By John Rosemond Copyright 2019, John K. Rosemond

children raised, reared, or simply other. brought up, they emanciwent to college, into the nest?" they ask. military, or became em-

over the country are asking solve. me what to do about chil-

were collapses of one sort or an-

"When are you going to pated "on time." Upon high write a book on adult chilschool graduation, children dren who won't leave the

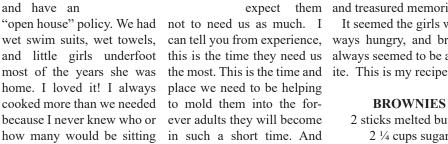
I answer that the "book" ployed. Some, like my wife will consist of one page on and myself, got married be- which will be printed two fore they could vote. Those words: Stop enabling! It's were the days when young glib, I know, and I really people still wanted to leave need to stop making light home and strike out on of what is a serious probtheir own, something their lem for these folks. Noneparents celebrated. Empty- theless, it's almost always nest syndrome was a rarity. the case that the parents in Since "parenting" has re- question are, in fact, enplaced child rearing, the av- abling. They throw money erage age of emancipation, at problems that aren't especially for males, has caused by a lack of money soared. Older parents all and money isn't going to

I have children. I can't dren who won't leave home think of anything harder or leave home only to come than putting a child out on back again, and again, and the street, telling him that again. The breakdowns in- the ride is over and he's volve drugs, alcohol, video going to have to learn to games, employment issues, solve his own problems. criminality, and emotional For one thing, the possibil-

## Memories of a house full

With summer in full swing, even though it's somewhat earlier than it should be. I remember summers when our brothers were eight and elev-

college. Our house was designated house"! All the kids gathered here to hang out, swim, and especially eat. I never had to worry or wonder about her activities. She was content to just be home



around our supper table.

Now her house is exactly the same except "more". Her two boys seem to have overnight company nearly every night of the week with their being no school. Sometimes they come and dig in for several days. On top of all the little boys, she has five canine babies and one of them Maple, the English bulldog is a toe nipper. Some of the lodgers fear her nibbles but not enough to stay away. I have known her to feed four or five overnighters in addition to her own boys. And,

I realize some of you are wondering how in the world anybody would take on more last child was in school. Her children than your own to take care of and feed on a en years older, so I had one day to day basis. Well, I beat home many years after the lieve now days we, parents

fail to get very involved with our children's activities. Sometimes our jobs take so much of our time the kids are left to maneuver through life on their own. As our children become Peggy's Take young adults we sometimes

"open house" policy. We had not to need us as much. I ever adults they will become in such a short time. And yes, it at times seems to be too much hullabaloo going on in our homes with all the extras, these are times you will treasure, just like me in the "grown-up years" ahead. Every so often I wish I could hear all the splashing, laughing, and hijinks in our pool dry ingredients first and the way I did so many years then add remaining ingredi-

> your kids want to hang out a sprayed pan, 9 x 13, and with their buddies and play Fortnight, jump in the pool, and do not overbake. and eat you out of house and home. I promise you some- resident of Attala County

ity is very real that the kid won't solve his problems, that he'll sink ever deeper into dissolution.

It's one thing to tell parents that their enabling has become one of their child's handicaps; it's quite another to answer the question, "But what if he just keeps getting worse?" with something other than banalities. There must be no guilt quite as overwhelming, as paralyzing, as the guilt that comes from knowing you could have done something to prevent your child's personal apocalypse, even if the something would have been nothing more than the same-old, same-old.

Some parents have told me they've tried emancipation counseling. It's certainly worth a try, but the all-too-typical story has everyone agreeing on the plan in front of the counselor and signing the contract only to have the whole thing blow up when push comes to shove.

Other parents have told me they finally decided to let the child keep living at home but stop giving him money. That's a fine idea, except a good number of those same parents report that their kids began stealing from them. What do you do then? Swear out a criminal complaint and have your child thrown in jail? Again, easier said than

The good news is that some of the freeloaders in question suddenly pack their bags, leave, and figure out how to make it on their own (albeit often with an ongoing allowance). In the meantime, however, they've wreaked emotional and financial havoc on their parents. I recently talked with the single mom of a 44-year-old who has done and is continuing to do just that. She's forced, at age seventy, to keep working.

