

D.C. legalizes pot in capital, despite threats from Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — The District of Columbia defied threats from Congress and moved forward Thursday with legalizing possession of marijuana after a voter-approved initiative.

Despite last-minute maneuvers by Republican leaders in Congress and threats that city leaders could face prison time, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser said the city was implementing marijuana legalization as approved by voters. The new law took effect at 12:01 a.m.

Bowser, a Democrat, said the city's plans haven't changed despite a letter from two leading House Republicans warning of repercussions if the city moves forward with legalization.

"This is a major milestone on the road to ending marijuana prohibition in the United States," said Robert Capocchi of the Marijuana Policy Project, a group that advocates for legalization. "If the president can brew and drink beer in the White House, adults should be allowed to grow and consume a less harmful substance in their houses."

Congress has final say over the laws in the District of Columbia, and the two sides disagree about whether Congress acted quickly enough to block an initiative legalizing pot, which was approved by nearly two-

thirds of city voters in November.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz, a Utah Republican who chairs the House Oversight Committee, urged Bowser in a letter late Tuesday to reconsider her plans to implement the initiative, saying that doing so would clearly violate federal law.

"Bullying the District of Columbia is not what his constituents expect, nor do ours," Bowser said. "We do disagree on a matter of law. There are reasonable ways to resolve that without us threatening him or he us."

The District becomes the first place east of the Mississippi River where recreational pot is legal. Alaska also legalized pot this week, joining Colorado and Washington state.

The initiative legalizes possession of up to 2 ounces for use at home, and people are also permitted to grow up to three mature plants. Smoking marijuana in public remains illegal, as does buying or selling the drug.

Congress approved language in December that appeared to block the initiative. District leaders argued it was enacted before Congress took action, even though it had yet to take effect. Chaffetz said that interpretation was wrong and that the mayor

and other District employees would face possible prison time by moving forward.

"The penalties are severe, and we're serious about this. Nobody's wishing or wanting that to happen, but the law is clear," he said in an interview.

It would be up to the Justice Department to prosecute District officials, a scenario that appears unlikely. However, Congress could sue the city over its actions. House Republicans could also retaliate by pulling funding for other District programs.

The letter from Chaffetz and Rep. Mark Meadows of North Carolina warned that by spending money to change pot laws, Bowser and other District officials would violate the Anti-Deficiency Act, which prohibits spending of federal dollars that have not been appropriated. The committee also launched an investigation, demanding that the District turn over all documents detailing money that's been spent and time that's been put in by city employees to implement the initiative.

No one has ever been convicted of violating the Anti-Deficiency Act, although government employees have been punished administratively for violations.

Jamie Raskin, a constitutional law professor at American University, characterized the threat of criminal prosecution as "a lot of huffing and puffing on Capitol Hill."

"The real power Congress has is the power of the purse," said Raskin, who's also a Democratic Maryland state senator. "They can exact their retribution financially against the District."

Congress hasn't struck down a specific city law in 25 years. Instead, members often add language to critical pieces of federal legislation to undo city policies they don't like. The language on pot was included in a spending bill that was needed to keep the government running.

The city has already decriminalized possession, and under legalization, police officers would no longer issue \$25 civil fines for people caught with pot.

Bowser said that by implementing the initiative, she was simply doing her job, and she said she hoped she could work more productively with Congressional Republicans on other issues.

"We would encourage the Congress to not be so concerned about overturning what seven out of 10 voters said should be the law in the District of Columbia," she said.

Former contestant on 'America's Next Top Model' killed

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — A Serbian-born model and self-described "wild child" who was a contestant on "America's Next Top Model" was one of three people killed in a North Carolina home.

The Charlotte Observer reports 19-year-old Emmanuel Jesus Rangel-Hernandez is charged with three counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of 19-year-old Mirjana Puhar and two other victims. Charlotte police called the killings drug-related. They did not say how the three were killed.

In 2014, Puhar told the Observer she was born in Serbia. She said her family fled after the Kosovo War and moved to North Carolina a decade later.

Puhar said she was a "wild child" who partied and didn't have the best influences around her. She dropped out of high school before earning her GED at a community college.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICES

L739 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SOUTH PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Pursuant to the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 46-701 to 46-754), the South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) provides notice that it will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., or 15 minutes following the end of a public information session, whichever is later, at the South Platte Natural Resources District Offices, 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, Nebraska, to consider: (1) the proposed Amended and Restated Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations, which includes incorporating rules regarding the Chemigation Act; and (2) to repeal the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (Revised December 2011). The geographic area of the management area, which includes the proposed amended controls, is all of the land area located within the boundaries of the SPNRD, which includes all of Kimball, Cheyenne and Deuel Counties and as shown on the map attached to the Rules as Appendix B. All interested persons may appear at the hearing and present testimony or provide other evidence relevant to the issues being considered. A public information session concerning (1) and (2) above will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the same date and location.

A general description of all controls proposed for amendment and for the contents of the rules proposed for amendment are as follows: A) the renumbering of the table of contents; the revised wording for Rule 6.5 from Certification of Irrigated Acres to Certified Irrigated Uses; and the addition of Rule 7.9 - Chemigation; B) removes Appendix C and C1, and adds a new Appendix C to reflect the 2013 through 2015 allocation amounts in Acre-Inches in Subareas A, B, C, D, E and F; C) amends Rule 1 - Authority, to include the Nebraska Chemigation Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 46-1101 through 46-1148 (the Chemigation Act); D) the amendment to Rule 3 - Applicability, which states that the Controls adopted pursuant to the authority granted in the Act and the Chemigation Act is set forth in Rules 6 and 7 of these rules and regulations; E) amendments to the definitions in Rule 4 - Definitions; F) amendments to Rule 5 - General Provisions and Procedures for Enforcement and a general description of the proposed amendments as follows: 1) amendments to Rule 5.1 - Enforcement, which states that except as otherwise provided in Rule 7.9, the District may enforce the Act, the Chemigation Act and all rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the issuance of a notice of an alleged violation and/or through the issuance of a Cease and Desist Order, in accordance with the procedures hereinafter set forth and by bringing appropriate actions for the enforcement of such orders in the District Court of the county in which any violation occurs; 2) amends Rule 5.2 - Inspections, which states that

except as otherwise provided in Rule 7.9, a Compliance Inspector may conduct field inspections to confirm compliance with or investigate any alleged violation of these rules and regulations; 3) amendments to Rule 5.3 - Submission of Inspection Report Alleging Violation and Alleged Violator's Alternatives, which states if the Compliance Inspector finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that the Alleged Violator has violated the Act, the Chemigation Act or any of these rules and regulations, the Compliance Inspector's report shall be accompanied by a notice to the Alleged Violator of the alternatives available to the Alleged Violator; 4) amends Rule 5.6 - Hearing, states that except as provided in Rule 7.9, if voluntary measures cannot be agreed upon between the District and the Alleged Violator, or if the Alleged Violator rejects the findings of the Compliance Inspector's report, then the Alleged Violator shall be given an opportunity to contest the Compliance Inspector's report, or the schedule of compliance required by the District, at a Board meeting or public hearing to be held no sooner than fifteen (15) calendar days and not more than forty-five (45) calendar days after receipt of the initial notice provided pursuant to Rule 5.3; (a) amended Rule 5.6.1, which states a Cease and Desist Order may be issued at the conclusion of the hearing if deemed necessary and appropriate by the Board; 5) amends Rule 5.7 - Action of the Alleged Violator Following Issuance of Notice of Alleged Violation or a Cease and Desist Order, which states any Alleged Violator who has been notified of any alleged violation of the Act, the Chemigation Act or these rules and regulations or of a Cease and Desist Order shall be allowed seven (7) Working Days following receipt of such order, to submit a schedule of compliance for any alleged violation; and 6) amends Rule 5.9 - Cease and Desist Order; Violation; Penalty, states as provided by the Act and the Chemigation Act, any violation of Cease and Desist Order issued by the District pursuant to the Act and the Chemigation Act may be subject to a civil penalty assessed pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-746; G) amendments to Rule 6 - Ground Water Quantity Controls and a general description of all controls proposed to be amended as follows: 1) amends Rule 6.5 - Certified Irrigated Uses; (a) amends Rule 6.5.1 - Certification of Irrigated Acres; clarifies that any Ground Water User, Landowner, or Operator who uses Ground Water to irrigate must obtain certification from the District for each irrigated tract of land; and the application process language has been removed; (b) amends Rule 6.5.2 - Consideration of Variance Request Applications and Decision on Certification, which states that all applications for Variance Requests must be submitted to the District's office on forms supplied by the District; (c) amends Rule 6.5.3 - Modification of Certified Irrigated Acres or Certified Irrigated Tracts, which states upon the effective date of these amendments (April 10, 2015) the SPNRD will no longer allow additional Certified Irrigated Acres

or Certified Irrigated Tracts; amended Rule 6.5.3.1 further states that modifications of existing Certified Irrigated Acres and Certified Irrigated Tracts will be allowed through the Transfer(s) as outlined in Rules 6.8 and 8.2; (d) deletes Rule 6.7.1.1 and 6.7.1.1.1, and renubmers subsequent provisions including 6.7.1.1 (formerly 6.7.1.2), which states allocation amounts in Acre-Inches by sub-area for the 2013 through 2015 Allocation Period are as follows; (e) amends 6.7.1.3, which states that Carryforward of up to ten (10) Acre-Inches is allowed following the three (3) year Allocation Period in Subareas A, B, C, D, E and F, and every Allocation Period thereafter; (f) amends 6.7.1.7 (formerly 6.7.1.8) - Supplemental Water Well, revises wording that states the Allocations listed for Subareas A, B, C, D, and E, in accordance with the Rule 6.7.1.1, will be reduced by any amount of surface water delivered to or transferred to Certified Irrigated Acres that would otherwise be irrigated from such Supplemental Water Well; H) amendment to Rule 7 - Ground Water Quality Controls, changes the South Platte Valley Ground Water Quality Management Subarea designation from a Phase II to a Phase I, and shown in Appendix G; I) amendments to Rule 7.9 - Chemigation, by adding and revising existing rules and regulations. A general description of the proposed amendments are 1) Rule 7.9.1 - Chemigation Permit, no Person shall apply or authorize the application of Chemicals to land or crops through the use of Chemigation unless such Person obtains a Permit from the District; 2) Rule 7.9.2 - Certification, all Chemigation Applicators must undergo training and maintain certification as required by the Rules of NDEQ, Title 195 NAC, Ch. 13; 3) Rule 7.9.3 - New Permit Process, which states that except for an emergency permit, the District shall review each completed Permit application, conduct an inspection, and approve or deny the application within 45 calendar days after the completed application is received by the District; 4) Rule 7.9.4 - Renewal Permit Process, all Permits shall expire on June 1 and must be renewed annually. A Permit may be renewed each year upon payment of the required fee and completion of a form provided by the District; 5) Rule 7.9.5 - Special Permit Process, which states that if the District determines after inspection that an Irrigation Distribution System does not need all of the safety equipment prescribed by the Chemigation Act, the District shall forward a recommendation to the NDEQ for review. If NDEQ agrees with the District, NDEQ shall grant approval to the District to issue a special Permit; 6) Rule 7.9.6 - Emergency Permit Process, states that a Person may file an application for an emergency permit on forms provided District. The District shall review each emergency application and approve or deny it within two-Working Days after a complete application is filed; 7) Rule 7.9.7 - Permit Denial, Suspension, Revocation, describes the bases for which the District shall deny, refuse

renewal of, suspend or revoke any Permit; 8) Rule 7.9.8 - Chemigation Permit Fee Schedule, states that to aid in defraying the cost of administration of the Chemigation Act, the District shall collect the following fees all as authorized pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-1121: (a) a new Permit application fee of \$60 for each new Permit; (b) an annual renewal Permit application fee is \$25 for each renewal Permit; (c) a special Permit application fee of \$100 is required for each special Permit; and (d) an emergency Permit application fee of \$250 is required for each emergency Permit; 9) Rule 7.9.9 - Inspections, the District shall conduct area wide, selective, and periodic inspections to ensure compliance with the Chemigation Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act; 10) Rule 7.9.10 - Equipment, requires Irrigation Distribution Systems with Chemigation capabilities to be equipped with the devices listed in the rule; 11) Rule 7.9.11 - Posting, all Permitholders shall post signs on chemigated fields when using any herbicide or Pesticide, or a Chemical for which the label requires posting; 12) Rule 7.9.12 - Enforcement, states that except as otherwise provided in Rule 7.9, Rule 5 establishing the General Provisions and Procedure for Enforcement shall apply to Chemigation; and 13) Rule 7.9.13 - Reporting, which states that an Applicator or Permitholder shall notify the District and the NDEQ of any actual or suspected accident resulting from the use of Chemigation within twenty-four hours of its discovery; J) amendments to Rule 8 - Variance, by adding wording in Rule 8.1, noting that the District's variance procedures do not apply to the Chemigation Act; and adds Rule 8.3 - Variance Request Application Fee, which states that pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-707(3), any Variance request application filed with the District shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) payable to the District.

