

# Gamer kicked out of house shames dad on social media

**DEAR ABBY:** My 23-year-old son does not want to work and spends all his time playing video games. He's obsessed with them. He disrespects my house -- and me -- by not cleaning his room.

I don't know what to do. He's my son, but he is a user and feels he's entitled to live here. He pays no bills and blows all his money on gaming. He quits every job he has. I love him and kicked him out once, but he got on Facebook and told people what bad parents we are.

All he says is he wants to be happy. I think he's out of touch with reality. He has no place to go if I kick him out. What do I do?

— DAD WHO'S HAD IT IN OHIO

**DEAR DAD:** Your son is an adult, even if he doesn't act like one. Give him a deadline to find another place to crash -- perhaps with a roommate -- and be out of there. If he says he has no money, remember that he comes up with money to "blow."

It will take backbone to stand your ground, but you must not make your decisions and live your life based on what your son will post about you on Facebook. People often vent and exaggerate on social media. Your son is living in an altered reality because you have allowed it. If he isn't forced to stand on his own two feet, he never will.

**DEAR ABBY:** After my father died, I found a box of letters my late brother sent to the family when he was in the U.S. Air Force. He would have been in his 20s at the time.

The letters mention girlfriends, the woman he did marry and the time spent in jail as a result of a botched robbery. (It was very out-of-character for him, by the way.) He had a dishonorable discharge. After all that, he started a new life and became an ideal father until his 40s when he decided to divorce his wife of many years.

The letters reveal a lot about him. I thought his children might like this insight to their father, but my younger brother thinks it would be a bad idea. If this was my father, I would like to have these personal letters. What do you think?

— UNKNOWN IN THE MIDWEST

**DEAR UNKNOWN:** I'm glad you asked. Your brother's children are all adults now. Tell them you found the letters and ask them if they would like you to share them. I'm betting the answer will be yes.

**DEAR ABBY:** I work in a local bakery, and there is a tip jar; however, the employees who work the counter earn the same as everyone else, and it's more than minimum wage. Yet they expect tips and make rude comments when the customer leaves if they are not received. I find this embarrassing. I'd be less dismayed if the tips were divided by everyone, and the comments were kept in check.

— E. CLAIRE IN CAMBRIDGE

**DEAR E. CLAIRE:** Your boss should be made aware of what's going on in the front of his shop. If word leaks out, it will affect the business.

**DEAR ABBY:** My friend, "Wilma," recently purchased a house with her husband, "Ken." They frequently host "poker nights" and invite quite a few other friends — and friends of friends.

Since Wilma is presently unemployed, she has instituted a new policy for the games: Everyone must donate a percentage of their winnings to the house. This has offended quite a few of the players. Many of us have offered to bring snacks, drinks, etc., but the donation rule stands and is very much in effect.

May I add that Ken was shocked when Wilma asked for the money. How can we confront her without coming across as rude?

— CONCERNED IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR CONCERNED:** Why are you worried about offending someone who is extorting money from you? I don't know how many people participate in these "poker nights," but with a percentage of every hand going to the house, Wilma must be making a tidy sum. It shouldn't be necessary to "confront her." If I were you, I'd alternate hosting these games among the participants.



**DEAR ABBY**

# A few hardy wildfire survivors hunker down for long haul

By John Locher and Brian Melley

Associated Press

PARADISE, Calif. — Brad Weldon lost his home to fire when he was a kid, so when a deadly wildland blaze came roaring toward his ranch house in the pines where he lives with his 89-year-old blind mother, he wasn't going to let disaster strike twice.

Weldon and his mother's caregiver, armed only with a garden hose and buckets, successfully fought the flames for 24 hours. At times, they had to lie down in the dirt to "avoid burning up" as 60 mph (97 kph) winds drove flames through the forest.

Having saved his home in Paradise, Weldon's not leaving what he now calls the "hell zone."

"If they take me out of here, it will be at gunpoint," Weldon said. "My mom says they'll have to beat her ass, too. She ain't going without a fight."

Weldon is among a small group of fire survivors who have defied orders to leave and decided to stick it out in the blackened and smoldering landscape. Flames leveled the town of Paradise, which is about 140 miles (225 kilometers) north of San Francisco, and much of the surrounding area, killing at least 77 people and destroying more than 10,500 homes.

It's an audacious endeavor to stay behind in the smoky ruins with all the challenges that remain: There's no power, no public water supply and there's nowhere nearby to get supplies. Those who leave to get groceries, drinking water or fuel for

generators aren't allowed to return.

Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea said he didn't know how many people were living in the evacuation zones. Deputies who encounter someone in the area will confirm they live there, but won't necessarily take other action.

