

# Teen’s graduation party plans hurt his stepmom’s feelings

DEAR ABBY: I really could use some outside advice. I am a stepmother who raised my husband’s 18-year-old son, “Todd.” We have given him a loving home. Todd’s abusive mother abandoned him at 16, and he has lived with us ever since.

I have been a caring and generous mother to him since he was 6. I have always gone out of my way to make sure he feels comfortable, loved, fed, etc.

So I couldn’t help but feel slapped in the face when he told me he doesn’t want to have his graduation party at our home. He said he is having it at his friend’s parents’ house. This is the same couple who disapproved of their son spending time in our home while the boys grew up because we’re not their religion.

I don’t know how to handle this gracefully without feeling hurt or refusing to be a part of it. I know this may seem childish, but it’s how I feel on the inside. Can you help me?

— DISAPPOINTED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR DISAPPOINTED: It might help to realize this isn’t a personal slap in the face. His friend’s parents may have something special planned that Todd doesn’t want to miss. It has nothing to do with your parenting and plenty to do with his level of immaturity and perhaps the appeal of the other house. (Ask him.) Please be smart and refrain from making this about you, because it isn’t.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has reconnected with an ex-wife from more than 50 years ago. He found her on Facebook. They chat every day, several times a day. Before he reconnected with her, he would talk about her, how she was his first love and he would always have a special place for her in his heart, even though she cheated on him and left him. Now he has begun calling her a pet name he used to call me. Is this cheating, or am I overreacting?

— BETRAYED IN OHIO

DEAR BETRAYED: You are not overreacting. Your husband is involved in an emotional affair. For the sake of your marriage, it needs to stop. If he won’t accept it from you, perhaps he will listen to his religious adviser, a marriage counselor or your lawyer.

Do not try to fight this alone; you may

need their help along the way.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 63 years died three years ago. He was sexually abused by a family friend when he was very young and never disclosed it. He shared it with me some 20 years after our marriage and asked me not to tell our four children.

At some point, I shared it with my grown daughter, but not my three grown sons. Was I wrong to do this? My daughter feels I should tell them, and I sort of agree. Their relationship with their father was loving, but also strained. Should I tell them now or let it be?

— UNSURE IN MICHIGAN

DEAR UNSURE: I agree with your daughter. Because the sexual abuse your husband suffered may have affected the relationship he had with your sons, it might be helpful if they understand the reason why it was the way it was. Sunshine on dark places can yield positive outcomes.

DEAR ABBY: I met a young couple about a year ago. They invite me out for lunch every few months. They have several children they allow to run all over the place, climb over and under the table, cry and whine, and they make no effort to teach them proper behavior in restaurants. It’s so annoying and embarrassing that I no longer want to go out with them. I cannot believe that they turn their children loose in restaurants without acknowledging that they are creating a not-so-nice experience for other diners.

If they ask me why, should I make up an excuse or tell them how I feel about their lack of parenting? I suspect they will be hypersensitive to any remarks I make, but I can’t enjoy my meal while their children run wild. Those children need to learn some manners. I would rather eat out by myself than experience another episode.

— ALONE BUT NOT LONELY

DEAR ALONE: Rather than let these parents have it with both barrels, the next time you are invited to lunch, ask if the children will be included.

When they tell you the kids are coming — which they will — respond that you would prefer “adult time.”

It would get your message across without it appearing you are criticizing their parental abilities.



DEAR ABBY

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# weather

|                | TONIGHT       | SUN                  | MON                    | TUE                     | WED                    |
|----------------|---------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
|                | Partly cloudy | Episodes of sunshine | A stray morning shower | Partly sunny and warmer | Rather cloudy and warm |
| Baker City     | 35            | 71 42                | 68 34                  | 72 38                   | 79 43                  |
| Comfort Index™ | 10            | 10                   | 10                     | 10                      | 9                      |
| La Grande      | 39            | 67 43                | 63 38                  | 71 43                   | 75 46                  |
| Comfort Index™ | 9             | 10                   | 9                      | 10                      | 10                     |
| Enterprise     | 36            | 64 41                | 59 35                  | 68 38                   | 74 44                  |
| Comfort Index™ | 10            | 10                   | 10                     | 10                      | 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 Thursday          | 59°        | 59°       | 58°   |
| Low Thursday           | 36°        | 41°       | 45°   |
| PRECIPITATION (inches) |            |           |       |
| Thursday               | Trace      | 0.06      | 0.57  |
| Month to date          | 0.09       | 0.48      | 1.08  |
| Normal month to date   | 0.61       | 1.18      | 1.54  |
| Year to date           | 0.88       | 6.09      | 19.41 |
| Normal year to date    | 2.83       | 5.45      | 9.32  |