The SPNRD is also proposing to repeal the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (Revised December 2011). In order to enact one comprehensive set of rules, the Amended and Restated Rules will include the rules regarding the Chemigation Act.

Individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the hearing may request auxiliary aids and service necessary for participation by contacting the SPNRD by March 2, 2015. Testimony or other evidence relevant to the purposes of the hearing may also be submitted in writing to the South Platte Natural Resources District, 511 Parkland Drive, P.O. Box 294, Sidney, Nebraska 69162-0294, or by electronic mail to the SPNRD at rhorn@spnrd.org by 5:00 p.m., March 9, 2015.

For further information regarding the proposed amendments to the rules and regulations, or for the full text of said proposed Amended and Restated Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations, refer to the SPNRD website at <http://www.spnrd.org>, or contact the SPNRD

at 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, Nebraska, or at (308)-254-2377. Following the public hearing on the proposed amendments to the rules and regulations, and the proposed recommendation to repeal the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (Revised December 2011), the SPNRD Board of Directors will make a decision within 90 days of whether to adopt, with or without modifications, the proposed amendments to the Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations, which includes incorporating rules regarding the Chemigation Act, and the proposed recommendation to repeal the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (Revised December 2011). [Published in The Sidney Sun-Telegraph on February 12, 19, 26, 2015.]

L748
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
The name of the Company is PLH, LLC The address of the initial designated office is 14129 Road 8, Lodgepole, Nebraska 69149. The general nature of the business to be transacted is any lawful business for limited liability companies in Nebraska, including to transport and deliver communications, mail and other documents for hire throughout the State of Nebraska; to furnish motor vehicles and transportation for the transport and delivery of communications, mail and other documents throughout the State of Nebraska; and to carry on, generally, such other incidental business as may be appropriate to the above-mentioned activities. The Company commenced on February 4, 2015, and the duration is perpetual. The affairs of the Company will be conducted in accordance with the Operating Agreement. /s/ Patricia L. Herz, Initial Agent Steven F. Mattoon, NSBA No. 15110 For: Matzke & Mattoon 907 Jackson Street P.O. Box 316 Sidney, NE 69162 (308) 254-5595 [Published in The Sidney Sun-Telegraph on February 12, 19, 26, 2015]

L785
- CREDITORS NOTICE - DISSOLUTION OF CORPORATION
Notice is hereby given of the voluntary dissolution and winding up of Von Seggern Land & Cattle, Inc., a Nebraska Corporation. The Corporation will stand as dissolved effective as of February 1, 2015, and shall not carry on any business, except such as is appropriate to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs. Thomas Von Seggern, President, shall be authorized and directed to wind up and liquidate the business and affairs of the Corporation according to law; including to: (i) collect its assets; (ii) dispose of its properties that will not be distributed in kind to its Shareholders, if any; (iii) discharge or make provisions for the discharge of its liabilities; (iv) distribute its remaining property among its Shareholders according to their interests; and, (v) do every other act necessary to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs.. If you are alleging a claim against the Corporation, you

must file a written claim with the Corporation, c/o Thomas Von Seggern, 1255 Greenwood Road, Sidney, NE 69162, which written claim must: (i) specify the nature of the claim; and, (ii) include an invoice, if such claim is based upon the supply of goods or services to the Corporation. Your claim against the Corporation shall be barred if you do not deliver the written claim to the Corporation within 120 days from the date hereof.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2015. Von Seggern Land & Cattle, Inc. a Nebraska Corporation By: /s/ Thomas Von Seggern, President Robert P. Goodwin, NSBA #16745 Sonntag, Goodwin & Leef, P.C. Attorneys [Published in The Sidney Sun-Telegraph on February 26, March 5, 12, 2015.]

