

Naming nonsense estranges mom-to-be and grandma

Question: My daughter “Laura” and her husband live with her father and me because they can’t yet afford their own place. Laura and I are having a huge dispute and are hardly speaking to one another. She’s pregnant and expecting a daughter in August.

Gwen Carden
Happy Home

She always told me if she had a daughter, she’d name her after me. Well, she’s changed her mind! They’ve chosen a name with no meaning whatsoever to anyone on either side of the family. It’s just a trendy, awkward name (Bailey. Really?).

I’m extremely hurt that Laura doesn’t care enough about me to do what she always said she’d do. I don’t want this disagreement to result in keeping me from my granddaughter, but I don’t like this situation.

Answer: Let me ask you a question, Mom. Are you 13?

I realize you’re disappointed about losing your naming legacy but making it a feud and expecting your daughter to keep a promise she might have made as a child is simply – well – ridiculous. It’s a child’s parents’ prerogative to choose whatever name they want, and I doubt their decision has anything to do with not loving you.

You’re correct in your concerns about possibly being kept from your granddaughter. Steamrolling yourself into your daughter and son-in-law’s business with this naming nonsense doesn’t bode well for your future relationship with them. Back off. Calm down. Butt out of this issue, and use your energy instead to plan the wonderful times that await should you choose to act more like a grandmother and less like a jealous teenage girl.

Gwen Carden has a master’s degree in mental health counseling. For advice on resolving a problem, e-mail happyhome@cardencreative.com.

Remodeled shower doesn’t have satisfactory water flow

Recently, a woman told me about her luxury master shower remodel – complete with a large rain shower head, three body sprays and a hand shower wand.

What the woman didn’t have was water flow. Several photos of the job’s progress showed the plumber installed half-inch PEX water lines with flow-restricting hard 90-degree fittings. This PEX fed water to all the accessories.

Before the work began, the water pressure and flow in the original tub and shower was fine. An independent inspector verified the incoming water pressure was 70 pounds per square inch (PSI). The woman shared that prior to the remodeling, she had plenty of water for a shower and the tub spigot gushed water if she wanted to soak in a bath. The tub and shower were piped with half-inch copper tubing.

The plumber failed to do the simple calculations that would have shown him the correct pipe size to feed the bathroom and the size of the pipes that extended to each accessory.

The Uniform Plumbing Code indicates

load values for all the common fixtures in your home. The load values are stated in water supply fixture units (WSFU). It just so happens that one WSFU equals one gallon of water a minute of flow.

A normal residential bathroom like the woman had before the remodeler showed up has 2.7 WSFU of cold and 1.5 WSFU of hot water. Since you don’t use all the fixtures at the same time while in the bathroom, the blended total is 3.6 WSFU. A normal shower head has 1.4 WSFU. A seasoned plumber would almost always run a three-quarter-inch diameter cold and hot water line to this bathroom. He’d branch off this larger pipe with a half-inch pipe to each fixture. It’s quite possible that the woman’s shower, once the calculations were run, might require 1-inch hot and cold water lines.

All five of the new fixtures in the shower consume 11 gallons of water per minute if you turn them all on at the same time. That’s just about 10 times the water flow the original shower head consumed!

Also, the plumber replaced the copper tubing with plastic PEX. One-half-inch PEX tubing has a slightly smaller inner diameter than half-inch copper. The situation was made worse by using the smaller diameter PEX.

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The WEF spans 12 weeks, held annually from January to April at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center. The festival is notable for its \$10 million in prize money and the participation of horses valued at more than \$500 million, attracting Olympic competitors and spectators alike.

This lifestyle has attracted some of America’s wealthiest families in support of their equestrian endeavors, including competitors Jessica Springsteen, Eve Jobs, Georgina Bloomberg and Jennifer Gates Nassar.

The “Saturday Night Lights” series stands out as a family-friendly and complimentary event, providing a gateway to the equestrian world for the broader public. Alongside high-stakes show jumping, Wellington’s polo matches draw a wide audience, underlining the sport’s appeal.

Wellington’s economic contribution through the WEF is monumental, with the 2023 festival boosting Palm Beach County’s GDP by \$352 million, supporting 3,364 jobs, and generating labor earnings of \$103 million.

Labeled Horse Capital USA, Wellington’s strategic advantages support the equestrian community extensively. Its year-round sunny climate, close proximity to three major international airports capable of transporting horses and amenities such as a protected equestrian preserve and horse crossing signs enhance its reputation. These factors, along with a booming real estate market, drive South Florida’s rapid expansion, cementing Wellington’s integral role in the region’s economic and cultural landscape.



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