

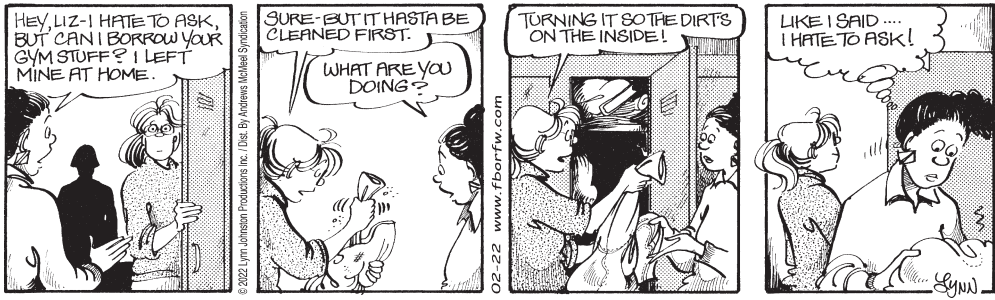
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



B.C.

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



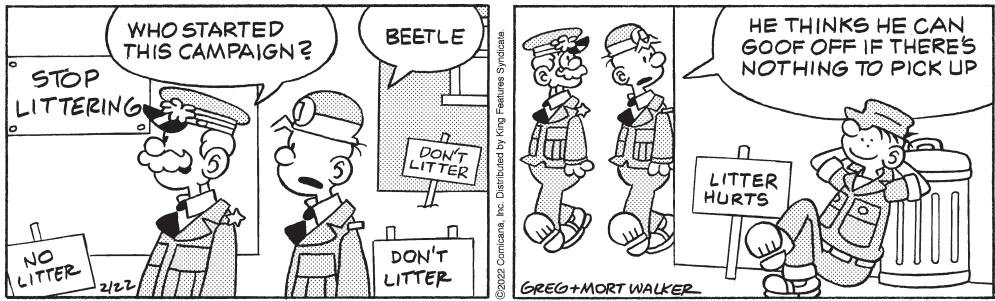
PICKLES

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

Best friend feels uneasy as wedding approaches



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

Dear Abby: My best friend, "Sophie," just became engaged to her longtime boyfriend, "Brian." I want to be happy for her, but he doesn't deserve her.

I may very well be asked to be maid of honor at her wedding, and I dread the idea of having to write a speech about their relationship. How do I write a speech when I have nothing good to say about it? — Reluctant Friend In Indiana

Dear Reluctant Friend: When you write your speech, start by saying how long you and Sophie have been friends and how close the two of you are. Share a couple of anecdotes about what a caring, loyal, fun friend Sophie is, and state how lucky "Brian" is to be marrying her. Then toast the happy couple, wish them a lifetime of happiness together (even if you feel it won't turn out that way) and "drop the mic." You do not have to sing Brian's praises. That privilege should belong to the best man.

Dear Abby: My wife and I have friends — a married couple — we socialize with every few weeks. "Charles" is kind-hearted, pleasant and enjoyable, always with a good balance between speaking and listening during conversations. His wife, "Claire," on the other hand, isn't interested in hearing about our lives.

When we try to initiate a conversation, Claire cuts us off and switches the subject to a nonrelated, self-centered topic. She also interrupts Charles while he's talk-

ing. She goes on and on describing at length the minutiae of her activities and, worse, the lives of her friends (who we don't know or have any interest in). We no longer enjoy her company, but we hate to lose the connection with Charles. Any suggestions? — Bored In Missouri

Dear Bored: It may be time for you and Charles to see each other without wives in tow — for lunch or a sporting event. That way you will be off the hook having to tolerate Claire, and your wife won't have to put up with her because she can socialize with friends whose company she enjoys. I don't have a crystal ball, but I have a strong hunch you and your wife won't be the first to do this.

Dear Abby: I met a very nice guy while I was at a bar. Because I was slightly drunk, he drove me home. We exchanged numbers and, since then, we have been out once. I'm pretty sure we will be going out again. The problem is I have no idea what his name is! We didn't exchange social media contacts. I feel awkward asking his name now. Any suggestions? — Unknown In The West

Dear Unknown: Yes. The next time he gets in touch, ask him for the correct SPELLING of his first and last names "to enter into your contact list." It may manage to get you off the hook without embarrassing yourself, unless his name is John Smith.

