

DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at dearabby.com or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



Dear Abby: My twin sister moved to another state years ago. We always kept in close contact through telephone calls. But since the invention of caller ID, call waiting, cell-phones, texting, etc., things have changed.

Examples: She'll cut off a conversation to answer another nonemergency call. She frantically texts that she needs to talk right now, then doesn't call and won't answer when I try to call her. She doesn't return calls or texts for days.

When we do talk, she complains nonstop, and if I try to chime in about what's happening in my life, she cuts off the conversation. Also, we have a two-hour time difference, so when she does call, it's either super late or the dinner hour. If I can't talk long, she gets mad and blocks me for days.

I don't want to be the etiquette police, but something is off. Advice?

—Just About Had it in Illinois

Dear Had It: Has your twin always been this self-centered and rude, or is it relatively new behavior? Do not blame advances in technology for it. Accept that she may have a low level of tolerance for frustration and little interest in what is going on in your life.

If I were you, the next time she blocks you, do not repeatedly try to reach her. Wait until she calls back. If you haven't already taken this up with her directly, you should, because her phone manners are atrocious.

Dear Abby: My husband and I are elderly. We live in a renovated shack I inherited from my family. The neighborhood is degrading, and I'm trying to decide whether to build a new home out in the country on property I own.

If I do, my family, which needs a better place to live, could live in my current house. But I'm worried about the physical and emotional toll it will take on my husband and me to improve the wooded property. I also worry about issues like potential dementia living nearly 30 miles from town in the country.

No matter how much I weigh the pros and cons, I can't reach a decision whether to build or not. Because of our ages, it's now or never. Can you please help me decide?

—Stumped About the Future

Dear Stumped: Allow me to offer a third alternative. You described your husband and yourself as elderly and expressed concern about the physical and emotional toll building a new home far from town could cause. It might make more sense to consider selling your current home and/or the rural property and using the money to buy a place in town in a neighborhood that isn't degrading and is near medical facilities should you and your husband need them. At this point in your lives, the last thing you need is stress and isolation.

YOUR HOROSCOPE By Madalyn Aslan

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

★★★★★ DYNAMIC | ★★★★★ POSITIVE | ★★★ AVERAGE | ★★ SO-SO | ★ DIFFICULT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021: Fated, accepting and evolving, you utter your analysis of the world and its problems with a knowing finality. This year, through a prediction, you achieve remarkable success. You influence others enormously with it. If single, when you lighten up and don't take yourself so seriously, you find your mate. If attached, you have a visionary bond with your partner and make ambitious plans this year. AQUARIUS has the best ideas.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You'll crave peace and privacy today. Stroll through a park and enjoy the trees to heal and rejuvenate. Pace yourself regarding strenuous activities. Be patient if a project takes longer than expected. Tonight: Celebrate a quiet evening peacefully at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Your opinions are shifting. New ideas are presented. The expectations of friends, community life and your role in an organization can impact your day. Release friendships or group affiliations that you have outgrown. Tonight: Online, talking deeply with friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Shopping excursions and social events online are fulfilling. Life is good. But there's a tense situation at work. A difficult co-worker is a source of stress. Now that it's the weekend, you need to think. Tonight: Talk it over with a Virgo.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Today promises opportunities for future travel and brings invitations to online social functions. A friend encourages the exploration of new ideas. Be patient if an in-law or grandchild seems a little demanding. Humor and talking over your differences help. Tonight: Lots of laughter.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You'll be doing some sleuthing. There is a mystery you're determined to solve. An intriguing new course of research presents new perspectives. Today is a wonderful time to revisit destinations or pursue projects that have interested you before. Tonight: Going over finances with another.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Today there's a touch of awkwardness with another. Patience helps. A touch of humor and tolerance will bring out the brightest and the best. Tension lessens. Loving support and admiration come your way. Tonight: Share an anecdote that includes a cleverly disguised kernel of wisdom.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Time spent with loved ones and involvement in activities you truly enjoy will enhance your wellness. Pleasing music, colors and fragrances used in recreation and in alternative healing modalities boost your well-being as well. Tonight: You feel much better and healthier too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Today brightens your sector of romance and leisure and brings a sense of ease and accomplishment. Pressure lessens. A goal is reached. Plan a vacation with a loved one. Honor the deepest stirrings of your heart. Tonight: Dance like no one's watching.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Today brings a surprise regarding your family. A family member might announce a move or new career plans. A peek at your genealogy offers intriguing perspectives concerning ancestors. You reflect on the present and the past. Tonight: A household meeting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Today is busy. Prepare for a great deal of coming and going. A series of errands and short trips need your attention. The pace is exhilarating and hectic. Tonight: Take off and relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Splendid financial opportunities manifest. Be careful not to overextend though. Live within your means, or there could be consequences. Suppress any resentment concerning spending your hard-earned money. Focus your energy on seeking solutions instead. Tonight: You'll be glad you did.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Creative and dramatic, your natural warmth and zest for magic makes you a natural mystic. Today you embody one in top form. Your motivation is exceptionally high. If you can maintain perspective and avoid overkill, much will be accomplished. Tonight: Doing exactly as you like.

