

DEAR ABBY

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



Dear Abby: I have this dilemma. I'm a woman in my 40s with a good job, and I'm told I am a good catch. About six months ago, I moved in with a man I will call Peter. It started as a roommate situation, but then became friends with benefits. We have both agreed we are not a couple.

The problem is Peter has a friend, "Reggie." I like Reggie, and he likes me. We have hung out as a group several times. To the best of my knowledge, Reggie has no idea Peter and I are FWBs.

Reggie recently asked me out to dinner as a date. I can see myself having a real relationship with him, but don't know how Peter will react. Should I accept the invitation? I mean, it's just one date. Also, should I mention it to Peter?

—F.W.B. in the South

Dear F.W.B.: You and Peter have agreed that you are NOT a couple. Accept Reggie's offer and be upfront with Peter about it. The only thing that might change would be that Peter will have to find another friend with benefits because the sexual aspect of your relationship with him may be over.

Dear Abby: I have a 22-year-old daughter from my first marriage and a 9-year-old son with my husband of 12 years. My husband is 57, and I just turned 41. I would like to have another baby, mainly because I want my 9-year-old son to have someone to grow up with. We have no other family. It's just him and female cousins, ages 9 and 5. Can you please advise me if my husband and I are OK or too old to have one more child?

—Considering it in the West

Dear Considering: I'm glad you wrote. This is something that should be discussed further with your husband to make sure you are on the same page, and also with your OB-GYN.

If your intention is that your children grow up together, this is something that should have happened years ago. As it stands, the 10-year age difference will mean your son will be grown and gone while your younger child is still at home.

A doctor with a specialty in genetics could be helpful as you gather information. It is important that you understand what precautions might be wise to take before making this decision.

Dear Abby: I care a lot about what friends, family — even the general public — do with their money. Specifically, I promote the benefits of owning a home, but I suspect my efforts to educate them may need a more loving approach. I just don't want people I care about to throw their money away to their landlords. Do I need to be more loving and supportive vs. educating?

—Community Helper in Michigan

Dear Helper: People usually have good reasons for renting instead of buying. If you keep repeating your advice and it's falling on deaf ears, it's fair to conclude your message isn't being appreciated. A saying widely attributed to Albert Einstein is, "Insanity is continuing to repeat an action over and over again but expecting different results." You can volunteer to serve as an adviser, but only if these individuals want to make a change and ask for your help.

School board

Continued from A1

As of the 2019-20 school year, 12% of Bend-La Pine students identified as Latino/Hispanic and 1% identified as Black, according to the Oregon Department of Education.

Douglass — who was first appointed to the board in February 2017 before winning a four-year term in the May election that year — is running for the Zone 1 seat, representing northwest Bend. She currently holds the Zone 7 at-large seat, which is also up for election this year.

Douglass did not respond when asked for comment.

Her lone challenger is Maria Lopez-Deuenhauer, a stay-at-home mother and former salesperson. Lopez-Deuenhauer has not held elected office before, according to Deschutes County documents.

Board member Caroline Skidmore, currently in the Zone 1 seat, declined to run for re-election after a two-year term.

"My choice not to run for another term on our Bend-La Pine School Board has been a difficult decision made with careful consideration," she said in a written statement. "I will not be seeking reelection in order to focus more on my family, environmental advocacy, and role as a speech-language pathologist working directly with children."

The wide-open Zone 2 seat — representing northeast Bend — has two candidates, both with careers in higher education.



Douglass



Haffner



Hentton

Wendy Imel is an adjunct faculty member at Portland State University, as well as a practice administrator for the Bend Hernia Center, according to election documents.

Marcus LeGrand is a college and career success coach at Central Oregon Community College, and currently serves on Bend-La Pine Schools' budget committee, according to election documents. LeGrand is also an executive board member of The Father's Group, a local education nonprofit comprising mainly Black fathers.

Julie Craig, who's held the Zone 2 seat since 2012, told The Bulletin she would not run for re-election.

"It's been 9 years, and I think it's time for me to move on," she said.

Two Sunriver residents are running for the Zone 4 seat, which represents south Deschutes County.

Gregg Hentton is a retired employee of General Motors and Digital Motorworks with no elected experience, according to election documents. Shirley Olson is a retired educator who has held numerous high-level positions in schools and educational companies for decades — from an



Imel



LeGrand



Sarai Llerandi

elementary principal in the Salem-Keizer School District to an educational consultant for Pearson, a company that makes textbooks and other school materials.

The current Zone 4 board member, Stuart Young, told The Bulletin he would be stepping down after seven years.

"The district's headed in a great direction," he said. "I think it's time for somebody else."

The at-large Zone 7 seat, which Douglass is vacating, has the most competition, with three candidates on the ballot, but one said Friday he was dropping out of the race. Cab Burge will appear on ballots but decided after he filed for election not to run.

Jon Haffner is a financial analyst for St. Charles medical center.

And Janet Sarai Llerandi is the finance and administrative coordinator for local educational nonprofit Better Together. She is also the executive director of Mecca Bend, a local Latino advocacy group.

None of the three candidates have held elected office, according to county documents.

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Climate

Continued from A1

In Bend, members of the climate congress had specific demands for Oregon's lawmakers, including a call to end legislative walkouts over climate regulations and to pass environmentally-focused bills.

Overall, the protest Friday was meant to raise awareness about the threat of climate change, said event organizer Freddy Finney-Jordet, a 19-year-old Central Oregon Community College student who hosted previous climate-focused protests in Bend.

