

Cousin desperate to help woman in abusive romance



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

around, not to mention he constantly stares at our chests. They recently moved hours away for his job. I feel he has purposely isolated her from all of us, and is mentally and emotionally abusing her. She used to want to get married and have a family with him, but now she is calling me selfish for being pregnant. He's dragging her down and has bought himself more time by getting her a dog. Even if they did get engaged, I'd feel sad she's spending her life with this man. If he treats her like this in front of all of us, what is he doing behind closed doors? My cousin is very prideful and shuts down any criticism. How can I explain to her that I'm wor-

ried about her without risking our relationship? — **SCARED FOR HER IN THE EAST**
DEAR SCARED: Tell your cousin you love her dearly and will be saying this only once, so you want her to remember it. Then repeat to her what you have written to me. Explain that abusers erode the self-esteem of their "love object" through constant criticizing and belittling. Say you realize she has invested 10 years of her life in that relationship, but if she ever has doubts or changes her mind about living away from the family, you will be there for her. Then give her the contact information of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-799-7233; thehotline.org) if there

have been any instances in which he has hit or threatened her — or the dog — when he's angry.
DEAR ABBY: My husband will not do things unless I "remind" him. He has a medical issue and experiences painful symptoms if he forgets to take the medication his doctor prescribed. He'll then have a flare-up, take his medicine and not take it again until another flare-up happens. Also, he'll need to have an important doctor's appointment for a procedure and he won't even think about making the call to schedule it. I used to remind him about all these things but, frankly, I'm not his mother. I'm his wife. Please help. — **NOT HIS MOTHER**

DEAR NOT HIS MOTHER: Being a loving spouse requires us to fill varying roles in the life partnership. Not only are we lovers, best friends and sometimes nurses, but we must sometimes act as "parents." It's hard to believe someone who has a chronic condition that brings painful flare-ups would forget to take a medication that would avert them, which makes me wonder about your husband's mentation. Doctor visits can sometimes be uncomfortable, which may be why he hesitates to schedule them. If you love him, please shoulder that responsibility as you would want him to do if the situation were reversed.

WOLVES

Continued from Page B1

decide whether it's likely the animal was lost to wolves. The committee then asks the Department of Agriculture for reimbursement for the livestock owners. Also, at least one-third of the wolf compensation fund money is set aside for helping owners pay for nonlethal-lethal methods of keeping wolves away, like alarm or scare devices, fencing with electric wires and paying range riders who patrol livestock grazing areas.

According to Jonathan Sandau, a special assistant to the director at the state Agriculture Department, 79% of the wolf compensation money paid out over the last four years has gone to nonlethal wolf mitigation methods. About 9% of the money has gone to reimbursing owners for confirmed wolf kills.

Between 2017 and 2021, Sandau said, the department received \$1.6 million in requests from the fund. The department was able to pay out only \$725,000 — about \$181,000 a year.

It didn't have enough money to reimburse all of the claims for missing cattle that the ranchers had requested.

"We've never been able to meet the full requests since the inception of the program," Sandau said.

Disappointment on both sides

The wolf compensation fund aimed to keep both sides happy, allowing the wolves to roam while compensating livestock owners. The number of wolves in the state has continued to grow since 2009, from 14 wolves to at least 173 by



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife/Contributed Photo, File

A trail camera in January 2016 caught this image of two adult wolves from the Walla Walla Pack in northern Umatilla County.

the end of 2019, according to the Fish and Wildlife Department.

But livestock owners say they are losing a growing number of animals to wolf kills but don't receive ample compensation. They also say they have to wait a year to be paid because county commissions get to request the funds only once a year.

Nash, of Wallowa County, said many ranchers and farmers want to withdraw from the program because of low and slow payouts and are becoming increasingly weary of the state's protection of wolves. "It's really disheartening to not see full support to fully fund the program that pays just a small portion of what we have to put up with and the losses we've endured," he said.

For Danielle Moser, a wildlife program coordinator at Oregon Wild, the number of claims for missing livestock against confirmed kills, and the

number of wolves in the state, seem disproportionate. She said the fund hasn't been audited or reviewed since it was created in 2012.

"The overarching thing is that we need to take a step back and review the program," Moser said. "Is it achieving its intended goal? Making sure we're actually building social tolerance? Like many programs, we don't think we should add more to the pot until we ensure it's being spent correctly."

Testing the 'social tolerance' for wolves

Prior to the Feb. 9 hearing, 50 individuals, ranchers, conservation and animal rights groups and a Wallowa County Commission wolf committee member had submitted testimony opposed to the bill.

Five powerful groups — the Association of Oregon Counties, Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Cattle-

men's Association, Eastern Oregon Counties Association and Oregon Hunters Association — submitted letters supporting the proposal.

Nash said many owners believe the state is undercounting wolves and the number of livestock killed by them.

"I've got \$500,000 worth of asks and only \$100,000 to go around," said Nash, who is also a county commissioner who helps review reports.