### THURSDAY EXTREMES

| NATION (for the 48 contiguous states) |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| High: 104°                            | Falfurrias, Texas      |
| Low: 14°                              | Yellowstone N.P., Wyo. |
| Wettest: 4.73"                        | Valdosta, Ga.          |
| OREGON                                |                        |
| High: 72°                             | Grants Pass            |
| Low: 24°                              | Crater Lake            |
| Wettest: 0.72"                        | Meacham                |

### AGRICULTURAL INFO.

#### HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Lowest relative humidity | 30%              |
| Afternoon wind           | W at 6 to 12 mph |
| Hours of sunshine        | 2.9              |
| Evapotranspiration       | 0.13             |

#### RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Phillips Reservoir     | 41% of capacity |
| Unity Reservoir        | 98% of capacity |
| Owyhee Reservoir       | 84% of capacity |
| McKay Reservoir        | 97% of capacity |
| Wallowa Lake           | 79% of capacity |
| Thief Valley Reservoir | 94% of capacity |

#### STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

|                                          |          |
|------------------------------------------|----------|
| Grande Ronde at Troy                     | 6270 cfs |
| Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder | 77 cfs   |
| Burnt River near Unity                   | 283 cfs  |
| Umatilla River near Gibbon               | 1280 cfs |
| Minam River at Minam                     | 776 cfs  |
| Powder River near Richland               | 212 cfs  |

### WEATHER HISTORY

On April 25, 1915, the high temperatures in Columbus, Ohio, and Harrisburg, Pa., reached 90 and 93, respectively. These are the highest April temperatures ever in those cities.

### SUN & MOON

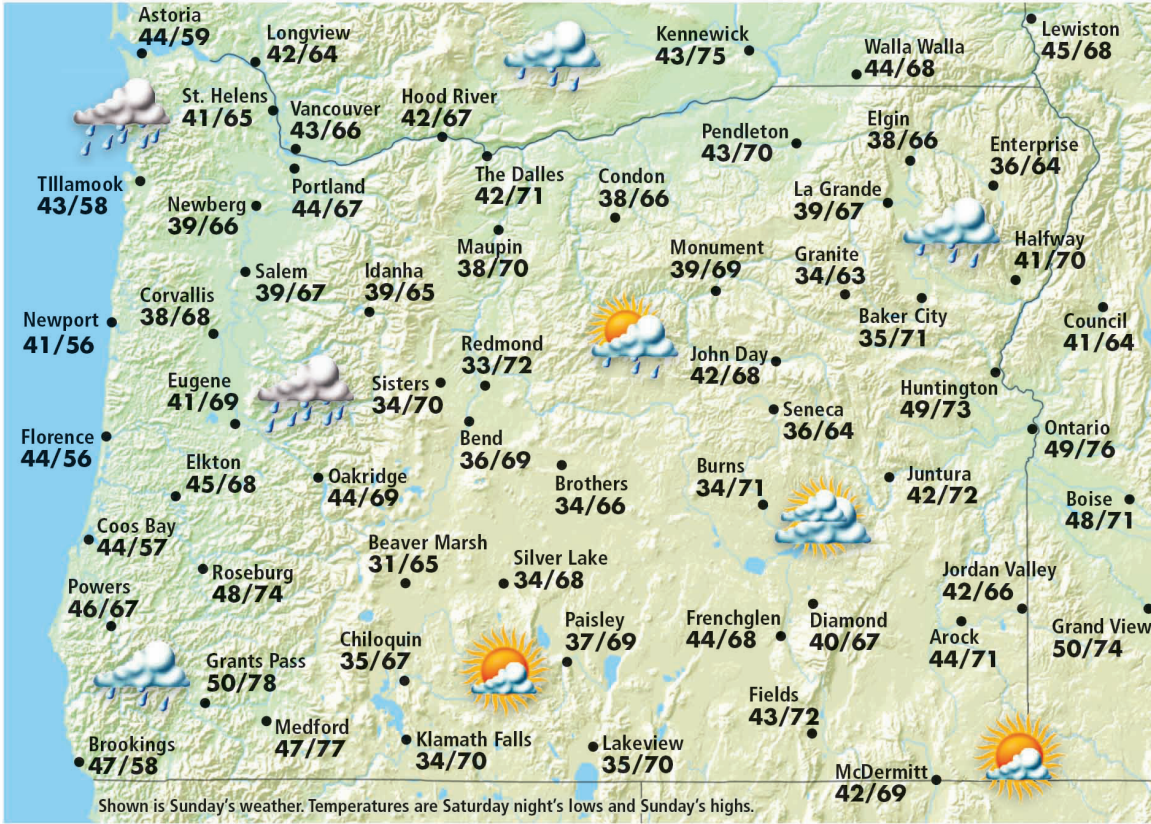
|          | SAT.       | SUN.       |
|----------|------------|------------|
| Sunrise  | 5:50 a.m.  | 5:48 a.m.  |
| Sunset   | 7:52 p.m.  | 7:53 p.m.  |
| Moonrise | 7:25 a.m.  | 8:00 a.m.  |
| Moonset  | 10:43 p.m. | 11:46 p.m. |

