

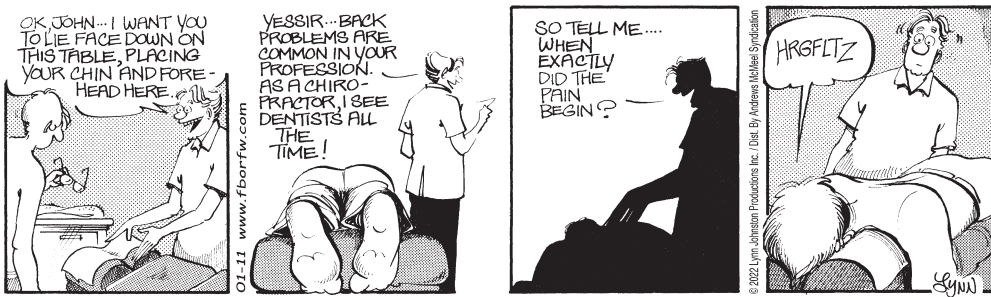
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



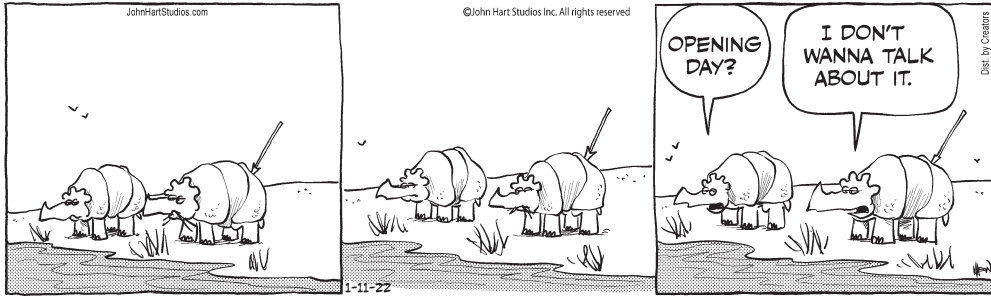
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



B.C.

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



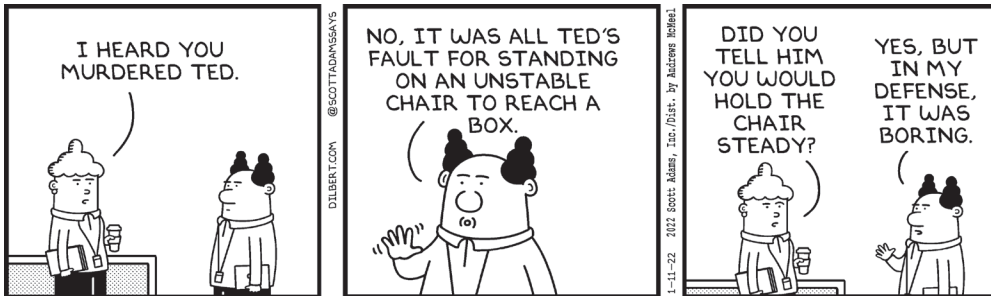
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



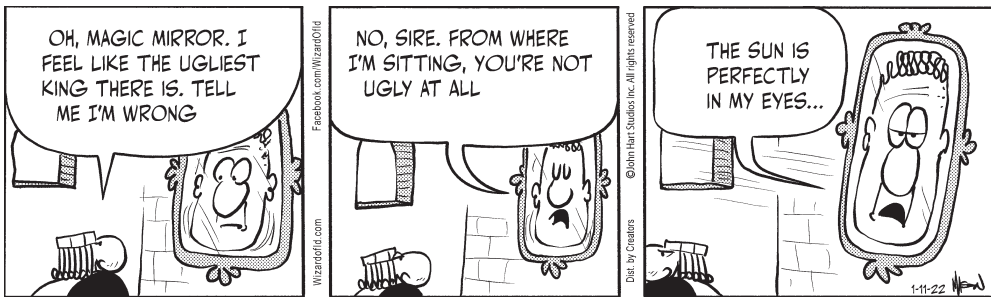
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



