

Girl’s severe allergies cause strain with animal-loving aunt

DEAR ABBY: My 8-year-old daughter is seriously allergic to most animals, including cats and dogs. Even a little fur sets her off. We are working with an allergist, but this isn’t something that’s going to go away with simple treatment.

My sister lives in a different state and has invited my family to spend the holidays at her home this year. However, she recently started fostering stray animals for a local shelter and has between five and 10 of them in her house at a time, in addition to their two cats and a dog. I have told my sister we can’t visit her with the animals there.

Although she insists that she’ll vacuum and it will be OK, there is no way this is safe for my kid. Even if we slept at a hotel, spending the day in a “furry” house will be uncomfortable if not dangerous for my daughter.

My brother-in-law has a mild allergy for which he takes over-the-counter medication. My sister refuses to understand that this is different. She thinks I’m being difficult and overprotective. How do I get her to see that this isn’t about her, and I’m just protecting my kid?

— FUR’S FLYIN’ IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR FUR’S FLYIN’: Ask your daughter’s doctor to please — in the name of family harmony — write you a short letter explaining that because of your daughter’s severe allergy, she cannot be in an environment that hasn’t been professionally sanitized, and simply vacuuming isn’t enough. Forward a copy of the letter to your sister with a loving note explaining that you aren’t trying to hurt her feelings, but your daughter’s health MUST come first.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I married late in life, and while he has never been married before, I have an adult child from a previous marriage. My husband’s parents passed away, but his two siblings are torturing him. They are exceedingly bothered by the money and time my husband spends on us, constantly complaining to him that his “blood” family should be more important than his new family. How can we turn this situation around other than cut them off completely (as his therapist has suggested)?

— FRUSTRATED SISTER-IN-LAW

DEAR S-I-L: Your husband is paying good money for the advice he is receiving from his therapist. What the therapist is telling him makes sense. You cannot change your greedy, envious in-laws. You will save yourselves a world of pain and aggravation if you take the advice and distance yourselves both physically and emotionally.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have demanding jobs neither of us is crazy about. I sell insurance; she manages a hairdressing salon for a large company. At day’s end

I keep the events of the day — good or bad — to myself. I have heard the saying “Don’t bring your family problems to work, and don’t bring your work problems home,” so I don’t carry any “baggage” home with me. If something positive happens, I may mention it.

How do I get my wife to leave her work problems at work? It’s the last thing I want to hear about. If I offer an opinion or respond to her, I get criticized and accused of not appreciating how hard she works. She has actually said, “No one else in this world works as hard as I do!” I would like to have an enjoyable evening or weekend with her and not have to hear about HER work problems.

— BAGGAGE-FREE

DEAR BAGGAGE-FREE: There is another saying that may help you to be more understanding: A joy shared is twice a joy; a burden shared is half a burden. If your wife can’t discuss her frustrations with you, who else can she safely confide in? Women often just need someone to listen.

Because this is getting to you to the point that you would write to me about it, rather than offer suggestions or opinions, it’s time you tell her what you have conveyed to me. Maybe you can agree on a time when these issues can be discussed, once you both have decompressed from your demanding jobs.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Passover begins at sundown. Happy Passover, everyone!

— LOVE, ABBY



DEAR ABBY

Drones, supercomputers and sonar deployed against floods

Dan Bain
The Associated Press

SUTHERLIN — After a closure from February’s epic snowstorm, the St. Francis Community Kitchen is back in business.

The kitchen serves meals to anyone in need each Monday and Wednesday at 4:30 p.m., in the kitchen and dining room of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sutherlin — a feat that works out to be approximately 40 to 60 meals each day. It had to shut down after the snow storm of Feb. 24 caused some major damage to the building that houses the cafeteria.

After the snowstorm on Feb. 24, the roof began to leak, ultimately spreading from the upstairs down to kitchen and dining area on the first floor.

“There is a floor above us with classrooms and an office and the roof leaked through the tar paper,” said Gail Francis, co-chair of the Community Kitchen. “It leaked into two light

fixtures and it went down into the wall and also wrecked the carpet.”

Because of the damage, the kitchen had to close for over six weeks.

“We were really worried about all of our folks, but a couple of the volunteers work at the food pantry, so they were giving extra boxes of food,” Francis said.

Fred Young, 92 years old and a World War II veteran, eats at the center every Monday and Wednesday. He occasionally plays the harmonica for those who come, and he missed the camaraderie and friendship with the other visitors.

“That’s the main thing, I come to socialize,” Young said. “They have all different foods. Sometimes they have macaroni and cheese, man that’s a good meal.”

Volunteer Bennie Sigman said he’s missed serving the people who come to eat.

“A lot of it is for the socializing, but a lot of people come here for the

food too. There’s a lot of them that really need it,” Sigman said.

The church has insurance that will cover much of the damage.

“What we noticed on Monday was that they were so appreciative of us coming back,” said Theresa Kirkpatrick, a co-chair of the community kitchen. “We serve the needs of Sutherlin and the surrounding areas.”

Kirkpatrick said because of the extended closure, it may take some time to get the numbers back up. The quality of food she said, is more like restaurant quality instead of a soup kitchen.