#### MOON PHASES

| First  | Full  | Last   | New    |
|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| Apr 30 | May 7 | May 14 | May 22 |

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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### REGIONAL CITIES

| City          | SUN. HI/Lo/W | MON. HI/Lo/W |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Astoria       | 59/46/c      | 59/44/c      |
| Bend          | 69/43/pc     | 63/40/c      |
| Boise         | 71/51/pc     | 70/46/c      |
| Brookings     | 58/48/pc     | 60/49/r      |
| Burns         | 71/42/pc     | 67/34/c      |
| Coos Bay      | 57/49/c      | 58/50/r      |
| Corvallis     | 68/47/c      | 64/46/c      |
| Council       | 64/40/pc     | 62/37/c      |
| Elgin         | 66/43/pc     | 62/39/c      |
| Eugene        | 69/49/pc     | 65/48/r      |
| Hermiston     | 74/53/pc     | 73/46/pc     |
| Hood River    | 67/47/pc     | 64/48/c      |
| Imnaha        | 67/46/pc     | 63/40/c      |
| John Day      | 68/43/pc     | 65/39/c      |
| Joseph        | 64/39/pc     | 58/33/c      |
| Kennewick     | 75/54/pc     | 75/47/pc     |
| Klamath Falls | 70/39/pc     | 65/37/c      |
| Lakeview      | 70/39/pc     | 66/36/c      |
| Lewiston      | 68/50/pc     | 69/45/c      |
| Longview      | 64/46/c      | 64/48/r      |
| Meacham       | 64/40/pc     | 61/36/c      |
| Medford       | 77/49/pc     | 71/47/c      |
| Newport       | 56/47/c      | 56/48/r      |
| Olympia       | 64/43/c      | 62/41/r      |
| Ontario       | 76/50/pc     | 76/46/c      |
| Pasco         | 75/52/pc     | 75/44/pc     |
| Pendleton     | 70/49/pc     | 68/45/pc     |
| Portland      | 67/49/pc     | 65/49/r      |
| Powers        | 67/48/pc     | 64/50/r      |
| Redmond       | 72/44/pc     | 65/37/pc     |
| Roseburg      | 74/53/pc     | 71/51/r      |
| Salem         | 67/46/pc     | 65/46/r      |
| Spokane       | 61/47/pc     | 63/41/pc     |
| The Dalles    | 71/48/pc     | 67/47/c      |
| Ukiah         | 64/39/pc     | 60/34/c      |
| Walla Walla   | 68/50/pc     | 68/46/pc     |

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

### RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

| ANTHONY LAKES     | Clouds and sun     | PHILLIPS LAKE       | Clouds and sun |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 46                | 30                 | 65                  | 39             |
| MT. EMILY REC.    | Partly sunny       | BROWNLEE RES.       | Sun and clouds |
| 54                | 39                 | 69                  | 45             |
| EAGLE CAP WILD.   | Partly sunny       | EMIGRANT ST. PARK   | Periods of sun |
| 51                | 32                 | 60                  | 37             |
| WALLOWA LAKE      | Sun and clouds     | MCKAY RESERVOIR     | Partly sunny   |
| 64                | 39                 | 70                  | 48             |
| THIEF VALLEY RES. | Partly sunny; warm | RED BRIDGE ST. PARK | Partly sunny   |
| 71                | 42                 | 67                  | 43             |

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