

Grandparent feels that family has been slowly drifting apart; Mother tries to seduce ex-boyfriend

DEAR ABBY:

Two years ago, my son and his family moved a couple of hours away. He's my only child. I know he's busy with his wife, two children and his job, but I would like to hear from him more than every two weeks -- or longer -- just to know what is going on in their lives. He told me I could call him, but I feel like I'm imposing. I'd like to be more involved in their lives. I would also like to be closer to my daughter-in-law. We have had a couple of good phone conversations recently, but I sense that she wants her own space.

I'm not an overbearing person, and I'm working on expectations vs. reality, being overly emotional when my expectations are not met and fear of sharing these emotions because I'm afraid my son and his wife won't like what I have to say. I feel they have been pushing me away.

What can I do, other than wait for them to call and work on how not to get upset when they don't include me? They have let the grandchildren stay with me a couple of weeks at different times over the summer. I'm trying to do things with friends, but I really prefer being around my son and family because I feel happier (or used to). It has been heart-breaking.

— WORKING ON IT

DEAR WORKING ON IT: Your son has told you it's all right to call him, so you should. Because of the blessing of modern technology, there are other options as well -- texting, video chat, etc. If you are unfamiliar with them, make it a point to learn. Be grateful your son and his family are independent, and try harder to fill more of your time with hobbies and in-



DEAR ABBY

terests of your own. If you do, you will be a more interesting person to be around. Your son and his wife should not be the focus of your life the way he was when he was a child and you were responsible for him. It isn't healthy for you or your relationship with them.

DEAR ABBY: My mother did something very disrespectful. She picked up my former boyfriend and took him to her house, saying she needed help with her curtains or something. He said when she came back in the room, she just had on a slip, like she was trying to seduce him. When I asked her if what he said about her was true, she replied, "Maybe I did, maybe I didn't." Not long after that, I began distancing myself from her.

After I got married, she told a relative she didn't believe my baby daughter was my husband's. I was understandably upset. When I questioned her about it, she was shocked because she didn't know my cousin had told me. Right now, I don't care to be around her. I still send her cards for her birthday and Christmas, but I don't trust her anymore. What should I do?

— CAN'T TRUST MY MOTHER

DEAR CAN'T TRUST HER: It's sad, but not all parents are loving and supportive. In fact, some of them are toxic. Your mother appears to be one of the latter, so listen to your gut. Continue to be respectful, as you have been doing, but also continue to keep your distance. And if you are tempted to confide in her about anything private, don't do it.

HISTORY HIKE

Continued from Page 1B

A report dated 1939 includes an inventory of four "new" buildings at the Argonaut, including a cookhouse, bunkhouse, assay/main office and warehouse. The inventory also mentions a blacksmith shop, timber sheds and compressor, and notes that 10½ miles of new roads were built during the summer of 1939.

The spike in gold prices in 1979 and 1980 spurred a sort of mini gold rush in parts of the Blues. Several companies spent considerable sums investigating the possibility of reopening proven gold producers, including mines on the North Pole-Columbia lode.

So far as I can tell the Argonaut was not among the mines that attracted interest — possibly because, as I mentioned, it was never patented, so any company interested in developing the property would have had to obtain permission from the federal government, an onerous process, according to the miners I know.

But whether the Argonaut mine ever again yields so much as a shovelful of gold-bearing ore, it's a fascinating destination for anyone who enjoys both hiking in the mountains and pondering history.

It's also a beautiful setting that would justify the effort to get there even without the cultural history.

The Argonaut is at the northern edge of a fetching alpine meadow which is a riot of colorful wildflowers earlier in the summer and a tawny field of (appropriately) gold grass as autumn approaches.

The meadow is several hundred feet below the crest of the divide the separates the Cracker Creek/Powder River basin to the south,

and the headwaters of the North Fork John Day River to the north.

The divide also serves as the boundary between Baker County, to the south, and Grant County.

It's an excellent trip for the budding geologist as well as the amateur historian.

As with many lode mines, the Argonaut was sunk where the brown sedimentary rocks of the Elkhorns — mainly argillite, which is a compacted mudstone, and chert, composed mainly of silica — rub elbows, so to speak, with the granitic rocks that make up most of the northern half of the Elkhorns as well as the range's western extension.

Miners focused on this boundary because — well, because that's where the gold tends to be.

