

'Family failure' refuses to enable sibling's behavior



**DEAR
ABBY**
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: I am the oldest of three. We grew up in an abusive alcoholic family. I'm considered the "failure" of the family because I don't drink. I graduated from college, work full time, got married and have a pretty stable life.

Both of my younger siblings drink and use drugs, and their lives are in constant turmoil. The youngest sibling has mentioned they will need to move by the end of this month and their current job has not paid them for several weeks. I dread that they will ask to stay at my

house soon, which I cannot allow because of the drinking and drug use. I know they will be upset that they can't stay with me. How do I protect my peace without feeling like I'm making my sibling homeless? — **BAD SISTER IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR BAD SISTER: Your reason for not wanting to host your substance-using sibling is sensible. State it kindly and clearly and do NOT feel guilty about it. You won't be making your sibling homeless. Unless your sibling is friendless, which I doubt, they will find another place to crash, I assure you.

DEAR ABBY: My father recently passed from cancer. He was divorced from Mom, but she helped take care of him and made him happy in his last year

of life. I'm having the baby blues (a 2-month-old) and grieving at the same time.

My mother has now announced that she plans to take a vacation with her best friend. I think it's too soon and I told her that. Am I wrong for feeling this way and trying to stop her from going? But at the same time, I know she deserves this vacation. I'm so confused. Please help.

— **RIGHT OR WRONG IN ARIZONA**

DEAR RIGHT OR WRONG: Allow me to offer my sympathy for the loss of your dad. Considering the recent changes in your life, that you "need" your mother is understandable. However, your mother needing a break at this point is also understandable, so please let

her go.

As you should know, your baby blues may be happening because of the abrupt hormonal changes your body is experiencing after the birth of your child. Discuss your emotions with your doctor, because there may be a medical solution for your situation. Please don't wait.

DEAR ABBY: Please don't

think I'm misogynistic, but whenever I see females, they're constantly talking or scrolling on their cellphones. It seems like it is all they do. They don't seem to be interested in anything except their damned phones. They have no personalities. They have no sex drive. They're not even interested in men. Some even seem to lose their interest in shopping, which we know is a female

addiction. It's not cute. It's not normal, and it's not sociable. In fact, it's bizarre and weird. Is there one "halfway" normal female left on this earth, or should I move to another planet?

— **READY TO BAIL IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR READY: Have you heard that men are from Mars? Your space shuttle departs in 20 minutes. It's a one-way trip. Safe travels ...

P.S. I am not calling you misogynistic, but it will be interesting to see what my readers call you. Stay tuned.

■ 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.

WALRUS

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also begun experimenting with herbs like basil and Italian parsley, and is even foraging on their property, for stinging nettle and mushrooms.

Under their official moniker of Happy Walrus Farms, the group began selling produce in La Grande at the Saturday Market. It was Koehn's father Toby who broached the idea for a farm stand in Imbler. According to Koehn, he wanted to provide a beacon for the community, and a space to get fresh food without having to drive into La Grande.

Koehn said she and her mother Susan collaborated to decide the color of the stand's eye-catching olive green facade — complete with a terracotta roof, citrine trim and bright white doors.

"As we moved and lived in different houses when I was a kid, my mom liked all colors," Koehn said of her mother's creative paint preferences. "She'd paint every room a different color."

One of the farm stand's unique features is its "self-service" purchasing system. The stand is not staffed, so when visitors arrive, they choose what they want to take home, log it and pay for it with cash, a check or through the Venmo app.

Although they can't always be there, Koehn noted that she, Howell and her parents will check on the stand and restock wherever they can.

"The four of us are quite busy, so it would be a little bit challenging to keep the stand staffed at all times," Koehn noted. "It's just a little bit more sustainable for our business."



The fridge in the Happy Walrus Farm Stand in Imbler is filled with zucchini, squash, beets and more on Friday, Aug. 26, 2022.

Shannon Golden/The Observer

specific location in Imbler," she said.

Merrigan aims to check on her flower corner of the farm stand approximately twice a week, putting in fresh bouquets as needed. She also wants to hold monthly in-person events at the farm stand for her flower business.

