Family is divided in two by predator in their midst

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: A number of years ago, it came out that my brother-in-law had raped and molested his two daughters and two granddaughters. It tore our family apart.

Although my sister said she intended to divorce him, she never did. She also didn't report it — so he was never convicted of the crime — but we all, including my sister, knew it was true. Since then, my sister has disowned her daughters, my mother and me. She still interacts with her son and his family.

I know I shouldn't miss my sister, but I do. I know my mom misses her, too. Abby, how can we get past this? Our family was always close, and now this. The grief is killing me. — ANGUISHED IN ARKANSAS

DEAR ANGUISHED: It seems there was a conspiracy of silence in the family. Your sister dealt with her husband's crime by choosing to ignore that he is a sexual predator. That your sister has blamed his victims is beyond the pale. Your nieces and grandnieces should talk with a licensed mental health professional about this, and so should you and your mother. If you're lucky, the person may be able to offer a group discount.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I are in our 50s. We have lived together for two years. He's retired. I work full time.

We have a woman friend (married with kids) he sees almost daily during the summer at the swimming pool. Every day he says to her, "What time will you be here? I'll be here around 10. See ya then." She brings him food occasionally while they're there. (He hasn't told me, but I know she has.)

Sometimes he can be in a foul mood, and all he wants is to go to the pool to relax. When we go, his eyes search for her and if/when he sees her, they light up and he gets a big smile on his face. When I pointed it out to him, he gave me the silent treatment for a couple of hours. Then he accused me of being jealous.

We are in a committed relationship, but I find this threatening. Was I wrong to say what I did? — GEORGIA GIRL

DEAR GEORGIA GIRL: No, but after he accused you of being jealous, what you should have told him was he was right, and that you wish his eyes would light up that way when he sees you. It appears your guy has developed a crush. If you handle it with humor, it will pass. However, if you don't, you will continue to make him feel defensive — which is counterproductive — so use a light touch.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a first-time writer to your column. I'm mentally disabled, have MD (muscular dystrophy) and am diabetic. I take a lot of medication. When people ask me why I don't work or "Where do you work?" what should I say? When I say I don't work and that I'm disabled, they look at me funny and don't believe it. My disabilities aren't visible. — WENDY IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR WENDY: You are not obligated to disclose your medical history to people you know casually. (If they knew you well, they wouldn't be asking those questions.) All you need to say is, "You know, that's personal. If you'll forgive me for not answering your question, I'll forgive you for asking." Then change the subject.

DEAR ABBY: My husband had an annoying habit of staring at me. After dinner, if I went into the kitchen while he was still at the dinner table, he would turn his chair around to stare at me. When he walked into a room I was in, he would stop and stare at me.

When I finally got sick of it and told him to cut it out, his response was, "Can't you stand scrutiny?" I said it has nothing to do with scrutiny. It's a form of trying to control me, or even mental abuse.

He has stopped it for the most part. But he reverts back every once in a while. I still have to mention it at times. What do you think of this? What do you think it means? — ANNOYED IN THE EAST

DEAR ANNOYED: Unless you have left something out of your letter, I don't consider what he was doing to be emotional abuse. Until you spoke up, he may not have realized he was making you uncomfortable. What I think it means is that your husband thinks you are the most beautiful woman in the world, and he's the luckiest man on the planet. Now he knows it makes you uncomfortable, he's making an effort to stop, but old habits are hard to break and he occasionally backslides.

New fires pop up in California

By Janie Har and Brian Skoloff
The Associated Press

UPPER LAKE, California — Firefighters struggling to contain destructive Northern California wildfires found themselves facing a new blaze that erupted Tuesday and drove through a rural area near a national forest.

About 60 homes in an old ranching and farming area near Covelo, which is about 180 miles north of San Francisco, were ordered evacuated as the blaze erupted late in the afternoon. Gusty winds quickly drove it through about a square mile of brush and grasslands, oak, pine and timber near Mendocino National Forest, Mendocino County Undersheriff Matthew Kendall said.

"We're advised that the fire was threatening structures," he said.

However, there were no immediate reports of homes being burned.

Firefighting aircraft were called in but it was unclear when they might arrive because many already were engaged in other fires, Kendall said.

Some 40 miles to the south, twin fires straddling Mendocino and Lake counties have destroyed at least seven homes and threatened an estimated 12,000 more, fire officials said.

Jessyca Lytle fled a fast-moving Northern California wildfire in 2015 that spared her property but destroyed her mother's memorabilia-filled home in rural and rugged Lake County.

Less than three years later, Lytle found herself listening to scanner traffic Tuesday and fire-proofing her mother's new home as another wildfire advanced.

"Honestly, what I'm thinking right now is I just want this to end," Lytle said, adding that she was "exhausted in every way possible — physically, emotionally, all of that."

Derek Hawthorne, a firefighter and spokesman for the fire crews, said the hot weather was not ideal but the wind was on their side where he was in the city of Upper Lake.

