

Boyfriend's big plans take woman's father by surprise

DEAR ABBY: Just before my daughter returned to college, my wife and I took her and her boyfriend, "Justin," out to dinner. It was the first time we'd met him, although they have been going out for about six months. They attend colleges a good distance apart, and see each other about once a month but talk daily.

As the dinner conversation progressed, I asked Justin what his major was and what he plans to do after college. He said he wants to be in the film industry. I asked what he planned to do if it didn't work out. He responded, "Go into the family business." I asked what business Justin's family was in. He responded that his family didn't have a business, that he had meant our family business.

Then he said, by the way, he would change how we were running it to produce more cash by slowing down our expansion plans. I was speechless.

My daughter told us later that she and Justin had never discussed it before.

My wife and I are in our 40s. We don't plan on retiring soon, or letting any of our own kids take over running the business.

My wife says we should drop it. I think we should make it clear to Justin that our family business should not be his backup plan. If he did marry our daughter and wanted to come to work for the family business, he might be welcome. However, he certainly would not have the control he thinks he would. What are your thoughts on this matter, Abby?

— NOT READY TO RETIRE IN N.Y.

DEAR NOT READY TO RETIRE: I'll say this for Justin, he has youth and enthusiasm going for him; he speaks his mind and his contingency plan shows he has an eye to the future. Your wife is telling you to let it drop in the hope that the romance will go nowhere. However, on the chance that it will go forward, you'd be doing the young man a favor to bring him back to planet Earth regarding your business.

P.S. If I were you, I'd think long and hard before deciding to welcome him into it.

DEAR ABBY: I am 19, and six months pregnant by a 28-year-old man. My pregnancy was a shock. At the time I became pregnant I had a job, but three months ago the business downsized and I was laid off. My boyfriend is in jail and will be for the next two years.

He has promised that we'll be together when he gets out, but I'm not sure if I believe him. He has two other kids with two other women, and he didn't stay with either of them.

My aunt has been paying my rent for me or I would be out on the street.

I'm afraid, because I don't know how I can survive and support an-



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

other living person. I had considered going to college, but how can I work, go to school and take care of a baby all by myself?

I don't want to have to depend on my aunt for everything. She says I should place my baby for adoption, but I'm not sure she's right. I took the responsibility of making this baby, so I believe it's my responsibility to face the consequences of raising it until the day I die.

Can you help me decide what to do? I guess you could say my life is one big mess, and I don't know how to get out of it.

— SCARED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR SCARED: A baby is supposed to be a blessing, not a "consequence." You are an intelligent young woman, and you are asking the right questions. Your aunt may have the right idea. Sit down with a pencil and paper and ask yourself, "What can I give to this baby?" Then ask yourself what a couple who wants a child but is unable to have one of their own could do for it. It is possible that the most loving gift you could give your baby is a family who would love it and provide for it in a way that you cannot.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 35-year-old lesbian. I have a wonderful partner and we have an amazing 10-year-old son.

My problem is, we seem to offend people when we refer to ourselves as a "family." I have had people correct me, sometimes even suggesting that I refer to my family as "my friend and my son" or "my friend and her son" (depending on who they think is the biological mother).

Abby, this woman is more than my friend. She's my partner, my life mate, my support and my co-parent. We try to be sensitive to people's beliefs and not call each other "wife" or refer to our union as a "marriage," but how far do we have to take this? We are a family. Our son calls us both "Mom."

We aren't "in your face" with our lifestyle, but to deny our partnership is to deny our son his family. We generally refer to each other as "my partner," which I think is an inoffensive term, but even that can send some people into a snit.

How should we handle people who want to redefine us? Why is it so hard for them to acknowledge that, untraditional though we may be, we are a family?

— TRYING NOT TO OFFEND IN TEXAS

DEAR TRYING NOT TO OFFEND: Forgive me if this seems

negative, but some people are so rooted in their fundamentalist ideology that they cannot and will not change.

Please don't waste your time or breath trying to reach or teach them.

The way to handle people who want to force you into their mold is to avoid them.

Try it. You'll be a lot happier, and so will they.

DEAR ABBY: My grandson, "Curtis," will be 5 this year. I have promised him since he was old enough to walk and talk that I'd take him to Disney World for his fifth birthday. It has always been taken for granted that we'd include my youngest daughter and her best friend, "Trish."

At the time we discussed the trip, Trish's parents had good jobs.

