COFFEE BREAK



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE





BY MASTROIANNI AND HART

BY BRIAN CRANE

BY MORT WALKER

CAN I

BY LYNN JOHNSTON

NO WAY! ... I WANNA MAKE. A GOOD IMPRESSION!



PICKLES



BEETLE BAILEY



GARFIELD



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL

DEAR ABBY Self-centered brother has siblings at their wits' end

Dear Abby: I come from a nice family. My siblings are thoughtful and kind, but one of my brothers is a conversational narcissist. He drones on for hours (if we let him) without asking a single question.

He sees nothing wrong with talking endlessly about his work and his acquisitions, which interest no one. He will compare, indirectly, my home with his, assuming that his is far superior

and better decorated. All of us listen to him and do our best to show an interest without ever receiving that courtesy in return.

In his times of need, I have been there for him and listened to his troubles, and I have gotten the impression that he's kinder than any of us have assumed, given his self-centered ramblings. Is there any way to influence him toward being a more thoughtful conversationalist? **Sore-Eared Sibling**

Dear Sibling: Yes, there is. "Someone" is going to have to tell this brother — in as gentle language as possible — that hogging the conversation is as unwelcome as hogging all the food at the buffet. He should also be told that comparing what he has to that of his siblings, who may have less, comes across as bragging, which makes them uncomfortable.

If no one has the courage to address this, a group intervention may be needed to stanch the motormouth. However, if this is more than any of you want to



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

risk, see this sibling separately one-on-one. If he's not playing to a crowd, he may behave differently.

Dear Abby: My ex-husband and I divorced three years ago after he had an affair and destroyed our lives (including his daughter's). The divorce took about a year. Since then, he has stopped communicating with me and pretends I never existed. My stepdaughter, "Dana," however,

never let go.

I held on as well for a couple of years, but as time goes on, I am feeling I'm in an increasingly impossible situation. What my ex did and his actions that followed were incredibly cruel. They devastated me. Staying in touch with Dana has slowly become a painful reminder of that and has made it difficult for me to close this unhappy chapter of my life. I don't want to hurt Dana. I hope that one day she'll understand, but I feel the need to cease contact in order to heal fully. Is this too cruel? — Traumatized In Florida

Dear Traumatized: What a sad situation. I'm sorry you feel there is no other way to heal from your ex-husband's betrayal than to distance yourself from Dana, who loves you. However, feeling as you do, you must take care of yourself. Please do not "ghost" her. It is important that you explain to her, as kindly as possible, your reasons for ending your relationship, so she understands this is not her fault.

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922

The honor of a citation by the national commander of the American Legion is the lot of Pendleton, according to a letter that has been received by Adjutant C. C. Proebstel from department headquarters at Portland. Nine communities in the state have been designated for the honor. The citation, signed by Hanford McNider, national commander, Lemel Bolles, national adjutant, Lane Goodell, department commander, and Harry N. Nelson, department adjutant, reads as follows: "The city of Pendleton has earned the lasting gratitude of the nation. In a time of economic unrest and industrial depression she has furnished employment to all her veterans of the World War. In acknowledgment of the patriotic service the American Legion extends to all its citizens its thanks and appreciation."

50 years ago - 1972

Toll Bridge Junction has taken a heavy toll in lives and property damage, and those close to the scene of confusion at the intersection say

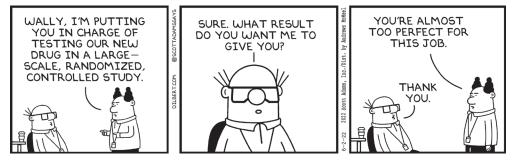
western Umatilla and northern Morrow counties who want the intersection improved. The junction's signing is causing confusion in the minds of motorists unfamiliar with the area, say Umatilla residents petitioning the commission. Highways are vital to the economic life of Umatilla with its motels and restaurants.

25 years ago — 1997

Perhaps a calf roper's heart revs like an Indy car during the few seconds between when the calf dashes across the rodeo arena and the horse and cowboy are left behind waiting to pursue. Or maybe it's during that brief moment after the rope leaves the cowboy's hand and spans the space between horse and calf that adrenaline pumps almost through the brim of his hat. It's hard to say when critical rodeo mass is reached, but one thing's for sure, no collegiate calf roper in the United States can harness the energy and use it to his advantage better than 19-year-old Seth Hopper of rural Stanfield. Hopper, who is ranked No. 1 in the country in collegiate calf roping, leaves Friday for a chance at the national title in Rapid City. S.D. Over the course of BMCC's rodeo season, which included 10 competitions throughout the Northwest, Hopper has collected the points necessary to put him in the lead nationally.



DILBERT



THE WIZARD OF ID





*SIGH. SHOULD HAVE KNOWN.. NOTHING LIKE THAT COULD EXIST IN THIS BORING WORLD ...

BY PARKER AND HART

*SIGH...

BY GREG EVANS

BY SCOTT ADAMS

the toll is going to continue to mount because of increasing traffic and higher speeds. Oregon State Highway Division officials soon will receive a sheath of petitions with signers from

TODAY IN HISTORY

On June 2, 1997, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. (McVeigh was executed in June 2001.)

In 1924, Congress passed, and President Calvin Coolidge signed, a measure guaranteeing full American citizenship for all Native Americans born within U.S. territorial limits.

In 1941, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; he was 37.

In 1966, U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

I never thought of the Shield of Boringness as

being in, y'know, a PLACE.

on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1979, Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

In 1981, the Japanese video arcade game "Donkey Kong" was released by Nintendo.

In 1999, South Africans went to the polls in their second post-apartheid election, giving the African National Congress a decisive victory; retiring president Nelson Mandela was succeeded by Thabo Mbeki.

In 2016, autopsy results showed superstar musician Prince died of

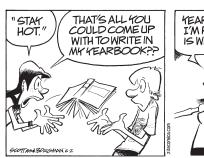
an accidental overdose of fentanyl, a powerful opioid painkiller.

In 2020, defying protesters curfews, streamed back into the nation's streets, hours after President Donald Trump urged governors to put down the protests set off by the killing of George Floyd. Mayors and governors from both parties rejected Trump's threat to use the military against protesters. The bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington sharply criticized Trump for staging a visit to St. John's Church across from the White House after authorities had cleared the area of peaceful protesters.

LUANN



ZITS



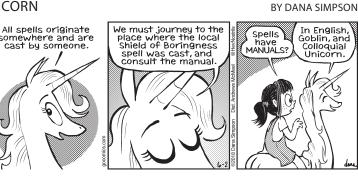


BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



BIG NATE





BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