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922

Under the protecting care of two deputy sheriffs from Multnomah county, 29 members of the Hip Sing tong arrived in Pendleton yesterday afternoon and marched to the Chinese quarters where they expect to remain until the tong war which is raging on the coast has ceased. This action on the part of the Portland officials is being taken as a means of combatting the tong war. Local Hip Sings will bear the expense of the visit of their brothers while the strangers are here, it is said.

50 years ago — 1972

A motorist who was struck by a rock falling from a cliff above Highway 730 near the mouth of Juniper Canyon lost her lawsuit against Oregon Highway Department personnel. A jury in Umatilla County Circuit Court voted 11-1 in favor of the defendants at the end of a three-day trial. The plaintiff, Elaine Leonard, 44, Las Vegas, Nev., was severely injured by the 15-pound rock that plunged through the windshield of her car on Dec. 17, 1967. She asked for damages of \$257,957. Mrs. Leonard's suit was filed against members of the Oregon Highway Commission as well as specific state highway engineers and mainte-

nance supervisors, accusing the defendants of negligence in not keeping the rock from falling onto the highway. "The rimrocks rise step on step for thousands of feet for several miles," defense attorney Malcolm Marsh, Salem, said. "It is impossible to screen them all."

25 years ago — 1997

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla will be hosts for a free friendship dinner banquet and author signing at Wildhorse Casino Friday to raise awareness of Native American culture. Athena native Steven Ross Evans, author of "The Voice of the Old Wolf," Ann McCormick, a contributing writer in the anthology "A Song to the Creator," and Ron Pond of Pendleton, a curator of the "Song to the Creator" exhibit, will be the guest speakers in a special presentation. Copies of the books and video tapes of the exhibit, which was held at Washington State University last year, will be available for purchase. The video takes viewers through each of the 300 artwork items in the "Song to the Creator" exhibit, borrowed from museums, artists and private collectors throughout the Northwest and including brilliantly colored cornhusk bags, beaded dresses, intricately woven baskets and splendid horse regalia.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Feb. 22, 2021, the number of U.S. deaths from COVID-19 topped 500,000, according to Johns Hopkins University.

In 1630, English colonists in the Massachusetts Bay Colony first sampled popcorn brought to them by a Native American named Quadequina for their Thanksgiving celebration.

In 1732, the first president of the United States, George Washington, was born in Westmoreland County in the Virginia Colony.

In 1784, a U.S. merchant ship, the Empress of China, left New York for the Far East to trade goods with China.

In 1935, it became illegal for airplanes to fly over the White House.

In 1959, the inaugural Daytona 500 race was held; although Johnny Beauchamp was initially declared the winner, the victory was later awarded to Lee Petty.

In 1967, more than 25,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese troops launched Operation Junction City, aimed at smashing a Vietcong stronghold near the Cambodian border. (Although the communists were driven out, they later returned.)

In 1980, the "Miracle on Ice" took place in Lake Placid, New York, as the United States Olympic hockey team upset the So-

viets, 4-3. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

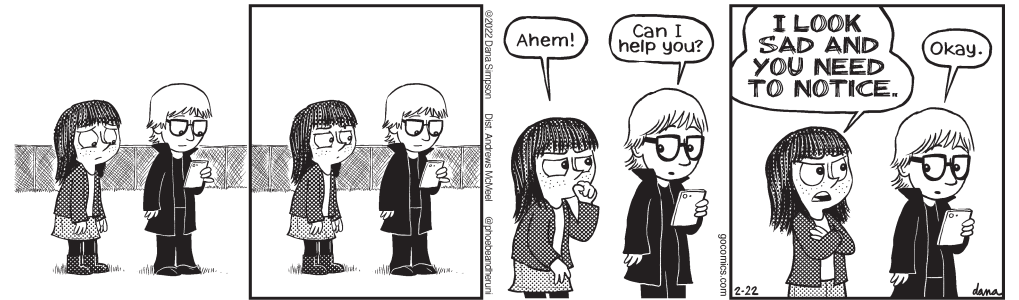
In 1987, pop artist Andy Warhol died at a New York City hospital at age 58.

In 1997, scientists in Scotland announced they had succeeded in cloning an adult mammal, producing a lamb named "Dolly." (Dolly, however, was later put down after a short life marred by premature aging and disease.)

In 2010, Najibullah Zazi, accused of buying beauty supplies to make bombs for an attack on New York City subways, pleaded guilty to charges including conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction.

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