However, fast-forward several years and things have changed. Both of them have lost their jobs. Their home was foreclosed on, and they now live in a rental house and struggle to make ends meet.

I am also having a hard time financially, but I have been diligent in saving what I can to take Curtis to that magical place he has always dreamed of.

We plan to fly there and stay on the grounds, which can be quite expensive.

Would it be rude to ask that Trish's parents at least pay for her ticket into the theme park?

We never discussed who would be paying. My family thinks it would be rude, and would jeopardize Trish's chances of coming with us.

When people invite my kids anywhere, I have always offered to repay the family for the expenses involved. I don't want to hurt or offend anyone. What should I do?

— READY TO GO IN HOUSTON

DEAR READY TO GO: It would not be rude to tell Trish's parents when your trip is scheduled, and what the costs involved will be. As a matter of fact, it would be presumptuous of them to expect you to foot the bill for their daughter.

If the cost is too great for them at this time, a nice gift from Disney World would at least let Trish know you were thinking of her while you were away.

Editor's note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips.

Write Dear Abby at www.Dear-Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

Conservation nominations sought

Conservation Awards Program will again be held in Thomas County, said Doug Musick, extension agent, who has been asked to serve as chairman of a committee to select candidates for awards.

"This program is being sponsored by the agricultural committee of the Kansas Bankers Association," he said.

Last year awards were made to the following six individuals.

Soil conservation winners were Gordon and Paula Kern and John and Beverly Kern.

The Windbreak award went to Lonnie and Lori Wilson, also from Colby.

The purpose of this program is to stimulate a greater interest in the conservation of the agricultural resources of Kansas by giving recognition to those farmers and landowners who have made outstanding progress in the establishment of soil and water conservation on their farms, he said.

Included in the awards program are soil conservation award and windbreak award.

Points to be considered in selecting soil conservation award winners include:

- Use of land according to its capabilities;

- completeness of conservation plan;
- balance of farm enterprise;
- quality of conservation work completed and maintenance of practices and;
- special practices unique to the farming operation.

The windbreak award considers windbreaks which provide protection from damaging winds for resi-

dential (or other structures) areas, livestock or fields. Windbreaks should be a minimum of three years old. Points to be considered in selecting award winners include windbreak design, management, location, density and length.

Nominations can be made by any person in the county and sent to the County Extension Agricultural Agent by Tuesday, Nov. 1.

TV LISTINGS

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WEEKDAYS OCTOBER 25 - OCTOBER 31

	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KLBY/ABC 4 6	Good Morning Kansas		Good Morning America				Martha		The View		Millionaire	News
KSNK/NBC 3 8	News Cont'd		Today						Live With Regis and Kelly		Paid Program	Paid Program
KBSL/CBS 12 11	News Cont'd		News		The Early Show		The 700 Club		The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless	
K15CG 2	BBC World	Yoga	Body Electric	Caillou	Jakers! Winks	Barney-Friends	Teletubies	Mister Rogers	Dragon Tales	Beren. Bears	Sesame Street	
ESPN 28	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Sports-Center	Varied	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Baseball Tonight	NFL Live
USA 37	Coach	Coach	Movie				Nash Bridges		The District		The District	
TBS 38	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Dawson's Creek		Movie				Becker	Becker
WGN 39	Changing	Believer Voice	Happy Days	Happy Days	Hillbil-lies	Hillbil-lies	Rockford Files		Matlock		Magnum, P.I.	
TNT 40	Angel		NYPD Blue		NYPD Blue		ER		ER		Judging Amy	
DSC 42	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Varied Programs							
A&E 47	The Unexplained								Investigative Reports		City Confidential	
HIST 48	Varied Programs											
NICK 55	Oddpar-ents	Oddpar-ents	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Backyar-digans	Dora the Explorer	Go Diego	Lazy-Town	Blue's Clues	Dora the Explorer
DISN 56	Break-fast Bear	Higgly-town	Ein-steins	JoJo's Circus	Doodle-bops	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	Koala Brothers	Rolie Polie	Doodle-bops	Charlie & Lola	Ein-steins
FAM 58	Battle B-Daman	Spider-Man	Power Rangers	Power Rangers	The 700 Club		Living the Life	Gilmore Girls		Step by Step	Full House	Full House
HALL 60	New Morning	Paid Program	The Waltons		Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman		Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		The Waltons	

