### **PEANUTS**









BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ

**COFFEE BREAK** 

#### FOR BETTER OR WORSE









BY JOHNNY HART

CAREFUL NOW.

IN HOTTER CLIMATES ...











BY MORT WALKER

















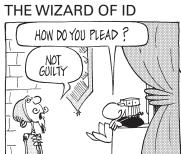


DILBERT



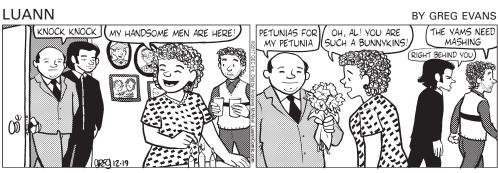














## **DEAR ABBY**

# Karaoke fans have more love for singing than talent

JEANNE

**PHILLIPS** 

Advice

Dear Abby: My wife, "Karen," loves to sing karaoke along with many others, most of whom who are vocally challenged. Listening to some of them can be grueling when we go out. Karen knows many of these 'performers," and when they finish, she goes and tells them what a great job they've done. When I asked her why she gives the false compliments, she said, "I don't want to hurt their feelings.

Well, the same goes for Karen. The other singers compliment her to the point that she now believes she has a competition-worthy voice. In reality, while her voice isn't terrible, it's nowhere near what she thinks it is.

My wife is the love of my life and the nicest person I've ever known. I'm concerned for the future if someone should ever be honest with her about this because, so far, no one has been. Should I tell her the truth to save her from potential public embarrassment, or should I keep my mouth shut? — Covering

Dear Covering: Unless your wife decides to audition for "American Idol," the chances of her being booed off stage are slim. You don't have to sing her praises, but I see nothing positive to be gained by diminishing her pleasure in performing. The word from here is: Keep your lip zipped.

Dear Abby: I have a wonderful, kind sister-in-law I'll call "Margaret." Our sons were born in the same year. She has chosen to keep her son home, while I am sending mine to day care. Both boys are toddlers now. The problem is, my son is socialized, while hers

Margaret's son is mean and unwilling

to share or play with my child. He lacks empathy and seeks only adult attention. Because of his lack of socialization and outright unsafe behavior, I don't want my son around him. Am I wrong for not wanting him to be exposed to this behavior?

My husband says it's good for our little one to learn how to deal with mean behavior, since it will make him "tough." However, I don't feel it's our child's job to learn to be tough at such a young age. — Day Care Accepting

Dear Day Care Mommy: Perhaps your son should see this cousin only when they will be closely supervised. Your child may learn to "toughen up" later, but at the age of 2 or 3, it's a bit premature. The child who may be in for trouble is his cousin, because learning concepts like sharing and empathy enable children to successfully socialize with

others throughout their lives. Dear Abby: I know for a fact that gifts I have given to family members are often immediately given away. Should I confront them about this? I'd like to suggest that instead of giving the gift away they please return it to me. Of course, I know I could just quit giving them gifts. But I'd like for them to know the reason, instead of appearing to be stingy. Anxious for your opinion. — **Anxious** In Fort Worth

**Dear Anxious**: This is a delicate situation, but it can be handled if you're careful not to cause embarrassment when you tell your relatives you know what they've been doing with your gifts. Perhaps, rather than say you will just quit giving them gifts, you should offer to give them gift cards for a store they like. That way they can have something they will enjoy.

# **DAYS GONE BY**

#### 100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 18-19, 1917

The Storie-Ritner ranch on the reservation this morning was the scene of a fire which threatened for a time to destroy all of the buildings on it. Due to assistance received from neighbors and townspeople who were summoned by phone, by R.W. Ritner, the buildings were all saved. The biggest loss was four stacks of chaff for winter feeding. Mr. Ritner early this morning set one field afire to burn off the stubble. The breeze which was blowing then developed into a stiff wind which carried the fire across a ditch into another field where the stacks were. The flames were headed toward the buildings when Mr. Ritner summoned help. Fortunately there was a whole tank of water in the barnyard and this proved a big aid. 50 Years Ago

#### From the East Oregonian Dec. 18-19, 1967

The Umatilla County Library staff has come across a treasure in its stack of old books. It is a first edition of James Greenleaf

generations of elementary school children in their study of American literature. The small volume has been on the shelves for many years, and shows the wear and tear of much use. It was placed in the "mend" box by a library staff member, and it was here that librarian Dick Joder noticed it.

#### 25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 18-19, 1992

The cases of three men accused of murdering Brian David Smith last month were bound over to Umatilla County Circuit Court Thursday afternoon. District Court Judge Richard Courson said the state showed there was enough evidence to hold Donald C. Ball Jr., 22, of Hermiston; Steven L. DeRushe, 22, of Stanfield; and Nathaneual J. Miller, 21, of Umatilla, to answer charges of murder. All three are accused of conspiring to kill Smith and carrying out the murder at the edge of Cold Springs Reservoir. Katherine Ball, the wife of the man accused of pulling the trigger, told the East Oregonian that all three men told her Smith's death was unintentional, but they didn't go to police because they were Whittier's "Snowbound," a poem read by afraid they'd be "put in for life, either way."

# THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 353rd day of 2017. There are 12 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 19, 1777, during the American Revolutionary War. Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11.000 men to Valley Forge. Pennsylvania, to camp for the winter.

On this date:

In 1813, British forces captured Fort Niagara during the War of 1812.

In 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.

**In 1907**, 239 workers died in a coal mine explosion in Jacobs Creek, Pennsylvania. In 1932, the British

Broadcasting Corp. began transmitting overseas with its Empire Service to Australia. **În 1946**, war broke out

in Indochina as troops under Ho Chi Minh launched widespread attacks against

the French

In 1957, Meredith Willson's musical play "The Music Man" opened on Broadway.

**In 1961**, former U.S. Ambassador Joseph Kennedy Sr., 73, suffered a debilitating stroke while in Palm Beach, Florida.

**In 1974**, Nelson A. Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st vice president of the United States in the U.S. Senate chamber by Chief Justice Warren Burger with President Gerald R. Ford looking on.

In 1975, John Paul Stevens was sworn in as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

**In 1986**, the Soviet Union announced it had freed dissident Andrei Sakharov from internal exile, and pardoned his wife, Yelena Bonner. Lawrence É. Walsh was appointed independent counsel to investigate the Iran-Contra affair.

Birthdays: Today's Actress Cicely Tyson is 93. Former game show contestant Herb Stempel is 91. Actress Elaine Joyce is 74. Actor Tim Reid is 73. Paleontologist Richard E. Leakey is 73. Musician John McEuen is 72. Singer Janie Fricke is 70. Jazz musician Lenny White is 68. Actor Mike Lookinland is 57. Actress Jennifer Beals is 54. Actor Scott Cohen is 53. Actor Robert MacNaughton is 51. Magician Criss Angel is 50. Rock musician Klaus Eichstadt (Ugly Kid Joe) is 50. Actor Ken Marino is 49. Actor Elvis Nolasco is 49. Pro Football Hall of Famer Warren Sapp is 45. Actress Alyssa Milano is 45. Actor Jake Gyllenhaal is 37.

Thought for Today: "No space of regret can make amends for one life's opportunity misused." — From "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens (1812-1870).



















**BIG NATE** 







