Selfish bride wonders if she's being selfish

DEAR ABBY

Dear Abby: I am being married to the love of my life. Aside from my soon-to-be husband, the most important participant in our wedding will be my 70-year-old father, whom I adore. Dad has been dating a woman, "Mary," on and off since my parents' divorce 25 years ago. Mary has always had health issues (lupus, kidney disease, alcoholism, etc.), so she rarely attends family functions. Dad is in excellent health, enjoys the outdoors and is very involved in his children's and grandchildren's lives.

Recently, Dad has been spending the majority of his time taking care of sickly Mary, including spending six weeks in a distant city while she underwent surgery and recovery. My siblings and I feel Dad deserves someone who can enjoy life and participate in similar activities, but we acknowledge this is the person he has chosen to be with.

Mary will be attending my wedding as my father's guest. If she's feeling ill, tired, or too weak to withstand the festivities, I am terrified Dad will make an early exit to take her back to the hotel. I would be devastated if he missed out on celebrating the most important day of my life. I also do not want her in the wedding photos, which is a whole other issue. Am I being a selfish Bridezilla, or should I voice my concerns to my father prior to the big day? - Apprehensive Daddy's Girl

Dear Daddy's Girl: Have you not learned by now that you cannot control what another person does? I'm sure your father would love to spend every moment of your special day with you, but there are other priorities

to consider. Mary, whose health is poor, is making every effort to be there to honor you. If it becomes too much for her, what would you have your father do — call 911 and let the paramedics haul her off? In the interest of family harmony, please grow up and stop obsessing because, to say the least, it is unbecoming. As to the wedding photos, if you don't want her in the pictures, pose her on the END, so you can crop her out of them if you wish.

Dear Abby: I have a question about office etiquette. My job requires that I meet with many vendors and salespeople, as well as hold informal meetings with other staff and upper management in my office.

My question: When welcoming people into "my space," should I wait for them to be seated or, as this is my home turf, can I just go ahead and sit and then wait for them to get comfortable? I have attempted to gauge my actions on other staff, but it hasn't helped, as each seems to have their own agenda. Until now I have played it by ear, but a definitive answer would be appreciated. — Trying To Set A Good Example

Dear Trying: If I am escorting people into my office, we usually seat ourselves at the same time. If you are with a client, say "Please, have a seat," and wait for that person to get comfortable. When you're with co-workers, it isn't necessary to stand — or sit — on ceremony.

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922

The University of Oregon orchestra, the largest traveling organization of its kind in the northwest, will appear in concert in the high school auditorium Wednesday evening. Margaret Phelps, daughter of Judge G. W. Phelps of Pendleton, is one of the violinists who will make the trip. Miss Phelps was formerly violin soloist with the University Women's Glee Club and has gained considerable repute in University music circles. Under the direction of Rex Underwood the orchestra has played in all parts of the state and has received favorable comment. The repertoire of the orchestra has been built up with a view to the giving of the most interesting of programs. The plan being followed by the director is to have a large number of selections so that the program can be varied from night to night.

50 years ago — 1972

More than a third of Echo's city tax levy of \$10.74 per \$1,000 true cash value, goes to support and maintain its cemetery, and a move is under way to establish a cemetery district that would spread the cost out over the area covered by the school district. Such a move, based on current levies, would cost taxpayers in the district 48 cents per \$1,000 true cash value, according to Keith Middleton, planning commission chairman. A petition is being circulated by Otis Umphres, city councilman, calling for the formation

of a district, and it was reported Tuesday that the councilman has obtained more than 90 signatures. The planning commission Monday night said it would include about five small cemeteries in the district in the maintenance program if the proposed district gets approval. In the event the district is approved, Middleton said all cemetery tools and the perpetual maintenance fund of \$19,000 would be turned over to the district.

JEANNE

PHILLIPS

ADVICE

25 years ago — 1997

Federal employees and contract workers were evacuated from the powerhouse at McNary Dam Thursday when a small fire occurred in an inside work area shortly before noon. No one was injured in the accident, according to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District occupational health and safety official. Workers reported that the fire apparently began when a halogen lamp came into contact with rags being used by construction workers removing lead-based paint. The paint removal work was being done by members of TechniClean, a firm in Yakima. Initial firefighting efforts were performed by Corps employees using hand-held and cart-mounted carbon dioxide fire extinguishers. The Umatilla Rural Fire Department was called to the scene to assist. The extent of damage and the costs of any necessary repairs will be determined after a complete investigation by Corps officials is concluded.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

In 1812, an earthquake devastated Caracas, Venezuela, causing an estimated 26,000 deaths, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

In 1827, composer Ludwig van Beethoven died in Vienna.