The reason for this is no doubt complicated if you wade into the scientific details, but fortunately it can also be explained in a relatively simple fashion.

The granitic rocks make up what geologists call a "batholith." This basically

means the rocks cover an area larger than about 40 square miles. Although the granitic rocks in the Elkhorns (as well as the central Wallows, made up of an even bigger batholith) were formed from magma, as in volcanoes, the batholiths cooled underground rather than spewing lava onto the surface. A combination of uplift and erosion created the mountains of today.

The heat from the granitic magma created a percolating stew of minerals from the existing rock, and it was from this hot mass that the gold-bearing veins, such as the North Pole-Columbia lode, were formed.

These veins tend to be more prevalent, then, at the edges of the batholith. This also explains why there are relatively few gold mines nearer the center of the Bald Mountain batholith (the one that forms part of the Elkhorns) — the Anthony Lakes area, for instance, which is made up almost exclusively of granitic rocks.

A rough track continues uphill beyond the Argonaut to the top of the divide.

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weather

	TONIGHT	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Baker City	Partly cloudy	Sunny intervals; pleasant	Partly sunny	Nice with clouds and sun	Nice with sunny intervals
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	10
La Grande	34	74 36	70 31	70 34	73 35
Comfort Index™	10	10	8	10	10
Enterprise	38	72 41	67 36	69 39	71 39
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	10
Enterprise	38	71 40	67 39	67 39	70 40
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	10

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	69°	66°	69°
Low Thursday	40°	41°	42°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	Trace	0.01	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.03	0.00
Normal month to date	0.26	0.28	0.33
Year to date	4.75	10.51	20.95
Normal year to date	7.33	11.15	15.36

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High: 109° Thermal, Calif.
 Low: 26° Fraser, Colo.
 Wettest: 3.48" Cherry Point, N.C.

OREGON
 High: 76° Pendleton
 Low: 27° Crater Lake
 Wettest: 0.19" Portland

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY
 Lowest relative humidity 25%
 Afternoon wind NE at 4 to 8 mph
 Hours of sunshine 3.9
 Evapotranspiration 0.11

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)
 Phillips Reservoir 10% of capacity
 Unity Reservoir 13% of capacity
 Owyhee Reservoir 35% of capacity
 McKay Reservoir 35% of capacity
 Wallowa Lake 7% of capacity
 Thief Valley Reservoir 0% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)
 Grande Ronde at Troy 531 cfs
 Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder 1 cfs
 Burnt River near Unity 87 cfs
 Umatilla River near Gibbon 48 cfs
 Minam River at Minam 57 cfs
 Powder River near Richland 11 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

On Sept. 15, 1991, a northerly wind brought 5 inches of snow to Rand, Colo., while Cleveland, Ohio, passed 90 degrees. When the jet stream has great undulations north and south, weather extremes are expected.