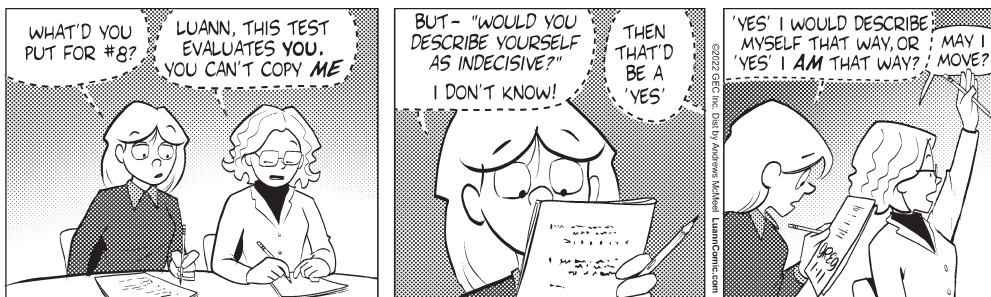
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY PARKER AND HART



LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Wife dreads year two of the pandemic with man



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

Dear Abby: My husband and I got married during the pandemic in a short ceremony. Our first year of marriage has been less a honeymoon than a nightmare. He tends to be hotheaded. He fights dirty with name-calling.

We are trying marriage counseling, but all of his temper tantrums and antics have made me see him in a different, negative light. He's now talking about growing our family. He can be very sweet and thoughtful, but I don't even know if I still like him at this point.

I'm also wondering if I'm just better alone because I like my space and time to myself. Maybe I'm settling with the current situation when there could be someone better out there. Is this something I need to give some time to see how it plays out, or should I end it, the sooner the better? — Honeymoon-Less In New Jersey

Dear Honeymoon-Less: The pandemic has stressed many marriages, but with the quarantines relaxing there should be less pressure and confinement. Has it helped? Whether your hot-tempered husband is capable of changing his behavior is something that may be revealed during the counseling.

You didn't mention how long the two of you have been seeing a therapist, but if it has been more than six months with no improvement, it's fair to assume he isn't likely to change, and the marriage should end. In the meantime, use the most pow-

erful form of birth control you possibly can so you don't find yourself pregnant and trapped.

Dear Abby: My mom is in a home for dementia patients, and Dad was living in their big house by himself. He couldn't sell it until everything was settled with my mom. Because he was very lonely, I decided to let him move in with me. We agreed he would pay \$320 a month.

When my sister found out, she was very upset that I was charging Dad. She had him move out that day.

When I turned 18 and lived at home I paid rent, so I saw nothing wrong with it. Now I am an outcast. No one talks to me except my dad, by phone. I am very depressed about this and feel suicidal. I suffer from anxiety and depression, see a therapist and have been on meds for years. Am I wrong, and how do I fix this? — Good Son In Pennsylvania

Dear Good Son: If you haven't done so already, talk about this with your therapist. It is very important that he or she knows you are having suicidal thoughts and that they persist. You did NOTHING "wrong." Your father agreed to the arrangement, and he should have made that clear to your sister. She was wrong to interfere, and she seems to wield a disproportionate amount of power in your family. I can't fix that and neither can you, so you will have to find ways of coping not only with your depression but also with her. You have my sympathy.

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922

The state highway commission has received an offer from the Umatilla County court to grade the Dead Man's Pass-Kamela section of the Old Oregon Trail if the state will lend the county \$80,000 to do the work. The section covers 12 miles and is one of the most difficult parts of the state for road building, said Commissioner Barratt. The county would pay the money back out of the general road fund as collected. No action will be taken by the commission until Chairman Booth, who is ill in Eugene, sits with the commission.