"It's impossible to pass a protest without noticing it," Finney-Jordet said. "That's the point of a protest, to make it impossible to ignore. It's also showing that it is important enough and people are passionate enough about it that they are willing to hit the streets."

The teen activists were joined Friday by members of the Oregon League of Conser-



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Nicki Pistacchio, of Bend, participates in a climate protest Friday at Wall Street and Newport Avenue in downtown Bend.

vation Voters, Indivisible Bend, Vocal Seniority, 350Deschutes, Sierra Club Juniper Group, and Let's Act Bend.

Finney-Jordet said each group has supported the Deschutes Youth Climate Congress and helped make the protest possible.

"It's been great to work with all these communities," Finney-Jordet said. "Each one has their separate set of things they are really good at."

Friday was the group's first

in-person event since the COVID-19 pandemic began last year.

In April, the Youth Climate Congress canceled an in-person protest and hosted a virtual climate strike. The members recorded speeches and shared artwork over social media during the virtual event.

Due to the pandemic, the group also had to cancel a planned youth climate summit last year at the High Desert Museum.

Galen Genevieve "GG" Johnson, an 18-year-old senior at Bend High School and member of the climate congress, said the group is working to reschedule the youth climate summit this spring.

"We are circling back to that now, to do it virtually," Johnson said. "That is one of the main projects we have been working on."

Overall, it had been difficult for the group to rally people during the pandemic, so members were happy to see the crowd Friday gathering safely and sharing enthusiasm for addressing climate change.

Johnson said climate activism is not something the teenagers will grow out of, but rather something they will remain dedicated to throughout their lives.

As they showed Friday, they will not stop until there is change, she said.

"I think it will be a lifelong pursuit for all of us because we are deeply passionate about this cause," Johnson said.

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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 20, 2021: Artistic, emotional and good-natured, attend social gatherings and networking events. This year, you can meet people who advance your career and enrich your personal experiences. Life will be exciting. Continue to watch your finances. Spending could increase on necessary items, so cut back on others. If single, be discriminating, and the right one will come along. If attached, saying "I love you" goes a long way. SAGITTARIUS has your back.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Try your hand at writing a blog, journal or memoir. Recording a podcast might be more your style. Make plans to attend a neighborhood meeting. It might be fun socializing with people who live nearby. Tonight: Tell everyone about your day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Fill your environment with scents, colors, plants and flowers. If you have a garden, dig deep into the dirt. Do online shopping, but avoid addictive venues that advertise so-called bargains. Tonight: Model a new outfit for a partner or friend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You might get that call you've been waiting for. A job opportunity or interview request will make your day. Be cautious about revealing too much information. Set your boundaries and hold back when you need to. Tonight: Time to celebrate.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Conserve your energy. Get your creative juices flowing. Find a space where you can sink your teeth into an artistic project. This may be a talent you have or one you want to develop. Tonight: Enjoy being a couch potato.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Laugh with friends today. Share a meal at a restaurant you've always wanted to try. It is fine to gossip, but do not divulge intimate details. Keep it light, and you'll have a great time. Tonight: Family may demand attention.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Someone you met at a party might turn out to be a professional contact. Follow up as soon as you can. Don't get distracted by a decision you made. Forget about it and move on. Tonight: Donate books and clothes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Viewing a vacation website may arouse your restlessness. Think about a future trip overseas. If that is not feasible, search for a destination closer to home. Order books on a variety of subjects to fill your reading list. Tonight: Romantic evening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Start the day with an early morning walk or run. A business offer may fall in your lap. This could be the start of a new income stream. Talk it over with a partner or close friend. Tonight: Puzzles and games.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Contact a friend who can help you network with likeminded people. Spend the evening at home with someone you love. End the day on just the right note. Cuddle on the sofa and watch a romantic film. Tonight: Family Zoom.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ It's a perfect day to play catch-up. Background music makes household chores less boring. Exercise and fresh air will energize you. Accomplish what you can. Create a healthy eating plan. Those skinny jeans will fit again. Tonight: Bake cookies.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Think outside the box and plan a project with a friend who shares your vision. Surprise someone from the past with a phone call or text. Research vacation destinations that have something for everyone. Tonight: Shop online for housewares.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Today is unpredictable where your family is concerned. Someone may suggest changing your home or moving to a new location. That could come out of the blue, but why not research other areas where you could live? Tonight: Review financial records.

Biden, Harris offer solace, denounce racism in Atlanta visit

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE, JEFF AMY AND ZEKE MILLER
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris offered solace to Asian Americans and denounced the scourge of racism at times hidden "in plain sight" as they visited Atlanta on Friday, just days after a white gunman killed eight people, most of them Asian American women.

Addressing the nation, Biden said it was "heart-wrenching" to listen to their stories of the fear among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders amid what he called a "skyrocketing spike" of harassment and violence against them.

"We have to change our hearts," he said. "Hate can have no safe harbor in America."

Biden called on all Americans to stand up to bigotry when they see it, adding: "Our silence is complicity. We cannot be complicit."

"They've been attacked, blamed, scapegoated and harassed; they've been verbally assaulted, physically assaulted,

killed," Biden said of Asian Americans during the coronavirus pandemic.

The president also called the shootings an example of a "public health crisis of gun violence in this country," as his administration has come under scrutiny from some in his own party for not moving as swiftly as promised on reforming the nation's gun laws.

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