

**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'm responding to your request for comments about your answer to "Doggy Business" (Oct. 28). Please IMPLORÉ your readers not to put their dog's poop in their neighbor's garbage cans, even if the cans are on the street. This may seem harmless, but I live near a park and daily dog walkers use my trash can like it's a public service.

My garbage quickly fills with endless poop bags, sometimes between five and 10 a day. Garbage is collected only every other week in my community. I'm sure your readers can do the math. Then I end up having to work around all this poop, and not only does my garbage can perpetually stink to high heaven, but I have to be judicious with what I throw away myself.

Rough materials will rupture those bags and poop gets all over the inside of the can. I'm currently saving up to modify my property's retaining wall so I can keep the receptacles away from the street, but I'm at the mercy of dog owners until I can afford this renovation.

Please, if you have a dog, be a good neighbor. Be responsible for its waste. If you don't want to carry it, get your dog a harness or pack with a pocket, and dispose of it in your own can when you get home.

— *Peved in the Pacific Northwest*

**Dear Peved:** I advised "Doggy Business" that disposing of his dog's waste in neighbors' garbage cans is a big no-no. After asking for readers' thoughts, an AVALANCHE of responses descended. The vast majority agreed with me, expressing disdain at the practice and explicitly sharing the messy, smelly details of their experi-

ences.

Some areas require trash be placed in a large, sealed plastic bag in the receptacle. When garbage collectors pull the bag out, the small poop bags can spill out and the contents disperse onto the street. Worse, if the bags are thrown into a neighbor's garbage container AFTER collection, those bags remain at the bottom and smell for days.

Readers, encourage dog walkers to take a larger bag with them or wear a fanny pack with multiple compartments to transport their pets' "souvenirs" back to their own home.

**Dear Abby:** Our nosy children have been pressuring us to explain their inheritance. I'm appalled. I was taught that this is something for the parents to tell, not the kids to ask. Several friends of ours who are executors for their parents are now being questioned by siblings while the parent is sick and fighting for life. Please explain to readers what is the best etiquette with regard to inheritance.

— *Unsure in California*

**Dear Unsure:** I know this can be a sensitive subject, but it is also an important one. Although some may not agree with me, I happen to be in favor of open communication regarding money matters. Too often money (and the promise of it) is used to manipulate and control family members. This is not a matter of etiquette. If adult children are going to inherit, they need to learn early how to wisely and responsibly handle money. And, if circumstances change and the estate is affected, the heirs should be given as much forewarning as possible so they are prepared and not shocked.

**TODAY IN HISTORY**

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 21, the 355th day of 2021. There are 10 days left in the year. Winter arrives at 10:59 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

**On Dec. 21, 1988,** 270 people were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a Pam Am Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, sending wreckage crashing to the ground.

**In 1620,** Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower went ashore for the first time at present-day Plymouth, Massachusetts.

**In 1864,** during the Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman concluded their "March to the Sea" as they captured Savannah, Georgia.

**In 1891,** the first basketball game, devised by James Naismith, is believed to have been played at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. (The final score of this experimental game: 1-0.)

**In 1914,** the U.S. government began requiring passport applicants to provide photographs of themselves.

**In 1945,** U.S. Army Gen. George S. Patton, 60, died in Heidelberg, Germany, 12 days after being seriously injured in a car accident.

**In 1968,** Apollo 8 was launched on a mission to orbit the moon.

**In 1969,** Vince Lombardi coached his last football game as his team, the Washington Redskins, lost to the Dallas Cowboys, 20-10.

**In 1976,** the Liberian-registered tanker Argo Merchant broke apart near Nantucket Island off Massachusetts almost a week after running aground, spilling 7.5 million gallons of oil into the North Atlantic.

**In 1991,** eleven of the 12 former Soviet republics proclaimed the birth of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the death of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

**In 1995,** the city of Bethlehem passed from Israeli to Palestinian control.

**In 2012,** the National Rifle Association said guns and police officers were needed in all American schools to stop the next killer "waiting in the wings," taking a no-retreat stance in the face of growing calls for gun control after the Newtown, Connecticut, shootings that claimed the lives of 26 children and school staff.

**In 2015,** the nation's three-decade-old ban on blood donations from gay and bisexual men was formally lifted, but major restrictions continued to limit who could give blood in the U.S.

**Ten years ago:** The U.S. Army announced charges against eight soldiers related to the death of a fellow GI, Pvt. Daniel Chen, who apparently shot himself in Afghanistan after being hazed. (Of the eight, five received prison sentences and two received demotions; four of the eight faced dismissal from the service.)

**Five years ago:** President-elect Donald Trump declared that the deadly truck attack on a Christmas market in Germany that killed 12 people two days earlier was "an attack on humanity and it's got to be stopped"; he also suggested he might go forward with his campaign pledge to temporarily ban Muslim immigrants from coming to the United States.

**One year ago:** The Vatican declared it "morally acceptable" for Roman Catholics to receive COVID-19 vaccines based on research that used fetal tissue from abortions. Undercutting President Donald Trump on multiple fronts, Attorney General William Barr said he saw no reason to appoint a special counsel to look into Trump's claims about the 2020 election or to name one for the tax investigation of Joe Biden's son. A statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee that represented Virginia in the U.S. Capitol was removed.

**Today's Birthdays:** Talk show host Phil Donahue is 86. Actor Jane Fonda is 84. Musician Albert Lee is 78. Actor Josh Mostel is 75. Actor Samuel L. Jackson is 73. Rock singer Nick Gilder is 71. Movie producer Jeffrey Katzenberg is 71. International Tennis Hall of Famer Chris Evert is 67. Former child actor Lisa Gerritsen is 64. Actor-comedian Ray Romano is 64. Former Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is 59. Actor-comedian Andy Dick is 56. Ractor Kiefer Sutherland is 55. Actor Karri Turner is 55. Country singer Brad Warren is 53. Actor Julie Delpy is 52. Contemporary Christian singer Natalie Grant is 50. Actor Glenn Fitzgerald is 50. Singer-musician Brett Scallions is 50. World Golf Hall of Famer Karrie Webb is 47. Rock singer Lukas Rossi (Rock Star Supernova) is 45. Rock musician Anna Bulbrook (Airborne Toxic Event) is 39. Country singer Luke Stricklin is 39. Actor Steven Yeun is 38. Actor Kaitlyn Dever is 25.

**Nix****Continued from A5**

"A lot of factors go into it, but I just want to go somewhere where I can have an impact on my team. I want to go somewhere that not only can I have success, but I can bring success to the guys around me and help those guys succeed. I want to go make a team better, wherever that may be. But like I said, obviously I have some places narrowed down because certain places don't need a quarterback ..."

In 34 career games, all starts, Nix completed 59.4% of his passes for 7,251 yards with 39 touchdowns and 16 interceptions and rushed for 869 yards and 18 touchdowns. He played for two head coaches (Gus Malzahn and Bryan Harsin) and three different offensive coordinators (Dillingham, Chad Morris, Mike Bobo) during his time at Auburn.

*"This is definitely something that's been eye-opening, and it's something that (we) have to figure out. Nobody is going to feel sorry for us. We've got to keep it moving"*

— Sean McVay, Los Angeles Rams head coach, on players benched because of COVID-19



Elaine Thompson/AP

Seattle Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll, left, talks with strong safety Quandre Diggs earlier this season.

**Seahawks****Continued from A5****Getting well**

The Rams won't get much significant practice time last week because of an outbreak of COVID-19 cases on their roster.

By Wednesday, 16 players were on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Although only a handful of starters were affected, they included 2020 All-Pro defensive back Jalen Ramsey.

"This is definitely something that's been eye-opening, and it's something that (we) have to figure out," McVay said.

"Nobody is going to feel sorry for us. We've got to keep it moving, and so what that looks like is going to be interesting."

**Numbers game**

While the statistics might say otherwise, the Seahawks have been one of the better defenses in the league basically since their previous meeting with the Rams. Seattle has the fifth-best scoring defense in the league for the season, giving up 20.2 points per game, and has not let a team score more than 23 points since its Week 5 loss to the Rams.

Seattle has improved dramatically in its third-down defense, and its red-zone defense has been among the best in the league for most of the season. The Seahawks are still giving up too many yards for their liking and need to get more pressure on the quarterback, which will be a big key against Stafford.

"They do a great job at protecting him. We need to do a better job at getting to him,"

Seattle defensive coordinator Ken Norton Jr. said "It'll be a good challenge for us."

**Delayed reunion**

Seattle TE Gerald Everett was looking forward to seeing his former team back in Week 5. But that never happened as Everett was sidelined on the reserve/COVID-19 list and was not cleared in time to play against the Rams.

It's been a mixed first season in Seattle for Everett, who has 36 catches in 11 games. Everett had a miserable game two weeks ago with two fumbles and a bobbed catch attempt that led to an interception, but then rebounded with a touchdown catch last week against Houston. Seattle could use Everett developing into a more consistent option in the pass game late in the season.

**Radamus****Continued from A5**

That may have been a factor when Radamus crossed the line during his first run in a deep crouch, just barely keeping it together as he lost control then spun out in the finish area, resulting in his leg issue.

"I was pushing it, pushing it, pushing it. I knew that last gate could be an issue but I really wanted to leave it all out there, push as hard as I could," he said. "I came over that thing a little bit surprised and a little bit wild but all I had in my head was, 'Get across that line.' I just managed to and obviously it paid off for me."

He wasn't too bothered by his leg pain.

"It's nothing too serious, it's just something that's nagging me right now," Radamus said.

Radamus was inspired by U.S. teammate Bryce Bennett's first career win a day earlier in the Val Gardena downhill. "It turned a lot of heads but it also gives the (entire) American team a little bit more confidence," Radamus said. "We've been around that guy. We know what he's been through to get to where he's at and we know that we can do it, too. We feed off each other."

Alta Badia is where Radamus earned his first World Cup points three years ago.

"Everyone will tell you this is the best GS hill. So I treat it almost as a religious experience coming here," he said. "You got to pay tribute to the hill and so I always want to come here and really execute, have a good run



Gabriele Facciotti/AP

River Radamus reacts at the finish area Monday after completing an alpine ski in the men's World Cup giant slalom race in Alta Badia, Italy.

and do it justice.

"If I was to design a GS, I would design something like this. It's just perfect."

Radamus was in the mix for a race won by Norway's Henrik Kristoffersen ahead of overall World Cup leader Marco Odermatt.

"Starting between idols of mine and titans of the sport. ... It's definitely a cool feeling and I want to get back there more often and be able to compete with those guys, because I feel that I can," Radamus said.

Bode Miller (2002) and Ted Ligety (2010 and 2012) each posted memorable wins on the Gran Risa. Another U.S. skier who performed well recently in Badia is Bend's Tommy Ford, who finished fifth in 2018 and 2020.

"Over my time training with Ted and racing alongside him he gave us a lot of wisdom on this hill and expertise," Radamus said. "We have Tommy

hanging around right now. He's getting back from injury. So we use him as a huge resource for knowledge, because he's basically mastered this hill as well."

Swiss skier Odermatt won Monday's GS, making him the undisputed favorite for a gold medal in giant slalom at the upcoming Beijing Olympics. "It's amazing," Odermatt said after his Monday victory, which came by a massive margin.

After leading the opening run, Odermatt finished with a whopping 1.01-second advantage over Luca De Aliprandini of Italy.

"I don't have a time on my goggle to see how much you have to push," Odermatt said about his approach as the last racer down in the second run. "I knew I had a little advantage from the first run but I didn't know how fast Luca was. I just heard that he's in front. So I knew I had to push again."

**YOUR HOROSCOPE**

By Georgia Nicols

**Stars show the kind of day you'll have**

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

**MOON ALERT:** Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST today (6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Cancer into Leo.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 21, 2021:** You are a courageous, adventurous person. Once committed to something, you are dedicated. You are well-spoken and eloquent, which is why people listen to you. You are an optimist who is caring and compassionate. This year you have had a strong focus on relationships. Next year will be more sociable and fast-paced! Your zest for life will be ignited!

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

★★★★★For the next four weeks, you will dazzle people, especially bosses, parents, teachers and the police. Without doing anything special, you will earn the admiration of others. Make the most of this. Demand the advantage! Tonight: Play!

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

★★★Your desire to explore new realms will be strong in the next four weeks. Therefore, grab every chance that comes your way to expand your horizons. Take a course. Take a trip. Enjoy meeting people from other lands and different cultures. Tonight: Family and home.

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

★★★★★You will be more intense about everything in the next four weeks. This will be particularly obvious in intimate relationships, because passions will be running high. You also will have strong opinions about shared property. Tonight: Study.

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

★★★★★For the next four weeks, the Sun is opposite your sign. This is the only time all year this occurs, and it makes you a bit lethargic. You will need more rest and more sleep. You also will focus more intensely on partners and close friends. Tonight: Check your money.

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

★★★★★You're turning-ho to get better organized. Oh yes, in the next four weeks, you want to turn over a new leaf! You will work hard and work smart for what you want to achieve. You want to make all your actions count. Tonight: You win!

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

★★★Lucky you! The next four weeks will be more playful, more lighthearted and more romantic than usual. Accept all invitations to party. Slip away on a vacation if you can. Enjoy social outings, the arts, the theater and playful activities with kids. Tonight: Solitude.

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

★★★Home and family will be your primary focus during the next four weeks. Some of you will be more involved than usual with a parent. You also will be happy to cocoon at home and relax among familiar surroundings. "Will someone peel me another grape?" Tonight: Talk to a friend.

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

★★★The pace of your days will accelerate in the next four weeks because suddenly you're busy! Oh yes. You have places to go, people to see and things to do! Short trips, errands, appointments plus increased reading, writing and studying will keep you busy! Tonight: Obey authority.

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

★★★★★Your mind will shift to money matters in the next four weeks. You will focus on your salary, cash flow, income or possibly your assets and your possessions. This is a good time to take stock and figure out what you owe and what you own. You also will give thought to your basic values in life. Tonight: Explore!

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

★★★★★Once a year, the Sun is in your sign for four weeks, and that day has arrived! This means you'll be pumped and energetic during this window of time. Things will tend to go your way, and you will attract favorable opportunities and people to you. "Yay me!" Tonight: Check your assets.

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

★★★You're entering a low-key window of time for the next four weeks because you are "waiting" for your birthday month. However, you can use this time to make goals and think about what you want for yourself and your new personal year ahead. Tonight: Cooperate.

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

★★★★★You will be more popular in the next four weeks because suddenly, everyone wants to see your face. Please note: Your interactions with friends as well as members of groups will benefit you. In fact, these interactions will likely be mutually beneficial. Tonight: Work.