

DEAR ABBY

Sorority experience enriches college life without hazing

Dear Abby: I would like to tell "Possibly Paddled Pledge" (Jan. 13) that joining a sorority was one of the best parts of college for me. It taught me about interpersonal communication, the importance of philanthropy and academics, and networking. I learned skills I would not have gained had I not joined.

My sorority had paddles. We decorated them with our symbols and Greek letters, and they were displayed on the wall. We never used them to hit anyone. Our national organization, as well as our university would have been furious. Hazing is illegal and should not be tolerated.

I say, give the Greek life a try, but if someone ever lifts a finger toward you, report her to your panhellenic organization and the dean of students immediately. Sororities are supposed to lift you up, not beat you down. — Jennifer in St. Louis

Dear Jennifer: Readers unanimously agreed paddling should not be tolerated, and stressed being a legacy does not guarantee acceptance or that a pledge will have a good experience in a particular sorority. My readers comment:

Dear Abby: My daughter currently is in a sorority, but her experience has been very mixed. She was not automatically welcomed by my sorority. She found the process to be difficult and judgmental. However, she did find a wonderful group of women in a different sorority.

As a sophomore this year, she is on the other side of recruitment (rush)

JEANNIE PHILLIPS

and again felt hurt by how rude some of the new girls were. "PPP's" letter spotlighted the snobbish, elitist attitude that turns many eligible young women away from sororities. To say a group is the best-of-the-best and exclusive is offensive. I hope more girls will look beyond the glitz and glamour and give a second hard look to all of the groups. — Jane in Akron, Ohio

Dear Abby: My first month in college was wonderful. Then came sorority rush. What followed was hell. I got a paddle with the Greek letters, though it was only a "memento." Far worse was the social fragmentation of the women there. We immediately began to segregate into our little pledge classes, wore pins that identified our group and were typecast from the very beginning.

After wrestling with this psychological social dilemma — even becoming an active member, which would preclude me from ever joining another sorority — I finally deactivated, switched to a much larger school with less emphasis on the Greek system and happily sailed through the rest of my college life with honors. — A Happy Independent

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.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Universal Press Syndicate.

'TWEEN 12 & 20

Why can't boyfriend take no for an answer?

Dr. Wallace: I am now going through what most girls go through when they date one guy steadily — the pressure to have sex. When I continue to say no, he lays a "guilt trip" on me by saying that "all lovers make love."

He keeps saying I'm cold and distant, and he would like me to be warm and sensitive. Dr. Wallace, I really like Jason, and he is a super neat guy, except for his sexual hang-up. How can I convince him when I say no, I really mean it? Why can't he take no for an answer? — Becky, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Becky: Throughout life, you will be pressured by people to do certain things not for your benefit at all but for theirs.

In reality, people don't like to be told no. When a person is told no, it means he can't get his way; he can't do something he wants. Two things usually happen. First, the person asks again, maybe in a slightly different way, and continues to ask until he is finally convinced the answer is going to remain no. Once that has finally sunk in, the person will accept the decision with a certain degree of frustration or disappointment.

A sincere discussion of the reasons why you are not going to have sex is a much more effective approach. If he does not want to accept your reasons and continues to be sexually aggressive, tell him goodbye and wish him well.

THE VILLAIN IS MOTHER NATURE. Dr. Wallace: Why do 11-year-old boys act so stupid and so very immature? It seems like



ROBERT WALLACE

all they ever do is make noise, make a pest of themselves and gorge their stomachs. Every night, I thank the good Lord he made me a girl. — Emily, Hobart, Ind.

Emily: The boys can't help the way they act. Actually, the villain is Mother Nature who decided girls would mature both mentally and physically faster than boys, but she shows compassion and permits the boys to rise to the level of the girls around age 15.

WISE PERSON SHOULD NOT MAKE SAME MISTAKE TWICE. Dr. Wallace: Last week, I broke a promise and caused a good friend to break up with her steady boyfriend. She told me a secret, and I promised her I "wouldn't tell a living soul," but I did. I'm sorry about the hurt I've caused my friend, and I have told her so. I hope she understands I'm human and humans make mistakes. What can I do now to make my friend forgive me? — Arlene, Ames, Iowa.

Arlene: You have apologized and that was the noble thing to do. You can do no more. If your friend forgives you, it will be that she feels your apology was sincere. But that's her choice.

But this also is a learning experience for you. You'll be making mistakes all of your life. A wise person shouldn't make the same mistake twice.

Email Dr. Robert Wallace at rwallace@galesburg.net. Distributed by Creators Syndicate Inc.

Neighbors

ORGANIZATIONS



MEREDITH CROSS NAMED CENTRAL HARDIN STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Meredith Cross, Elizabethtown Lions Club's Central Hardin High School Student of the Month, addressed the club at the March 1 meeting. Her accomplishments include playing varsity golf and soccer, being on the Academic Honor Roll, being a Bruins Scholar and being a member of Beta, Y Club, FCA, Young Republicans and Student Council. Meredith holds a 3.98 grade-point average and is ranked 13th in more than 400 students. She works at aiding people who are homebound by cleaning and grocery shopping for them. She also works with Soup for the Hungry and the American Red Cross, helps with Thanksgiving day meals and is a member of Youth Salute. She is pictured with her parents, Keith and Donna Cross, and Lion Jim Weise.



NARFE Program Chair Mary Tom Haun and Glenn Deaton.

