winning streak in state history at 38 games. The Mustangs dominated the Vikings in a chilly drizzle at Parker Stadium, rolling to a 24-0 lead with two scores in the opening quarter and two more in the third quarter. A 6-yard touchdown run by Heppner running back Scott Coe late in the third quarter put a lid on Vale rally hopes and a 31-yard fumble return by Mustangs line-backer Shane Munkers for another touchdown just 1 minute, 13 seconds later nailed it down.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 341st day of 2017. There are 24 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

- On Dec. 7, 1941,** during a series of raids in the Pacific, Imperial Japan's navy launched a pre-emptive attack on the U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, killing 2,400 people, about half of them on the battleship USS Arizona. (The United States declared war against Japan the next day.)
- On this date:**
 - In 43 B.C.,** Roman statesman and scholar Marcus Tullius Cicero was slain at the order of the Second Triumvirate.
 - In 1787,** Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
 - In 1842,** the New York Philharmonic performed its first concert.
 - In 1909,** chemist Leo H. Baekeland received a U.S. patent for Bakelite, the first synthetic plastic.
 - In 1917,** during World War I, the United States declared

war on Austria-Hungary.

In 1946, fire broke out at the Winecoff Hotel in Atlanta; the blaze killed 119 people, including hotel founder W. Frank Winecoff.

In 1967, the Beatles opened the Apple Boutique in London; the venture proved disastrous, and the shop closed the following July.

In 1972, America's last moon mission to date was launched as Apollo 17 blasted off from Cape Canaveral. Imelda Marcos, wife of Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos, was stabbed and seriously wounded by an assailant who was shot dead by her bodyguards.

In 1987, 43 people were killed after a gunman aboard a Pacific Southwest Airlines jetliner in California apparently opened fire on a fellow passenger, the pilots and himself, causing the plane to crash. Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev set foot on American soil for the first time, arriving for a Washington summit with President Ronald Reagan.

Today's Birthdays:

Linguist and political philosopher Noam Chomsky is 89. Bluegrass singer Bobby Osborne is 86. Actress Ellen Burstyn is 85. Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., is 80. Broadcast journalist Carole Simpson is 77. Baseball Hall of Famer Johnny Bench is 70. Actor-director-producer James Keach is 70. Country singer Gary Morris is 69. Singer-songwriter Tom Waits is 68. Sen. Susan M. Collins, R-Maine, is 65. Basketball Hall of Famer Larry Bird is 61. Actress Priscilla Barnes is 60. Former "Tonight Show" announcer Edd Hall is 59. Rock musician Tim Butler (The Psychedelic Furs) is 59. Actor Patrick Fabian is 53. Actress Kimberly Hebert Gregory (TV: "Kevin (Probably) Saves the World") is 45. Singer Aaron Carter is 30.

Thought for Today: "The highest tribute to the dead is not grief but gratitude." — Thornton Wilder, American playwright and author (born 1897, died this date in 1975).

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