“There are times we get homeless folks, sometimes families, some people that live on their own,” Francis said.

The dinners are available to anyone in the Sutherlin and the surrounding area.

The center is run by volunteers and Francis says they are always looking for more people to help out.

Greece: Acropolis reopens after severe weather warning

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece— Authorities in Greece have reopened the ancient Acropolis to visitors after a temporary closure the day after a lightning strike injured four people.

The Culture Ministry said the severe weather that had been forecast for

Athens earlier Thursday failed to materialize so the Acropolis was reopened.

On Wednesday, two visitors and two guards were slightly injured in the lightning strike at the country’s most famous ancient site.

The Culture Ministry said the citadel’s lightning

conductor, which is set apart from the 2,500-year-old marble buildings, was hit.

The impact shattered glass windows nearby. The guards and the two visitors were taken to a hospital with cuts.

The monuments suffered no damage.

AccuWeather

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weather

TONIGHT

Showers around early

Baker City 46

Comfort Index™ 9

SAT

Clouds and sun; cooler

Baker City 58 39

Comfort Index™ 5

SUN

Partly sunny and warmer

Baker City 66 35

Comfort Index™ 10

MON

Partly sunny and nice

Baker City 70 42

Comfort Index™ 10

TUE

Partly sunny and warm

Baker City 73 44

Comfort Index™ 9

La Grande 44

Comfort Index™ 8

La Grande 57 35

Comfort Index™ 7

La Grande 64 35

Comfort Index™ 10

La Grande 66 43

Comfort Index™ 10

La Grande 71 48

Comfort Index™ 10

Enterprise 41

Comfort Index™ 10

Enterprise 54 29

Comfort Index™ 6

Enterprise 61 31

Comfort Index™ 10

Enterprise 63 39

Comfort Index™ 10

Enterprise 68 45

Comfort Index™ 10

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 Wednesday

61°

59°

61°

Low Wednesday

36°

40°

41°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Wednesday

0.00

0.02

0.05

Month to date

0.76

1.88

4.77

Normal month to date

0.43

0.83

1.13

Year to date

4.39

6.79

16.49

Normal year to date

2.63

5.06

8.83

WED. EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 96°

Laredo, Texas

Low: 0°

Bodie State Park, Calif.

Wettest: 2.10"

Marshfield, Wis.

OREGON

High: 72°

Medford

Low: 27°

Crater Lake

Wettest: 0.05"

Meacham

WEATHER HISTORY

Snow began to fall in Watertown, Ohio, on April 19, 1901. Watertown received 45 inches the next day. This was the greatest 24-hour snowfall in state history.

SUN & MOON

FRI.

SAT.

Sunrise

6:01 a.m.

5:59 a.m.

Sunset

7:43 p.m.

7:44 p.m.

Moonrise

8:15 p.m.

9:28 p.m.

Moonset

6:35 a.m.

7:05 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Full

Last

New

First

Apr 19

Apr 26

May 4

May 11

REGIONAL CITIES

SAT.

SUN.

City

Hi/Low

City

Hi/Low

Astoria 59/44/s

57/42/s

Lewiston 64/45/pc

67/43/pc

Bend 55/31/pc

65/36/s

Longview 66/40/s

65/40/s

Boise 65/46/c

67/43/pc

Meacham 54/31/pc

61/32/pc

Brookings 60/46/pc

62/45/s

Medford 61/45/pc

70/45/s

Burns 56/33/sh

65/34/pc

Newport 55/45/s

54/43/s

Coos Bay 55/44/s

57/42/s

Olympia 64/38/s

65/39/s

Corvallis 65/43/s

67/40/s

Ontario 67/48/sh

71/44/pc

Council 59/39/c

65/35/pc

Pasco 72/43/pc

76/45/s

Elgin 57/32/pc

63/33/pc

Pendleton 63/40/pc

67/43/s

Eugene 64/42/s

67/40/s

Portland 67/45/s

68/44/s

Hermiston 70/40/pc

72/45/s

Powers 60/42/s

65/40/s

Hood River 67/43/pc

70/45/s

Redmond 59/35/pc

66/37/s

Imnaha 59/37/pc

66/38/pc

Roseburg 67/46/pc

70/45/s

John Day 56/33/pc

64/34/pc

Salem 65/43/s

67/41/s

Joseph 54/30/pc

61/30/pc

Spokane 63/37/pc

65/41/pc

Kennewick 70/40/pc

73/43/s

The Dalles 69/44/pc

72/44/s

Klamath Falls 56/33/sh

65/34/s

Ukiah 53/28/pc

60/31/s

Lakeview 52/33/sh

62/32/s

Walla Walla 66/44/pc

67/48/pc

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

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

ANTHONY LAKES

Colder

34

23

MT. EMILY REC.

Clouds and sun

44

31

EAGLE CAP WLD.

Cooler

40

23

WALLOWA LAKE

Cooler

54

30

THIEF VALLEY RES.

Cooler

58

39

PHILLIPS LAKE

Cooler

52

31

BROWNLEE RES.

Cooler

63

38

EMIGRANT ST. PARK

Cooler

49

26

MCKAY RESERVOIR

Partly sunny

61

38

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK

Cooler

57

35

GO

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