WEEKDAYS OCTOBER 25 - OCTOBER 31

	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	All My Children		One Life to Live		General Hospital		Judge-Brown	Judge-Brown	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	ABC Wld News
KSNK/NBC 8 (8)	News	Inside Edition	Days of our Lives		Passions		The Insider	Jeopardy!	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		News	NBC News
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	News	Bold, Beautiful	As the World Turns		Guiding Light		Dr. Phil		Oprah Winfrey		News	CBS News
K15CG 2 (2)	Reading Rainbow	Lions	Varied Programs			Clifford-Red	Maya & Miguel	Arthur	Post-cards	Cyber-chase	Zoom	Business
ESPN 28 (28)	Varied Programs		NFL Great.	Varied	NFL's Great.	1st & 10	NFL Live	Rome-Burning	Around the Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter	
USA 37 (37)	Varied Programs											
TBS 38 (38)	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
WGN 39 (39)	News		Magnum, P.I.		Da Vinci's Inquest		Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Moesha	Moesha	Home Improve.	Home Improve.
TNT 40 (40)	Judging Amy		Law & Order		Law & Order		Charmed		Charmed		Alias	
DSC 42 (42)	Varied Programs		The New Detectives		The FBI Files		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		It Takes a Thief		Varied Programs	
A&E 47 (47)	American Justice		Varied Programs						Investigative Reports		City Confidential	
HIST 48 (48)	Modern Marvels		Varied Programs									
NICK 55 (55)	Go Diego	Lazy-Town	Rugrats	Teenage Robot	Varied Programs				SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Grown Up	Danny Phantom
DISN 56 (56)	Higglytown	JoJo's Circus	House of Mouse	Lilo & Stitch	Varied Programs				Kim Possible	Proud Family	Sister, Sister	Phil of Future
FAM 58 (58)	Family Matters	Family Matters	Boy Mts. World	Boy Mts. World	Full House	Full House	Ground-ed-Life	Ground-ed-Life	Gilmore Girls		7th Heaven	
HALL 60 (60)	Matlock		Matlock		Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H

THURSDAY OCTOBER 27

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News (CC)	Ent. Tonight	Alias Out of the Box (N) (CC)		Night Stalker (N) (CC)		Prime time (CC)		News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)		
KSNK/NBC (8) (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Joey (CC)	Will & Grace	The Apprentice (N) (CC)		ER Time of Death (CC)		News	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)	Late Night		
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	Survivor: Guatemala -- Maya		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		Without a Trace Honor Bound (CC)		News (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman	Late Late		
K15CG (2) (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Frontier House Survival (Part 4 of 6)		The This Old House Hour (CC)		Best of the Beatles (CC)		BBC World	Keeping Up	Charlie Rose (N)		
ESPN (28) (28)	Sports-Center	College	Football: Boston College at Virginia Tech. (Live) (CC)						SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		Baseball Tonight	NFL Live (N) (CC)	
USA (37) (37)	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Movie: The Story of Us ★★ (1999) A couple's marriage crumbles over the course of 15 years.					Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law/Ord SVU	
TBS (38) (38)	Raymond	Raymond	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Movie: The Mask of Zorro ★★★ (1998, Adventure) Zorro's protege crosses swords with a returning tyrant.					Movie: Desperado ★★ (1995, Drama) Antonio Banderas. (CC)			
WGN (39) (39)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Movie: The Horse Whisperer ★★½ (1998) A gentle cowboy heals a girl and her horse's wounded souls. Robert Redford. (CC)			Sex and the City		Becker (CC)	Da Vinci's Inquest (CC)				
TNT (40) (40)	Pre-Game	NBA Preseason Basketball: Magic TD Waterhouse Centre. (Live) (CC)		NBA Preseason Basketball: Miami Heat at Orlando Magic. (Live) (CC)			NBA Preseason Basketball: Phoenix Suns. America West Arena. (Live) (CC)		Golden State Warriors at Phoenix Suns. (Live) (CC)		Movie: (CC)		
DSC (42) (42)	MythBusters Brown Note (CC)		Beyond Boundaries (N)		A Haunting in Georgia (Part 1 of 2)		A Haunting in Georgia (Part 2 of 2)		MythBusters Brown Note (CC)		Beyond Boundaries		
A&E (47) (47)	American Justice		Cold Case Files (CC)		Cold Case Files (CC)		The First 48 (CC)		Crossing Jordan Payback (CC)		Cold Case Files (CC)		
HIST (48) (48)	Modern Marvels Bathroom Tech (CC)		History's Mysteries Aliens. (CC)		History's Mysteries Cover-ups. (CC)		Conspiracy? TWA Flight 800 (CC)		Modern Marvels Jet-powered aircraft.		History's Mysteries Aliens. (CC)		
NICK (55) (55)	Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob	Romeo! Pinhead	Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Cosby Show	Roseanne	Roseanne	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	
DISN (56) (56)	That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Movie: The Little Vampire ★★ (2000, Fantasy) Jonathan Lipnicki. (CC)				Buzz Maggie	Sister, Sister	That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Phil of Future	Kim Possible	
FAM (58) (58)	Smallville Pilot (CC)		Movie: Urban Legend ★★ (1998) A killer knocks off coeds on a college campus.				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club (CC)		Home Videos	Home Videos	
HALL (60) (60)	Walker, Texas Ranger Deep Cover		Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Movie: Out of the Woods (2005, Drama) Ed Asner, Jason London. (CC)								

