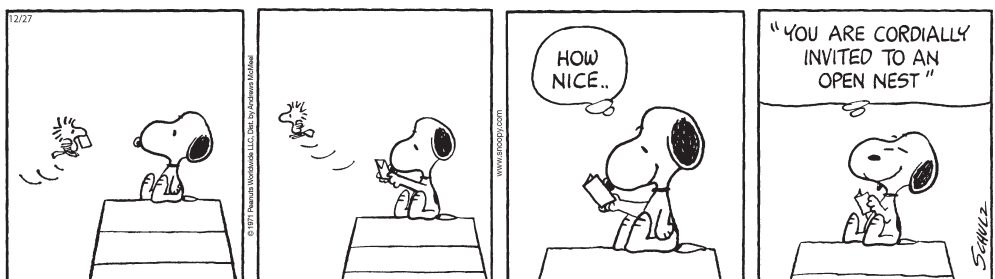


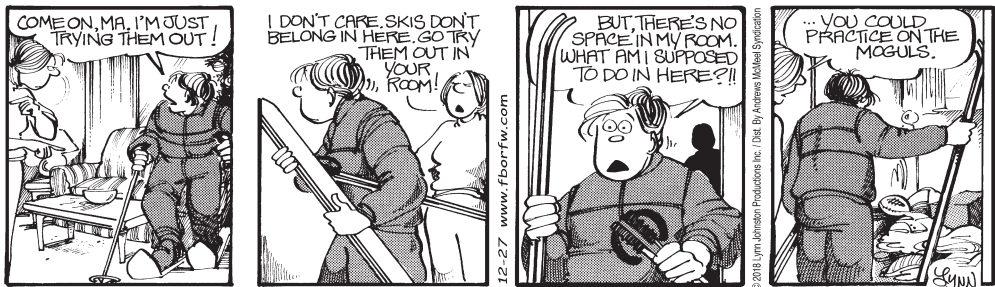
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



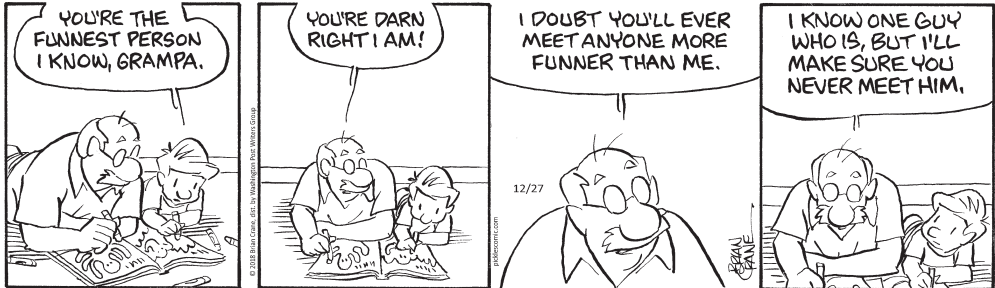
B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



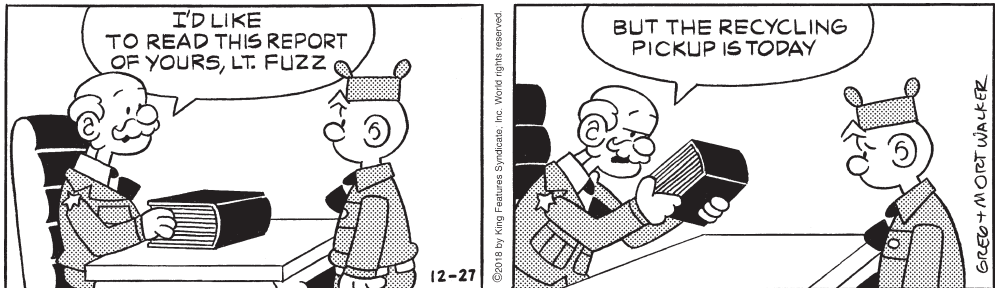
PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BEEBLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



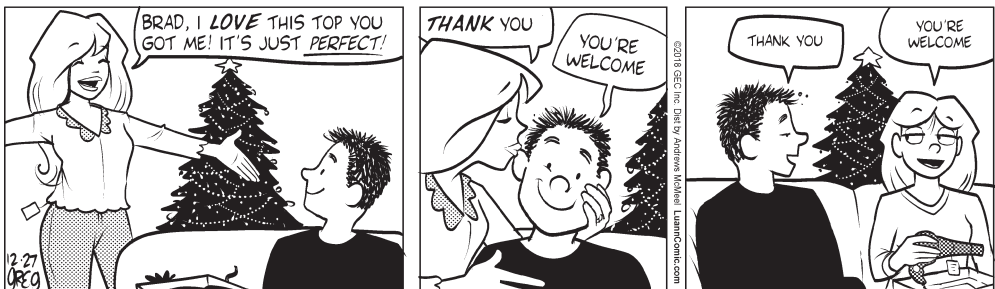
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



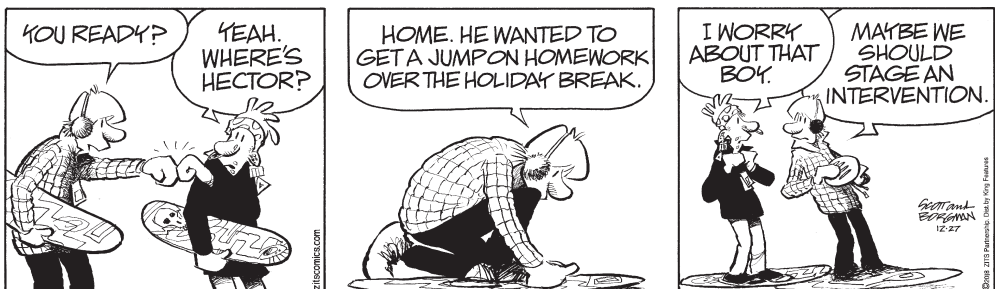
LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Joining police force changes view toward brother's drinking



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

Dear Abby: My brother is my best friend. He is also an alcoholic. It runs in our family, and he has been addicted for years. His drinking has affected me in several (minor) ways over the years, but I have always taken a hands-off approach, knowing I can't force him to get help.

Well, his drinking is starting to affect my life in a more severe way now. I joined the local police force. I am afraid that my brother's behavior could cost me my job if I'm seen with him while he acts out, or if I try to defend him.

I love my brother fiercely, and I don't know what to do anymore. I feel like I need to avoid him, but I love him. Please help. — Challenged in the East

Dear Challenged: Establish some ground rules by explaining to your brother that although you love him, you cannot be seen with him if he has been drinking, for fear it will jeopardize your job. It's a valid concern. Make clear that if he breaks the law, you will be unable to intercede for him.

You are not responsible for his addiction or for what he does when he's under the influence. I'm not saying this will be emotionally easy for you, but you must let your brother suffer the consequences for his behavior if he acts out.

Dear Abby: I have severe asthma and allergies, and I'm particularly sensitive to bug sprays. If I'm exposed to them, my lips and tongue tingle for hours.

Every time my husband of 30 years sees a bug or even a small ant in our house, he reaches for the bug spray and saturates the house with it. Given the length of our mar-

riage, he is well aware of how it affects me. I have asked him many times to please not use spray in the house, particularly when I am home, to no avail.

He did it again yesterday and got angry with me when I asked why. He reads your column, so I know he will see your response to my inquiry. What is your advice? — Fed Up in Florida

Dear Fed Up: Stop asking your husband not to use bug spray while you are in the house. Be proactive and throw it out! You clearly have a severe allergy to something in it, and for him to persist in spraying while you are on the premises strikes me as not only selfish but also as a form of assault that's potentially very serious. Call an exterminator to have it professionally done. There are other, less toxic ways to get rid of pests, and you should go online and explore them.

Dear Abby: I asked a woman I know professionally if she'd be interested in having lunch. She said she would, and we had a lovely lunch — until the bill came. When I suggested we split it, she suggested I make it a business expense. I told her I couldn't do that because it wasn't a business lunch.

I know if you invite someone to lunch, you pay, but I didn't think that's what I did. I have done this before — and since — and everyone pays for themselves. Do I owe this woman an apology? — Everyone Pays in Texas

Dear Everyone: Not unless she became defensive. However, because you did the inviting, you should have paid the bill. If you want to lunch with her again, you should specify, "Let's split it."

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 27, 1918

No, Pendleton is not being converted into a sheep camp. Notwithstanding you may catch the loud smell of "sheep dip" as you pass along the streets, and should you pass a sheep man he is sure to be standing with a contented smile on his lips and his nose tilted in the air sniffing like a pointer that has located a China pheasant. All this smell is being caused by a measure taken in the effort to get the best of the influenza which is threatening to put the entire town on the shelf. Mayor Vaughan has ordered out the street sweepers and the large tank on the machine charged with a strong solution of sheep dip which is sprinkled on the streets as they are cleaned. This is the plan understood to have been used at the town of Brawley, Imperial Valley and was successful in stamping out the influenza epidemic in five days.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 27, 1968

A 16-year-old girl is probably black-balled on several counts from a club mem-

bership she said she wanted. The girl, arrested Sunday shoplifting a fifth of Oregon grape wine from a Milton-Freewater market, told police stealing something from a store and getting by with it was a requirement for joining a club. She was released in custody of a brother until a juvenile court hearing.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 27, 1993

Bill Norris Jr. of Yuma, Ariz., provided a special Christmas surprise for his mother, Imagene Norris of Pendleton — an unexpected visit from him and his family. When Imagene left Wednesday evening to work swing shift, she was all packed to visit in-laws in Northern California. She and her husband, Bill Sr., had planned to drive off early the next morning. But Bill Sr. was aware of the true holiday plans. Their daughter, Linnett Preston of Pendleton, said he did a good job of weaving lies to keep the secret. Imagene arrive home from work at 12:30 a.m. Thursday. Linnett said the house was full of her offspring, including Bill Jr., his wife, Jerre, and 1-year-old son, Tyler. Bill Jr. had been in the Marine Corps since 1980. He was released from the military Dec. 15.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 361st day of 2018. There are four days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 27, 1979, Soviet forces seized control of Afghanistan. President Hafizullah Amin, who was overthrown and executed, was replaced by Babrak Karmal.

On this date: In 1831, naturalist Charles Darwin set out on a round-the-world voyage aboard the HMS Beagle.

In 1904, James Barrie's play "Peter Pan: The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up" opened at the Duke of York's Theater in London.

In 1945, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund were formally established.

In 1968, Apollo 8 and its three astronauts made a safe, nighttime splashdown in the Pacific.

In 1970, the musical play "Hello, Dolly!" closed on Broadway after a run of 2,844 performances.

In 1981, composer and bandleader Hoagy Carmichael ("Stardust") died in Rancho Mirage, Calif., at age 82.

In 2001, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld announced that Taliban and al-Qaida prisoners would be held at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Today's Birthdays: Rock musician Mick Jones (Foreigner) is 74. Actor Gerard Depardieu is 70. Jazz singer-musician T.S. Monk is 69. Singer-song-

writer Karla Bonoff is 67. Rock musician David Knopfler (Dire Straits) is 66. Actress Maryam D'Abo is 58. Country musician Jeff Bryant is 56. Actress Theresa Randle is 54. Actress Eva LaRue is 52. Wrestler and actor Bill Goldberg is 52. Musician Matt Slocum is 46. Actor Wilson Cruz is 45. Singer Olu is 45. Actor Masi Oka is 44. Actor Aaron Stanford is 42. Actress Emilie de Ravin is 37. Actor Jay Ellis is 37. Country singer Shay Mooney (Dan & Shay) is 27. Actor Timothee Chalamet is 23.

Thought for Today: "A dollar saved is a quarter earned." — Oscar Levant, American composer, musician, actor (born this date in 1906, died in 1972).

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

