

Daughter in bedroom next door frowns on mom’s relationship

DEAR ABBY: I am a 54-year-old single woman who recently started dating again after four years of total abstinence. My two adult daughters, ages 18 and 22, live at home with me.

My dilemma: I am smitten, to say the least, with an attractive, supportive and very loving man. I have invited him over and introduced him to the girls, which went well until the other night, when my 22-year-old overheard us being intimate (her bedroom is next to mine). There was no screaming or anything lewd, no nudity or PDA, but I happen to have a slightly noisy bed.

She now refuses to sleep in her room and sent me a text telling me she wants to live with her dad because she thinks it’s disgusting. I’m not sure how to feel. On one hand, I think she needs to grow up, but at the same time, I don’t want to be the cause of her discomfort.

I explained to her that I’m happy after being alone for so long and perhaps she could be happy for me. My partner thinks she’s jealous of our new relationship. The 18-year-old couldn’t care less.

My question is, am I behaving inappropriately? Don’t I have just as much right to enjoy my home as they do?

— GETTING BACK TO IT IN NEW YORK
DEAR GETTING BACK: I can see how your young adult daughter might be uncomfortable being confronted with her mother’s sexual activity, to the musical accompaniment of squeaking bed springs. Most people have a hard time accepting their parents as sexual beings. You didn’t mention whether your daughter’s father would welcome this daughter moving in with him. If he’s all for it, that would be the way to deal with her discomfort.

DEAR ABBY: I’ve been happily married for 13 years. Over the last few years we have experienced our brushes with the prospect of infidelity, but we remain committed to each other. While our marriage is a healthy and happy one, our commitment to each other has recently come into question, and we have been fighting more than usual.

Recently, a good friend of mine since almost childhood — and brieflover in my early 20s — with whom I have maintained friendly contact over the years, propositioned me.

He said he has never fallen out of love with me and will continue to wait. I cut off my relationship with him without agreeing to an affair (or anything else) and have moved on with my marriage.

My concern is, now I feel this urge to let my husband know about the exchange, mostly to reinforce my commitment to him and maintain transparency. But part of me is afraid that bringing it up will cause more upset, and maybe I should keep it to myself. What should I do?

— NEEDING SOME GUIDANCE

DEAR NEEDING: Not all of our urges are meant to be acted upon. Be honest about your motive. What do you think telling your husband will accomplish? Will it bring you closer to each other, or remind him that you are attractive to other men and make him jealous? Will it anger him enough to want to punch your old friend and former lover in the nose? If this is a possibility, some things are better left unsaid.

DEAR ABBY: We have lived next door to a woman with a short temper for 20 years. Our driveways are extremely long. Hers has a big slope on the side closer to our home, which she cannot mow with her tractor. She asked us to mow that area with our push mower because she doesn’t have one, so for the past 15 years, we have. It takes only 10 minutes, so we really don’t mind at all.

Last Friday, I was running late to go out of town. I didn’t spend as much time as usual on the yard, and I received this text from her: “Good evening, I really appreciate that you and (your husband) keep the strip between our houses mowed, but I just paid \$400 to get my driveway power washed. That’s a lot of money to get it all moldy again so quickly, so can one of you please come and sweep off the driveway before the rain starts falling tomorrow?” My husband went and spent the 60 seconds it took to sweep it, but I don’t know how to reply to her text. Any thoughts would be greatly appreciated.

— MOWED DOWN IN THE EAST

DEAR MOWED DOWN: Is your neighbor so infirm or aged that she is physically unable to sweep her driveway? If the answer is yes, then let it ride. If the answer is no, text her back and offer to buy her a broom.

Mobile home residents hit with soaring rent after hurricanes

By Amanda Morris
The Associated Press

LUMBERTON, N.C.

— For eight years, James Lesane paid what he could for his mobile home lot rental every month — \$150. But in February, five months after Hurricane Florence flooded the Lumberton region and shortly after Florida-based company Time Out Communities bought the park, his monthly lot rent more than tripled to \$465.

With a fixed Social Security disability income of about \$791 a month, Lesane said it’s impossible for him to pay that.

“If I had to pay \$465 I couldn’t even pay the lights in this place,” he said, gesturing to the dim lighting inside his trailer, where trash bags covered windows to keep the trailer cool on a sweltering 100-degree day.

Time Out owns 23 properties in low-income Robeson County, many of which were bought in the past two years. At the same time, the county was one of the hardest-hit areas during hurricanes Matthew in 2016 and Florence in 2018.

All but two of the properties are in Lumberton, where residents say an affordable housing crisis caused by the hurricanes has been exacerbated by Time Out, a Fort Lauderdale, Florida-based company.

In an emailed statement, Time Out said rents were raised consistent with current market rates and that some of the additional revenue will go toward community improvement.

North Carolina Hous-

ing Coalition Executive Director Samuel Gunter said it’s not uncommon to see property investors “start snatching stuff up,” after a disaster because they see a chance to make money.

“In the aftermath of a disaster, folks are flooded, those land values are depressed, and if you have capital, there’s economic opportunity there,” Gunter said, adding that lower-income communities often live in disaster-prone areas such as flood plains.

“Folks may not be able to do repairs themselves, and if someone comes at them with the right offer, it can be tempting to take,” he said.

