

PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ

FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON

B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART

PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE

BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS

JIM DAVIS 3-13

BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE

DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS

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THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART

LUANN

BY GREG EVANS

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ZITS

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DEAR ABBY

Adoptive mom writes rules for strangers with questions

Dear Abby: I'm an adoptive mother who has had more than my fair share of inappropriate comments directed at me and my children. They usually come from strangers or acquaintances. I'm about up to here with them, so I thought I would write you about etiquette for interacting with adoptive families:

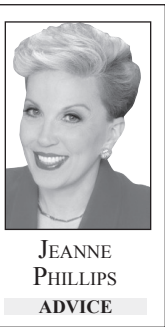
Though we may stand out to you, we think of ourselves as a family like any other. Please do not start a conversation with us that has the sole purpose of pointing out the obvious. Remember that my children have ears.

Please do not ask questions in front of them about them or their adoption. Don't ask in private unless you are a close friend. Better yet, let me broach the subject.

Please do not always comment on my daughters' hair. Yes, it is nicely braided and decorated with beautiful beads. But isn't there something else you can say about them? Maybe just once? And please don't talk in front of them about how hard it must be for me to do their hair. I love braiding it.

Please don't say I am a saint for adopting them. I chose to adopt because I never wanted to have biological children. And please don't say how nice it is for me to love them so much. Why would you expect that I wouldn't love my children?

Please do not pity my children. They have amazing lives, are fiercely loved and have bright futures ahead. And please do not introduce me to others as someone "who has adopted two girls from Africa." Because my daughters are black does not mean they are from Africa! I would much prefer you simply say, "Anne has two 8-year-old daughters."



And last, please remember that you and I are both people who love our families, and we have more in common than you might think. — **Anne from California**

Dear Anne: Thank you for a great letter. Sometimes well-meaning people simply don't think about the impact their words can have when they begin a conversation. I hope my readers will take your words to heart because they are valid.

Dear Abby: While separating photographs after my divorce from my wife, I found some photographs of relatives' and friends' weddings. Is there any protocol on what to do with them? In some cases, the marriages (and friendships) have ended, so I assume I should just dispose of them, correct? I will send my ex-wife any photos of her and her family, but none that include my family. Is this the right way to go?

We don't live in the same area anymore, and our families were never close. I would be interested to hear what you think should be done with family photos that include me, my ex-wife and our children. Should they go just to the children? I am in a new committed relationship, and I do not wish to keep any photos of my ex for any reason. Can you please help? — **Needs To Know in New York**

Dear Needs To Know: Send the family pictures to your children and instruct them to share them with your ex if she would like to have them. If you still have a relationship with the friends and relatives, inform them that you found the photos and ask if they would like to have them. That would be the considerate thing to do.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
March 13, 1920

An auto belonging to E. R. Parker, residing in the east end of town, was taken from in front of the Oddfellow building last night by joyriders and found last night by officers who were notified of its disappearance. The machine was undamaged, the only inconvenience being the necessity of the Parkers walking home from town instead of riding as they expected to do when they parked their car.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
March 13, 1970

The City of Hermiston went to court Thursday in its battle against the abolishment of justice of the peace offices in Hermiston and Milton-Freewater. In a suit filed in Umatilla County Circuit Court, Hermiston contends the Umatilla County Court had no authority to shut down the justice courts. The county court has said it abolished the justice offices for reasons of economy and efficiency. District Judge Richard Courson now holds court on a regular basis in Milton-Freewater. His schedule will

be extended to the West End. Reaction against closing of the justice courts has been sharpest from the West End of the county.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
March 13, 1995

An accused murderer held in the Umatilla County Jail for the last month will return to Washington to stand trial for first-degree murder. Darrel E. Holmes of Prosser, has waived his extradition rights, which will send him back to Washington within the next 10 days. Last month Holmes refused to waive his extradition rights, which set off a month-long process of obtaining a governor's warrant from Washington. Holmes was scheduled to be served with the warrant at the end of the month. He is the main suspect in a brutal shooting Jan. 24 of Leslie Beierle of Prosser, his longtime friend. Holmes also faces two counts of attempted aggravated murder for a Jan. 26 shootout with officers from the Pendleton Police Department and Oregon State Polie. After his Washington trial, he will be returned to Umatilla County to stand trial here.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On March 13, 2013,

Jorge Bergoglio of Argentina was elected pope, choosing the name Francis; he was the first pontiff from the Americas and the first from outside Europe in more than a millennium.

In 1639, New College was renamed Harvard College for clergyman John Harvard.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a measure prohibiting Union military officers from returning fugitive slaves to their owners.

In 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis signed a measure allowing black slaves to enlist in the Confederate States Army with the promise they would be set free.

In 1901, the 23rd President of the United States,

Benjamin Harrison, died in Indianapolis at age 67.

In 1925, the Tennessee General Assembly approved a bill prohibiting the teaching of the theory of evolution. (Gov. Austin Peay signed the measure on March 21.)

In 1934, a gang that included John Dillinger and "Baby Face" Nelson robbed the First National Bank in Mason City, Iowa, making off with \$52,344.

In 1954, the Battle of Dien Bien Phu began during the First Indochina War as Viet Minh forces attacked French troops, who were defeated nearly two months later.

In 1969, the Apollo 9 astronauts splashed down, ending a mission that included the successful testing of the Lunar Module.

In 1975, the first Chili's

restaurant was opened in Dallas by entrepreneur Larry Lavine.

In 1996, a gunman burst into an elementary school in Dunblane, Scotland, and opened fire, killing 16 children and one teacher before killing himself.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 95. Opera singer Julia Migenes is 71. Actress Dana Delany is 64. Actress Annabeth Gish is 49. Rapper-actor Common is 48. Actor Emile Hirsch is 35. Olympic gold medal skier Mikaela Shiffrin is 25. Tennis star Coco Gauff is 16.

Thought for Today: "History repeats itself. That's one of the things wrong with history." — *Clarence Darrow, American lawyer (born 1857, died this date in 1938).*

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON

BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE