

Plans for retirement are stalled after an affair is discovered

DEAR ABBY: I just found out that my husband of 37 years is having an affair. I have supported him in every way I could -- raising our daughters, taking care of the household and holding a full-time job while he traveled for business and his many hobbies.

We both work hard and have developed a good life. We have been discussing retirement and maybe a move to another area. In recent years he has become evasive and has improved his appearance noticeably.

While it's true that I fell out of love with him several years ago because of his selfishness and lack of respect for me, we have still been good partners and parents and enjoyed doing things together. I do not like him spending our money on another woman and don't want this to get back to the children as it will really, really hurt them.

Should I continue to pretend I don't know, or do I confront him? I doubt he would end the affair completely even if he knows it has been found out. And yes, there are a lot of assets involved if this comes to divorce.

— KNOWS THE SECRET

DEAR KNOWS: What a sad story. You say you fell out of love with your husband several years ago. Is it possible that he sensed it?

Because there are "a lot of assets" involved, consult an attorney about what your spousal rights are in the event that a continued partnership is not what your husband wants for the rest of his life. Then tell him you know what has been going on and offer him the option of marriage counseling so the two of you can repair your marriage. His reaction will tell you what you need to do next.

DEAR ABBY: My mom and I had a very close relationship until two years ago when I found out she was hanging out with my ex-husband. This man ruined me financially with his gambling habit, and Mom was first in line telling me to divorce him. From day one she never liked him. My ex went on to make my life a living hell for many years by not paying child support or spending time with our three kids.

All these years later, they now go to the casino together, and she's got him going to her church. I feel hurt and angry. She sings

his praises -- "he's a changed man." I had to finally stop my daily calls and the many texts we shared all day long because, even after I told her how much this behavior hurt me, she told me she was sorry I felt that way. She claims there is nothing to their relationship except friendship. How do I get past feeling replaced and disrespected?

— MISERABLE IN MINNESOTA

DEAR MISERABLE: Your mother may consider your ex to be "changed," but I have to question how much someone with a gambling problem has changed if he is accompanying her to a casino. She must be desperate for company to befriend someone who treated her daughter -- and grandchildren -- so badly. The way to get past feeling replaced and disrespected is to get on with your own life and spend as little time as possible looking back. Your mother has made her choice, and she isn't going to change. Now it's up to you to find things to fill the void she left.

DEAR ABBY: I am a working stay-at-home mom with a successful career. I am also the primary breadwinner. My husband doesn't work so he can take care of our baby girl full time.

To give me quiet time, my husband often takes her to the mall or someplace fun so I can concentrate. A problem has arisen, though. Since he's alone with our daughter, he's run into problems with security guards who think he's kidnapping her or doing something suspicious. We're not sure what to do about this.

I obviously don't want there to be problems for him, especially since I am not physically able to drive and come to meet him if there's a misunderstanding. Can you tell me the most reliable way to prove that he's our daughter's father and holds no nefarious intent?

— CONCERNED WIFE AND MAMA

DEAR CONCERNED W&M: While this scenario seems incredible to me, if he isn't already doing so, your husband should start carrying family pictures of the two of you and your daughter when he takes her out. That way, if there is any question that your husband is her father, it can be quickly resolved.

Passengers band together on train stuck in Oregon mountains

By Andrew Selsky
The Associated Press

An Amtrak train with almost 200 people aboard hit downed trees during a blizzard and got stranded in the Oregon mountains for a day and a half, but passengers and crew banded together during the ordeal that ended Tuesday.

"It was really nice to meet people pulling together," passenger Tracy Rhodes, of Scottsdale, Arizona, said in a phone interview after the train that was traveling from Seattle to Los Angeles rolled back into the college town of Eugene, Oregon, with a clanging bell announcing its arrival. Passengers spilled out, some waving their arms high in jubilation.

During the 36 hours that the train was stuck, younger passengers helped older ones reach their families to let them know they were all right, said Rhodes, who was traveling with her brother to visit their 82-year-old mother in Klamath Falls, Oregon. A "mom brigade" was formed to take care of and entertain the children, she said.

"People were being very kind to each other, being friends," Rhodes said. "It restores your faith."

The trouble began Sunday evening, when the double-decker Coast Starlight train struck a tree that had fallen onto the tracks, Amtrak said.

Rhodes said the train stopped suddenly but not violently. She was told the engine hit several snow-laden trees and that one snapped back, damaging a hose assembly providing air pressure for the brakes. The train was repaired enough

to move forward a short distance to Oakridge, Oregon, a town 1,200 feet high in the Cascade Range that was dealing with its own problems — a blackout and snow and debris-covered roads.