But another member of Wallowa County's Wolf Compensation Committee, Wally Sykes, said he opposes the bill:

"Sometimes I feel the producer is trustworthy, the claim seems reasonable and I support it. Sometimes the claim seems exaggerated and/or doubtful. How to know what became of the missing livestock or, without independent verification, even to know if the counts are accurate? For 2019, Wallowa County ranchers claimed \$1,800 in direct losses, \$47,000 in indirect losses. The discrepancy seems out of proportion. Even if the stock count is accurate, all missing cattle are not victims of wolf predation."

What both groups agree on is that the fund has not led to an acceptance of wolves among ranchers.

Adrian Treves, professor of environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and director of the Carnivore Coexistence Lab at the university wrote in testimony, "The moral hazard is that negligent owners will reduce protections for their domestic animals because they reason the government will pay them anyway."

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weather

TONIGHT
Partly cloudy

Baker City
16
Comfort Index™ 3

La Grande
26
Comfort Index™ 5

Enterprise
21
Comfort Index™ 3

FRI
Mostly sunny

41 19
5

49 32
5

47 26
8

SAT
Mostly cloudy

42 25
3

49 33
5

50 27
5

SUN
Cooler with snow showers

39 22
1

40 27
0

37 26
0

MON
Cloudy with a little snow

36 15
1

38 20
0

32 21
0

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 38° 43° 46°
Low Tuesday 23° 28° 31°

PRECIPITATION (inches)
Tuesday 0.00 Trace 0.15
Month to date Trace 0.41 0.79
Normal month to date 0.32 0.66 1.30
Year to date 0.38 1.68 4.72
Normal year to date 1.02 2.33 4.57

AGRICULTURAL INFO.
HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY
Lowest relative humidity 40%
Afternoon wind SSE at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine 5.9
Evapotranspiration 0.07

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)
Phillips Reservoir 3% of capacity
Unity Reservoir 30% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir 21% of capacity
McKay Reservoir 40% of capacity
Wallowa Lake 24% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir 45% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)
Grande Ronde at Troy 1860 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder 1 cfs
Burnt River near Unity 9 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon 277 cfs
Minam River at Minam 153 cfs
Powder River near Richland 101 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 83° Pecos, Texas
Low: -44° Kabetogama, Minn.
Wettest: 0.22" San Diego, Mont.

OREGON
High: 57° The Dalles
Low: 16° Prineville
Wettest: 0.04" Roseburg

WEATHER HISTORY
On Feb. 17, 1980, Albany, N.Y., had its only subzero temperature of the season. The following year, on the same date, temperatures in nearby Connecticut soared into the 60s.

SUN & MOON

	THU.	FRI.
Sunrise	6:51 a.m.	6:49 a.m.
Sunset	5:22 p.m.	5:24 p.m.
Moonrise	6:38 p.m.	7:48 p.m.
Moonset	7:47 a.m.	8:08 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 23	Mar 2	Mar 10	Mar 17

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022

Shows Friday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday night's lows and Friday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	FRI. HI/Lo/W	SAT. HI/Lo/W	City	FRI. HI/Lo/W	SAT. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	49/41/c	49/40/r	Lewiston	53/36/pc	55/40/c
Bend	66/31/c	61/34/pc	Longview	49/40/c	46/41/r
Boise	50/29/s	53/33/pc	Meacham	51/31/s	48/33/c
Brookings	62/40/pc	56/42/s	Medford	64/32/pc	60/37/pc
Burns	55/25/pc	56/26/pc	Newport	51/40/c	49/41/r
Coos Bay	54/35/c	50/40/c	Olympia	49/39/c	47/38/r
Corvallis	53/33/c	49/38/c	Ontario	48/29/s	49/31/pc
Council	40/22/s	39/25/pc	Pasco	59/32/s	57/41/c
Elgin	50/27/s	49/33/c	Pendleton	59/34/pc	57/40/pc
Eugene	55/36/c	50/39/c	Portland	53/40/c	48/40/c
Hermiston	63/35/pc	57/42/pc	Powers	63/37/c	54/41/c
Hood River	59/40/c	52/43/c	Redmond	63/26/c	60/33/pc
Imnaha	54/34/pc	53/35/c	Roseburg	54/38/c	52/41/c
John Day	55/27/pc	54/30/pc	Salem	55/37/c	52/40/c
Joseph	46/27/s	48/27/c	Spokane	45/32/c	43/34/c
Kennewick	61/32/pc	60/42/c	The Dalles	63/38/pc	58/43/c
Klamath Falls	59/24/c	61/28/pc	Ukiah	51/28/pc	49/29/c
Lakeview	58/23/c	60/25/pc	Walla Walla	54/39/pc	53/38/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 FRIDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Mostly sunny	35 20		PHILLIPS LAKE Mostly sunny	49 22	
MT. EMILY REC. Mostly sunny	43 31		BROWNLEE RES. Mostly sunny	47 26	
EAGLE CAP WILD. Mostly sunny	38 17		EMIGRANT ST. PARK Mostly sunny	48 23	
WALLOWA LAKE Mostly sunny	46 27		MCKAY RESERVOIR Partly sunny; mild	61 37	
THIEF VALLEY RES. Partly sunny	41 19		RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Mostly sunny	49 32	