50 years ago — 1972

"I thought about pushing him over the steep, high cliff, but I didn't want to kill him," said Everett McKenzie. Friday night was terrifying for the 18-year-old recent Umatilla High School graduate who was kidnapped at gunpoint by Johnny Dean Chadwick, 18, La Grande. The experience started on a bus near the Woelpern exit west of Arlington about 7:30 p.m. and ended about four hours later after McKenzie eluded his kidnapper in the hills near Interstate 80 North and ran into Arlington where he found a police officer. McKenzie was sitting alone at the back of the bus when Chadwick approached him and

drew a revolver. The hijacker demanded the bus driver stop the bus and then took McKenzie with him at gunpoint.

25 years ago — 1997

Hermiston High School juniors Stephanie Smelser and Tori Fordice are accustomed to being in front of a crowd. As varsity cheerleaders, they regularly perform before schoolmates and fans at games and pep assemblies. But when the two packed their Bulldog spirit and headed to Orlando, Fla., to perform in the Citrus Bowl's half-time show with 1,200 other cheerleaders, the experience of being in front of more than 16,000 people was electrifying. The two-minute Dr. Seuss-inspired routine, which required the mega-squad to wear red sweat suits while dancing in 100 degree heat, was the culmination of six months' preparation. Eight HHS varsity and junior varsity cheerleaders were nominated to try out for All-American status. After Smelser and Fordice earned a place on the national squad in July, they began soliciting sponsors to cover the \$1,400 cost of the trip. While in Orlando from Dec. 28 to Jan. 2, they practiced and visited attractions. Cheerleading coach Susan Dick said the HHS squad is one of the strongest she's seen in a long time.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Jan. 11, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed the Grand Canyon National Monument (it became a national park in 1919).

In 1861, Alabama became the fourth state to withdraw from the Union.

In 1913, the first enclosed sedan-type automobile, a Hudson, went on display at the 13th National Automobile Show in New York.

In 1927, the creation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was proposed during a dinner of Hollywood luminaries at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

In 1935, aviator Amelia Earhart began an 18-hour

trip from Honolulu to Oakland, California, that made her the first person to fly solo across any part of the Pacific Ocean.

In 1964, U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issued "Smoking and Health," a report that concluded that "cigarette smoking contributes substantially to mortality from certain specific diseases and to the overall death rate."

In 1989, nine days before leaving the White House, President Ronald Reagan bade the nation farewell in a prime-time address, saying of his eight years in office: "We meant to change a nation and instead we changed a world."

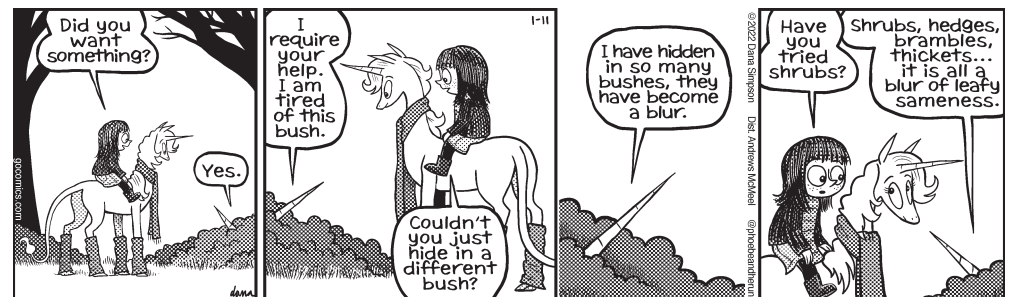
In 2003, calling the death penalty process "arbitrary and capricious, and therefore immoral," Illinois Gov. George Ryan commuted the sentences of 167 condemned inmates, clearing his state's death row two days before leaving office.

In 2010, Mark McGwire admitted to The Associated Press that he'd used steroids and human growth hormone when he broke baseball's home run record in 1998.

In 2020, health authorities in the central Chinese city of Wuhan reported the first death from what had been identified as a new type of coronavirus; the patient was a 61-year-old man.

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

