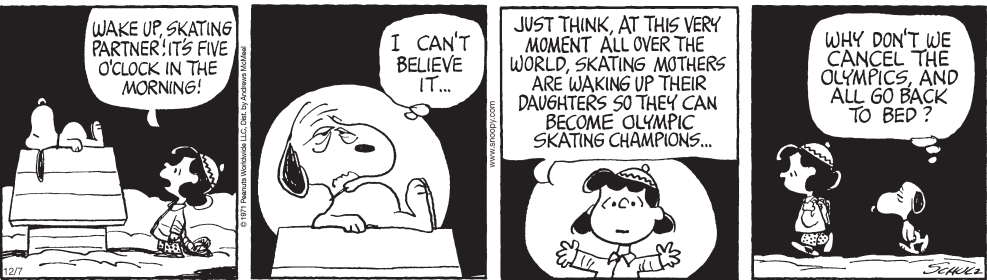


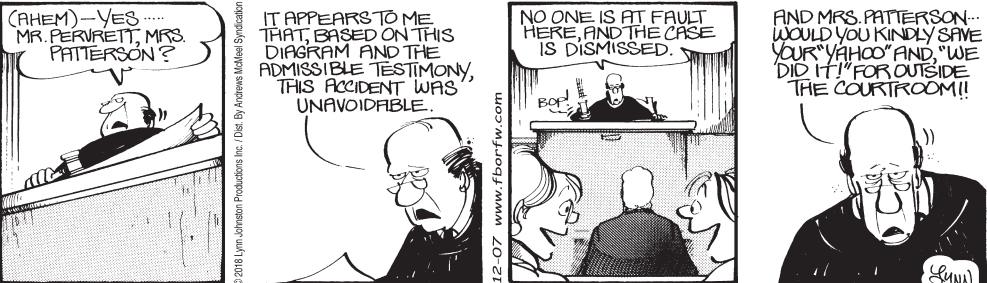
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



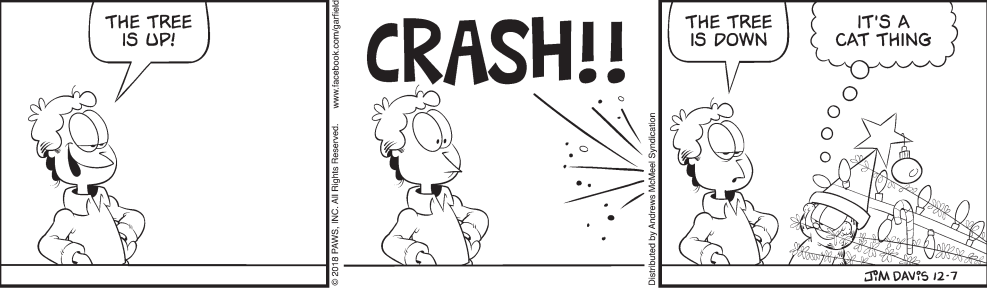
BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



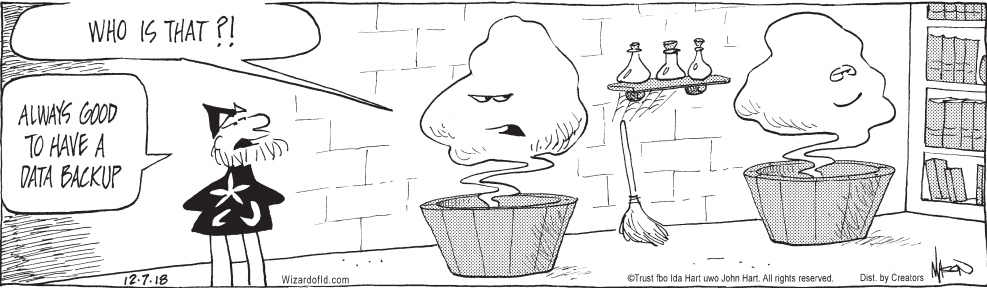
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



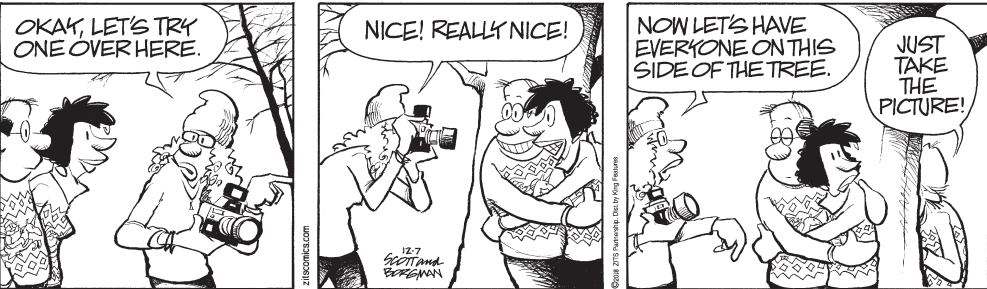
LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Mom finds it hard to watch son in stressful new marriage

Dear Abby: Our youngest son recently married a woman who has an 18-year-old disabled daughter, "Lauren." The girl's mental level is between that of a 2- and 4-year-old. There have been physical confrontations between my new daughter-in-law and her disabled daughter, which are becoming more frequent now that they all live together. Our daughter-in-law refuses to pursue facilities for Lauren, saying she is waiting for her to be transitioned into a group home and feels much guilt in doing so.

