

## DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at [dearabby.com](http://dearabby.com) or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



**Dear Abby:** I am a widower. I lost my wonderful wife of 35 years to heart disease eight years ago. I have had no relationships with women since then.

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting a very nice woman, "Yvonne." She's 11 years younger and has never been married. We see each other socially and enjoy each other's company. We are both retired, have our own money and neither of us is interested in marriage.

My son and daughter, both married with children, are split in their opinions about this. My son is happy for me, but my daughter thinks Yvonne is too young for me and wonders why she never married. Some of my friends actually side with my daughter.

At our ages, I don't think an 11-year difference is a big deal. Why Yvonne stayed single is none of anyone's business. Since her mother's death, my daughter has been protective of me. Am I wrong for enjoying the company of this woman after so many years alone?

— *Lonely Widower in Arizona*

**Dear Widower:** No, you are not wrong. If you and Yvonne enjoy each other, you are both unencumbered and entitled to it. Eleven years is not too great an age difference. Your daughter seems to be more possessive than protective. Seeing you with a woman other than her late mother — regardless of age — may be what's really bothering her.

If you want to allow your friends to run your life, I can't stop you. But I see no reason why you should allow them to dampen your enjoyment if

all they can find wrong with Yvonne is her age. (Could any of these "friends" be jealous or closely tied to your late wife?)

**Dear Abby:** I am the youngest of three. My brother is the eldest. Our sister died of cancer 20 years ago.

It breaks my heart that he and his wife can't seem to decide whether they like me or not. Sometimes they are warm and inviting, but for most of my life they've been cold, critical and distant. They create imaginary problems, blame me for them and then keep me on the outs until they decide to forgive and forget. I've spent many hours crying about this.

I have finally reached the point where I refuse to be hurt any longer and have chosen not to engage with them anymore. It has been nearly a year since we've had contact. My husband sympathizes with me and recognizes their behavior as odd and hurtful. However, he believes I should reach out once more because my brother is my only living sibling. I'm fearful that if I do, I'll be hurt once again. Your advice is greatly needed.

— *Undecided in South Carolina*

**Dear Undecided:** Your husband is a kind and forgiving man who has not experienced the pain your brother and his wife have subjected you to with their mind games. Your brother may be your only living sibling, but it is an accident of birth. He is incapable of the kind of relationship you would like to have had with him. Having been hurt repeatedly, you are right to be fearful. You will shed fewer tears if you continue keeping your distance.

## YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

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

**MOON ALERT:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Taurus.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021:** You are enthusiastic, active and a great networker. You have a strong personality but you protect your privacy. You are also passionate and seductive. This year will be gentler and more laid back. Nevertheless, your focus on partnerships and close friendships will be stronger because you are starting to see how important a close relationship to you really is.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

★★★★ This New Moon is one of the best opportunities all year to ponder how you handle cash flow, earnings, movable possessions and money. The proverb "A penny saved is a penny earned" is true! Do you respect your wealth? Do you take care of what you own? Tonight: Expect money restrictions.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★ This New Moon is a wonderful chance to think about how to improve your image. Take a realistic look in the mirror. What improvements might you make? Hey, you never get a second chance to make a first impression! Tonight: Challenges with parents and bosses.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★ This particular New Moon is hiding in your chart, which means it's your chance to think about your inner, spiritual world. This is important, because your outer world is a reflection of your inner world. Take a moment to ponder the values that guide you. Tonight: You might feel lonely.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★ Each New Moon is different and gives you a chance to make different resolutions. This New Moon urges you to observe your friends and the groups to which you belong. Do these people help you and promote your best interests? Tonight: Older people might be difficult.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

★★★ This New Moon sits at the top of your chart, giving you your best chance all year to make resolutions about where you are headed. Do you have five-year goals? A one-year goal? Goals can help you achieve your dreams. Tonight: An authority figure might be critical.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

★★★★ Each New Moon is your chance to make resolutions. This New Moon urges you to think about what further education or training would improve your job or enrich your life. Might travel broaden your horizons? (Travel is a great way to learn.) Tonight: Legal restrictions might chafe.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

