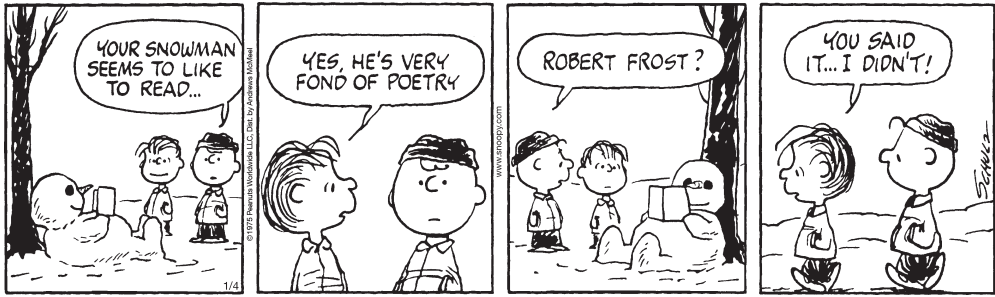


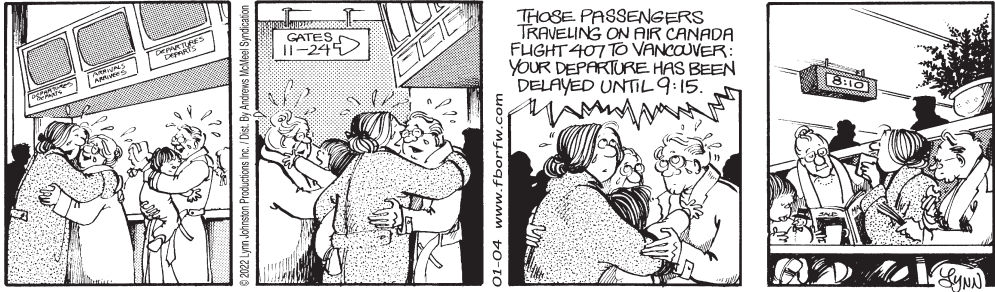
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



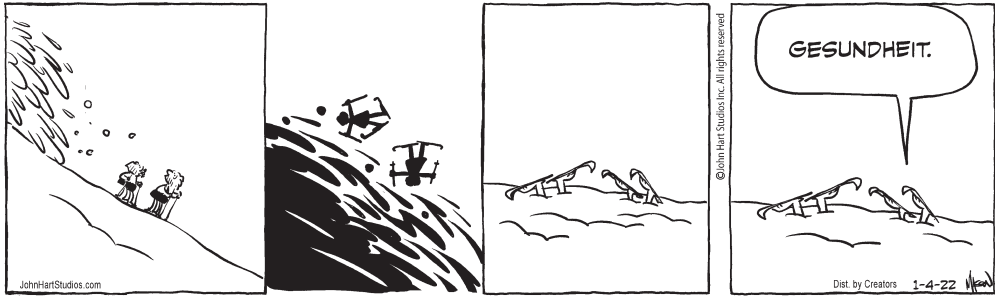
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



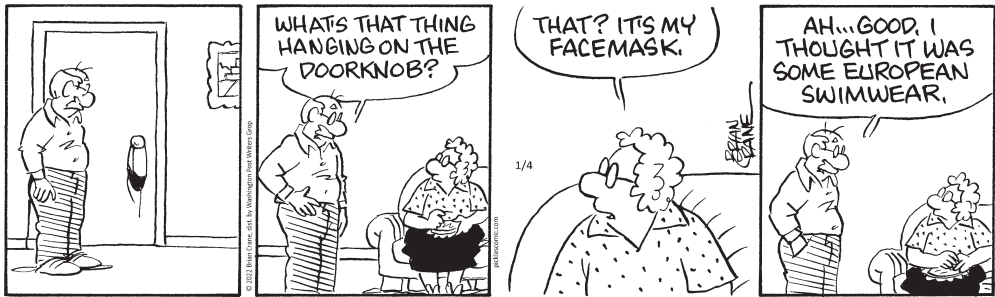
B.C.

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



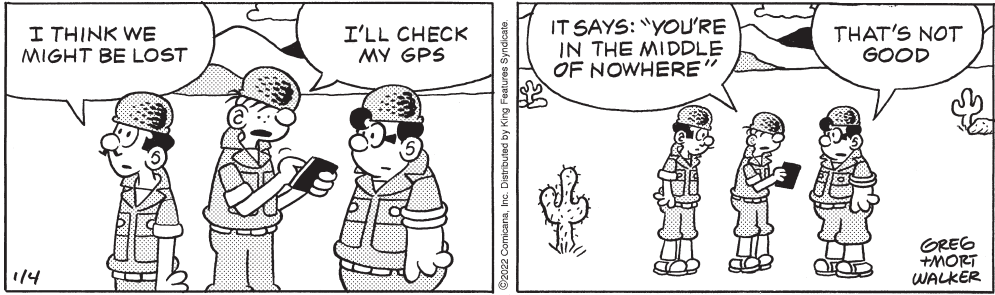
PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



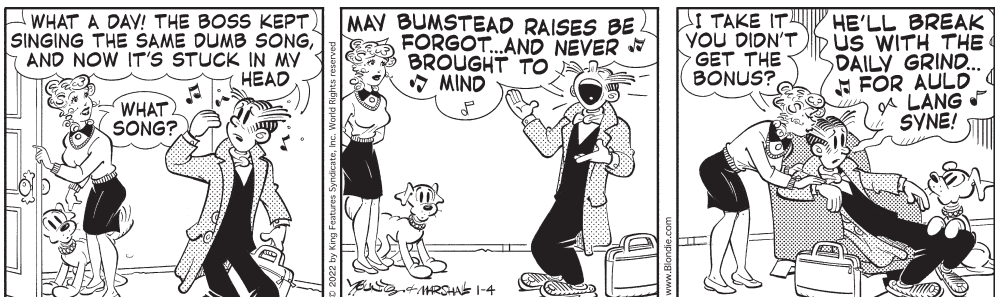
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



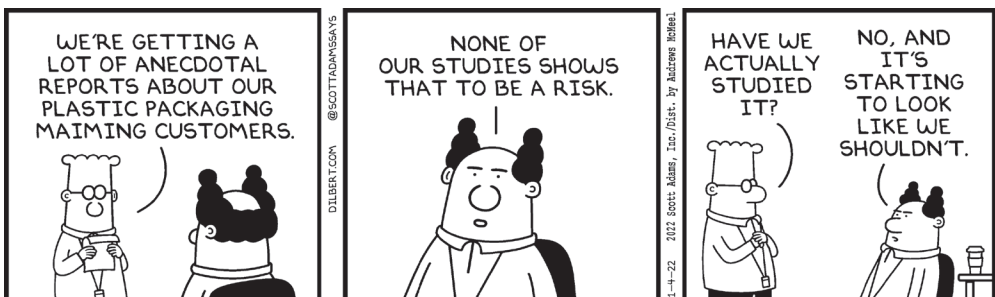
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



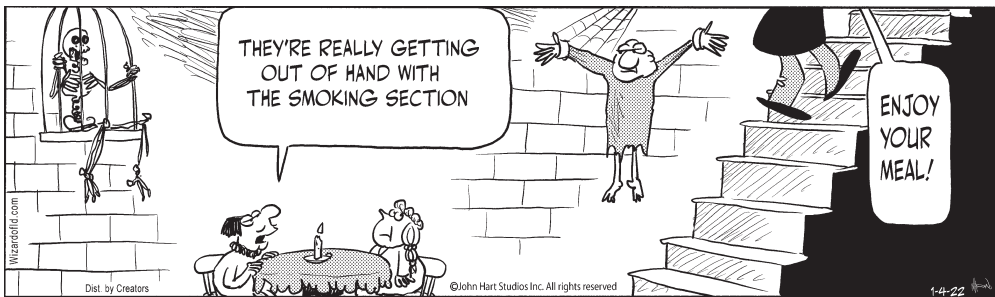
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



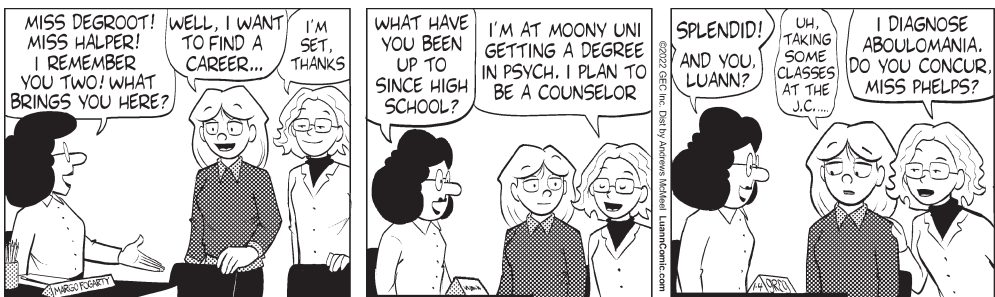
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY PARKER AND HART



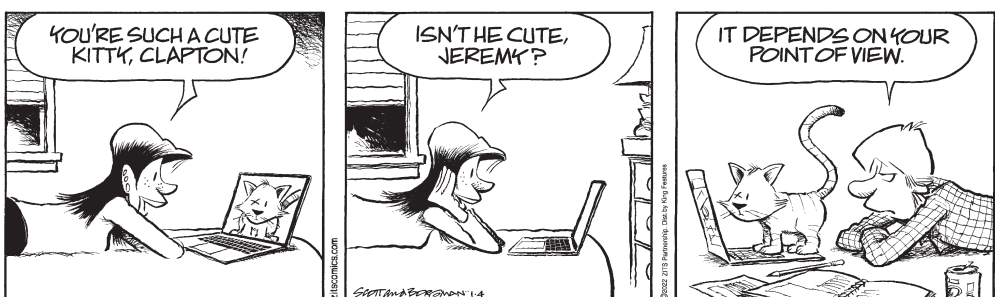
LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Half-sister's appearance brings awful memories



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

Dear Abby: A year ago, I was contacted by a half-sister I'll call "Shyla," who my mother placed for adoption at birth. My mother passed away five years ago. She was a horrible mother who physically, verbally and emotionally abused my brother and me. Giving Shyla up was the best thing she ever did. I have spent years in therapy to work through my painful childhood. Shyla barreled in like a train. I was honest with her about our mother and how I grew up. But Shyla wants me to visit her and video-call her like we are close. When she asks questions about my mother, I'm honest because I refuse to create a person who didn't exist. I do not want a relationship with this sister, or to have to talk about my abuser for the rest of my life. Shyla makes me feel horrible because I haven't met her yet. I don't WANT to meet her. Other adoptees I have spoken to chide me on this, saying Shyla "has a right" to her birth family. Advice, please. — Freaking Out In North Carolina

Dear Abby: I am a 46-year-old widow. My husband of 18 years passed away 14 months ago. My three children are adults. Two of them are still in the house, and one, my son "Charlie," has serious health issues. My husband was sick for five years prior to his death. Charlie gets upset when I talk about being interested in starting to date. He thinks I am going to abandon him again and that I should pay more attention to re-connecting with my children. Charlie refuses to leave the house. I don't think he loves me; I feel he just wants to control me. My other children are supportive, but they are independent. Am I wrong for wanting to pursue life outside my home and grown children? — Attempting To Go Forward

Dear Attempting: You aren't wrong for wanting companionship, and I'm not referring to the kind you can get from your children. If Charlie is unable to live independently and needs constant supervision, you should be discussing options for him such as respite care, so you can have a break.

