

# Dear Carol



**Dear Carol,**

My Middle School daughter's class is trying to raise money to go on a field trip. They are selling raffle tickets and the prizes are pretty good so the tickets do have value. My daughter wants to go door to door in the neighborhood with her friends to sell them. I don't think this is a very good idea, you never know who might open the door. It is important that she sell as many as she can because the trip is expensive and the more tickets she sells, the less we have to pay out of our pockets. How can she do this safely?

**Betsy**

**Dear Betsy,**

This is a great opportunity for your daughter to learn the value of working for what she wants. You are wise to want her to do it in a way that is safe. If your neighborhood is generally safe your daughter and some friends could try to sell to neighbors as long as an adult is with them watching from the sidewalk with a cell phone to be sure all is well. The students might ask permission to

set up a table outside a local store, again with an adult present. Your daughter could contact out of town friends and relatives and ask for support. It is important that she do the selling, so she can learn to politely ask for what she wants and learn to occasionally take no for an answer.

**Dear Carol,**

My girlfriend is pretty quiet. She likes to spend time with just me watching TV or videos, shopping, hiking and such. I really like these things too but I also like to go out with friends, or visit to my family. Lauren (not her real name) doesn't like to socialize like that, she feels uncomfortable in social situations. She expects me to ask her to join me on these occasions but never comes and tells me she wants me to hurry to be with her. I like her and like spending time with her for lots of reasons but I wonder if I'm going to be too tied down if we keep going together.

**Nervous Ned**

**Dear Ned,**

Pay attention to those uncomfortable feelings that come up early in a relationship. They will intensify as time goes on. Have you talked with Lauren about your feelings of being discouraged from having friends and experiences apart from her? She may not realize this is an issue. If the behavior continues consider if this is something that will contribute to your happiness in the future. Please do not give yourself away in this relationship, if you are social and family oriented, be true to yourself. If Lauren chooses not to join you she will be true to her nature as well. Time will tell if your natures can joyously and peacefully blend.

Send questions to askcarolnow@gmail.com or mail to Herald Publications.

Carol is a Life Coach available for private consultation in person or on the phone. •

# Political Penguin

**By Duane Plank**

As we take some time this weekend to hopefully give thanks for whatever is good in our lives, did you realize that it was 46 years ago that President John F. Kennedy was felled by the assassin Lee Harvey Oswald? November 22, 1963, to be exact. Used to be a day that was remembered by a lot of folks in our fine country, but as the time passes and the years roll over, we remember less and less, don't we? Besides, we have to gird up for the all-important "Black Friday" sales, right? Buy more stuff that we don't need, but at great prices! If you don't need it, is it really a good deal?

They tell me that people will be standing in line on Friday morning at 2 a.m. or so. Good luck to you, bargain hunter Phil. Hope you find what you are looking for. I used to stand in line to waste money at stadium rock concerts at venues like the Coliseum some 30 years ago. But never, ever to buy electronic gadgets. But I did queue up to see bands like the iconic Fabulous Poodles and Toto perform. And the great band REO Speedwagon. And most of those folks standing in line years ago weren't sober, either. Unlike the folks standing outside Kohl's this morning. But, you have got to be kidding me! You are telling me that you can't get the same type of deals about a week before Christmas, when the retailers will be begging for business, cutting prices left and right?

If I remember correctly, people trampled each other last year as "Black Friday" retailers opened their doors. I believe that a death or two ensued. People dying. Trampling over each other in the perceived need to buy "stuff." All over "getting a deal." Sometimes it is easy enough to figure out why this country, and I love the good old USA, is having some tough times. Cuz many of us, no, many of

you, are freaking crazy!

Well, if any of you early shoppers get injured in a melee standing outside the Friday retailers, get stomped on by the cigarette-smoking soccer moms with the Starbucks and the not-paid-for SUV, you may have a new healthcare option.

The Senate's debate on the healthcare initiative is expected to start after the Thanksgiving break. It's an \$848 million-dollar plan backed by the Demos. The plan supposedly will extend coverage to more than 30 million Americans who are lacking coverage at this time.

Last weekend's 60-39 vote in the Senate that moved the process forward was accomplished without any Republican support. What, you expected the Reps to support something like healthcare reform? And don't look for many, if any, of the GOP lawmakers calling Capitol Hill home to get behind the massive spending initiative in the future.

Said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Kentucky Republican: "We know that Americans oppose this bill. They certainly don't think it's what we need at a time when one out of 10 working Americans is looking for a job." True enough.

Demo Harry Reid, who is the Senate Majority Leader and champion of the 2,074-page healthcare proposal, said he knows that the legislative road ahead is full of imposing potholes. But at least the process is moving forward. "There is an emergency and it exists, and it exists now," he said. "The right response to disagreement is not dismissal. It's discussion...Let us debate our differences."

Let the posturing and pontificating begin. I was looking for some light reading material to tackle over the Thanksgiving break. But I don't think that I'll be perusing the Reid

*See Penguin, page 19*

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