"It's blowing into the fire, and it's kind of blowing it back on itself," he said.

To the east in Sutter County, a fire that erupted Tuesday night had torched about 1.5 square miles of grassland but no homes were evacuated, state fire spokesman Scott McLean said.

Elsewhere, the Carr Fire had burned more than 880 homes and killed six people in and around Redding. Another 348 outbuildings were also destroyed, and the blaze is now the seventh most destructive wildfire in California history, fire officials said.

National Park officials said Tuesday the scenic Yosemite Valley and other areas will be closed "at least through Sunday" due to heavy smoke from the so-called Ferguson Fire. The closure began July 25 and had been tentatively scheduled to end Friday.

Park spokesman Scott Gediman said "continuing poor air quality" and ongoing firefighting operations warranted the extension.

It was the longest closure at Yosemite since 1997 when floods closed the park for over two months.

In Riverside County, east of Los Angeles, an arson fire that destroyed seven homes last week was 82 percent contained Monday.

People in Lake County, an impoverished community of 65,000, are familiar with evacuations.

The 2015 Valley Fire, which came on the heels of two other fires, killed four and destroyed 1,300 homes when it blew up unexpectedly during a September heat wave. It wiped out entire neighborhoods prized for their privacy and sense of community and turned scenic areas into charred forest.

Since then, parts of the county have been evacuated regularly due to fire, most recently in June.

Evacuation orders remained in effect Tuesday for the town of Lakeport, the county seat, although orders for some smaller communities were lifted.

Lakeport is a popular destination for bass anglers and boaters on the shores of Clear Lake. By Monday night, it was a ghost town.

Paul Lew and his two boys, ages 13 and 16, evacuated Saturday from their Lakeport home.

"I told them to throw everything they care about in the back of the car," said Lew, 45. "I grabbed computers, cellphones, papers. I just started bagging all my paperwork up, clothes, my guitars."

Lew, who is divorced from Lytle, is camped out at the house in the nearby community of Cobb that she fled in 2015. He is watching over her chickens, sheep and other animals. He laughs that repeated fire alerts have made him an emergency preparation expert.

"It's like three a year," he said. "It's kind of crazy."

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weather

	TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	Clear to partly cloudy	Sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and nice	Mostly sunny and nice	Partly sunny and pleasant
Baker City	52	92 45	84 43	82 46	87 47
Comfort Index™	2	6	8	8	6
La Grande	57	89 51	81 49	81 48	86 52
Comfort Index™	5	7	9	9	7
Enterprise	54	87 48	79 47	78 47	84 52
Comfort Index™	5	7	9	9	7

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Tuesday	98°	94°	94°
Low Tuesday	57°	62°	59°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	Trace	0.00	0.00
Month to date	Trace	Trace	Trace
Normal month to date	0.65	0.68	0.70
Year to date	4.75	10.30	20.78
Normal year to date	6.36	10.02	14.37

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	20%
Afternoon wind	WNW at 7 to 14 mph
Hours of sunshine	13.4
Evapotranspiration	0.30
RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)	
Phillips Reservoir	36% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	48% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	51% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	55% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	24% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	46% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	504 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	127 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	133 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	37 cfs
Minam River at Minam	106 cfs
Powder River near Richland	40 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 120°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 28°	Fraser, Colo.
Wettest: 4.21"	Gadsden, Ala.
OREGON	
High: 103°	Hermiston
Low: 45°	Long Creek
Wettest: Trace	Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

Aug. 2, 1975, was a hot day in New England. The temperature reached 100 degrees at Nantucket Island, Mass., for the first time on record and soared to 104 at Providence, R.I., setting a new state record.

SUN & MOON

	WED.	THU.
Sunrise	5:37 a.m.	5:38 a.m.
Sunset	8:20 p.m.	8:19 p.m.
Moonrise	10:55 p.m.	11:21 p.m.
Moonset	10:18 a.m.	11:21 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Aug 4	Aug 11	Aug 18	Aug 26