Because you mentioned that he has serious health issues, what are the plans for him if you should predecease him? This is an issue that should be hashed out before there is a crisis, so there will be no surprises and Charlie can be reassured, which may allay his fears and help him to become less needy.

Dear Freaking Out: You have given your half-sister what information you could. You are NOT obligated to have more contact with this half-sister than you are comfortable with. If she asks to meet again, tell her it has taken years of therapy to get past what was done to you and your brother, and that talking with her is bringing back all of that trauma. If she persists after that, block her.

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922 The sport of skiing is a part of the fun and amusement of Umatilla county people. Of course, to take steep hills on the skis has been practiced for more years than one, but the sport has achieved a popularity this winter which indicates that it has a hold which never can be forgotten. About 30 people enjoyed the sport at Kamela yesterday. There were young people from Pendleton, Adams and La Grande, besides people of Kamela who spent the greater part of the day in skiing and coasting down the rugged sides of old Mount Baldy. The coast-way is about three-quarters of a mile long, local sportsmen report.

has 42 inches of snow with a water content of 10.5. This compares with 10.2 inches of snow and water content of 2.5 last year.

25 years ago — 1997 The top 10 local stories of 1996: 1) Gordon Smith edges Tom Bruggere to earn a seat in the U.S. Senate. 2) Umatilla will be home to a state prison, bringing 500 jobs. 3) State tentatively approves permits for construction of an incinerator at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. 4) Voters approve a \$13-million bond measure for a new county jail that will hold three times as many inmates. 5) Murder, past and present: A 1992 murder is solved when a tip leads to the body and an eventual guilty plea by the victim's husband, LuRay Batterton. Ernest Taber of Pendleton is charged in the murder of a 6-year-old Umatilla boy. 6) Pendleton opens its new City Hall/Library in the remodeled Helen McCune building. 7) February flooding ravages parts of Umatilla County. 8) Deputy John Trumbo defeats Sheriff Gordon Campbell in a contentious November election. 9) Hermiston volunteers build a 13,000-square-foot playground in five days. 10) Wal-Mart — a store in Pendleton and plans to begin construction of a regional distribution center at Hermiston next spring.

50 years ago — 1972 Farmers, rejoice! Though 1971 was near normal in every other way, it did bring above average precipitation, especially in the snow-pack in the Blue Mountains for this early in the season. All signs point to an abundant water supply next summer. McKay reservoir contains 43,700 acre feet of water, double the 22,070 of last year. Battle Mountain has a current snow depth of 25.6 inches; water content is 6.7. A year ago Battle Mountain, at 4,340 feet, had 10.4 inches of snow with a water content of 1.7. Emigrant Springs, at an elevation of 3,925 feet,

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Jan. 4, 2007, Nancy Pelosi was elected the first female speaker of the House as Democrats took control of Congress. In 1821, the first native-born American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Maryland. In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, called for legislation to provide assistance for the jobless, elderly, impoverished children and the disabled. In 1948, Burma (now called Myanmar) became independent of British rule. In 1964, Pope Paul VI began a visit to the Holy Land, the first papal pilgrimage of its kind. In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson delivered his State of the Union address in which he outlined the goals of his "Great Society." In 1974, President Richard Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee. In 1987, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington, D.C., to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Maryland. In 1990, Charles Sturt, who'd claimed that he'd been wounded and his pregnant wife fatally shot by a robber, leapt to his death off a Boston bridge after he himself became a suspect. In 1999, Europe's new currency, the euro, got off to a strong start on its first trading day, rising against the dollar on world currency markets. Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura took the oath of office as Minnesota's governor. In 2002, Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Ross Chapman, a U.S. Army Special Forces soldier, was killed by small-arms fire during an ambush in eastern Afghanistan; he was the first American military death from enemy fire in the war against terrorism.

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PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

