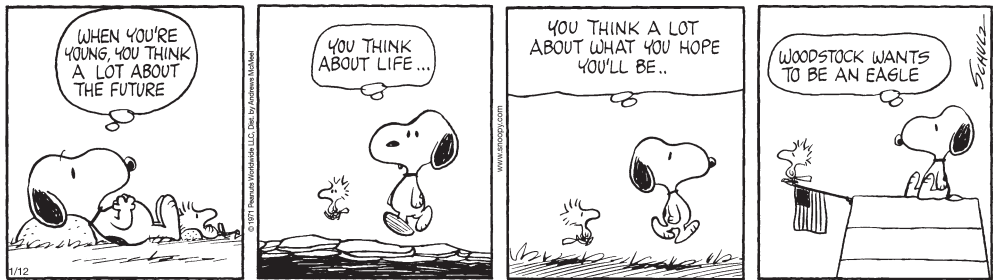


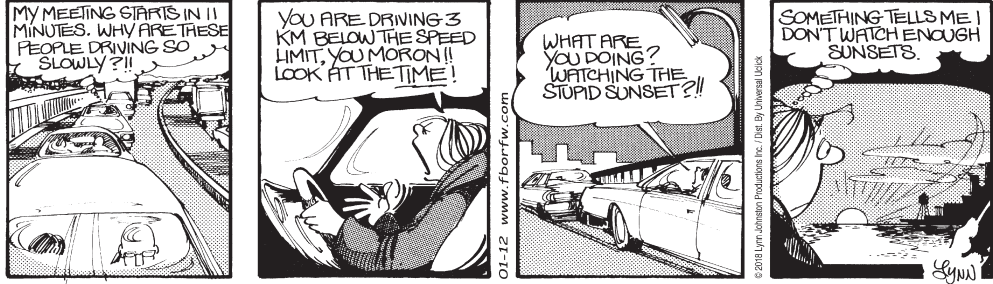
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



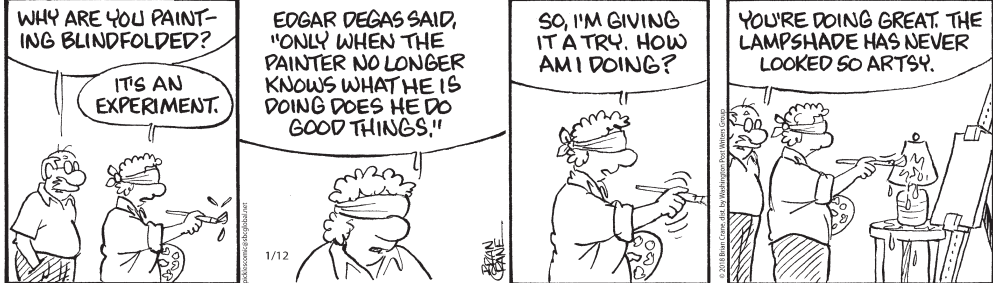
B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



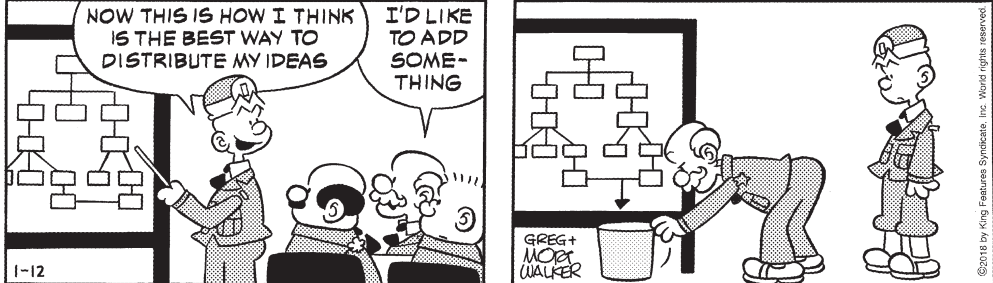
PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



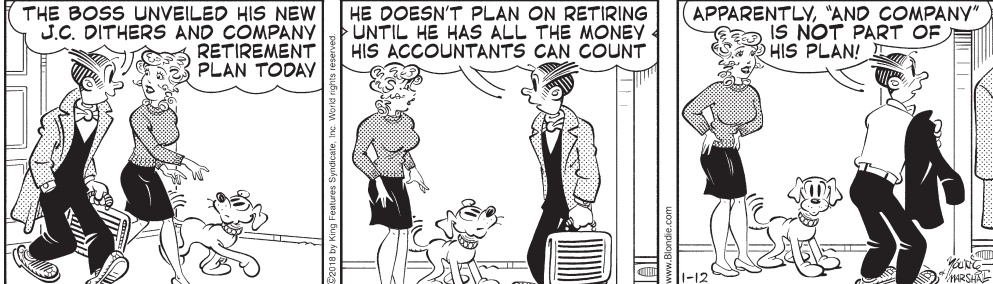
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