In 1945, during World War II, Iwo Jima was fully secured by U.S. forces following a final, desperate attack by Japanese soldiers.

In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Baker v. Carr, gave federal courts the power to order reapportionment of states' legislative districts.

In 1973, the soap opera "The Young and the Restless" premiered on CBS-TV.

In 1979, a peace treaty was signed by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and witnessed by President Jimmy Carter at the White House.

In 1982, groundbreaking ceremonies took place in Washington, D.C., for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

In 1988, Jesse Jackson stunned fellow Democrats by soundly defeating Michael S. Dukakis in Michigan's

Democratic presidential caucuses.

In 1992, a judge in Indianapolis sentenced former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson to six years in prison for raping a Miss Black America contestant. (Tyson ended up serving three years.)

In 1997, the bodies of 39 members of the Heaven's Gate techno-religious cult who committed suicide were found inside a rented mansion in Rancho Santa Fe, California.

In 2014, Osama bin Laden's son-in-law, Sulaiman Abu Ghaith, was convicted in New York for his role as al-Qaida's fiery chief spokesman after 9/11. (He was later sentenced to life in prison.)

In 2020, the U.S. surpassed official Chinese government numbers to become the country with the most reported coronavirus infections.

Ten years ago: As demonstrations swirled outside, Supreme Court justices began hearing arguments on challenges to President Barack Obama's historic health care overhaul. (In June 2012, the court would uphold almost all of the law, including the most disputed part: the mandate that virtually all Americans have health insurance or pay a penalty.) Pope Benedict XVI arrived in Cuba in the footsteps of his immediate predecessor, Pope John Paul II, expressing great affection for Cubans on both sides of the Florida Straits and heartfelt hopes for reconciliation.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump took to Twitter to attack conservative lawmakers for the failure of the Republican bill to replace former President Barack Obama's health care law.

One year ago: Dominion Voting Systems filed a \$1.6 billion defamation lawsuit against Fox News, saying the cable news giant falsely claimed that the voting company rigged the 2020 election. Maj. Gen. William Walker, commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard, was tapped to become the House's first African American sergeantat-arms. Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee signed a law banning transgender athletes from participating in girls' sports, making Tennessee the third state to approve such a measure in 2021

Today's Birthdays: Actor Alan Arkin is 88. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas is 87. Singer Diana Ross is 78. Rock singer Steven Tyler (Aerosmith) is 74. Movie composer Alan Silvestri is 72. Rock musician Monte Yoho is 70. Former Transortation Secretary Elaine Chao is 69. Radio talk show host Curtis Sliwa is 68. Actor Ellia English is 63. Actor Jennifer Grey is 62. Actor Michael Imperioli is 56. Rock musician James Iha is 54. Country singer Kenny Chesney is 54. Movie director Martin McDonagh (Film: "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri") is 52. Actor Leslie Mann is 50. Actor T.R. Knight is 49. Rapper Juvenile is 47. Actor Amy Smart is 46. Actor Bianca Kajlich is 45. Actor Sterling Sulieman is 38. Actor Keira Knightley is 37. Rapper J-Kwon is 36. Actor Carly Chaikin is 32.

7 LITTLE W©RDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses $\frac{1}{8}$ represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS CLUES 1 "Imagine" singer (6)

2 "Daughters" singer (5) 3 "Rocky Mountain High" singer (6)

4 "All of Me" singer (6) 5 "Proud Mary" singer (7)

6 "Seminole Wind" singer (8) 7 "Small Town" singer (10)

NN ER **AND** MAY **ER** FO **ER ENC** NV ME **END** LE

ON **AMP LEG** SON 7. LEGEND 5. FOGERTY 6. ANDERSON 7. MELLENCAMP Today's Answers: 1. LENNON 2. MAYER 3. DENVER

WORD★Roundup™

Find and Circle...

Five female relatives (four-letter min.) Four units of volume

Three smartphone makers NHL: ____ Hockey League

Joint near the foot

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: GRIMACE FROWN SMIRK SMILE GRIN / BOLIVIA ECUADOR LEBANON / MOVIE FLICK FILM / TURKEY CANARY MAGPIE /

 $\mathcal{I} \square \square \square \square$

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