

Dear Deanna!

My boyfriend of four years cheated on me at least 10 times. At first we had an open relationship and we saw other people and later began getting serious about each other. Although he continued to cheat, he showed me love and came home at a decent time. Now he's changed and is always around. I love him but I keep thinking about the phrase "once a cheater, always a cheater."
--In Love and Confused



Real People, Real Advice

An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Confused:

Once is too many times for cheating. You played a part in this drama because of the tone in which this relationship began. He disrespected you but you allowed it. Count your four years as a learning experience and find a man that'll respect you like the deserving queen you are. You're too good to be seventh fiddle to a man that's supposed to be yours. No, he won't stop cheating and you're a sucker if you stick around.

Dear Deanna!

Help me with this problem before my husband has a fit. I enrolled my 10-year old son in ballet lessons but my husband wants him to play football too. He wants me to take my son out of dance class because he's afraid he'll be teased

and made to feel like he's gay or something. How do I choose between ballet and football for my son? --Mother of A Dancer; Pittsburgh

Dear Mother:

Hello out there! What does your son have to say about all of this or is he afraid of hurting someone's feelings by making the decision himself? If your son enjoys football and ballet, let him do both and help your husband see that your son is happy. While you're at it, enroll him in karate too. This way, when kids tease

him about ballet, he can do a few chops and a couple of drop kicks and keep on trucking.

Dear Deanna!

My wife cheated and broke up our home 6 years ago. I paid child support but she was vindictive and kept my kids from me. My daughter is pregnant and ran to me because her mother kicked her out of the house. I took her in but she disrespects me, and throws up the past and I want this to stop. --James Todd; Milwaukee, Wisc.

Dear James:

No matter how old your daughter is if she's under your roof, she has to abide by your rules. Put your foot down and let her know what the deal is and start the process of explaining and healing from the past. It's not too late to share good values with your daughter that your silly ex-wife never had to begin with. Stay firm and do what you need in order to ensure your daughter's a better mother than your ex-wife was.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Festival Focuses on Health

Natural and healthy lifestyles will be celebrated Saturday and Sunday during the Oregon Convention Center in Portland.

"Natural Style: A Sustainable Living Festival" is a public event showcasing natural health and wellness; sustainable home and garden ideas; fashion; alternative transportation; food; and green products and services.

Entertainment and speakers; a children's activity area; and offer workshops, demonstrations, and family-oriented, interactive educational displays -- are also part of the event.

All walks of the sustainable lifestyle will be represented. The focus is on educating the community no matter what sustainable practices are already in place in their lives.

A TriMet hybrid bus; natural gardening and home improvement options; an eco-fashion show; organic cooking demonstrations and sampling; socially responsible investing options; and a kid's activity area where they can learn about sustainable practices in a fun interactive way -- are events that promise something for everyone in the family.

Northeast Housing Project Finished

Celebration planned

A long term plan to end homelessness in Portland comes alive this month when Prescott Terrace, 5725 N.E. Prescott St., opens 48 units of permanent housing.

Residents of the new development will have access to on-site services and a community-centered approach to health and housing.

Portland's Bureau of Housing and Community Development says with the Prescott Terrace opening, there are now more than 100 permanent housing units opened within the first five months of a 10-year plan to end homelessness. Nearly another 100 units are under development.

Prescott Terrace is a collaborative effort with funding from federal, state, county and city agencies, all focused on providing housing and intensive services for people who have been homeless for long periods of time.

The public is invited to join elected officials from the City of



Prescott Terrace opens this month in northeast Portland, offering 48 units of housing as part of a 10-year plan to end homelessness.

Portland and Multnomah County in attending the inauguration of Prescott Terrace during an open house on Friday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Refreshments provided. RSVP to Michele Connors at micheleco@cascadiabhc.org or call 503-238-0769 and dial "0" for the operator.

Hip-Hop Summit Opens Dialogue

continued ▲ from Front

positive," Crews said.

Featured musical guests at the concert will include all local artists -- Soul Plasma, Urban Truth, Con-

crete Evangelist, Darinna Muhammad, Laquisha Hankens, Cathedral Kids, Mike Knight, Confidence, and Solemn.

"For people that have a passion, that want to bring change, this is a

call of action," Crews said. "It's kind of like a rally. Come, be informed, and be empowered to make changes."

For more information, call 503-259-7109.

Too Many Suspensions, Expulsions for Black Students

continued ▲ from A4

dent achievement. If a student is pulled out of the classroom, they are deprived of academic instruction and can easily fall behind. Clearly, there is a connection between repeat disciplinary referrals and academic failure. According to the Oregon Department of Education's 2003-2004 Report Card, 11.7 percent of African Americans dropped out of Portland Public high schools during the 2002-2003 school year compared to 7.1 percent of their white counterparts. When you look at student achievement within Portland Public Schools in

that same year, 47.7 percent of all African Americans students met or exceeded benchmarks in English/Language Arts compared to 74.1 percent of Caucasian students. In math, 39.9 percent of African American students met or exceeded benchmarks in comparison to 70.6 percent of their white counterparts.

The JRP report offers an array of strategies to address this issue. Some of the recommendations include identifying the problem and tracking the data, recruiting and hiring more diverse teachers, developing a strong professional development program that includes comprehensive training on cultural

competency and effective class management techniques, encouraging more parental involvement, setting clear and objective guidelines around disciplinary procedures to minimize subjectivity and eliminating zero tolerance policies.

If we are serious about eliminating the achievement gap and setting high standards for all students, we must consider all the factors that affect student learning and achievement. Lack of teacher training and professional development, inadequate resources, institutional racism, and subjective use of disciplinary referrals are critical issues that deserve our attention. Our children's futures lie in the balance.

North Africa Conference Opens

The international conference "The Berbers and Other Minorities in North Africa: A Cultural Reappraisal" will be held at Portland State University from Thursday, May 12 to Sunday, May 15.

Kamal Salhi, a professor of French from Leeds University in England, will give a lecture on rethinking postcolonial cultures. Jane Goodman, an assistant professor of Communication and

Culture from Indiana University will present information about songs, global circuits and culture.

For more information, call 503-725-8789.



Meet Professional Services Project Managers

City of Portland - Bureau of Purchases
You are invited to attend a **Professional Services Outreach Event!** Come and meet project managers from Portland area agencies and learn about professional consulting opportunities in **business, finance, insurance, and the legal fields.**

Where: Portland Building, 1120 SW Fifth Ave, 2nd Floor, Room B
When: Thursday, May 19, 2 to 4 p.m.
Parking validated for SmartPark garages.

Gregory J. Wolley Phone: 503-823-6860
Bureau of Purchases Fax: 503-823-5539
1120 SW Fifth Ave, Rm 750 E-mail:
Portland, OR 97204 gwolley@ci.portland.or.us



Please RSVP Gale Hussey @ 503-823-5057

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SUNDAY MAY 15 • 10AM-5PM
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