L754
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALL ORDER 500
FEDERAL PROJECT NO. BH-L17B(109)
LOCATION: POTTER LINK BRIDGE
COUNTIES: CHEYENNE
The Nebraska Department of Roads will receive sealed bids in Room 104 of the Central Office Building at 1500 Hwy. 2 in Lincoln, until 1:30 P.M. on March 12, 2015. At that time the bids will be opened and read for BRIDGE BIDDING PROPOSAL FORMS WILL BE ISSUED AND A CONTRACT AWARDED TO A CONTRACTOR WHO IS QUALIFIED FOR: BRIDGES START DATE: 08/17/2015 WORKING DAYS 40 PRICE RANGE: \$0.00 to \$500,000.00 Plans and specifications may be seen beginning February 17, 2015 at the Lincoln Central Office and February 23, 2015 at the District Engineer's Office at GERING.

Additional letting information may be found at the Nebraska Department of Roads Web Site at <http://www.dor.state.ne.us/letting/>. This project is funded under the Federal-Aid Highway Act, all appropriate Federal requirements will apply. [Published in The Sidney Sun-Telegraph on February 19, 26, and March 5, 2015]

L747
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
The name of the Company is Herz Repair, LLC The address of the initial designated office is 14129 Road 8, Lodgepole, Nebraska 69149. The general nature of the business to be transacted is any lawful business for limited liability companies in Nebraska, including to repair and service motor vehicles and to carry on, generally, such other incidental business as may be appropriate to the above-mentioned activities. The Company commenced on February 4, 2015, and the duration is perpetual. The affairs of the Company will be conducted in accordance with the Operating Agreement. /s/ Leland R. Herz, Initial Agent Steven F. Mattoon, NSBA No. 15110 For: Matzke & Mattoon 907 Jackson Street P.O. Box 316 Sidney, NE 69162 (308) 254-5595 [Published in The Sidney Sun-Telegraph on February 12, 19, 26, 2015]

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The Northern Wyoming Daily News, a 5-day per week, family-owned newspaper located in Worland, Wyo. near the Bighorn mountains, in the Rocky mountain West is seeking a community-focused reporter who is unafraid to dig into the local news scene. The ideal candidate will be creative, motivated and committed to excellent writing and accurate reporting. We are looking for someone who cares about community journalism. This job encompasses a variety of responsibilities - generating story ideas, writing, meeting deadlines, and multitasking. For this potentially management-track position, you must have excellent communication skills and work well with a variety of personality types, both in the newsroom and in the local communities. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience; strong grasp of AP Style; digital photography experience.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: One of my classmates has Asperger syndrome. He often says and does things that are obnoxious and sometimes downright threatening. I understand that his behavior is a result of his Asperger's, but it doesn't make it any easier to deal with. When I ask my friends what to do, they say it's not his fault and I should just leave it alone.

But, Annie, he frequently talks loudly over instructions so no one else can hear, and last week he fell on the floor screaming in front of visiting professionals. I want to be able to help him change his behavior without making it seem as though I'm blaming him for it. How do I respectfully tell him what is and isn't appropriate? — **Worn Out**

Dear Worn Out: Asperger syndrome is considered part of the autism spectrum. Those diagnosed generally have poor communication and socialization skills, although they are often of above-average intelligence. Appropriate behavior can be taught, but it helps to have early intervention and to work with trained professionals. We know your classmate's behavior is distressing to you and that you are trying to handle this with kindness. If you truly want to learn more about what you can and cannot do to help, please contact MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger Syndrome and PDD (aspergersyndrome.org), the Autism Society (autism-society.org) or Autism Speaks (autismspeaks.org).

Dear Annie: I am divorced and have been dating a younger guy for three years. At the moment, "Cliff" doesn't have a stable job and constantly complains that he has no money. But he has a nice place and car (with his parents' help) and enough cash to buy food, etc.