Railroad officials decided to keep the passengers on board instead of letting them into the town of 3,200 people. The hours ticked by. Some passengers grew impatient. "This is hell and it's getting worse," Rebekah Dodson posted on Facebook after 30 hours, along with photos of herself and other passengers smiling into the camera.

The train with 183 passengers still had electricity, heat and food. Some people took the long unscheduled stop with a sense of humor. "The food hoarding has begun. I'm considering saving half my dinner steak and making jerky on the room heater," Rhodes tweeted. She and her brother had sleeping berths.

"We were fed very well. Steak at night, hot breakfast in the morning," she said. Coach passengers were given beef stew with mashed potatoes, she noted.

To pass the time, Rhodes and her brother browsed the internet and played war, speed and cribbage with cards they bought in the cafe. Others sent images and video of passengers gazing out the window at the snowy landscape or napping to social media.

Amtrak Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Scot Naparstek said the railroad regrets the extended delay.

"With more than a foot of heavy snow and numerous

trees blocking the track, we made every decision in the best interest of the safety of our customers during the unfortunate sequence of events," Naparstek said, adding that customers would get refunds and other compensation.

Amtrak has not said when the train might continue to Los Angeles. Spokeswoman Olivia Irvin said weather and track obstructions remained an issue.

The crew of 13 dealt with the situation as best they could. With diapers running short, a worker in the cafe improvised with napkins and safety pins, Rhodes said, noting that they worked all the way through.

The Coast Starlight bills itself on the Amtrak website as "a grand West Coast train adventure."

"Break free of congested airports and freeways to get up-close-and-personal with America's spectacular West Coast. Hug rocky coastlines, glide beside the majestic Cascade Mountains," the site says.

In this case, however, nature trumped modern human conveyances.

After the train began moving again Tuesday, Dodson posted a video on Facebook admiring the view.

"We are moving and it's totally awesome," she said as trees laden with snow swept past a window. "Isn't it beautiful? I'm so excited."

Carly Bigby, a teacher aboard the train, had been visiting Eugene with her fiancé and was trying to figure out how to get back home to Klamath Falls.

"I am exhausted," she told KOIN, a Portland TV station.

weather

TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Snow and sleet late, 1-2"	Snow, up to 1"	Partly sunny and cold	Cold with clouds and sun	Cold with clouds and sun
Baker City 30 Comfort Index™ 3	37 16	36 18	37 19	36 17
La Grande 24 Comfort Index™ 1	35 19	36 17	37 18	35 18
Enterprise 24 Comfort Index™ 2	30 15	33 15	34 15	33 15

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 Monday	33°	35°	31°
Low Monday	15°	15°	17°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Monday	0.28	0.33	0.45
Month to date	1.69	2.53	5.82
Normal month to date	0.52	1.01	2.08
Year to date	2.23	4.14	9.22
Normal year to date	1.32	2.64	5.25

MONDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 86° Tamiami, Fla.
Low: -38° Bottineau, N.D.
Wettest: 2.48" McKinleyville, Calif.

OREGON
High: 56° Ontario
Low: 15° Meacham
Wettest: 2.02" Grants Pass

WEATHER HISTORY

On Feb. 27, 1717, the first in a series of storms to hit New England struck Boston. The city was snowbound for three weeks with a total of 36 inches from the great snow.

SUN & MOON

	WED.	THU.
Sunrise	6:35 a.m.	6:33 a.m.
Sunset	5:36 p.m.	5:38 p.m.
Moonrise	2:07 a.m.	3:04 a.m.
Moonset	11:29 a.m.	12:14 p.m.