NARFE HAS MARCH MEETING

The membership of Elizabethtown Chapter 1050 of The National Active and Retired Federal Employees held their March 5 meeting at Nolin RECC on Ring Road in Elizabethtown. The guest speaker for the day was Glen Deaton from Petroleum Helicopters Inc. Deaton flies STAT Flights for PHI to transfer patients to and from hospitals, including from accident scenes. The crew normally consists of the pilot, a certified EMS and a nurse. Deaton attended Warrant Officer School with the Army and learned to fly at Fort Rucker. He has been flying more than 15 years and his home base is in Greenville.

The next NARFE meeting is April 2 at Nolin RECC on Ring Road.

The Heartland Service Center for Civil Service questions and concerns opens at 9 a.m. and the business meeting is at 11 a.m. The program for April will be several display tables of crafts, businesses, travel and more.

Members will share information about horses, remote control airplanes and Longaberger baskets, and there also will be a table to buy and sell used books.

The Kentucky Federation Convention is April 10 through 12 in Hopkinsville at the Holiday Inn. Call NARFE president Kay Bennett for more information at 769-3137.

Neighbors content also can be seen at www.thenewsenterprise.com

PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT FOR EVERY WOMAN'S ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Every Woman's Arts & Crafts fourth annual spring festival is May 12 at Colvin Community Center in Radcliff, and women artists and crafters in the Kentucky area are being sought to participate.

Women of all ages who have a hobby or passion they would like to show off — who paint, make ceramics or pottery, sew, crochet, embroider, make candles, soaps, textiles or

handbags, do photography, build things, etc. — are welcome to participate.

Anyone interested in participating should visit the participation form page at www.everywomansart.org and complete the registration form and Paypal payment process for a nominal fee of \$40. Confirmation with space number will be sent upon completion.



Fort Knox High School JROTC Cadet Troy Boxrucker responds to MOWW member questions as cadets Breezy Jackson and Hyrum Dean wait their turn to field questions.

JROTC BRIEFS MOWW AT FEBRUARY MEETING

The Fort Knox Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars held its monthly meeting Feb. 21 at its clubhouse at Fort Knox.

The program for the meeting was cadets from the Fort Knox High School JROTC program. Chief Akin, senior coordinator of the Fort Knox JROTC program, brought three cadets; senior Breezy Jackson, senior Hyrum Dean and junior Troy Boxrucker, as the meeting's guest speakers. The cadets presented themselves, explained the duties of their JROTC positions, stated their future goals and provided their opinion on the value of the JROTC program to their personal and academic life. This was followed by questions from the chapter members. Their presentations and responses were impressive, praised the value of their JROTC experience, and provided renewed confidence in the positive outlook of youth. For their informative and entertaining presentations, they were each presented a Chapter Certificate of Appreciation.

The Fort Knox Chapter interfaces with all the JROTC units in the county and finds that the above mentioned attributes are present in each of the elements and reflects highly on the value of the JROTC program and the impact it has on its cadets.

Officers or former officers who would like to know more about the organization may call Larry Herzog at 351-6433.

ROTARACT CLUB HEARS FROM AREA DAIRY FARMER

Denise Jones, like many of the Rotaract Club of Greater Hardin County members she spoke with March 6, is dedicated to her job and family, wants to be a good neighbor and tries to prepare for the future challenges she might face. But unlike most, her job requires her to work seven days week, 52 weeks a year. Jones is a dairy farmer and one of the people behind the wholesome dairy foods consumers enjoy.

The Jones family owns Coleman Crest Dairy near Loretto. They milk a herd of Holstein cows three times a day, every day. On the farm, corn silage double cropped with wheat silage also is raised. To dairy farmers, the ultimate reward is knowing their actions help create a healthy, abundant and affordable food supply for this community.

Dairy farmers are dedicated to their cows and the land they call home — and the land their neighbors call home. They work hard to keep the water and air clean and to protect the land, continuing many proven practices of previous generations but also putting to use many techniques that were unknown just five years ago.

"Yes, our family's livelihood depends on us making sure our natural resources are nurtured. More importantly, the future of our children's families and the world depends on us making sustainable choices now," Jones said. Because of this commitment on the dairy farm, people can count on wholesome dairy foods produced while sustaining the environment.

Southeast dairy farmers protect their land, care for their animals and produce high quality milk and dairy foods for their families and yours. To learn more about dairy farmers and the milk they produce, visit www.southeastdairy.org, www.facebook.com/sedairy or Twitter @sedairy.

NEIGHBORS GUIDELINES

GETTING IT TO US

Neighbors submissions should be typed or legible. The information should be clear and concise. Include a name and daytime phone number in case of questions. We reserve the right to edit.

Submissions and photos can be emailed to: celebrations@thenewsenterprise.com — engagements, births, birthdays, anniversaries and five generations.

or clubs@thenewsenterprise.com — All club news, including calendar listings for club

activities, military news, and all other general news submissions.

If email is not available, fax the item(s) to 769-6965, drop them off or mail to 408 W. Dixie Ave., Elizabethtown, KY 42701. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is an after-hours drop box.

WHAT ABOUT PHOTOS?

Photos sent by email should be in .jpg format. Original black and white or color prints are accepted.

To have photos returned, include a self-addressed stamped envelope; otherwise, the

photo can be picked up at the front desk up to one month following publication.

Be sure to identify the people in the photo.

The News-Enterprise cannot guarantee all photos will be published.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

Neighbors runs daily and items will publish first-come, first-serve on a space-available basis. Celebrations get first priority to publish on schedule.

QUESTIONS? Call 505-1751