Layoffs

Continued from A5

Annemarie Strassel, a spokeswoman for Unite Here, a union represents 300,000 people in industries like hotels, airports, transportation and food service, said that they had not been informed about any planned layoffs being canceled as a result of the stimulus package. About 70 to 80% of union members remain out of work, she said.

The bill sets aside \$15 billion

for airlines and airline contractors, which have struggled mightily with sagging demand for travel during the pandemic, to keep employees on the payroll through September.

Boeing, which had said it would pare its workforce down to about 130,000 jobs by the end of this year, a drop of about 30,000 positions since the beginning of 2020, declined to say whether the aid would help avert any of the layoffs, but said it was grateful for the package.

The bill also provides \$8 billion to U.S. airports and some \$30.5 billion in grants to other transit agencies. Amtrak, which is scheduled to receive about \$1.7 billion, said Wednesday that hundreds of furloughed employees could be called back to work as early as next month.

The aid provisions have also drawn some unlikely support. Republican Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi voted against the legislation Wednesday but hailed the relief for restaurants

it included. "This funding will ensure small businesses can survive the pandemic by helping to adapt their operations and keep their employees on the payroll," he said on Twitter.

Other Republicans have continued to fight against it. Sen. Rick Scott of Florida on Wednesday urged cities and states to return the \$350 billion in aid they are slated to receive, despite the popularity of the measure and the pleas from many local leaders, including Republicans, for the funding.

Vaccine

Continued from A5

It is also possible that union contracts could prevent an employer from requiring vaccinations.

Dan Clay, the president of United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 555, which represents Safeway, Albertsons and Fred Meyer employees, said the union is still determining whether language in its collective bargaining agreements could limit the ability of grocery chains to require vaccines, although he said vaccination requirements were not explicitly discussed in the agreements.

Fred Meyer, Albertsons and Safeway are encouraging their employees to receive the vaccine by offering a \$100 incentive to those who are fully vaccinated. The grocers will offer the same incentive to those who opt out of the vaccine for medical or religious reasons but complete an education safety course — a move that assures the grocery chains don't run afoul of equal pay laws by offering the incentives.

However, the grocery chains are not requiring that employees receive the vaccine.

There is one final group of Oregon workers who can't be required by their employers to



Chris Granger/The Advocate via AP, file

Medical assistant Keona Shepard prepares to administer a Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine March 4 in New Orleans.

receive the vaccine — and this one might come as a surprise.

Health care workers, among those most at risk of being exposed to COVID-19, can't be required by employers to receive vaccines under a 1989 Oregon law. The law defines health care workers broadly to include health care providers and those who work in health care facilities, plus firefighters and law enforcement officers.

Under the law, health care workers could only be required to receive the vaccine if it is mandated under state or federal law. There is no such law, nor does one appear likely.

Providence Health & Services and Oregon Health & Science University, two of the

Portland area's largest employers, are encouraging, but not requiring, that health providers be vaccinated. Those who are vaccinated must still wear masks and take other protective measures.

Few employers have announced plans to mandate vaccinations, even if they legally are allowed to do so.

"In my experience, employers don't want to get involved in their workers' medical histories. They don't want to ask people about their disabilities or their religious exemptions," said Elizabeth Tippett, a University of Oregon law professor specializing in employment practices. "So, I think employers will try less punitive

ways to encourage people to get vaccinated before they resort to a full-on requirement, although it might vary by industry."

Intel, Oregon's largest corporate employer, is strongly recommending but not requiring that workers receive vaccinations when they become eligible, according to a company spokesperson. Intel is offering employees four hours of paid time off for their vaccination appointments.

Amazon will pay employees \$80 — \$40 per vaccine dose — if they have to go off-site to get vaccinated, according to a company spokesperson. It won't require vaccines, but Amazon says it hopes to set up vaccination clinics at its warehouses to make it easy for workers who want the shots.

Though laws generally allow employers to require vaccines, the federal emergency-use authorization for the COVID-19 vaccines creates some legal uncertainty in this case. People receiving vaccines approved that way are supposed to be informed that they can refuse the shot.

