

Wife's close friend gets too close for husband's comfort

DEAR ABBY: My wife, "Grace," and I have been happily married for 48 years. We're retired and enjoy an active sex life. Grace has a female friend, "Ricky," we have known more than 45 years. She's a close friend, and they often get together for lunch.

Ricky has been an out lesbian for many years and, in the past, had female companions. The problem is she repeatedly asks Grace to do things on Saturday evenings. She has also invited her to spend the night and tells her how much she loves her. My wife loves Ricky, too, but strictly as a friend and has not encouraged her in any way.

I'm not ordinarily the jealous type, but I'm convinced Ricky is in love with my wife. I have been tempted to tell her to quit making advances, but I don't want to cause the end of the friendship. I have told Grace how I feel, and she agrees. In fact, she has told me about some of the requests Ricky has made and she has rejected. I believe Ricky has crossed the line. What do you think?

— CROSSED THE LINE

DEAR CROSSED THE LINE: Your wife is not responsible for the fact that her longtime friend may be in love with her. I agree that asking your wife to spend the night is inappropriate, but Ricky may want more of Grace's time because she's simply single and lonely. The person to set boundaries would be your wife, who needs to tell her friend that her Saturday nights belong to you, and as much as she loves Ricky, she's unavailable as a romantic partner.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together nearly four years. When we got together, he was in the process of gaining custody of his daughter because his ex abused drugs. We have raised "Arlette" ever since, and her mother is out of the picture.

Arlette calls me Mom, and we have a strong bond. Her father and I have a very strained marriage. We separated several times because he was abusive. I have been

giving serious thought to leaving him, but because I have no legal rights to Arlette, I stay. I lost custody of my own daughter because of his abuse, and although my older children don't care for him, they, too, have a very strong bond with his daughter.

I'm unhappy and I do not feel this marriage can be saved. I am at a loss, though, thinking about leaving his daughter. She's only 4. How do I move on with my life knowing I won't have a relationship with this child I consider my own?

— LIKE MY OWN

DAUGHTER IN FLORIDA

DEAR LIKE MY OWN: Because of your husband's history of abuse, my first suggestion is to contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at thehotline.org or by calling (800) 799-7233. Having lost custody of your own daughter because of his abuse, there is good reason to believe he would abuse Arlette if she is left alone with him. While you're at it, consider running this scenario past a social worker who is well versed in the ins and outs of the system.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 30 years and have no children. Now in my mid-50s, I realize what a negative force my husband has been in my life.

I was not allowed to have children, and over the years I have lost all family and most friends because he didn't like anyone. He constantly badmouths the town we live in — it's my hometown — and any interests I have. He hasn't worked in 10 years since closing his business.

I wake up every morning with the thought of just trying to make it through one more day. I am a shell of the person I once was, and don't know where to turn. Please help.

— NAMELESS IN THE USA

DEAR NAMELESS: Get out of the house and out of isolation. Volunteering in your community will give you an escape from your husband's negativity and an opportunity to meet others who are involved in positive activities. He won't like it, but do it anyway. If you do, it will save your sanity.

Candles, flashlights, no AC in Florida's hurricane zone

By Brendan Farrington and Jay Reeves

The Associated Press PANAMA CITY, Florida — It's the greatest need after a hurricane and sometimes the hardest one to fulfill: Electricity.

More than a week after Hurricane Michael smashed into the Florida Panhandle on a path of destruction that led all the way to the Georgia border, more than 100,000 Florida customers were still without power, according to the state Department of Emergency Management website.

Martha Reynolds sat outside her mother's sweltering home Friday with relatives, including several young children, in a low-income Panama City neighborhood. The electricity has been off since the day Michael struck.

Candles and flashlights provide light after dark, she said, and they crank up a generator at night to power an air conditioner that cools four adults and five kids.

"We try to eat off the grill and keep as much ice as we can," she said. "We're all looking at each other, we're all here, so that's a blessing."

A few streets over, Justin Ward's family gathered under a canopy set up under a shady tree in front of their hot, powerless home.

"We're making it. The power is on one street over. It's supposed to be on here tomorrow," he said.

While more than half the outages are in Bay County, where the storm came in between coastal Mexico Beach and Panama City, rural counties had a greater

percentage of people without power eight days after the storm. That includes Calhoun County, where 86 percent of customers of the local electric cooperative had no electricity.

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weather

Weather forecast summary for Tonight, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun. Includes temperatures for Baker City, La Grande, and Enterprise.

ALMANAC

Table with 4 columns: TEMPERATURES, PRECIPITATION, and data for Baker City, La Grande, and Elgin.

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states) High: 97° Death Valley, Calif. Low: 5° Bodie State Park, Calif. Wettest: 1.72" Oregon High: 73° Ontario Low: 19° Lakeview Wettest: 0.33" North Bend

AGRICULTURAL INFO. HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY

Table with 2 columns: Metric and Value. Includes lowest relative humidity, hours of wind, hours of sunshine, and evapotranspiration.

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)

Table with 2 columns: Reservoir Name and Capacity Percentage. Lists Phillips, Unity, Owyhee, McKay, Wallowa, and Thief Valley reservoirs.

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)

Table with 2 columns: Stream Name and Flow Rate. Lists Grande Ronde, Thief Valley, Burnt River, Umatilla, Minam, and Powder River.

WEATHER HISTORY

On Oct. 25, 1959, Yuma recorded its latest 100-degree-Fahrenheit reading ever. Even in Yuma, the heat usually eases in fall. From June 4 through Sept. 20, the normal high is over 100.

SUN & MOON

Table with 4 columns: Sunrise, Sunset, Moonrise, Moonset for Wednesday and Thursday.

MOON PHASES

Table with 4 columns: Moon Phase (Full, Last, New, First) and Date.

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

Large map of Oregon and surrounding areas showing weather forecasts for various cities including Astoria, Portland, Eugene, and Baker City.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table with 5 columns: City, Thu Hi/Lo/W, Fri Hi/Lo/W, and weather icons for various regional cities.

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

Table with 4 columns: Location, Forecast, Temperature, and weather icon for various recreation spots.



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