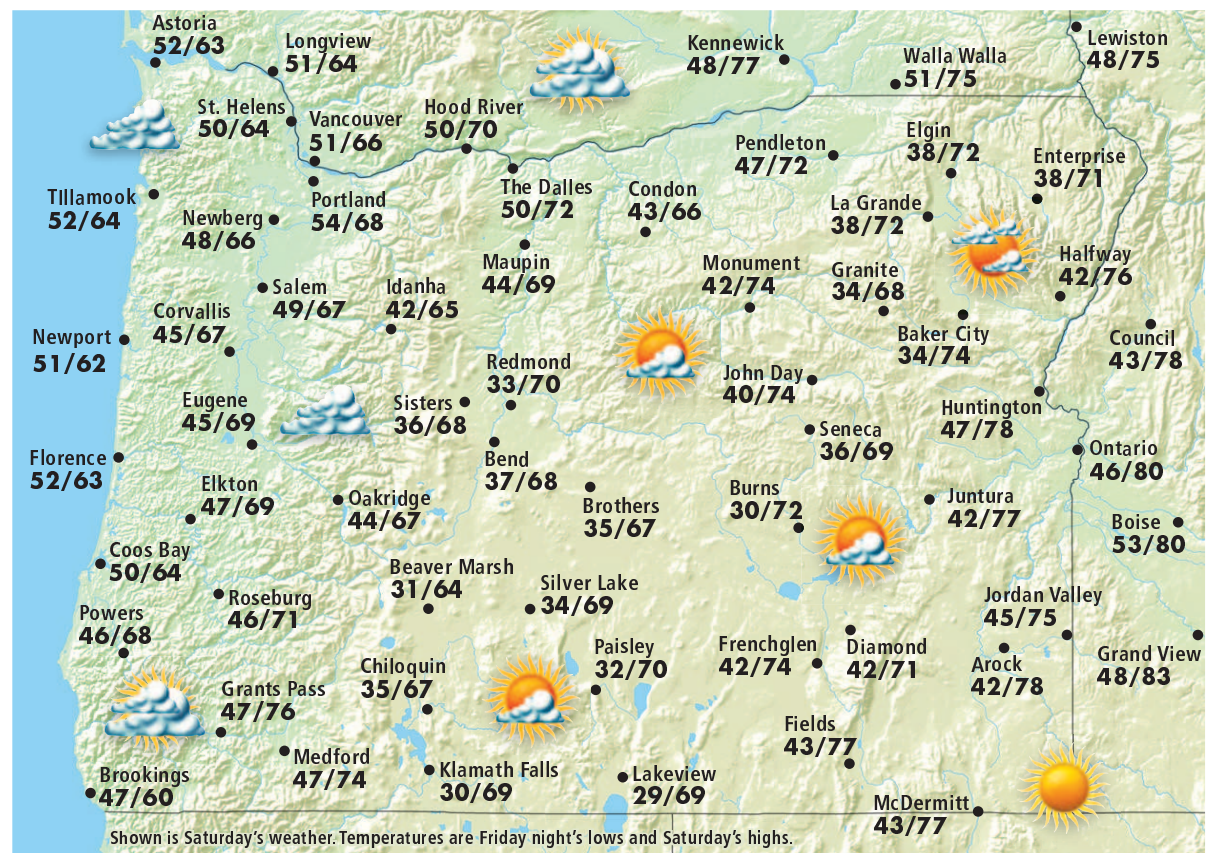
SUN & MOON

FRI. **SAT.**
 Sunrise 6:29 a.m. 6:31 a.m.
 Sunset 7:06 p.m. 7:04 p.m.
 Moonrise 12:03 p.m. 1:06 p.m.
 Moonset 10:12 p.m. 10:48 p.m.



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W	City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	63/53/r	63/48/r	Lewiston	75/49/c	69/45/pc
Bend	68/38/c	62/33/sh	Longview	64/53/r	63/47/r
Boise	80/50/s	77/46/s	Meacham	69/39/c	64/34/pc
Brookings	60/50/pc	62/48/pc	Medford	74/45/s	62/46/pc
Burns	72/31/pc	67/28/pc	Newport	62/52/c	62/47/sh
Coos Bay	64/55/c	64/50/sh	Olympia	62/50/r	63/44/r
Corvallis	67/49/r	65/44/sh	Ontario	80/48/s	77/43/s
Council	78/44/pc	72/41/pc	Pasco	76/50/c	71/43/pc
Elgin	72/41/c	66/37/pc	Pendleton	72/48/c	68/44/pc
Eugene	69/50/pc	67/45/sh	Portland	68/55/r	66/50/sh
Hermiston	76/50/c	71/45/sh	Powers	68/52/pc	63/48/sh
Hood River	70/51/c	66/46/sh	Redmond	70/34/c	63/30/sh
Imnaha	75/48/pc	70/46/pc	Roseburg	71/51/pc	68/48/sh
John Day	74/41/pc	68/39/pc	Salem	67/52/r	67/46/sh
Joseph	72/41/pc	67/39/pc	Spokane	69/48/c	61/42/pc
Kennewick	77/52/c	72/45/pc	The Dalles	72/49/c	68/44/sh
Klamath Falls	69/30/s	67/31/s	Ukiah	69/38/c	62/34/pc
Lakeview	69/30/s	68/29/s	Walla Walla	75/53/pc	69/48/s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE
Clouds and sun	Partial sunshine
48 29	70 34
MT. EMILY REC.	BROWNLEE RES.
Clouds and sun	Warmer
60 36	78 44
EAGLE CAP WILD.	EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Partly sunny	Partly sunny
58 29	65 31
WALLOWA LAKE	MCKAY RESERVOIR
Warmer	Clouds and sun
72 38	73 46
THIEF VALLEY RES.	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Partly sunny	Clouds and sun
76 34	72 38