Legal experts say it's not entirely clear whether that would prevent an employer from mandating that employees receive the vaccine.

"It's theoretical at this point," Tippett said.

Suit

Continued from A5

The settlement would resolve the legal challenge brought against the fund by John Day logging company Great Northern Resources, which contended in its lawsuit that the state and organizers of the fund were violating the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution by

distributing government benefits on the basis of race. As part of the settlement, the state will pay Great Northern Resources up to \$230,000, depending on the cost of attorney fees.

Find it all online
bendbulletin.com

DEATH NOTICES

Keith Charles Mahaffey of Bend, OR
Oct 13, 1951 - March 8, 2021

Arrangements: Deschutes Memorial Chapel and Gardens is honored to serve the family - (541) 382-5592. Visit our online register book to send condolences and share treasured memories at deschutesmemorial-chapel.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/deschutesmemorial.
Services: Celebration of Life to be determined at a later date

Joseph L. Sershen of Bend, OR
September 7, 1937 - March 7, 2021

Arrangements: Autumn Funerals, Bend 541-318-0842 www.autumnfunerals.net
Services: Recitation of the Rosary at 9 AM followed by the Memorial Mass at 10 AM on Wed., Mar. 17 at the Historic St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Jerome Joseph Kuper of Bend, OR
March 26, 1931 - February 23, 2021

Arrangements: Baird Funeral Home of Bend is honored to serve the Kuper family. Please visit our website, www.bairdfh.com, to share condolences and sign our online guest book.
Services: A Memorial will be held in late Summer.
Contributions may be made to: Partners In Care: www.partnersbend.org 2075 NE Wyatt Ct. Bend Oregon 97701 541-382-5882

OBITUARY DEADLINE

Call to ask about our deadlines
541-385-5809
Monday - Friday, 10am - 3pm
No death notices or obituaries are published Mondays.
Email: obits@bendbulletin.com

OBITUARY



Justin Douglas Ward

July 17, 1977 - March 7, 2021

It is with great sadness that the family of Justin Douglas Ward announces his unexpected death on Sunday, March 7, 2021, at the age of 43.

Justin was born in Bend on July 17, 1977, attended Bend Senior High School and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Portland in 2000. He moved back to Bend soon after graduation, worked in the family business and has most recently built a successful business, WATT Construction with his Brother-in-Law, Aaron Platt.

As a native Oregonian, Justin loved the outdoors from a young age and carried on his passion for hunting, fishing, horseback riding, boating and snow skiing with his wife and boys. At home you'd find him with his three sons looking for new adventures. You could often find Justin, Amy and the boys spending time hunting and fishing at the Dowell Ranch and other places across Oregon and Idaho. Justin was an incredible father who was often found dancing and singing with his boys or teaching them how to be a great outdoorsmen like he was.

Justin will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 10 years, Amy and his precious boys, Zane (7), Colt (5) and Sky (3), his Mother-in-Law Patty (Mike) Begin, Father-in-Law Winton Platt, Brother-in-Laws Aaron (Kristen) Platt and Randy (Valerie) Platt, his parents Kim and Sally Ward, his sisters, Donna (Andy) Moore, Dayna (Jake) Ralston and Jessica Ward. Justin will also be forever remembered by his nieces, nephews, extended family, dear friends and co-workers.

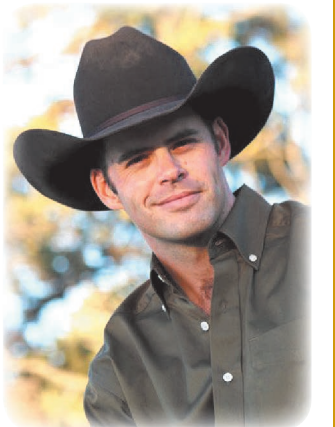
The Memorial Service will be located at Niswonger-Reynolds Chapel 105 NW Irving Ave, Bend, OR 97701

• Saturday, March 13 at 9:00 Viewing in Funeral Home 9:30 - 11:00AM Service in Chapel for family and friends of Amy & Justin Ward.

• Saturday, March 13 at 12:00PM - 1:30PM for family and friends of the Ward Family.

Memorial donations in memory of Justin can be made to: The Boys 529 College Savings Plans.

Donation links available on Niswonger-Reynolds website. Mary McCool's Swim School, 61900 Gosney Rd, Bend.



WHISPERING WINDS
Distinctive Retirement Lifestyles

Check Out Our Cottages!
All the Amenities & Conveniences of Home & So Much More.

Call today to schedule a tour!

541-312-9690
2920 NE Connors Ave.
Bend, OR 97701

www.whisperingwinds.com