I will be moving into a new condo with money from the sale of my house and some help from my parents. I work part time and

don't make a lot, but I manage OK. Many people I know are having a hard time right now, but Cliff thinks he is the only one. How can I ask him to stop complaining about his financial state? — **A.**

Dear A.: People who are having financial difficulties rarely are consoled by hearing about how much tougher it is for someone else. Cliff is focused on his own problems, and the constant complaining ensures that you will focus on him, as well. If this is the only thing about Cliff that bothers you, simply ignore his complaints and sympathize when you feel up to it.

Dear Annie: I am an RN who worked in long-term care for many years. We had mandatory sensitivity training of staff toward seniors. It is not only patronizing, but also belittling to any adult to address them as "honey" or "sweetheart" or anything other than their given name. Our staff was taught to address them with respect and ask what they wish to be called.

I recently retired and my hair is turning gray, and I suddenly find servers and customer service people calling me "honey." We seem to treat anyone past a certain age as a child instead of with the respect they deserve. When someone uses such patronizing terms with me, I smile and say, "My name is not 'Honey.' It is Joan." If they are receptive, I explain why it is disrespectful to address an adult in this manner. I do this in a kind way and consider it a mini-sensitivity training session.

If people find it too difficult to confront waitstaff and others who are patronizing them, they can carry a copy of this column with them and leave it with the tip on the table. — **Don't Call Me Honey Unless You Are My Husband**

Dear Annie: I am currently in a two-year relationship with "Alison." Both of us are recently divorced. During Alison's marriage, she became a confidante to "Will." They have remained friends, and she insists nothing of a sexual nature ever happened.

When we first got together, Will was in a new relationship and had limited contact with Alison. However, eight months ago, that relationship ended. Now he and Alison text each other multiple times a day, all day long. He lives with his parents, and Alison stops by a couple of times a month to visit with his family.

Will has made it very clear that he doesn't want to be around me at all. Every time he gets into trouble, Alison is right there to help. At least once every few weeks, he drives 15 miles to eat at the restaurant where she works.

I am not sure how to handle this friendship. I trust Alison, or I would have left already. Any advice, or am I foolish? — **N.**

Dear N.: There is nothing wrong with having friendships, even those that include confidences. The problem is when one person's significant other is unwelcome and entirely excluded from these relationships and the confidences shared are intimate and interfere with the primary relationship.

We think Will is a bit possessive of Alison, but that shouldn't alarm you. Does Alison show you his texts? She should (but you do not need to comment on them). If you trust her and she is not hiding anything from you, we'd let this run its course. It is important, however, that Alison understands the boundaries of this friendship so she isn't leading Will on or damaging her relationship with you.

Dear Annie: I take both Pilates and yoga classes. One student loves to chew gum during class. It was ingrained in me by my father

that loudly chewing gum is considered bad manners. It drives me crazy.

I find it hard to concentrate when she is popping and chomping away on her gum, and I know I'm not the only one in class who feels this way. Any suggestions on how to get her to stop? — **Cringing in Exercise Class**

Dear Cringing: People do a lot of boorish things during exercise classes. Perhaps the gum helps her concentrate or keeps her from having a dry mouth. She probably isn't aware of how loud and annoying it is. Unfortunately, you cannot eliminate all behaviors that drive you crazy. You can, however, register a complaint with the instructor, move into a different class or ask the woman nicely whether she can make the gum chewing less noisy.

Dear Annie: I'm responding to "Outvoted," who is caring for her abusive mother and arguing with her siblings about replacing the batteries in Mom's pacemaker.

I, too, have been a caregiver for a person with dementia who became verbally abusive. Another option is to seek the assistance of a geriatric psychiatric professional. He or she can prescribe medication that will calm the abusive tendencies and allow the siblings to care for their mother in her home with much less stress. — **Been There**

Dear Been There: Putting Mom on medication that will calm her down could help. It's quite possible that she should have been on some type of antidepressant for most of her life. After all, her abusive personality isn't recent or due to dementia. She has always been this way, and the dementia simply makes it worse. Medication may not completely resolve the issue of replacing Mom's pacemaker batteries, but it could make the siblings less stressed when working on these decisions.

To our Baha'i readers: Happy Ayyam-i-Ha.
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