Which brings me back to kicking the slacker out, which sometimes

expect them and treasured memories.

It seemed the girls were alwet swim suits, wet towels, can tell you from experience, ways hungry, and brownies and little girls underfoot this is the time they need us always seemed to be a favor-

2 sticks melted butter, 2 1/4 cups sugar 4 eggs, 2 t. vanilla 1 1/3 cups unsweet cocoa powder 1 1/3 cups flour 2 cups mini

Preheat oven to 350\*. Mix ents, chocolate chips being Be that house. Be the place last added. Spread mix in bake 30-40 minutes. Be sure

chocolate chips

\* Peggy Sims is a life-long day these will be your best and columnist.

## **Pratt - Trehern to wed** June 15 in Winona

HERALD - THURSDAY, JUNE



ANDREW THOMAS TREHERN AND JORDAN HOPE PRATT

The wedding of Jordan Hope Pratt and Andrew Thomas Trehern will take place on June 15, 2019, at five o'clock in the evening at First Baptist Church in Winona.

The bride-elect is the daughter of David and Cindy Pratt of Winona. She is the granddaughter of Colon and Betty Woods of Duck Hill and Shirley Pratt and Pratt, Sr. of Winona.

is the son of Jeff and Joy and the late Thomas Owen MS. Buford, Jr. of Sallis and Darrell and Carolyn Trehern of ing sent, but all family and

ate of Winona High School. tion.

She graduated from Holmes Community College and University of Mississippi Medical Center with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. She is currently employed at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Grenada as a Registered Nurse.

Mr. Trehern is a 2012 graduate of Kosciusko High School. He graduated from Mississippi State University in 2017 with a Bachelors Degree in Agricultural Science. He is currently employed at Mississippi AG in Lexington, MS.

Laura Beth Kolb will serve as the Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids are Ana Pratt, Ashley Trehern, Audra Chesteen, Kayla McCormick, Kelsey Woods, Micah Brooke Woods, and Rachel Latham. Brooklynn Pratt will serve as the flower girl.

Jeff Trehern, father of the groom will serve as the Best Man. Groomsmen will be Taylor Burrell, Cole Mc-Bride, Cole Pratt, Taylor Bishop, Connor Hill, Spencer Rutledge and Jason Roberts. Sam McClellan will the late Reverend David L. serve as the ring bearer.

Brother Gene Richardson The prospective groom will officiate the ceremony.

A reception will follow at Trehern of Sallis. He is the home of Mr. and Mrs. grandson of Janie Buford Kyle Cravens in Winona,

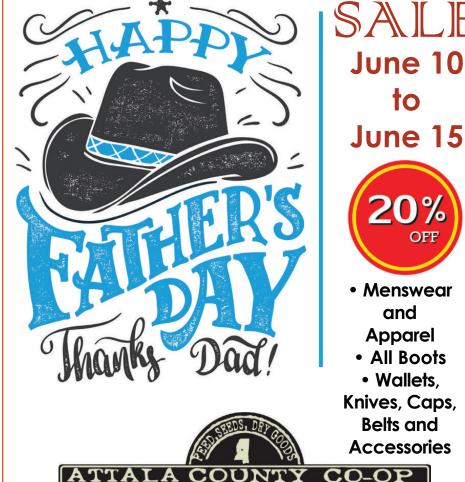
No local invitations are befriends are invited to attend Miss Pratt is a 2013 gradu- the ceremony and the recep-

reader should know) that umn: I don't know. Life the child in question sim- can be very messy at times Family psychologist John So, when all is said and Rosemond: johnrosemond.

reader should know) involves police. Parents who've done that tell me that the first six months is the hardest because things get worse before they start getting better. And some parents have told me (the

ply disappeared.

done, my answer to these com, parentguru.com. questions is one that I have Family psychologist John not fallen back on in forty Rosemond: johnrosemond. years of writing this col- com, parentguru.com.



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