

Mom fears teenage son is headed for heartbreak

DEAR ABBY: I am very close to my 19-year-old son. He is kind, sweet and big-hearted. He has learning disabilities and the immaturity level of probably a 15- or 16-year-old. Naturally, I am protective of him. He had one girlfriend during his senior year, and when they broke up after four months, he was beyond devastated. Since then he constantly talks about how lonely he is and his desire to be in a relationship.

About a week ago, he told me he likes a woman from his work. They went out on a couple of dates and, come to find out, she's 33 and has three kids (9, 7 and 8 months old). He told me she asked him if he wanted to be in a serious relationship or just be friends with benefits. He told her he wanted something serious, and I guess she agreed.

Abby, this woman is taking advantage of my son! What would a woman that age want with a kid? This is a complicated nightmare, and I do not want my son involved with her. I'm convinced she's using him, and once she is over it, she will break his heart. It took him a long time to get over his high school sweetheart, and I was seriously worried about his mental well-being. Is there anything I can do to stop this train wreck?

I have talked to him about my concerns, but it didn't accomplish anything. I told him I want to meet her, and they agreed. I'm nervous because I know I need to refrain from telling her how I really feel. Any suggestions?

— PROTECTIVE MOM

DEAR MOM: Not all romances are guaranteed to last, as most adults find out after they enter the dating scene. At 19 — learning disabilities or not — your son is considered to be an adult. Part of becoming one is experiencing life with all of its joys and disappointments.

You cannot protect your son from sadness or predict how his relationships will turn out. Let him know that you are supportive of him always. Then, when you meet this woman, be warm and befriend her. Get to know her so you can communicate with her without her becoming defensive. You will gain nothing by seeming hostile.

DEAR ABBY: About 12 years ago, I found out my dad isn't really my father. It didn't change how I felt about him, and I wasn't interested in meeting my biological father.

Dad died a couple of weeks ago. During the memorial service, I ended my emotional tribute to him by saying that even though he wasn't my bio father, he was still my "Dad," and the love and memories I have of him mean more than any blood ties to my bio father.

My brother and one of my sisters had no problem with me saying this. My other sister, however, was very upset with me.

She said letting church members know he wasn't my bio father was disrespectful. She was the only one who criticized me. Was I disrespectful, and was my sister correct in chastising me?

— LOVED MY DAD

DEAR LOVED: The eulogy you gave for your dad was beautiful, and it came from the heart. It was in no way disrespectful and you did nothing wrong. Your sister should not have criticized you the way she did, but when there is a death in the family, emotions sometimes run high.

DEAR ABBY: My brother-in-law has always been a bully and a chronic liar. It has torn our family apart. He'll tell one family member one thing, and the other another story for the purpose of getting them mad at each other. He is also a narcissist. Innocent people have been victimized by all of this.

Now he is moving on to the elderly neighbors and lying to them about family members. Confronting him will do no good. We have tried. How do we get him to stop the bullying and lying? His wife is no help because she has been brainwashed and can no longer think for herself. Please help. Maybe by publishing this letter it will turn on a lightbulb.

— DESPERATE IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR DESPERATE: Because your brother-in-law is now spreading misinformation among the elderly neighbors, explain to them that he has a "personality disorder" and a problem with the truth. Then give them some examples and, with luck, you can nip this in the bud.

Busy tornado season catches naive Easterners off guard

By David Porter
The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — As a tornado bore down on the western edge of New Jersey, some residents prepared for the worst, while others were caught off guard, despite bulletins from meteorologists and extensive coverage by television and radio stations.

Marie Raffay was at a high school athletic awards banquet in Stanhope on Tuesday night with her husband and two sons when they and others noticed the sky darkening, accompanied by thunder and lightning.

"We figured it was a typical late afternoon storm," Raffay said. "Then the windows got pushed in by the pressure. I said to another woman, 'I don't think we should be standing there.'"

One person in the group mentioned getting a tornado warning on his phone, said Raffay, a civil engineer, but others were unaware.

The nation has seen a surge in tornadoes this month, with Tuesday setting a record as the 12th consecutive day with at least eight reported. Some tornado warnings have edged into areas of the East Coast unaccustomed to such storms, where many people are not conditioned to hear or heed such alerts.

New Jersey gets a handful of tornadoes per year on average. Two twisters hit New York City on one day in 2012, but only about 60 had hit the area in the 50 years before that, according to the National Weather Service.

"The fact is that in New Jersey, tornadoes are too

rare for there to be a well-designed warning system in most communities, nor a properly educated public who know what to do when a warning is issued," said David Robinson, the state's climatologist and a professor at Rutgers University.

Tuesday's tornado damaged Lenape Valley Regional High School's facade and ripped up a softball dugout, depositing the roof on its side on the ground. Toppled trees and power lines left most residents without electricity.

In Ohio, where tornadoes are far more common, meteorologists went on the offensive Monday night with aggressive tornado warnings, actions several officials said saved lives.

"Pretty miraculous" is how Dayton Fire Chief Jeffrey Payne described the survival statistics on Tuesday morning.

"I attribute much of that to the early notification to the public, and then the public heeding those warnings and getting shelter," Payne said. At the time, no fatalities had been reported. Later, authorities said a single man was killed in Celina when winds pushed a car into his house.