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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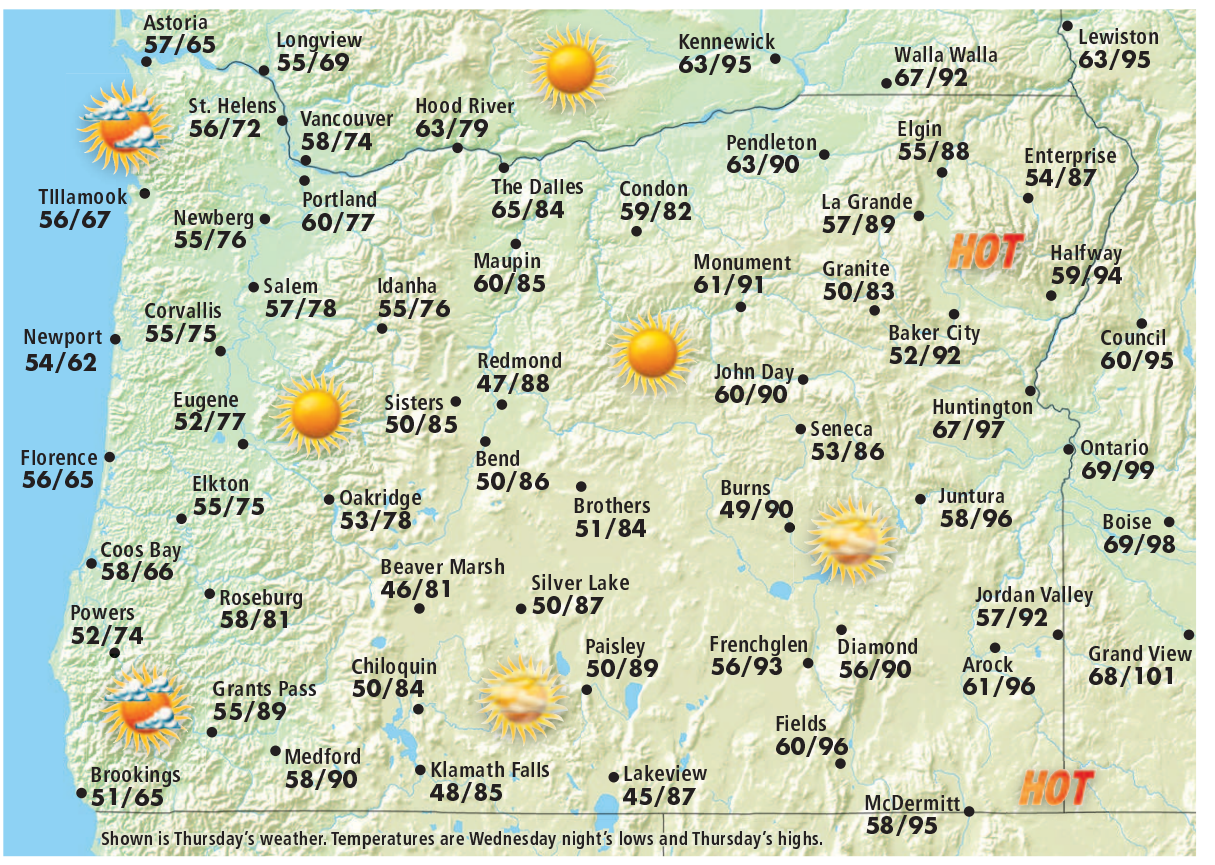

Shown is Thursday's weather. Temperatures are Wednesday night's lows and Thursday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU. Hi/Lo/W	FRI. Hi/Lo/W	City	THU. Hi/Lo/W	FRI. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	65/57/pc	66/54/c	Lewiston	95/61/s	85/58/s
Bend	86/45/s	79/44/s	Longview	69/58/c	70/55/c
Boise	98/63/s	90/58/s	Meacham	85/47/s	77/46/s
Brookings	65/52/pc	68/50/pc	Medford	90/55/pc	87/57/s
Burns	90/42/s	83/38/s	Newport	62/55/pc	63/50/pc
Coos Bay	66/58/c	68/54/pc	Olympia	70/54/pc	73/51/c
Corvallis	75/55/s	78/52/pc	Ontario	99/65/s	91/60/s
Council	95/53/s	86/51/s	Pasco	94/56/s	85/52/s
Elgin	88/50/s	80/48/s	Pendleton	90/57/s	81/55/s
Eugene	77/53/s	79/49/s	Portland	77/60/pc	76/58/pc
Hermiston	93/61/s	85/57/s	Powers	74/54/pc	75/53/pc
Hood River	79/60/s	76/58/s	Redmond	88/43/s	82/43/s
Imnaha	93/55/s	84/54/s	Roseburg	81/59/s	83/55/s
John Day	90/53/s	82/53/s	Salem	78/58/pc	79/54/pc
Joseph	88/48/s	80/46/s	Spokane	87/56/s	78/54/pc
Kennewick	95/61/s	86/56/s	The Dalles	84/60/s	80/56/s
Klamath Falls	85/42/pc	81/41/pc	Ukiah	85/45/s	76/44/s
Lakeview	87/40/pc	83/40/pc	Walla Walla	92/62/s	83/61/s

Weather(W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

ANTHONY LAKES
Mostly sunny
69 44

MT. EMILY REC.
Mostly sunny
81 51

EAGLE CAP WILD.
Partly sunny; warm
80 44

WALLOWA LAKE
Mostly sunny; hot
93 53

THIEF VALLEY RES.
Very hot
98 52 HOT

PHILLIPS LAKE
Mostly sunny; hot
92 51

BROWNLEE RES.
Mostly sunny; warm
99 61

EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Sunny
87 46

MCKAY RESERVOIR
Sunny
97 62

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Very hot
95 57 HOT

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