Lauren is currently in a day program, which doesn't seem to be helping her. She has definite behavioral issues and has been put on a higher level of meds that haven't helped. Psychologists, counselors and school staff are noncommittal about offering any help and haven't advised on how to address this.

My concern is, my son and his wife now have a 6-month-old son, and I worry about the baby in this home environment. Our son loves his wife and thought he could handle the challenges that come with living with Lauren. He now says he thinks it is best to end the marriage, but he's uncomfortable about giving an ultimatum to his wife. He has a high-pressure job, and his new home environment is taking a toll on him, physically and mentally. Any advice for him is appreciated. — **Mom On The Sidelines**

Dear Mom: I appreciate your concern for the well-being of your son, but if you are smart, you will remain supportively on the sidelines and not insert yourself into this



JEANNE PHILLIPS
Advice

sensitive situation. If your son feels so pressured he's considering ending his marriage, he should be telling his wife about it and not his mother.

Dear Abby: I'm a 31-year-old waitress and proud atheist. I'm one of the least judgmental people I know. Who other people love, or how they choose to worship isn't important to me.

I have a regular customer who comes in to the restaurant about twice a month. He's a pastor and one of the nicest guys I think I've ever met. He'll often bring along people from his congregation and buy them dinner. He counsels new families and tries to teach them the ways of the world. He counsels angry teenagers, and they listen to him. I have tremendous respect for him.

The problem is, every time he comes in, he tries to get me to come to his church. It's sometimes an hourlong conversation. At first I was polite about it and just said no thank you. Recently it reached the point where I said firmly, "I don't need your church." Abby, he still persists!

I don't know what to do anymore. I wouldn't feel right kicking him out of the restaurant. Is there a middle ground? — **Nonbeliever In Georgia**

Dear Nonbeliever: The pastor may be an evangelical, who feels that it is his duty to "spread the word." The middle ground, since he seems unable to accept your polite refusals, is to have another waitress serve him instead of you, if that's possible. If not, ask your manager for guidance.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 7, 1918

Five thousand ninety eight dollars and seventy-seven cents, net profits from the 1918 Round-Up, go to the Red Cross and a check for this amount was today turned over by Secretary C. H. Marsh to W.L. Thompson, Umatilla county Red Cross chairman. The announcement of the amount to be given to the Red Cross was made at the annual Round-Up stockholders' meeting last evening and was greeted with applause. The amount is larger than was generally expected as it was known that Round-Up expenses were heavy because of the Camp Lewis band expenses and the high price of feed for the stock. It is said the board made every effort to make the Red Cross share as large as possible.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 7, 1968

One little paragraph in the new federal gun law is creating a storm among hunters and sporting arms dealers in Eastern Oregon. It is a paragraph that, in effect, provides for registration of all firearms that are used. It says dealers must record the name, age and address of everyone who buys

ammunition. The law's definition of ammunition includes reloading components, except shot. It also requires a record be kept of any sale of firearms. And it forbids sale of ammunition to anyone under 18. The rules are listed in Section 922, Chapter 44, Title 1, of Public Law 90-618, the "Gun Control Act of 1968." It was approved Oct. 22 and takes effect Dec. 16. Any congressman or senator who says the bill does not step on the toes of anyone but criminals did not read what he voted on.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Dec. 7, 1993

A few weeks ago Dr. Harper Jones looked into the mouths of his Medicaid-eligible patients for the last time. "I feel guilty about it. I've always felt like I need to give back to the community," said Jones, of Pendleton. "But as a business decision it wasn't smart to keep doing it." In September, Jones joined a growing group of dentists and orthodontist who no longer accept Medicaid cards for payment. Citing low reimbursement rates that barely cover the cost of procedures and an expanding list of patients refused treatment by colleagues who have already cut off Medicaid, Jones and others say they have no choice but to do the same themselves.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On Dec. 7, 1941, Japan launched a surprise attack on the U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as part of its plan to conquer Southeast Asian territories; the raid, which claimed some 2,400 American lives, prompted the United States to declare war against Japan the next day.

In 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1842, the New York Philharmonic performed its first concert.

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 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.

In 1988, a major earth-

quake in the Soviet Union devastated northern Armenia; official estimates put the death toll at 25,000.

In 2001, Taliban forces abandoned their last bastion in Afghanistan, fleeing the southern city of Kandahar.

Today's Birthdays: Linguist and political philosopher Noam Chomsky is 90. Singer-songwriter Tom Waits is 69. Basketball Hall of Famer Larry Bird is 62. Former NFL player Terrell Owens is 45. Pop-rock singer/celebrity judge Sara Bareilles is 39.

Thought for Today: "Any frontal attack on ignorance is bound to fail because the masses are always ready to defend their most precious possession — their ignorance." — *Hendrik Willem van Loon, Dutch-American journalist and lecturer (1882-1944).*

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

