

Mother-in-law takes in cats after mom’s death

DEAR ABBY: My mom passed away unexpectedly, leaving behind two cats. My mother-in-law graciously took them in temporarily, which included shouldering the financial burden of a few vet visits.

After everything quieted, we asked her if she would be willing to keep the cats indefinitely because we rent, and re-homing them wasn't an option in our area. She agreed, but said when we want to take them, we can. We offered to compensate her for the vet bills, but she refused. Our relationship has always been strained, but, in that moment, she was very kind and generous.

Now, a year later, the cats have been renamed and are well cared for beyond what we could have ever given them. I, however, feel guilty. My husband and I don't want the cats. We will be buying a home soon, and our daughter is hoping to adopt a dog.

I do not want to take on a new obligation if I already have one to my mother-in-law. Those cats are my mom's final unfinished business, and I want to do right by them. How can I do right by my mother-in-law as well?



DEAR ABBY

Fighting in the frozen mountains at Chosin Reservoir, with wind-chill temperatures far below zero, outnumbered and encircled (120,000 to 30,000), our troops broke out to save 100,000 Korean men, women and children by Christmas Eve. Our soldiers endured frostbite and suffering with valor; ultimately sustaining 16,495 casualties, but inflicting 48,156 casualties on the enemy.

We are proud of, and indebted to, those members of our armed forces who suffered and sacrificed for our freedom. Please say a prayer for them and their families, and thank God for the gift of these precious souls.

— WITH CHRISTMAS LOVE, CARMELLA LaSPADA, NO GREATER LOVE INC.

DEAR CARMELLA: Thank you for your letter. This is the time of year when people often reminisce about family memories. In that spirit, I agree that we should also remember our collective history, and reflect on and give thanks for the bravery and sacrifice our service members and their loved ones have given us.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter's boyfriend recently came to us asking for our daughter's hand in marriage. We like him very much, and we were happy to give our blessings. What threw me was, after he got our permission, he asked if we had any family heirlooms (diamonds) he could use to have made into an engagement ring.

Call me old-fashioned, but I thought the groom-to-be usually got something like that handed down from his family, not the bride's. Please tell me if I'm wrong about this.

— OLD-FASHIONED MOM

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: You are not wrong. The groom (not the parents of the bride-to-be) is supposed to be responsible for the engagement ring. Because you like the young man, you should have conveyed that message as gently as possible.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

— NOT A CAT PERSON

DEAR NOT A CAT PERSON: The cats have acclimated well to living with your mother-in-law — and it is entirely possible that she has grown to love them in the year they have been with her.

If she is aware that you will be buying a home, she should be told that your daughter has her heart set on having a dog. Because three animals would be too much for you, ask if she would mind keeping the kitties after you move. She may surprise you and say she doesn't mind at all.

DEAR ABBY: In this holiday season of love, hope and miracles I ask your millions of readers to join me in remembering and honoring those courageous Americans and allies who created a "Christmas Miracle" during the Korean War 69 years ago. From November to December 1950, they fought one of the most savage battles of modern warfare and did the impossible by achieving one of the greatest humanitarian rescues in history.

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weather

TONIGHT

Partly cloudy

Baker City 21

Comfort Index™ 5

TUE

Times of clouds and sun

Baker City 38 23

Comfort Index™ 4

WED

Variable cloudiness

Baker City 37 20

Comfort Index™ 3

THU

Some sun, then clouds

Baker City 36 19

Comfort Index™ 3

FRI

Considerable cloudiness

Baker City 35 22

Comfort Index™ 1

La Grande 25

Comfort Index™ 2

25

3

24

3

22

3

22

3

Enterprise 23

Comfort Index™ 4

20

4

22

3

19

3

24

4

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 45°

La Grande 50°

Elgin 49°

High Saturday 45°

Low Saturday 39°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Saturday 0.00

Month to date 0.08

Normal month to date 0.67

Year to date 7.43

Normal year to date 9.82

0.00

0.39

1.16

14.11

16.02

0.00

1.83

2.11

28.26

22.78

SATURDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 82°

Low: -17°

Wettest: 2.99"

OREGON

High: 65°

Low: 29°

Wettest: 2.24"

Key West, Fla.

Crested Butte, Colo.

Brookings, Ore.

Hermiston

Crater Lake

Brookings

WEATHER HISTORY

Snowflakes were reported in Florida at Tampa and Sarasota on Dec. 23, 1989. Tampa had a reading of 30 degrees. In contrast, the Northeast was in the midst of a winter "heat wave" on this day in 1990.

SUN & MOON

Sunrise 7:29 a.m.

Sunset 4:13 p.m.

Moonrise 4:40 a.m.

Moonset 2:35 p.m.

MON.

7:30 a.m.

4:14 p.m.

5:52 a.m.

3:14 p.m.

TUE.

7:30 a.m.

4:14 p.m.

5:52 a.m.

3:14 p.m.

MOON PHASES

New

First

Full

Last

Dec 25

Jan 2

Jan 10

Jan 17

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019

Shown is Tuesday's weather. Temperatures are Monday night's lows and Tuesday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	TUE. HI/Lo/W	WED. HI/Lo/W	City	TUE. HI/Lo/W	WED. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	44/36/r	47/32/c	Lewiston	40/31/pc	40/31/c
Bend	38/25/pc	37/23/c	Longview	40/35/pc	45/29/c
Boise	39/25/sf	38/23/c	Meacham	37/23/pc	35/23/c
Brookings	46/38/r	51/36/c	Medford	41/34/c	45/27/c
Burns	35/19/s	34/14/c	Newport	45/39/r	48/34/c
Coos Bay	46/39/r	50/33/c	Olympia	42/33/pc	43/29/c
Corvallis	41/34/c	45/28/c	Ontario	41/26/sf	39/22/c
Council	34/23/sf	32/17/c	Pasco	41/28/pc	40/28/c
Elgin	38/24/pc	36/25/c	Pendleton	38/27/c	36/26/r
Eugene	43/35/c	46/30/c	Portland	41/37/c	45/30/c
Hermiston	40/29/c	39/28/c	Powers	45/38/r	49/31/c
Hood River	40/32/c	42/29/c	Redmond	41/25/pc	38/20/c
Imnaha	40/24/c	39/26/c	Roseburg	44/38/c	47/32/c
John Day	38/27/pc	37/26/sf	Salem	42/36/c	46/29/c
Joseph	36/20/pc	34/20/c	Spokane	37/27/c	35/26/c
Kennewick	40/29/c	39/28/c	The Dalles	41/31/c	41/28/c
Klamath Falls	36/25/c	36/19/c	Ukiah	37/23/pc	35/23/sf
Lakeview	35/22/c	36/16/c	Walla Walla	38/25/pc	35/27/c

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

RECREATION FORECAST TUESDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE
Partly sunny	Partly sunny
21 10	35 18
MT. EMILY REC.	BROWNLEE RES.
Periods of sun	A snow squall
30 19	38 25
EAGLE CAP WILD.	EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Periods of sun	Partly sunny
27 10	34 20
WALLOWA LAKE	MCKAY RESERVOIR
Periods of sun	Clouds and sun
36 20	40 27
THIEF VALLEY RES.	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Periods of sun	Clouds and sun
38 23	38 25

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