"We're not dragging them out," he said. "If some guy stayed at his house, I'm not going to arrest him if he's not creating some kind of problem. I'm trying to treat people with respect and compassion."

Weldon said he was hassled by California Highway Patrol officers. Troy Miller, who is camping on his burned-out Concow property, said he feared an officer — possibly from a neighboring county — he encountered while trying to get phone reception on a hilltop off his property was going to draw his weapon.

"He was doing a Jesse James stance with his gun," Miller said Monday. "I thought he was going to shoot me for having my phone in my hand."

The fire continues to burn and the sheriff has said there's no timeline for when people will be allowed back in the area because the scope of the destruction is unprecedented.

Patrick Knuthson, who managed to save his large metal workshop that has a small apartment inside, said he's not planning to leave and has plenty of food and fuel to provide electricity to his living space and to pump water from his well.

Knuthson has appointed himself as a guardian in his neck of the woods on the outskirts of Paradise where only two of 22 houses remained standing on his road. He has spray painted a sign saying "Looters will be shot!"

"I got my neighborhood locked down," Knuthson said. "We're all armed. We'll ask questions later."

Weldon also feared looters would break into his "hickorian" style house — a one-story ranch with ornate Victorian details inside.

"It's a ghost town, buddy," he said. "It's pitch black. If you hear something, you better be on your toes because somebody's outside your house."

Knuthson said he knows about 40 people still living in the hills and added that he'd welcome anyone who wants to park a trailer on his large plot of land.

For a while, his cousins, Phillip and Krystin Harvey, who lost their mobile home, had been staying with their three teenage daughters in a camper, trying to hang on to a piece of the life they had known. At night, the victims of the so-called Camp Fire stood by the glow of a campfire to stay warm.

When someone offered to bring supplies, 16-year-old Arissa Harvey only wanted textbooks so she wouldn't fall behind in school.

Eventually the family gave up and moved to Oroville to stay with friends to have some stability and security, Knuthson said.

"They had to get out of the smoke," Knuthson said. "To have some kind of life."

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# weather

	TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	Cloudy, showers around	A couple of showers	Rather cloudy, showers	Partly sunny	Mostly cloudy
Baker City	28	50 26	43 26	41 17	39 20
Comfort Index™	3	1	0	3	3
La Grande	37	50 35	43 30	41 27	41 30
Comfort Index™	3	0	0	3	1
Enterprise	34	47 32	42 30	38 24	39 27
Comfort Index™	3	1	0	3	3

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	49°	48°	51°
Low Tuesday	17°	25°	17°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.65	1.59
Normal month to date	0.59	1.35	2.00
Year to date	5.24	13.57	24.66
Normal year to date	8.84	14.18	19.55

## TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 88°	Hollywood, Fla.
Low: -20°	Cotton, Minn.
Wettest: 0.88"	Hollywood, Fla.
OREGON	
High: 61°	Tillamook
Low: 4°	Burns
Wettest: Trace	Brookings

## WEATHER HISTORY

From John Winthrop's Journal, Nov. 22, 1641, at Boston: "A great tempest of wind and rain from Southeast all night, as fierce as a hurricane..."