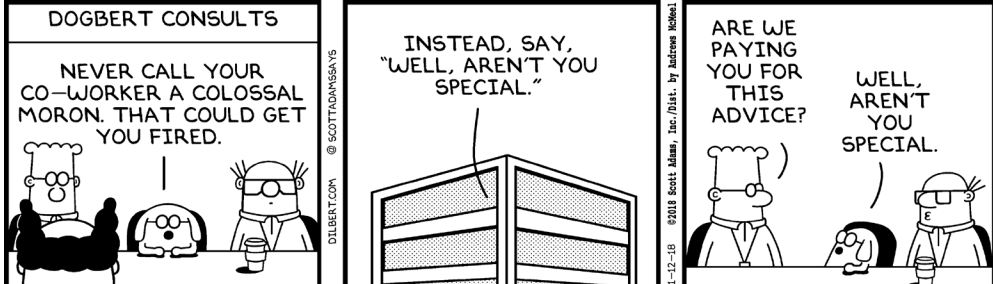
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



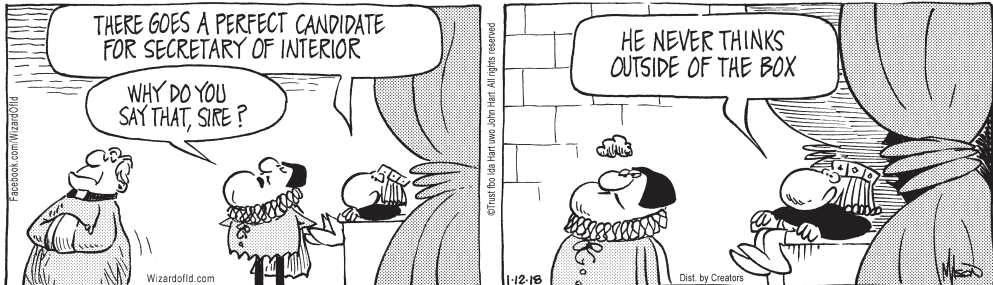
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



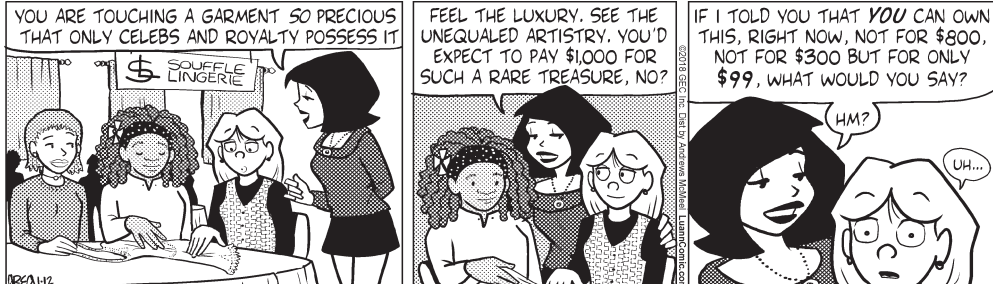
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Single mom puts real effort into socializing with couples

Dear Abby: I have an answer for a question from "Excluded in the East" you printed on Sept. 24: "Why do married couples exclude single people?"



JEANNE PHILLIPS Advice

As a single mother with three children for 15 years, I made the conscious decision to conduct myself as I always had when I was part of a couple. I hosted backyard parties and holiday dinners and invited my married friends. I initiated invitations for dinner and a movie.

At restaurants, I made sure to pick up my own tab. If a couple insisted on paying for my meal, I insisted on paying the tip and was prepared with cash. Why? Because I was mindful that some men felt uncomfortable about taking money from a single woman.

If I wanted company for the evening, I drove to their house. Sometimes I volunteered to be the designated safe driver. Most important, I never complained about my ex or vented about the difficulties of coping as a single mom.

Needless to say, there was no flirting or inappropriate comments. I also avoided lengthy side conversations with one spouse. In short, I worked hard to make sure my married friends enjoyed my company as much as I enjoyed theirs, and it worked! — Laura In New York

Dear Laura: I'm glad it worked for you. After I asked for readers' input on the topic, I received many interesting responses. Read on for a sample:

Dear Abby: I suspect that married couples are afraid divorce is contagious. It could have something to do with the fact that some married people are no longer happily married and they fear if they include a divorcee, it might trigger a divorce. — Happily Uncoupled In Ohio

Dear Abby: I have been married for 10 years. A lot of couples exclude singles because they don't want them to feel like third wheels. I remember when I was single feeling that way in some groups, and it was depressing. Marrieds also have a different mindset than singles, which can lead to awkwardness. It can work, but it has to be the right group. — Married In The Midwest

Dear Abby: We're a gay male married couple. We have many friends — singles and couples, gay and straight — with whom we socialize, usually at restaurants. We often dine with single friends one at a time, because splitting the tab is simply a matter of two credit cards. If we're with another couple, that's two credit cards. Three couples, it's three cards, etc. But with five or seven people at the table, paying for the meal turns into an exercise in high finance. — Keeping It Simple In Palm Springs

