

PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



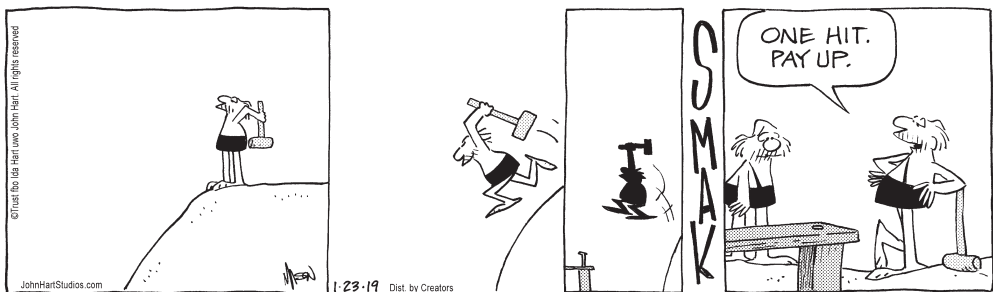
FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



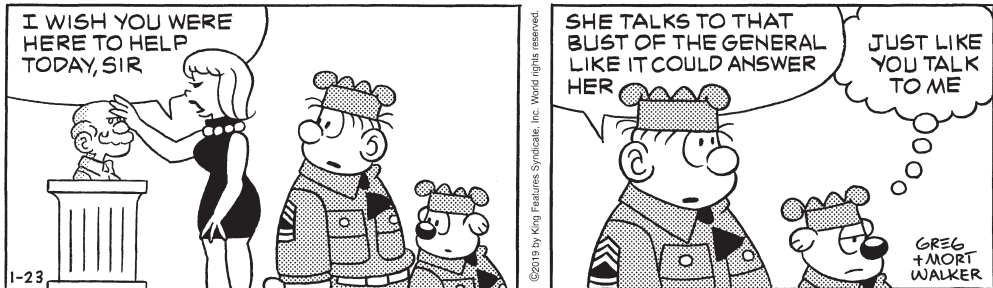
PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



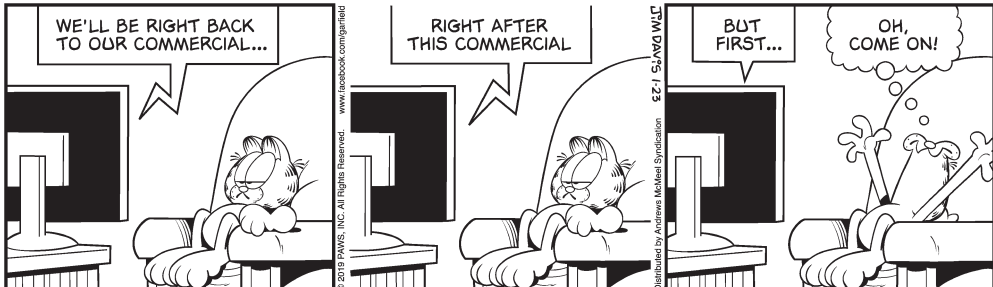
BETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



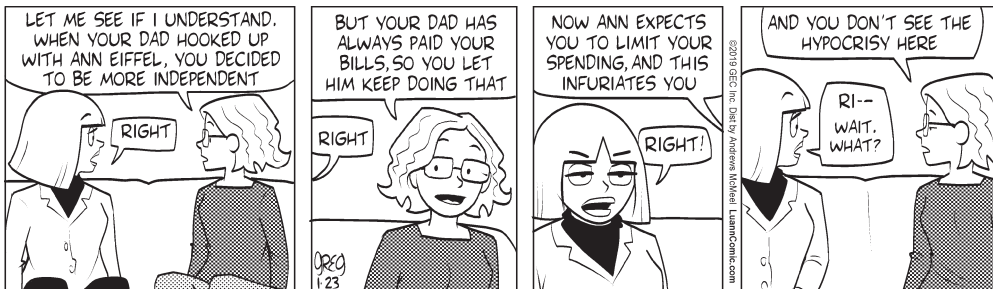
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



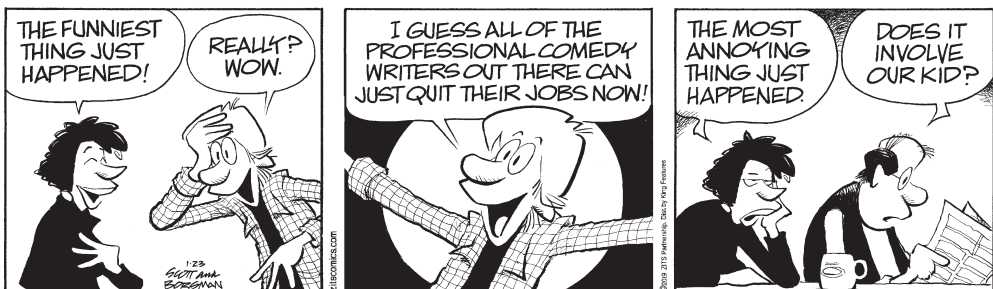
LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Kiss shared with a co-worker puts marriage on shakier ground



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

Dear Abby: I may be having a midlife crisis. I'm not happy in my marriage and haven't been for quite some time. I pray every night that my husband will find someone else so he will leave our marriage. I tried to leave him before, but financially I couldn't make it. I'm now at the point where I don't care about the financial side of it.

The crush didn't work out. Now, more than a year later, Mike and I are close friends. I visited him recently and realized I still have feelings for him. I want to get back together, but I don't think I should say it unless I am 100 percent certain I won't break up with him again.

I recently kissed a co-worker. It was really hot, heavy and I want more. I haven't felt this alive in years. My co-worker is not the reason I want a divorce, but now, feeling desired by someone makes me want out even more. But I'm a coward. I don't know how to tell my husband I'm no longer in love with him.

Abby, I wonder if I might be gay. I don't know what to do. I love Mike, but I'm paranoid that I'll eventually regret getting back together with him. I couldn't betray his trust again. What should I do? — Confused 20-Something

Coward in the South

Dear Coward: Not knowing you, I can't determine whether you may be having a midlife crisis. However, you definitely do need to talk to your husband, if only to ask if he feels the same emptiness that you do. It would be better for both of you if you tried counseling to see if it's possible to heal your marriage before you run out the door.

Dear Confused: You may be gay; you might also be bisexual or simply curious. You owe it to yourself and to Mike to talk to a counselor and explore what your sexual orientation is. If you and Mike have worked through your other differences, only the two of you can decide whether to resume your relationship or just be friends. (Friendships have been known to sometimes last longer than romantic relationships.)

I caution you about involving yourself in a workplace romance while you are feeling this needy. If it doesn't work out — and most of them don't — you could find yourself not only without a husband but also a job.

Dear Abby: My question is, is it ethical to "try" the fruit at the grocery store? I am amazed at the number of shoppers who open the bags of grapes and help themselves to a snack. Shouldn't they buy without sampling? — Craig in Florida

Dear Abby: I dated a man I'll call Mike for several years. We eventually broke up because of distance and a difference of opinion about where we wanted to live. I also had developed a crush on a female friend, which contributed to my decision to break off with him.

Dear Craig: Theoretically, shoppers should buy without sampling. Talk to the manager of the grocery store about it. Some establishments leave a bag of grapes, cherries, etc. open for shoppers to sample to see if they would like to buy. If that's not happening in the store you patronize, consider suggesting it.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 23, 1919

Pendleton suffered one of the most severe windstorms on record this morning, the wind blowing with terrific fury between 5 and 6 o'clock, leaving the town in darkness. With the exception of the subsequent disastrous fire at The Peoples Warehouse, caused indirectly by the failure of the electric current, little actual damage occurred in Pendleton. The heavy wind blew an electric power line pole near the Riverside end of the Wild Horse cut clear out of the ground, brace pole included. The uprooting of the pole threw the wires to the ground and the current was shut off at Athena because of the mishap. It was after 11 o'clock before the current came on again.

few years as a relief police officer to help police at Friday and Saturday night dances in Echo. When for 18 years you have been the police officer in a town of 450, and added to the police work the duties of maintaining the water and street departments, taking care of the cemetery, plus driving the city's ambulance and working with the youth of the community in baseball and basketball, you "come to know" your folks.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 23, 1969

The one man in the West End district of Umatilla County who really knows his town and its people is R.D. "Tex" Wilson, Echo Police Chief and city employee on several jobs over a span of 18 years. Recently he was reappointed to his job for the 10th time. He was first appointed in 1950 after serving a

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Jan. 23, 1994 Nellie Pennington says there are two important traits for anyone taking care of babies all day — the ability to cope with a room full of crying children and a diminished sense of smell. "I can't smell anything any more," the 15-year veteran of the infant and toddler room at the Hermiston Day Care Center says after countless diaper changes. "It's going to be really hard to leave," Pennington said. Next week will be her last. "I tried not to take them home with me too often, but sometimes I did." Her husband didn't mind Pennington bringing her work home, because he loves babies too and often visited the center during the day to play with the children, she said.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Jan. 23, 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

approved it.

In 1950, the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution affirming Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

following December after enduring 11 months of brutal captivity at the hands of the North Koreans.)

In 1368, China's Ming dynasty, which lasted nearly three centuries, began as Zhu Yuanzhang was formally acclaimed emperor following the collapse of the Yuan dynasty.

In 1962, Jackie Robinson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.

In 1998, a judge in Fairfax, Virginia, sentenced Aimal Khan Kasi to death for an assault rifle attack outside CIA headquarters in 1993 that killed two men and wounded three other people. (Kasi was executed in November 2002.)

In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C.

In 1964, the 24th Amendment to the United States Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified as South Dakota became the 38th state to endorse it.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Chita Rivera is 86. Actor-director Lou Antonio is 85. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jerry Lawson is 75. Singer Anita Pointer is 71. Actor Richard Dean Anderson is 69.

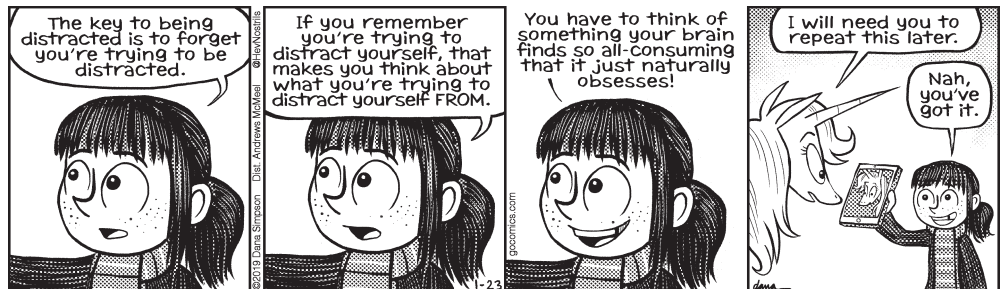
In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In 1968, North Korea seized the U.S. Navy intelligence ship USS Pueblo, commanded by Lloyd "Pete" Bucher, charging its crew with being on a spying mission; one sailor was killed and 82 were taken prisoner. (Cmdr. Bucher and his crew were released the

Thought for Today: "The trouble is that hardly anybody in America goes to bed angry at night." — George J. Stigler, American economist (1911-1991).

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