★★★★ The New Moon takes place in one of your Money Houses, making this the perfect time to take a realistic look at your debt and how you share money and assets with others. These financial arrangements include inheritances and insurance issues. Tonight: Look at your debt.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

★★★★ Today is the only New Moon that is opposite your sign all year. It's the perfect opportunity to ask yourself how to improve your closest relationships — close friendships, business partners and marriage partners. Ideas? Tonight: Don't let someone discourage you.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

★★★★ This is the best time all year to think about how to improve your health as well as your job. You also might see ways to improve how you take care of a pet. That's because of the current New Moon that is taking place. Tonight: Expect challenges to work and health.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

★★★★ This particular New Moon is the perfect time to think about how to introduce more play time and opportunities to be creative in your life. We are a work-oriented society. What can you do to achieve a better balance between work and play? Tonight: Children and sports demand your attention.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

★★★★ Home and family are important. This current New Moon is one of the best times all year to think about how to improve your relations with family members and, likewise, how to improve your home. Ideas? Tonight: Respect a family elder.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★★ We are social creatures. We need to be seen and be heard. We also need to see and listen. The current New Moon is your chance to make resolutions about how to improve your communications. That sounds daunting, but it's really just about how you talk and listen. Tonight: Guard against negative thinking.

## Movers

Continued from A1

"I think some core urban counties like Manhattan, San Francisco and others may have taken a bigger brunt of pandemic-related out-movement, as well as lower immigration," said William Frey, a senior fellow at The Brookings Institution. "Overall, it was a year of slow growth with selective movement out of some urban centers."

Smaller metros in the Sun Belt and West, several with large communities of vacation homes, saw the biggest population gains last year, mostly driven by migration. Led by the Florida retirement community The Villages, the metros seeing population increases between 3% and 4% included St. George, Utah; Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; Austin, Texas; and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Sun Belt megalopolises, such as Dallas, Houston and Phoenix, also grew last year, though not as much as their smaller cousins.

The Census Bureau data captured changes in states, metros and counties between July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2020. The last third of that timeframe overlapped with the first three months of the spread of the virus in the U.S. Population-change estimates are different from the 2020 census, a head count of every U.S. resident that determines how many congressional seats each state gets. Those numbers were released last week. Population changes are estimated using data on births, deaths and migration.



Rick Bowmer/AP file

Rows of homes in suburban Salt Lake City in 2019. Utah is one of two Western states known for rugged landscapes and wide-open spaces that are bucking the trend of sluggish U.S. population growth. The boom there and in Idaho is accompanied by healthy economic expansion, but also concern about strain on infrastructure and soaring housing prices.

Haslag and Weagley estimate that 10% to 20% of the 300,000 interstate moves they studied between April 2020 and February 2021 were influenced by the pandemic. Their study used four years of long-distance moving data obtained from UniGroup, the parent company of United Van Lines and Mayflower Transit.

Job-related reasons for moving dropped from 46.6% of responses before the pandemic to 34.5% after the start of the pandemic in the U.S. in March 2020, while the desire to be closer to family jumped from 24.7% to 29.9%. The researchers theorized the jump for family reasons was due to people wanting to create social "bub-

bles" with family members, and the drop in job-related reasons was due to remote working and the decoupling of jobs from offices.

"It's not really about the infection rate when it comes to moving. It's about all the other things that came with the pandemic, whether it was to be closer to family or work from home," Haslag said. "That was really surprising to us."

Higher-income households moved less because of job loss or to take a new job than for other reasons such as lifestyle or the ability to work remotely. In fact, 75% of those who cited the ability to work remotely had annual household earnings of \$100,000 or more. Low-

er-income households were more likely to move for financial reasons such as job loss or to move to a place with a lower cost of living, the researchers said.

David Mann and his wife, Lauren, had been wanting to move to the U.S. southeast from Dallas to be closer to family and friends for some time, but it was the pandemic that made it possible. Knowing they could work from home in their jobs in supply-chain consulting and merchandise planning, they made the leap and moved to Atlanta last summer.

"Working from home gave us the opportunity to move without having to look for new jobs," Mann said.

## Kropf

Continued from A1

Donations of this size are not uncommon in Oregon, which has no state-level political contribution limits. Public employee unions and businesses oppose efforts to set tight limits, including through bills under consideration in the Legislature. As part of OEA-PAC's 2020 endorsement process, it asked legislative candidates to fill out a questionnaire on issues including whether candidates would support a bill to make class size a mandatory topic of bargaining in Oregon. That proposal is a priority for the union this session and already passed the state Senate.

Kropf thanked The Oregonian for bringing the missing contributions to his attention. "We immediately looked into this and my treasurer was unable to find any notice from OEA of these in-kind contributions," Kropf wrote in a text message Wednesday. "As soon as we were made aware, my team contacted the Secretary of State's Office and are posting today. We'll of course pay any appropriate late fees."

In-kind donations

Most of the Oregon Education Association political action committee's 2020 contributions to legislative candidates were "in-kind donations," which means the donor pays a vendor such as a polling firm or company that purchases television ad time. Other Democratic legislative candidates supported by the committee appear to have correctly reported the teachers unions' purchases of polling and advertising.

Political candidates and organizations across the spectrum in Oregon use in-kind donations. Democratic legislative caucus PACs and the powerful public employee unions, which generally support Democrats, relied heavily on the practice in 2020. Nearly \$300,000 or roughly 54% of Kropf's 2020 fundraising was through in-kind donations, according to an analysis of state data.

OEA-PAC purchased ad production and broadcast time for Kropf at the same companies where unions and Democratic caucus PACs purchased campaign goods and services for numerous candidates in 2020: Media Analysis in Hawaii, Sway in Maryland and AL Media in Chicago.

Kropf's failure to disclose the in-kind donations is an extreme example of the lack of transparency that can result from in-kind contributions.

The state allows donors and campaigns to wait 30 days to report all types of transactions, except in specific windows close to elections when the timeline shrinks until it eventually reaches seven days. Additionally, donors who make in-kind expenditures can wait up to 48 hours after they report the transaction to the state to notify the recipient of the

transaction by email or letter, according to the Secretary of State's campaign finance manual.

The Secretary of State's Office notes that the recipient must report the donation sooner "if the candidate, treasurer or any agent of the committee had knowledge of the in-kind contribution and received the goods or services

prior to receiving the written notification."

Aaron Fiedler, public information officer for the Secretary of State's office, wrote in an email that the penalty for disclosing campaign contributions this late — six months after the transactions — would be 10% of the transactions. Under Oregon law, Kropf can use his campaign funds to pay the fine.

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Central Oregon history.

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The Bend Bulletin is proud to announce its partnership with Deschutes Historical Museum and our readers on a new pictorial history book, "Hello Bend! Central Oregon Reinvented — 1950–2000: A Pictorial History."

## YOU'RE INVITED

We are excited to invite you, our readers, to participate in this unique project. Please bring your photos to one of our scanning sessions listed here — and be sure to check our submission guidelines. Photos will be scanned on-site and given right back to you. In order to keep things speedy, please fill out our simple photo submission form prior to the session. Forms can be downloaded at [HelloBend.PictorialBook.com](http://HelloBend.PictorialBook.com). Please plan to fill out one form for each photo you'd like to submit.

Download submission forms and pre-order at

[HelloBend.PictorialBook.com](http://HelloBend.PictorialBook.com)

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- General interest photos, such as: commerce, industry, transportation, rural life, public service, etc.
- Photos taken between 1950 and 2000.
- Photos taken in Central Oregon.
- If you're a private collector, call 360-723-5800 to set up an appointment.
- Not all photos submitted or used in ads will appear in the final book.
- Photos will become part of the Deschutes Historical Museum's archived collection.

## SCANNING SESSIONS

- Thursday, June 10 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, June 11 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 12 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- Saturday, June 12 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- Bend Bulletin  
320 SW Upper Terrace Dr.  
Ste. #200, Bend

The Bulletin  
EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY