

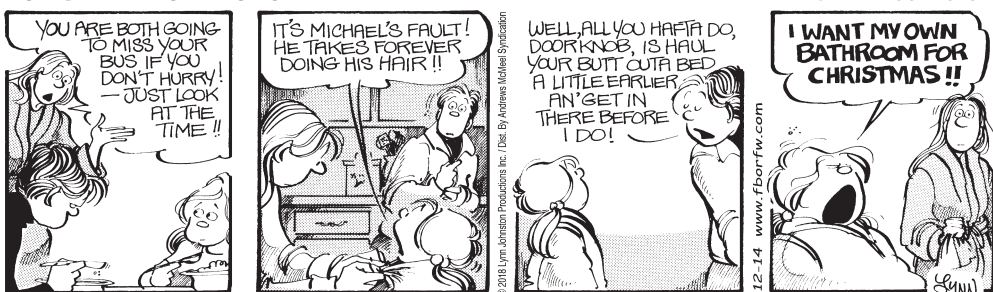
PEANUTS

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



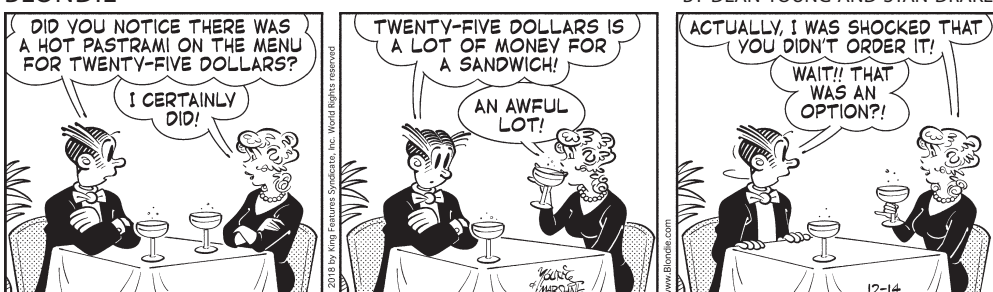
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



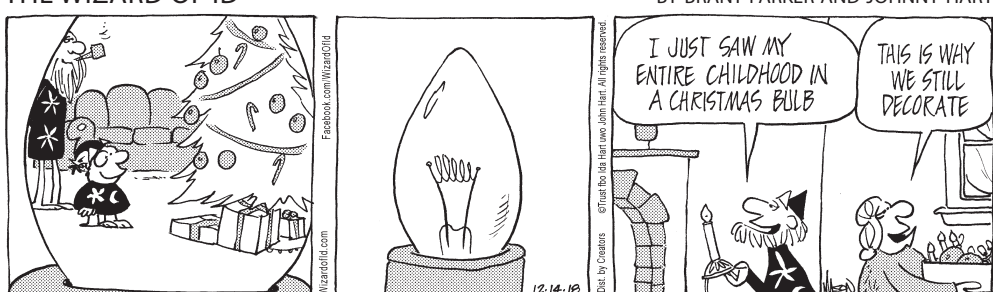
DILBERT

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

Divorcing mom is grateful for new man's friendship

Dear Abby: A year ago my 13-year marriage fell apart. My husband, "Rick," will be spending the next six years in prison. I am 32 and have two boys, ages 13 and 15.

The last year has been pretty tough for all of us. I've been learning how to be both mother and father to them. I am also heartbroken by what he did that landed him in prison. I have filed for divorce, and there will be no reconciliation.

I never thought I would be with another man. Rick is the only man I have ever been with. But over the last couple of months I have begun developing feelings for someone, or at least I think I have.

"Jason" is a great man. We attend the same church, and it's very important to me and my family that he's devoted to God like we are. Jason loves my kids, and my kids like him a lot, too. He has also taken the time to mentor my oldest son. Every time I see Jason I feel happier than I've been in a very long time. He is the polar opposite of Rick, and he has no idea of how strong my feelings are toward him.

Should I let Jason know what my feelings are? I'm confused. Could this just be me wanting companionship? I love being his friend and would like to continue to be. I don't want to ruin it by revealing my feelings if he doesn't feel the same. Also, I don't want to rush into anything. Please advise me. — **Lonely and Confused Out West**

Dear Lonely and Confused: There is nothing wrong with wanting companion-



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

ship, but the last thing you and your children need is for you to jump from the frying pan into the fire. You are still a married woman. Jason may be terrific — Heaven sent, even — but it's too soon to "declare" anything. The two of you are still getting to know each other, and love needs time to develop. Be patient and allow the relationship to evolve gradually in its own time.

Dear Abby: This is for delivery drivers or anyone making a delivery to your house that requires a signature or a real person to receive the item (i.e., an Uber driver with food). I'm 61 and have very bad knees. I can't just jump up and run to the door. Today a driver knocked on my door and then, as I was trying to get out of my chair and walk to the door, he started punching the doorbell repeatedly.