MOON PHASES

New	First	Full	Last
Mar 6	Mar 14	Mar 20	Mar 27

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

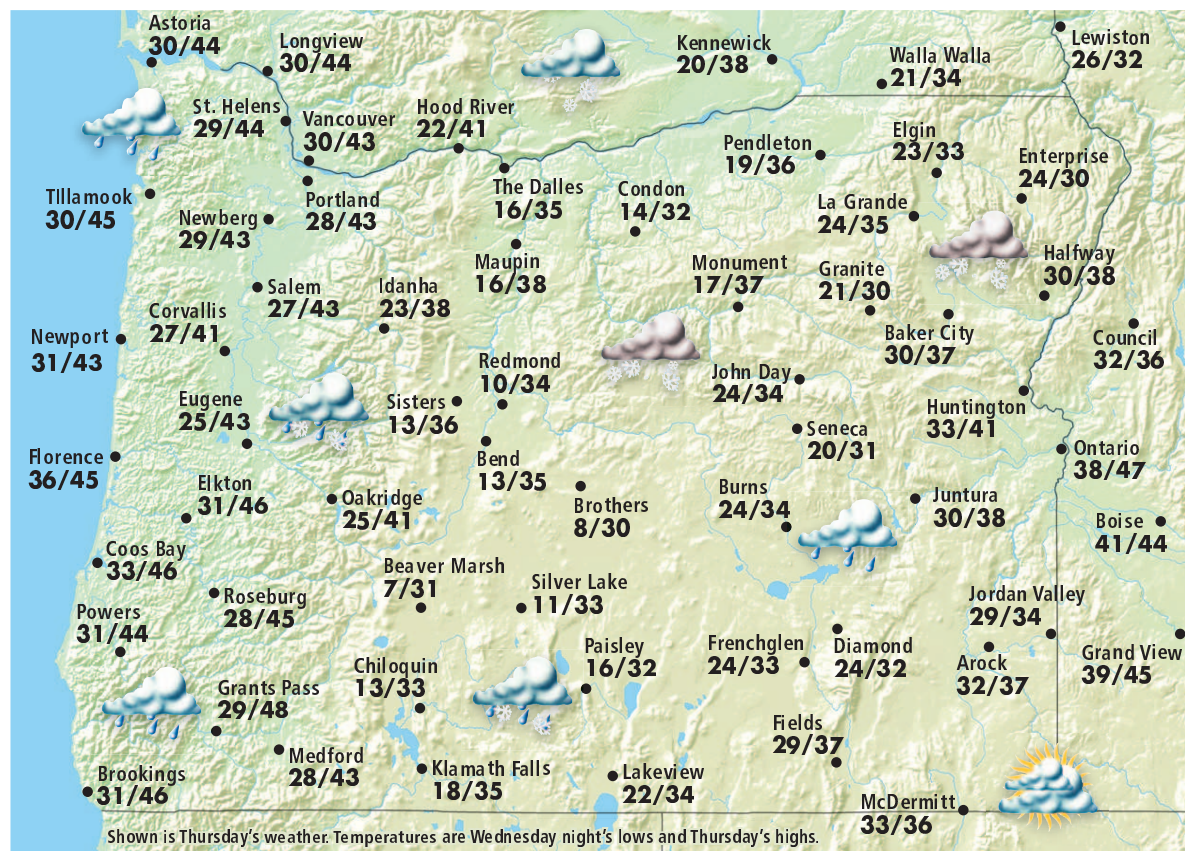
HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY
Lowest relative humidity 45%
Afternoon wind W at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine 2.0
Evapotranspiration 0.04

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)

Phillips Reservoir	10% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	38% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	42% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	56% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	30% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	105% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Monday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	1460 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	10 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	134 cfs
Minam River at Minam	114 cfs
Powder River near Richland	201 cfs

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU.		FRI.	
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	44/30/pc	47/30/s	Lewiston	32/18/sn
Bend	35/15/sf	37/14/pc	Longview	44/30/pc
Boise	44/27/c	43/26/s	Meacham	31/17/sn
Brookings	46/38/c	49/37/sh	Medford	43/29/c
Burns	34/16/sn	35/14/s	Newport	43/34/c
Coos Bay	46/37/c	50/33/sh	Olympia	43/24/pc
Corvallis	41/32/c	43/25/c	Ontario	47/27/sh
Council	36/18/sn	34/14/pc	Pasco	34/17/pc
Elgin	33/18/sn	35/16/pc	Pendleton	36/18/sn
Eugene	43/35/c	45/30/sh	Portland	43/32/c
Hermiston	38/16/sf	34/18/pc	Powers	44/35/c
Hood River	41/25/c	43/25/pc	Redmond	34/13/sf
Imnaha	37/18/sf	39/15/pc	Roseburg	45/34/c
John Day	34/16/sn	38/18/pc	Salem	43/35/c
Joseph	31/15/sn	33/14/pc	Spokane	29/19/sn
Kennewick	38/19/pc	33/16/pc	The Dalles	35/21/sf
Klamath Falls	35/21/c	38/18/c	Ukiah	31/13/sn
Lakeview	34/15/sn	36/10/pc	Walla Walla	34/17/sn
			McDermitt	33/36

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

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

City	THU.	FRI.
ANTHONY LAKES	15	-1
PHILLIPS LAKE	32	12
MT. EMILY REC.	23	13
BROWNLEE RES.	39	19
EAGLE CAP WILD.	21	6
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	27	12
WALLOWA LAKE	31	15
MCKAY RESERVOIR	36	19
THIEF VALLEY RES.	37	16
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	35	19



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