PEANUTS









BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ

COFFEE BREAK

FOR BETTER OR WORSE









BY JOHNNY HART





I COULDN'T HAVE













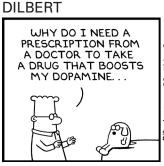


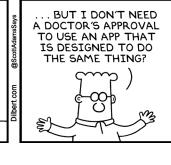




















DEAR ABBY

Family split by repercussions of a long-repressed assault

JEANNE

PHILLIPS

Advice

Dear Abby: I am estranged from my sister, whom I love dearly. The reason goes back many years. When I was 13, her husband got me drunk and molested me. While I never forgot, I did repress it — possibly due to my age.

Time went on, I thought I had moved on and life would continue as usual. Well, five years ago the trauma erupted inside of me. My therapist thinks that possibly what triggered it was becoming a grandmother.

I cannot talk to my sister's husband, let alone look at him. The sight of him makes me physically ill, which is obvious to everyone. Exposing him would devastate my sister, her family and our extended family. I am praying for guidance and the strength

to forgive him, but it's not working, and neither is therapy. I am now regarded as the "bad guy" and left isolated with no one except my amazing husband. My own kids are skeptical and think I am destroying our family. Advice, Abby? — So Lost In The Midwest Dear So Lost: Because keeping quiet and

talking to a therapist haven't helped you, I will suggest another route for healing. Call your family together. Tell them exactly what happened when you were 13 and that you can no longer keep quiet about it.

At the same time, contact a rape crisis center because at 13, even if you were drunk and consented to what your brother-in-law did, you were underage and a victim of statutory rape. If your family accuses you of making this up, invite them to some of your counseling sessions with the rape counselor. With the help of that person, you may be able to help them see the light.

Dear Abby: I was a professional musician most of my life and loved every second of it. While I still do production work and an occasional performance, I no longer tour or need the money from the shows.

I own several instruments that are my most prized possessions, and have many precious memories associated with them. They are worth several thousand dollars. I cannot think of anyone to leave them to who might

appreciate them. None of my heirs are musical, and I'm estranged from my only child, a son in his early 40s. If he inherited them, he'd sell them and squander the money before the last chorus. The same is true of my only grand-

I'm in my early 60s, healthy, active and don't plan on going anywhere anytime soon. But eventually — when I do — I want these most important items to go where they will be played well and appreciated. — Quarter Note Quandary In California

Dear O.N.O.: How about donating your instruments to a program that keeps music alive in schools with underfunded music programs nationwide? An organization to consider is the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation. It gives economically disadvantaged youth access to the benefits of music education, and helps them to be better students and express their emotions and creativity through playing music. The foundation also has a fund called Music Rising that helps school music programs after natural disasters. The website is mhopus.org. If you check it out, I'm sure you will find it interesting.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 21, 1917

Pendleton last evening saw the first wounded American soldier who has been returned from the battlefields of France this far west. He is Private Louden of the regular army and he was en route through Pendleton to his home in Walla Walla. Private Louden, shot through the leg with a German ball, has been furloughed home to help the Red Cross until he is fit for field service again and he has brought with him stories which indicate that Germany is on "her last legs." Talking at the depot last evening while waiting for his train to pull out, he declared that the belief is prevalent among the allied soldiers in France that Germany is licked and cannot resist the power of her foes much longer. "I have seen numbers of German prisoners who are 14 year old boys," he said. "All of the Germans taken prisoner looked thin and emaciated and almost the first thing they ask for is food."

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 21, 1967

You remember all those jokes you've heard about small foreign cars? Well, here's one that's true. Walter Holt of Pendleton hooked Vegas, Nev., a week ago.

onto a small foreign car with his trailer hitch when he was pulling out of a parking place in the 300 block on SW 1st St. Wednesday. He towed the vehicle for two blocks to the 100 block on SW Emigrant before he was aware he had a "hitch." Holt left the towed vehicle at that location and called city police who took over from there.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Dec. 21, 1992

The Pendleton Bucks stormed from third place to win the Tri-State high school wrestling tournament Saturday. The Bucks trailed Moses Lake, Wash., and defending champion North Central after Friday's rounds, but came back with a flurry of pins in consolation rounds Saturday and won going away. Pendleton's Chester Freeman claimed the tournament championship at 141 pounds and teammate Aaron Stark won at 189 pounds with 5-0 records. It was the first team win at the tournament, perhaps the strongest interstate tournament in the Northwest each year, for Pendleton since 1981. It was the second tournament championship in two weeks for Pendleton, which successfully defended its title at the El Dorado Gold tournament in Las

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 355th day of 2017. There are 10 days left in the year. Winter arrives at 11:28 a.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlights in History

On Dec. 21, 1937, Walt Disney's first animated feature, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," had its world premiere at the Carthay Circle Theater in Los Angeles. The first Dr. Seuss book, "And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street," was published by Vanguard Press.

On this date:

In 1620, Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower went ashore for the first time at present-day Plymouth, Massachusetts.

In 1864, during Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman concluded their "March to the Sea" as they captured Savannah, Georgia.

In 1891, the first basketball game, devised by James Naismith, is believed to have been played at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. (The final score of this experimental game: 1-0.)

In 1940, author F. Scott Fitzgerald died in Hollywood, California, at age 44.

In 1942, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Williams v. North Carolina, ruled 6-2 that all states had to recognize divorces granted in Nevada.

In 1945, U.S. Army Gen. George S. Patton, 60, died in Heidelberg, Germany, 12 days after being seriously injured in a car accident.

In 1958, Charles de Gaulle was elected to a seven-year term as the first president of the Fifth Republic of France.

In 1967, Louis Washkansky, the first human heart transplant recipient, died at a hospital in Cape Town, South Africa, 18 days after receiving the donor organ.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Freddie Hart is 91. Talk show host Phil Donahue is 82. Actress Jane Fonda is 80. Actor Larry Bryggman is 79. Singer Carla Thomas is 75. Musician Albert Lee is 74. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas is 73. Actor Josh Mostel is 71. Actor Samuel L. Jackson is 69. Rock singer Nick Gilder is 67. Movie producer Jeffrey Katzenberg is 67. Actor Dennis Boutsikaris is 65. International Tennis Hall of Famer Chris Evert is 63. Actor-comedian Ray Romano is 60. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is 55. Rock musician Murph (The Lemonheads; Dinosaur Jr.) is 53. Actor-comedian Andy Dick is 52. Actor Kiefer Sutherland is 51.

Thought for Today: "The time will come when Winter will ask us: 'What were you doing all the Summer?" Bohemian proverb.

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN











