Childhood friendship begins breaking down for teenagers

DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old daughter, "Nadia," has been friends with another girl, "Kelly," since they were 8. Over the years, I have had my concerns about Kelly because she lies. She can also be very manipulative, and she hasn't always treated Nadia well.

Nadia and I have had numerous conversations about this friend over the years, and I have expressed my feelings about Kelly's behavior. Sometimes Nadia would acknowledge Kelly's wrongdoings; other times she'd get upset and insist I was wrong. Either way, she seemed to have great loyalty to Kelly.

Over the years, Kelly's mother, "Brittany," and I became friends and, over the last two or three, we have grown very close. I allowed it to happen because I thought Kelly had matured. Unfortunately, I was wrong. Meanwhile, Nadia has been seeing more clearly what a difficult person Kelly is and is pulling away from her.

While I'm happy Nadia has found healthier friendships, I am worried about how this may affect my friendship with Brittany. She tends to be defensive about her kids and will probably not be able to see how much her daughter has hurt Nadia over the years. Advice? — **MOM PROBLEM IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR MOM: I do have some. Stay out of it. It's common for childhood friendships to wane. By now you should have realized friendships cannot be forced. All it does is breed resentment. Unless Brittany raises the subject, avoid discussing it. Cross your fingers and hope that Kelly might not even realize Nadia is less available. However, if Brittany asks, simply say that the girls' friendship, like other teen relationships, seems to have run its course.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband has been incarcerated off and on for the last several years. The kids adore him and want nothing more than to spend time with him, even though I am the responsible parent who cares for them and provides for their needs.

I'm glad the kids are not angry with him, and I'm trying to be understanding about their need for love and acceptance from him (even though they are no longer young children). However, I can't help feeling anxious, angry and jealous because, in spite of his many poor choices, they prefer spending time with him more than with me.

He has always been an irresponsible parent, and it crushes them each time he goes back to jail. No matter what, they run to his rescue whenever he needs something, be it money, transportation, etc. How can I handle this in the best way for the sake of my children without causing stress on them and our relationship? — **STABLE PARENT IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR PARENT: Please accept my sympathy. You have been forced into the role of the authoritarian parent, while your husband has adopted the role of loosey-goosey fun parent, which is how your children still regard him. It isn't fair, and I feel for you. But until they wise up on their own, there's nothing you can do about it. So try not to spend too much time dwelling on it. Live your life. When faced with a circumstance that's not likely to change soon, that's all anyone can do.

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.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Researchers: Chinese-made GPS tracker highly vulnerable

The Associated Press

BOSTON — A popular Chinese-made automotive GPS tracker used in 169 countries has severe software vulnerabilities, posing a potential danger to highway safety, national security and supply chains, cybersecurity researchers have found.

A report by the Boston cybersecurity firm BitSight says the flaws could let attackers remotely hijack device-equipped vehicles, cutting off fuel to them and otherwise seizing control while they travel.

The researchers say users should immediately disable the MV720 GPS tracker until a fix becomes available. The report was released Tuesday, July 19, to coincide with an advisory from the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency listing five vulnerabilities.

BitSight said it tried unsuccessfully for months — beginning in September, with CISA joining it in late April — to engage the manufacturer, Shenzen-based MiCODUS, in discussion addressing the vulnerabilities. The Associated Press telephoned and emailed the company but got no response. A person who answered a phone number listed on its website was unable to respond in English.

CISA said in a statement that it was not aware of "any active exploitation" of the vulnerabilities.

GPS trackers are used globally to monitor vehicle fleets — from trucks to school buses to military vehicles — and protect them against theft. In addition to collecting data on vehicle location, they typically also monitor other metrics, such as driver behavior and fuel usage.

Manuel Balce Ceneta/The Associated Press, File

The U.S. Homeland Security Department headquarters in northwest Washington is pictured on Feb. 25, 2015. A popular Chinese-made automotive GPS tracker used by individuals, government agencies and companies in 169 countries has severe software vulnerabilities, posing a potential danger to life and limb, national security and supply chains, cybersecurity researchers said in a report released Tuesday, July 19, 2022, to coincide with an advisory from the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency listing six vulnerabilities.

Via remote access, many are wired to cut off a vehicle's fuel or alarm, lock or unlock its doors and more.

Using the MV720, which BitSight says costs less than $25 per unit, a malicious user could remotely cut off the fuel line of a vehicle in motion, know a vehicle's real-time location for espionage purposes or intercept and taint location or other data to sabotage operations, said the principal BitSight researcher on the project, Pedro Umbelino.

He said multiple malicious scenarios are possible: First responders' vehicles could be crippled, or a hacker could shut off an engine and demand a cryptocurrency ransom of victims to avoid calling a mechanic.

The main vulnerabilities: The device comes with a default password that more than 90% of users don't change, and there is second, obscure but hard-coded password that works for all devices, BitSight found. It also found security flaws in the software of the web server used to remotely manage the GPS devices.

The manufacturer, MiCODUS claims an installed base of 1.5 million devices across 420,000 customers, said BitSight. Its research found they included a Fortune 50 energy company and an aerospace company, a national military in South America and in eastern Europe, a nuclear power plant operator and a national law enforcement agency in western Europe. It did not name any of them. Countries with the most users included, by continent: Brazil, Mexico, Spain and Russia.

Female lion killed by new male companion at Birmingham zoo

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A female lion was fatally injured while being introduced to a newly acquired male companion at the Birmingham Zoo in Alabama, officials said Tuesday, July 19.

Akili, who was born in 2005 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and had been at the Birmingham Zoo since 2007, couldn't be saved after being injured by a lion named Josh, who had been at the zoo since April.

The slow process of introducing the two lions to each other had begun previously, the zoo said in a statement, and Akili was badly injured within minutes of a meeting on July 18.

"Animal introductions are always risky because wild animals can be unpredictable and we cannot control their interactions," said Hollie Colahan, the zoo's deputy director, in a statement.

The introduction was done on a day the zoo was closed so no visitors were present, said Jennifer Ogilvie, a spokeswoman.

"Josh is fine and will continue to receive the excellent care he always receives," she said.

Josh was brought to the zoo as replacement for another male lion that died in 2021, the statement said. Dozens of people expressed sorrow over Akili's death in response to an announcement by the zoo on social media.

"How devastating. She was a beauty," one person wrote.

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weather

	TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
	Clear	Sunny and nice	Sunny and pleasant	Plenty of sunshine	Sunny and hot
Baker City	51	87 45	89 49	89 50	91 51
Comfort Index™	5	8	8	7	7
La Grande	61	87 57	89 58	91 60	95 63
Comfort Index™	4	8	7	7	5
Enterprise	56	84 56	87 54	89 59	90 63
Comfort Index™	3	8	7	6	5

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	91°	92°	96°
Low Tuesday	38°	42°	44°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.01	0.22	0.32
Normal month to date	0.37	0.42	0.49
Year to date	4.47	8.98	17.76
Normal year to date	5.81	10.48	15.01

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 120°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 28°	Stanley, Idaho
Wettest: 2.19"	Cartersville, Ga.
OREGON	
High: 100°	Rome
Low: 37°	Meacham
Wettest: Trace	Brookings

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY

Lowest relative humidity	20%
Afternoon wind	NW at 7 to 14 mph
Hours of sunshine	13.0
Evapotranspiration	0.34

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)

Phillips Reservoir	19% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	78% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	32% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	93% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	12% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	76% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	1690 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	125 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	117 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	63 cfs
Minam River at Minam	410 cfs
Powder River near Richland	18 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

A tornado killed two people in separate mobile homes near Hartly, Del., on July 21, 1980. These were the first tornado-related deaths in Delaware since Aug. 21, 1888.

SUN & MOON

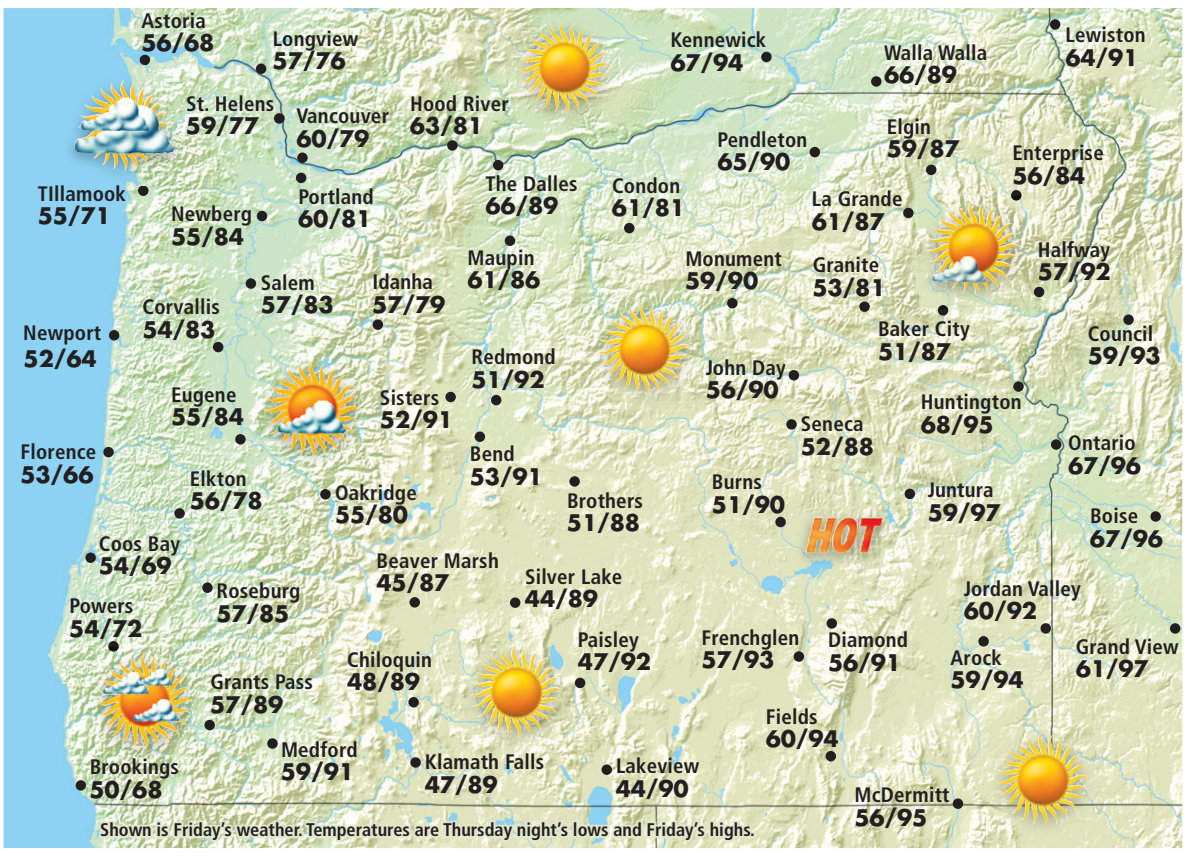
	THU.	FRI.
Sunrise	5:25 a.m.	5:26 a.m.
Sunset	8:32 p.m.	8:32 p.m.
Moonrise	12:24 a.m.	12:46 a.m.
Moonset	2:46 p.m.	3:53 p.m.

MOON PHASES

New	First	Full	Last
Jul 28	Aug 5	Aug 11	Aug 18

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2022



Shown is 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	68/55/c	69/57/c	Lewiston	91/62/s	94/63/s
Bend	91/52/s	92/55/s	Longview	76/54/c	78/56/pc
Boise	96/63/s	94/64/s	Meacham	86/52/s	87/53/s
Brookings	68/55/pc	73/56/s	Medford	91/59/s	92/61/s
Burns	90/49/s	92/49/s	Newport	64/50/pc	63/50/pc
Coos Bay	69/52/s	67/52/s	Olympia	75/50/pc	79/52/pc
Corvallis	83/51/pc	85/53/s	Ontario	96/64/s	96/64/s
Council	93/55/s	93/56/s	Pasco	94/60/s	97/62/s
Elgin	87/56/s	89/55/s	Pendleton	90/58/s	93/61/s
Eugene	84/53/pc	84/54/s	Portland	81/58/pc	83/60/pc
Hermiston	95/61/s	96/61/s	Powers	72/54/s	74/55/s
Hood River	81/61/s	88/62/s	Redmond	92/48/s	93/52/s
Imnaha	90/58/s	92/59/s	Roseburg	85/54/s	87/58/s
John Day	90/49/s	92/49/s	Salem	83/56/s	86/57/s
Joseph	85/58/s	87/57/s	Spokane	85/59/s	88/60/s
Kennewick	94/61/s	98/64/s	The Dalles	89/62/s	92/63/s
Klamath Falls	89/48/s	90/50/s	Ukiah	83/47/s	85/49/s
Lakeview	90/47/s	92/48/s	Walla Walla	89/63/s	92/64/s

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
Sunny and cooler
64 45

MT. EMILY REC.
Sunny and nice
75 53

EAGLE CAP WILD.
Plenty of sunshine
73 42

WALLOWA LAKE
Sunny; not as hot
85 58

THIEF VALLEY RES.
Breezy in the p.m.
87 45

PHILLIPS LAKE
Sunny; not as hot
83 47

BROWNLEE RES.
Sunny; not as hot
92 55

EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Sunny and pleasant
78 42

MCKAY RESERVOIR
Sunny and nice
89 57

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Sunny and nice
87 57