"I think it's a great offering for Imbler," Merrigan said. "I think they have great plans to grow that site in the future so it's a great starting point."

Koehn noted that they will continue adding to the space's welcoming facade and hope to build a courtyard next spring where patrons can sit and enjoy a cup of coffee. Koehn emphasized that — more than more important than the business prospects of the space — she, Howell, Susan and Toby want the farm stand to make buying local produce easier for those in Union County.

"The goal for us, for growing food, is not to make a million dollars," Koehn said. "It's to make sure folks have local food to eat."

"We trust the community to treat us with respect and we hope to treat the community with respect as well."

The farm stand's next-door neighbor, Jerry Weisert at Valley Fabrication & Machine helps keep the bright green shed cool — and provides the electricity for the produce fridge.

Stacey Merrigan, owner of Merrigan's Fresh Cut Flowers, also sells her locally grown blooms in the farm stand. She first met Toby Koehn at an Imbler city council meeting, where the two discussed the farm stand — and the possibility of Merrigan pitching in. She said it's been a great way to offer her flowers in a more permanent way.

"That gives me a way to showcase the flowers at the

LUMBER

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Cascade shares are up more than 40% over the past two years, climbing twice as fast as the broader stock market.

And higher prices have been good for the Oregon

Department of Forestry and the counties that receive state timber revenue, according to Jason Cox, a spokesperson for the state agency. He said stumpage prices — the price timber companies pay for the right to harvest trees — remain up about 25% from last year.

"There's a real public benefit there when those timber prices are higher. Because that translates to higher revenue to counties on the same (amount) of timber," Cox said. "We're in a better position to take on proactive projects on things like forest health, conservation."



101ST ANNUAL BAKER COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

SEPTEMBER 3, 4 & 5 2022



HALFWAY OREGON

ICA Sponsored Rodeo

SATURDAY 7PM

SUNDAY 7PM

MONDAY 2:30PM

Monday - Veterans FREE admission

Reserved Seating \$15

General Admission \$12

Kids 6 to 12 \$6

Kids 0 to 5 Free

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weather

TONIGHT	HOT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Clear	Sunshine and very hot	99 52	90 49	98 51	90 47
Baker City 42 Comfort Index™ 6	99 52	89 52	95 56	86 52	87 50
La Grande 49 Comfort Index™ 5	101 54	89 52	95 56	86 52	87 50
Enterprise 50 Comfort Index™ 4	97 54	86 52	94 55	87 50	86 50

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	98°	98°	106°
Low Tuesday	45°	48°	47°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.26	0.24	0.45
Normal month to date	0.42	0.65	0.65
Year to date	4.73	9.22	18.21
Normal year to date	6.41	11.31	15.88

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY

Lowest relative humidity 10%

Afternoon wind SSE at 7 to 14 mph

Hours of sunshine 12.3

Evapotranspiration 0.29

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)

Philips Reservoir 4% of capacity

Unity Reservoir 38% of capacity

Owyhee Reservoir 16% of capacity

McKay Reservoir 68% of capacity

Wallowa Lake 3% of capacity

Thief Valley Reservoir 12% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy 561 cfs

Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder 72 cfs

Burnt River near Unity 94 cfs

Umatilla River near Gibbon 45 cfs

Minam River at Minam 95 cfs

Powder River near Richland 17 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 121° Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 31° Yellowstone N.P., Wyo.
Wettest: 3.75" Del Rio, Texas

OREGON
High: 104° The Dalles
Low: 40° Crescent
Wettest: Trace

WEATHER HISTORY

On Sept. 1, 1950, Yuma, Ariz., had its hottest day ever, with a high of 123 degrees. On the same day, the mercury in Mecca, Calif., soared to 126 degrees -- the highest U.S. reading ever in September.

SUN & MOON

THU. FRI.

Sunrise 6:14 a.m. 6:15 a.m.

Sunset 7:30 p.m. 7:28 p.m.

Moonrise 12:04 p.m. 1:21 p.m.

Moonset 9:58 p.m. 10:29 p.m.

MOON PHASES

First Full Last New

Sep 3 Sep 10 Sep 17 Sep 25

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