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News (CC)	Ent. Tonight	Supernanny Burnett Family (CC)		Franklin Graham From Melbourne.		20/20 (CC)		News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live! R. Kelly. (N) (CC)	
KSNK/NBC (8) (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Dateline NBC (CC)		E-Ring Toy Soldiers (N) (CC)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		News	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)	Late Night	
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	Ghost Whisperer Hometown (CC)		Threshold Trees Dead of Glass (CC)		NUMB3RS Noisy Edge (CC)	News (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman		Late Late	
K15CG (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	Wash. Week	Kansas Week		Market- Market	Ameri- ca's Hrtl	Prairie Crosses, Prairie Voices		BBC World	Score- board	Red Green	Tavis Smiley
ESPN (28)	NBA	NBA Preseason Basketball: New Jersey Nets at New York Knicks. Madison Square Garden. (Live) (CC)					NBA Preseason Basketball: Sacramento Kings at Los Angeles Lakers. Los Angeles. (Live) (CC)			Sports- Center		
USA (37)	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Monk Mr. Monk and the Psychic (CC)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU	
TBS (38)	Ray- mond	Ray- mond	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Movie: The Truman Show (CC)	Movie: The Truman Show ***½ (1998, Comedy-Drama) Jim Carrey. (CC)			Movie: The Truman Show ***½ (1998, Comedy-Drama) Jim Carrey. (CC)		Movie: The Truman Show ***½ (1998, Comedy-Drama) Jim Carrey. (CC)	
WGN (39)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Movie: Mystic Pizza *** (1988, Comedy- Drama) Annabeth Gish, Julia Roberts. (CC)				WGN News at Nine (CC)		Sex and the City (CC)		Da Vinci's Inquest For Just Bein' Indian	
TNT (40)	Law & Order Vaya Con Dios		Movie: Runaway Bride *** (1999) A columnist tries to get the scoop on a commitment-spy gal. Julia Roberts.						Movie: Stepmom ** (1998) A woman tries hard to make her lover's children accept her. Julia Roberts.			
ASC (42)	The FBI Files Boy is abducted. (CC)		Beyond Boundaries		I Shouldn't Be Alive Shark Survivor		A Haunting Beastly Bargain (N)		Ghost Detectives (CC)		Beyond Boundaries	
A&E (47)	American Justice A Soldier's Secret		The Secret Life of Vampires The creatures affect pop culture. (N) (CC)				Biography: Stephen King: Fear		American Justice: Duty...		The Secret Life of Vampires (CC)	
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels (CC)		History's Mysteries Lost Worlds (N) (CC)		History's Mysteries Odd behavior. (CC)		Mail Call (N) (CC)	Mail Call (CC)	Modern Marvels Mountain Roads		History's Mysteries Lost Worlds (CC)	
NICK (55)	Spon- geBob	Cats- cratch	Oddpar- ents	Danny Phantom	Jimmy Neutron	Hey Arnold!	Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Cosby Show	Rose- anne	Rose- anne
DISN (56)	Zack & Cody	That's- Raven	Movie: Hocus Pocus ***½ (1993, Comedy) Bette Midler. (CC)				Zack & Cody	Sister, Sister	That's- Raven	That's- Raven	Phil of Future	Kim Possible
FAM (58)	Smallville Metamorphosis (CC)		Movie: The Sixth Sense (1999) A child psychologist counsels a boy who can see dead people. (CC)					Whose Line?!	The 700 Club (CC)		3rd Rock	Jamie Kennedy
HALL	Walker, Texas		Walker, Texas		Movie: Matlock: The Vacation ***½				M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H