







BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ

**COFFEE BREAK** 

## FOR BETTER OR WORSE

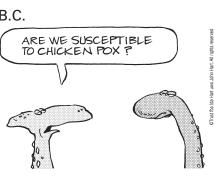


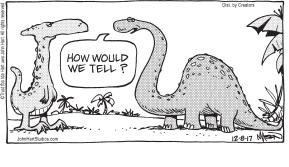






BY JOHNNY HART









I CAN'T HIT A





BY MORT WALKER

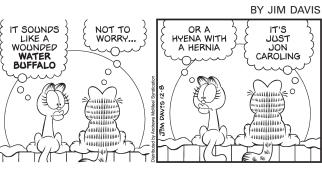
**BEETLE BAILEY** I'M DISAPPOINTED





**GARFIELD** GARFIELD, DO YOU HEAR THAT AWFUL NOISE?! YEAH Ŷ



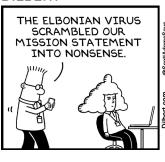




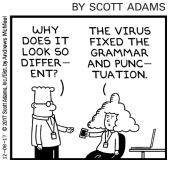




**DILBERT** 







THE WIZARD OF ID







#### LUANN IS THERE ANYTHING NO. YOU'RE I CAN DO BETTER AS YOUR HUSBAND















# **DEAR ABBY**

# **Expectation of an early death** puts man's life in a tailspin

**JEANNE** 

PHILLIPS

**Advice** 

Dear Abby: I spent an evening with a guy I've been wanting to date for some time. After a few drinks he confided to me that he has a serious heart condition. He said he doesn't expect to live past age 23 and he could die any day.

I don't know the details of his condition, but I'm sure he believes what he told me. Because of this his life has taken a downward spiral. He has been drinking a lot, failed multiple classes last semester and feels like studying is futile if he may only live a year after graduating.

For lack of evidence to the contrary, I accepted his statement as accurate. I don't think he'd make up something like that. What can I say or do to show my support? How can I encourage him not to give up on his dreams and his goals? He's only 19. How can I be strong for him?

Since he told me about his heart I haven't been able to think about anything else. I don't know how to process this information. How do you comfort someone you care about who's facing mortality at such a young age? Brokenhearted Guy In The South

Dear Brokenhearted Guy: If you want to be a friend to this young man, ask how many doctors have told him about his poor prognosis. If the answer is only one, urge him to get a second opinion because there are medical advances in cardiology happening every day, and he may not be nearly as close to the end as he fears.

You say he's still in school. Suggest he talk to someone at the student health center about his depression because it is interfering with his

grades. And while you're at it, suggest he stop drinking and neglecting his studies because, in the end, he might

**Dear Abby**: My best friend of more than 20 years is a busy person. She has a demanding job, a husband, two children and extended family she cooks for on most holidays. She also cares for an elderly distant relative. She has a heart of gold and is wonderful to me and my family.

Friday, December 8, 2017

When I'm invited to her house for dinner, she refuses to let me help her clear the table. I'm not happy with that, but I accept it. The problem arises when I invite her over for dinner. Because we don't get to visit often, I'll pile the dishes in the kitchen so I can spend time with her and wash them later. But she cannot sit still and just have a conversation with me or anybody. You will find her in the kitchen scraping plates, soaking pans and hand-washing the wine glasses.

This has become a point of contention because I like to unwind and clean my kitchen after my guests have left. I have tried working with her, but she prefers to power through the mess by herself, which gives us less time to sit and talk. How can I get through to her? — **Anxious In New York** 

Dear Anxious: Assuming that you have spoken to your friend more than once about this, I think it's time to accept her the way she is, rather than the way you would like her to be. Some people are unable (notice I didn't say unwilling) to just sit still and have a conversation, and she appears to be one of them. If this is her only flaw, consider yourself blessed to have a sparkling kitchen when she leaves.

# **DAYS GONE BY**

### 100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 8, 1917

Brain fatigue was the prevailing ailment yesterday afternoon when two hundred and fifty high school students finished the task of answering twenty current history questions given them to test their interest and knowledge. The examination was arranged as a preliminary step to the possible formation of a class in current events and civics should any department be temporarily closed. Ranging from "What is the meaning of the term camouflage" to "Who is Hoover," the questions brought out a wide variety of answers including the statement that La Follette is an explorer and that Bulgaria, Africa, Roumania and China are neutral countries of Europe. Examination of all the papers shows that there is a fair average of current knowledge among the high school students, and also that the seniors are no better as a group than the lower classes.

#### 50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 8, 1967

Why did the chicken cross the road? Yes, to get to the other side. But perhaps a "silent policeman was there to slow down traffic for reported crossing Main Street Wednesday

morning. But plenty of cackles were heard and teeth chattering. Drivers said they almost had their teeth knocked out when they drove autos over the "silent policeman," three asphalt ridges that force cars to slow down at mid-block crosswalks that were recently installed at the request of the city council. Cars slow down, going over the bumps as if they're railroad ties; cars driven by people who perhaps have learned that driving fast over the humps means that wheels bounce like basketballs or like tires given torture tests on television commercials. "... you take an older model car with bad tires and bad shocks and they'll fall apart," said Cliff Baiti of Pendleton.

#### 25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 8, 1992

Robert Hojaboom is a lucky man indeed he retired at the ripe young age of 53. To do so, the Umatilla resident earned a pension after working 30 years for IBM, and he and his wife saved her entire earnings for 10 years after the children were out of school. More opportunities exist now than when he started his career to retire early and well, Hojaboom said. "It takes a lot of personal fortitude and self discipline to do it," he said. "If you can the feathered pedestrian. No chickens were instill in young people to invest and save their money, it would help the whole country."

Today is the 342nd day of 2017. 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 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 1813, Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92, was first performed in Vienna, with Beethoven himself conducting.

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.

1863. President In Abraham Lincoln issued his Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction for the South.

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.)

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed a treaty at the White House calling for destruction of intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

Today's Birthdays: Flutist James Galway is 78. Singer Jerry Butler is 78. Pop musician Bobby Elliott (The Hollies) is 76. Actress Mary Woronov is 74. Actor John Rubinstein is 71. Reggae singer Toots Hibbert (Toots and the Maytals) is 69. Actress Kim Basinger is 64. Rock musician Warren Cuccurullo is 61. Rock musician Phil Collen (Def Leppard) is 60. Country singer Marty Raybon is 58. World Bank President Jim Yong Kim is 58. Political commentator Ann Coulter is 56. Rock musician Marty Friedman is 55. Actor Wendell Pierce is 54. Rapper Bushwick Bill (The Geto Boys) is 51. Rock musician Ryan Newell (Sister Hazel) is 45.

**Thought for Today**: "I'm not interested in my legacy. I made up a word: 'live-acy.' I'm more interested in living." John Glenn (1921-2016).

# PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN







# **ZITS**







**BIG NATE** 





BY LINCOLN PEIRCE THE NEXT HAVE A BOLD EA, REMIND ME IDEA,