Dear Abby: I'm in my early 60s and still single. I actually PREFER to be left out of invitations to eat in restaurants, go on trips, etc. with my many coupled friends. It makes me somewhat depressed to be with those who have found their mates. "Excluded's" friends may be sensitive about this, too. I'm very comfortable at home with my menagerie, and I often invite people over — married couples included. — Dog Lady In Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Abby: Couples who tend to exclude their single friends, for whatever reason, need to remember that one day they, too, may be single and overlooked. My dear mom was left out a lot after her divorce, and I remember how sad it made her feel. — Andrea In Denver

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 12, 1918

Recruiting Officer Peter Swartz has received instructions that naval recruits may be enlisted from now on for the duration of the war. Previous to this time it was necessary to enlist for four years in the service. The quota for the western division is 150 a week and the Portland division is 25 a week. The Pendleton station quota is placed at one a week. Officer Swartz has exceeded this considerably. With the enlistment of Clarence Sommers yesterday Sergeant Swartz already has his quota for the present week, which ends Thursday. Preference in the service will be given radio electricians and aviation mechanics according to word received yesterday from the navy department.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 12, 1968

The Boeing Co. said Friday it has prepared and circulated a brochure offering nearly all of the 100,000-acre Boardman tract in north central Oregon for industrial use. Only two small areas where Boeing has test facilities and an administrative complex won't be fully available for sublease. Boeing holds a 77-year lease on the Boardman site, negotiated with

the State of Oregon in 1963 for \$60,000 a year. The company built two test stands and support facilities near the center of the tract for static firing tests of liquid-propellant rocket engines. It is using the site now to study jet engine noise suppression for the supersonic transport program.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 12, 1993

Being born with a variety of dwarfism and afflicted by mental disabilities could have meant confinement in a special education classroom. Instead, 17-year-old Marty Platt walks the hallways of Pendleton High School with his taller classmates and takes biology and English in a specially tailored curriculum for slower students. A separate set of door handles were added for Platt, ramps were built to ease his progress between buildings — although he prefers the stairs — and drinking fountains were lowered. But those are just the physical aspects of a federal requirement calling for equal educational opportunity. Schools and other public facilities had already started down that path long before the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act passed earlier last year. More far-reaching, and occasionally controversial, is a move to integrate disabled students in regular classrooms.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 12th day of 2018. There are 353 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 12, 1948, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Sipuel v. Board of Regents of University of Oklahoma, unanimously ruled that state law schools could not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race.

On this date:

In 1773, the first public museum in America was organized in Charleston, South Carolina.

In 1828, the United States and Mexico signed a Treaty of Limits defining the boundary between the two countries to be the same as the one established by an 1819 treaty between the U.S. and Spain.

In 1915, the U.S. House of Representatives rejected,

204-174, a proposed constitutional amendment to give women nationwide the right to vote. The silent film drama "A Fool There Was," which propelled Theda Bara to stardom with her portrayal of a predatory vamp, premiered in New York.

In 1932, Hattie W. Caraway became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate after initially being appointed to serve out the remainder of the term of her late husband, Thaddeus.

In 1945, during World War II, Soviet forces began a major, successful offensive against the Germans in Eastern Europe. Aircraft from U.S. Task Force 38 sank about 40 Japanese ships off Indochina.

In 1959, Berry Gordy Jr. founded Motown Records (originally Tamla Records) in Detroit.

Today's Birthdays:

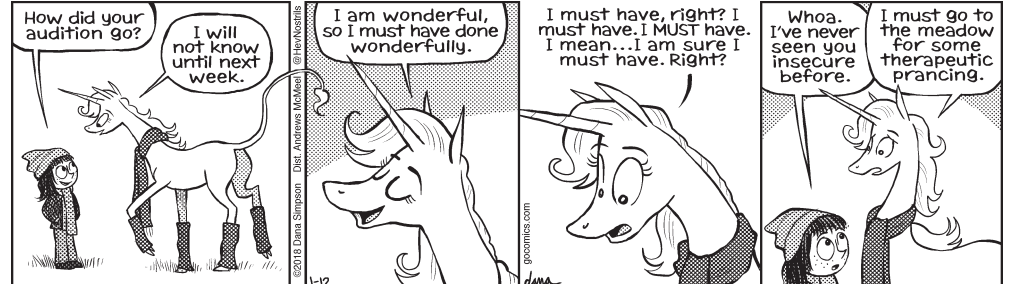
Actress Katherine MacGregor (TV: "Little House on the Prairie") is 93. The Amazing Kreskin is 83. Country singer William Lee Golden (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 79. Actress Kirstie Alley is 67. Political commentator Rush Limbaugh is 67. Radio-TV personality Howard Stern is 64. Basketball Hall of Famer Dominique Wilkins is 58. Rock singer Rob Zombie is 53. Rock singer Zack de la Rocha is 48. Rapper Raekwon (Wu Tang Clan) is 48. Singer Melanie Chisholm (Spice Girls) is 44.

Thought for Today:

"Love is the strongest force the world possesses, and yet it is the humblest imaginable." — Mohandas K. Gandhi, Indian spiritual leader (1869-1948).

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