People with arthritis, bad knees or many other conditions can't get there in an instant. Please give folks like us a minute to get to the door. Someone could fall while trying to rush and get hurt. — **Not Fast Enough in Florida**

Dear N.F.E.: You make a good point. Delivery people sometimes become frustrated because they have many deliveries to make. A solution to your problem might be to post a small sign next to your doorbell that reads: Please be patient. I'll open the door in a minute!

P.S. For those who are inclined, "smart" doorbells are available for use with a cell-phone that enable you to communicate with a delivery person at the door before you get there. Consider getting one.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 14, 1918

Pendleton Elks are going to take a particular part in the reception of Roy W. Ritner, captain in the Red Cross, when he returns home next Tuesday. Ritner was exalted ruler of the lodge when he left for France and this plus the fact he was always a zealous worker for the order has inspired Elkdom to make a fuss on the occasion of his return.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 14, 1968

Freeway travel between Stanfield Junction and the top of Rieth Ridge was opened Thursday afternoon but travelers not watching the signs and not oriented to the new path are having problems. "The biggest problem," said the State Highway Department "is that people just aren't watching the signs." The main problem is coming onto the freeway at Stanfield Junction where there used to be a leg to the east, which is now the westbound lanes. People not paying attention the signs

are still coming that way, regardless of the Do Not Enter and Wrong Way signs, and are ending up in the wrong lane of traffic, said the highway department, which has people positioned at the junction trying to keep cars in the proper lanes this morning.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 14, 1993

Pendletonopoly, a board game created by Pendleton Junior High School teachers Jim Davis and Judi Emerick, is finally completed and on sale — just in time for the holidays. "It's a better Monopoly-type game than they will have ever played before," said Davis, who based the home-grown game on the Pendleton Round-Up. Players vie for equipment and horses, instead of hotels. And winning depends on the quality of equipment paid for during the player's trips around the game's perimeter. The game retails for \$25 and will help teachers pay for student perks, such as cans of pop. Such low-cost incentives really help some students stay on track, Davis said.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 348th day of 2018. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 14, 2012, a gunman with a semi-automatic rifle killed 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, then committed suicide as police arrived; the 20-year-old had also fatally shot his mother at their home before carrying out the attack on the school.

On this date: In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his team became the first men to reach the South Pole, beating out a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson vetoed an immigration measure aimed at preventing "undesirables" and anyone born in the

"Asiatic Barred Zone" from entering the U.S. (Congress overrode Wilson's veto in Feb. 1917).

In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States, ruled that Congress was within its authority to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against racial discrimination by private businesses (in this case, a motel that refused to cater to blacks).

In 1985, Wilma Mankiller became the first woman to lead a major American Indian tribe as she took office as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. Former New York Yankees outfielder Roger Maris, who'd hit 61 home runs during the 1961 season, died in Houston at age 51. In 2005, President George W. Bush defended his decision to wage the Iraq

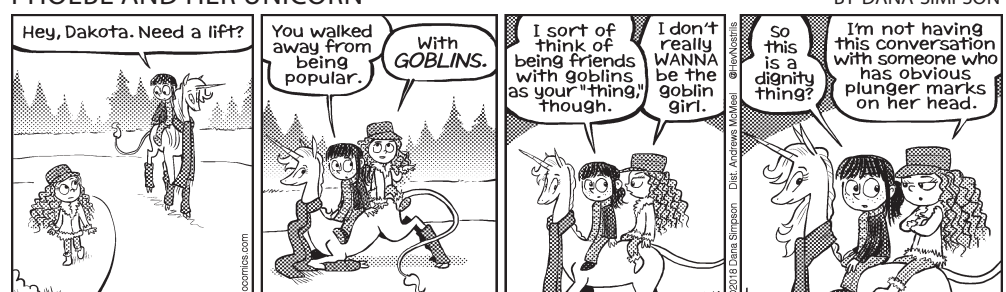
war, even as he acknowledged that "much of the intelligence turned out to be wrong."

Today's Birthdays: Pop singer Joyce Vincent-Wilson (Tony Orlando and Dawn) is 72. Entertainment executive Michael Ovitz is 72. Actress Dee Wallace is 70. Rock singer-musician Mike Scott (The Waterboys) is 60. Singer-musician Peter "Spider" Stacy (The Pogues) is 60. Actress Cynthia Gibb is 55. Actress-comedian Miranda Hart is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brian Dyalr-imple (Soul For Real) is 43. Actress KaDee Strickland is 43. Actress Vanessa Hudgens is 30. Rock/R&B singer Tori Kelly is 26.

Thought for Today: "Both now and for always, I intend to hold fast to my belief in the hidden strength of the human spirit." — *Andrei Sakharov (1921-1989)*.

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