## SUN & MOON

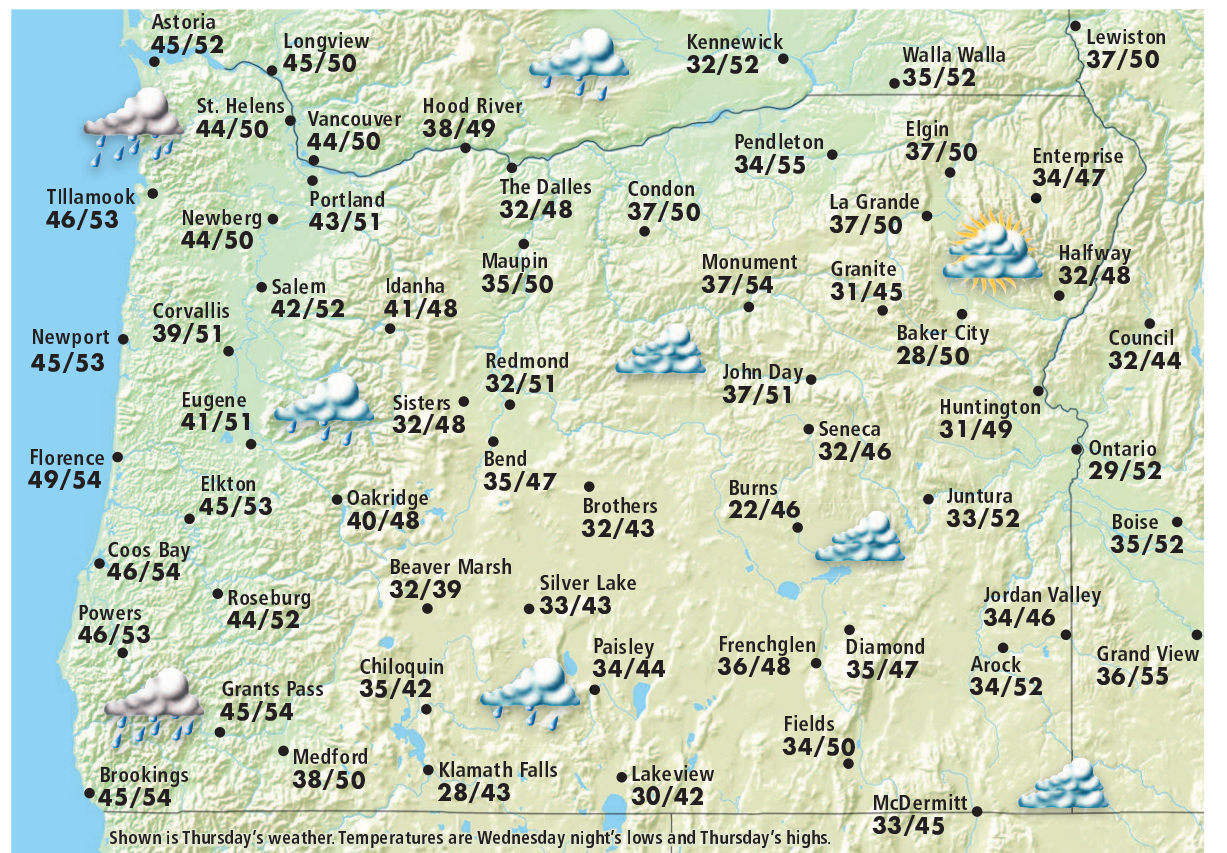
	WED.	THU.
Sunrise	6:59 a.m.	7:00 a.m.
Sunset	4:17 p.m.	4:16 p.m.
Moonrise	3:53 p.m.	4:27 p.m.
Moonset	4:53 a.m.	6:04 a.m.

## MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
Nov 22	Nov 29	Dec 6	Dec 15

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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## REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU. HI/LO/W	FRI. HI/LO/W	City	THU. HI/LO/W	FRI. HI/LO/W
Astoria	52/43/r	52/39/r	Lewiston	50/38/sh	48/36/sh
Bend	47/35/r	47/25/r	Longview	50/44/r	49/40/r
Boise	52/33/sh	46/29/r	Meacham	48/34/sh	40/30/c
Brookings	54/46/r	56/44/r	Medford	50/41/r	52/38/r
Burns	46/23/sh	43/19/sh	Newport	53/44/r	53/42/r
Coos Bay	54/48/r	54/42/r	Olympia	49/39/r	47/33/r
Corvallis	51/41/r	51/38/r	Ontario	52/32/c	48/31/r
Council Bluffs	44/32/c	40/28/sh	Pasco	50/37/sh	49/31/sh
Elgin	50/34/sh	43/32/sh	Pendleton	55/39/sh	47/35/sh
Eugene	51/42/r	50/39/r	Portland	51/45/r	51/41/r
Hermiston	53/39/sh	50/36/sh	Powers	53/49/r	54/41/r
Hood River	49/41/r	48/41/r	Redmond	51/31/r	49/24/r
Imnaha	52/36/sh	47/35/sh	Roseburg	52/46/r	52/41/r
John Day	51/37/sh	47/32/sh	Salem	52/44/r	51/40/r
Joseph	46/32/sh	41/28/c	Spokane	43/34/sh	42/27/sh
Kennewick	52/40/sh	51/33/sh	The Dalles	48/36/r	48/36/r
Klamath Falls	43/31/r	48/23/r	Ukiah	49/34/sh	41/29/sh
Lakeview	42/31/c	46/20/r	Walla Walla	52/41/sh	48/34/sh

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

## RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	Windy	32	20
PHILLIPS LAKE	Cloudy	43	30
MT. EMILY REC.	Mostly cloudy	41	33
BROWNLEE RES.	Turning cloudy	51	35
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Becoming cloudy	35	25
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Mostly cloudy	44	33
WALLOWA LAKE	Turning cloudy	48	33
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Mostly cloudy	47	38
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Mostly cloudy	47	28
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Mostly cloudy	48	37

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