Not everyone was pleased with the information dump. Some television viewers, apparently inured to weather alerts, complained on social media about an Ohio meteorologist interrupting "The Bachelorette" with a tornado warning, leading him to deliver an on-air scolding.

"No, we're not going back to the show, folks," Dayton

meteorologist Jamie Simpson said. "This is a dangerous situation, OK?"

Current Bachelorette Hannah Brown stood up for Simpson in a tweet, thanking supporters in Dayton for their love but urging them to be safe. "Naders are no joke," the former Miss Alabama USA tweeted.

The nature of tornadoes puts a premium on preparation, according to longtime WCBS Radio meteorologist Craig Allen. Unlike hurricane warnings, which often are issued 24 to 48 hours ahead of time, a tornado watch often is issued six to eight hours in advance, and a warning isn't given until a tornado is seen on radar.

Tornadoes in New Jersey and the surrounding area also can be more difficult to detect without the help of radar, Allen said.

"Tornadoes around here aren't the same as elsewhere, where you can see them for miles and miles," he said. "They are rain-wrapped, and they are small spinoffs; you usually don't see them tracking across miles of land. If it wasn't for radar, we wouldn't even know some of them are there."

Scott Olson, a resident of Byram, New Jersey, where Tuesday's tornado caused damage, recalled growing up in Minnesota and being conditioned to swing into action when the tornado sirens would go off, even in the dead of night.

"We'd go downstairs, grab a pillow and blanket and go into the basement, and stay there until it passed," Olson said.

AccuWeather

DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP

weather

TONIGHT

Patchy clouds

SAT

Partly sunny

SUN

Very warm with sunshine

MON

Mostly sunny and nice

TUE

Beautiful with sunshine

Baker City

49

8

La Grande

54

8

Enterprise

51

8

82

50

84

50

81

46

80

46

6

6

6

8

8

6

6

6

8

8

6

6

6

8

10

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 Wednesday

73°

73°

77°

Low Wednesday

49°

48°

48°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Trace

Trace

Trace

Wednesday

0.85

2.67

2.59

Month to date

1.37

1.86

2.08

Year to date

5.32

9.89

19.51

Normal year to date

4.42

7.67

11.77

WED. EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 102°

Low: 24°

Wettest: 3.23"

High: 82°

Low: 34°

Wettest: 0.40"

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY

Lowest relative humidity

NNE at 6 to 12 mph

Hours of sunshine

Evapotranspiration

35%

7.2

0.22

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)

Phillips Reservoir

Unity Reservoir

Owyhee Reservoir

McKay Reservoir

Wallowa Lake

Thief Valley Reservoir

64% of capacity

98% of capacity

98% of capacity

100% of capacity

99% of capacity

107% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Wednesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy

Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder

Burnt River near Unity

Umatilla River near Gibbon

Minam River at Minam

Powder River near Richland

10200 cfs

431 cfs

124 cfs

343 cfs

2440 cfs

582 cfs

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019

Shown is Saturday's weather. Temperatures are Friday night's lows and Saturday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES				RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY			
City	SAT. HI/LO/W	SUN. HI/LO/W	City	SAT. HI/LO/W	SUN. HI/LO/W	ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE
Astoria	63/52/pc	63/51/pc	Lewiston	88/61/pc	90/60/pc	Partly sunny	A t-storm in spots
Bend	81/49/pc	83/48/s	Longview	74/51/pc	73/49/pc	56 38	76 48
Boise	81/59/pc	83/60/c	Mecham	79/49/pc	79/47/s	68 49	84 53
Brookings	73/56/s	69/52/s	Medford	86/58/s	88/54/pc	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Burns	78/49/pc	80/49/s	Newport	61/49/pc	59/49/pc	63 42	75 45
Coos Bay	64/52/s	63/49/pc	Olympia	77/51/pc	72/47/pc	77 50	86 56
Corvallis	80/52/s	78/48/s	Pasco	95/61/pc	96/60/pc	82 50	81 52
Council	80/51/t	82/53/pc	Ontario	87/58/pc	89/60/s	Partly sunny, warm	Partly sunny
Elgin	81/52/pc	82/49/s	Pendleton	87/59/pc	88/58/s		
Eugene	78/53/s	80/48/s	Portland	79/55/s	78/52/pc		
Hermiston	93/63/pc	93/62/s	Powers	74/53/s	76/48/pc		
Hood River	84/59/s	83/56/pc	Redmond	83/50/pc	85/48/s		
Imnaha	83/55/pc	85/54/pc	Roseburg	83/57/s	84/52/pc		
John Day	79/55/pc	83/52/s	Salem	78/53/s	77/49/s		
Joseph	77/50/pc	79/47/s	Spokane	85/60/pc	85/58/pc		
Kennewick	95/61/pc	94/60/pc	The Dalles	88/60/s	86/57/s		
Klamath Falls	78/48/pc	80/46/s	Ukiah	78/47/pc	80/45/s		
Lakeview	73/47/pc	75/48/pc	Walla Walla	89/64/pc	89/62/pc		

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

GO

NORTH EAST OREGON

Download & Explore Everything in NE Oregon

it's free and available at

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play