Gunter said many advocates are worried about the dynamic between mobile home owners who rent land in these parks and park owners, since older mobile homes often can’t be moved. “People may not be able to move their homes, so you have incredible leverage over the people who rent that land,” he said.

Time Out owns more than 1,200 home unit rental lots in Lumberton, where residents live in a total of 1,416 mobile home units, according to the 2017 American Community Survey figures from the U.S. Census bureau. In Lumberton, 13.5% of the population lives in mobile homes, more than double the national average.

For many, mobile homes may be the only affordable option after the county was devastated by hurricanes. There’s not enough rental stock to accommodate people who have been displaced by the hurricanes,

placing a strain on affordable housing resources, according to Gunter.

Of 729 units in Lumberton’s public housing program, 187 were put “offline” from the hurricanes, and another 526 are occupied. For the remaining 16 units, Lumberton Housing Authority Director Sheila Oxendine said there are roughly 900 people on the waiting list.

The Robeson County Affordable Housing Coalition, formed in October 2018 after Hurricane Florence, has asked local officials to take action on Time Out’s rental increases and asked the town to set up a rental assistance and transitional housing fund. Coalition administrator Mac Legerton said the local government response has been limited.

“Their capacity to respond is limited due to the lack of laws and authority over a private business,” he said. “We’re forming an interagency task force to review what laws are needed in North Carolina and across the nation ... This business model is certainly unethical and immoral, and it should be illegal.”

Lumberton city officials could not be reached for comment.

For now, residents’ best hopes are to fight eviction with the help of Legal Aid of North Carolina and North Carolina Justice Center lawyers. Legal Aid has taken on 89 cases, 44 of which are still open. In some cases, lawyers have been able to show that the company gave improper notice, delaying eviction while residents search for a new place to live.

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weather

TONIGHT

Mainly clear

THU

Nice with some sun

FRI

Partly sunny

SAT

Mostly sunny and nice

SUN

Partly sunny and pleasant

Baker City

54

Comfort Index™ 6

La Grande

58

Comfort Index™ 8

Enterprise

54

Comfort Index™ 7

85

54

7

82

56

8

79

53

8

89

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83

54

8

80

50

7

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 Monday	79°	77°	80°
Low Monday	44°	45°	44°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Monday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.09	0.19
Normal month to date	0.20	0.24	0.24
Year to date	6.08	10.81	20.21
Normal year to date	5.91	9.58	13.91

MONDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 108°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 33°	Boca Reservoir, Calif.
Wettest: 5.74"	Lexington, Neb.

OREGON

High: 87°	Medford
Low: 36°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.01"	Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

Lightning struck the Picatinny Army Arsenal in New Jersey on July 10, 1926, triggering a massive explosion and fire in an ammunition dump. More than 12 people were killed.

SUN & MOON

Sunrise	5:14 a.m.	5:15 a.m.
Sunset	8:41 p.m.	8:40 p.m.
Moonrise	2:41 p.m.	3:51 p.m.
Moonset	1:10 a.m.	1:38 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
Jul 16	Jul 24	Jul 31	Aug 7

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	71/58/pc	71/58/c	Lewiston	87/62/pc	92/64/s
Bend	80/51/pc	86/52/pc	Longview	76/60/pc	79/58/pc
Boise	95/63/pc	97/66/s	Mecham	79/52/pc	84/53/pc
Brookings	70/55/pc	74/56/pc	Medford	89/60/pc	92/61/s
Burns	89/53/pc	92/54/s	Newport	67/56/pc	67/55/pc
Coos Bay	69/58/pc	69/57/pc	Olympia	75/56/pc	78/55/c
Corvallis	82/58/pc	84/57/pc	Ontario	98/67/pc	100/68/s
Council	90/58/pc	93/60/pc	Pasco	91/60/pc	94/64/pc
Elgin	81/55/pc	87/56/pc	Pendleton	86/61/pc	90/62/pc
Eugene	83/57/pc	87/56/pc	Portland	81/62/pc	84/61/pc
Hermiston	91/65/pc	95/66/pc	Powers	75/57/pc	78/55/pc
Hood River	82/62/pc	85/63/pc	Redmond	85/50/pc	90/52/pc
Imnaha	86/62/pc	90/64/pc	Roseburg	86/60/pc	87/60/pc
John Day	85/58/pc	90/58/pc	Salem	80/60/pc	83/59/pc
Joseph	81/54/pc	84/56/pc	Spokane	82/59/pc	86/61/pc
Kennewick	91/62/pc	95/65/pc	The Dalles	85/62/pc	87/63/pc
Klamath Falls	86/48/pc	89/49/pc	Ukiah	78/51/pc	83/50/pc
Lakeview	86/48/s	90/49/pc	Walla Walla	87/63/pc	91/65/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 THURSDAY

City	THU. HI/Lo/W	FRI. HI/Lo/W
ANTHONY LAKES	59	47
PHILLIPS LAKE	81	51
MT. EMILY REC.	69	52
BROWNLEE RES.	90	59
EAGLE CAP WILD.	67	46
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	73	47
WALLOWA LAKE	81	54
MCKAY RESERVOIR	84	58
THIEF VALLEY RES.	85	54
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	82	56

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