

Niece would rather stay home than go help her aunt

DEAR ABBY: My aunt is a perfectionist who loves hosting get-togethers at her house once a week. I love being at home on a day off, so I can get chores done around the house and catch up on rest. I feel like I'm suffocating when she insists on including me, because it is time away from my home on a Sunday or a holiday.

When I attend, I feel like I'm really there to do the behind-the-scenes things, like dishes, trash, etc., and I don't get to relax, visit and enjoy the get-togethers. If I don't attend or I protest in any way, she gets really upset.

I don't know how to achieve a win-win for both of us. My aunt has a big heart and loves entertaining people. I'm an introvert, and I'm definitely not an entertainer. Being around people makes me feel overwhelmed, where it revitalizes her. Please help.

— UNCOMFORTABLE IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: Explain your feelings to your aunt exactly as you have to me. If she's as big-hearted as you say, she should understand and let you off the hook without becoming "really upset." From where I sit, you are being treated less as a guest than as a one-person, free kitchen and cleanup crew. You have the right to spend your holidays and weekends exactly as you wish, just as she does.

DEAR ABBY: I recently confessed my feelings to a married man after a year of liking him. We have known each other for five years. I ignored the signs of his interest in me until this past year. He hasn't even been married a year yet, but he gives me attention and flirts with me.

After I told him how I felt, he didn't tell me where he stood with it, didn't shut me down or tell me he feels the way I do. But he did hug me four days later; something he has never done before. What do I do in a situation like this? I can't let these feelings go.

— LETTING GO IN THE WEST

DEAR LETTING GO: What you do in a situation like this is stop chasing a married man. You knew him for four years before his

wedding. During that time he not only never asked you out, he courted and married someone else. For your sake, you had better find a way to let those feelings go or channel them elsewhere, because what you want is not going to happen and will keep you from finding someone who is available.

DEAR ABBY: I have three grown sons we don't see often. They're married or live with a girlfriend, and they work a lot. I understand they have their own lives, but it seems

their partners' families take priority over us. I feel bad about it, but I understand that this is just how it is.

We feel unimportant in their lives. When our anniversary comes around, they don't bother to acknowledge it. (They do acknowledge our birthdays.) I always make sure I don't miss an occasion by calling or sending a card. When the one couple needs something (like money), they always call. I feel if we disappeared, they wouldn't notice. Our anniversary is the tip of the iceberg. All the rest I can let go of.

How can I tell them how much it hurts without sounding like a whiner? I'm not asking for much more than an unsolicited "Happy Anniversary." Our "golden" one is coming up soon. Some people's kids give them parties for such a special occasion. I'm actually embarrassed. We do have a life. We travel. But a little acknowledgment from our kids would be a big morale-booster. Advice?

— LET DOWN IN THE WEST

DEAR LET DOWN: Your adult children are not mind readers. They appear to be very much centered on themselves and their own lives. TELL them how hurt you are when they overlook your anniversaries. If nothing changes, the next time you are hit up for money, say no. If you do, it may lessen their sense of entitlement, which would be doing them a bigger favor than dispensing dough like an ATM machine.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



The Associated Press file photo

Commuters walk through a corridor in the World Trade Center Transportation Hub, in New York. The United States will add 79 million people in the next 40 years, but growth will slow as the U.S. population gets older, according to new projections presented Thursday at a meeting of demographers.

Census report: US will get older, and more diverse

By Mike Schneider

The Associated Press

The U.S. population will grow older and more diverse over the next four decades, according to new Census Bureau projections presented Thursday at a meeting of demographers.

As the U.S. median age increases, there will be a smaller ratio of workers in the labor force able to pay the payroll tax that funds Social Security payments to people of retirement age. In 15 years, the number of people over age 65 will be larger than the number of children for the first time in U.S. history, according to the presentation at a Southern Demographic Association meeting in New Orleans.

At the same time the U.S. is growing older, it will also become more diverse, with children leading the way. By next year, no single race

group alone will make up more than half of U.S. children, the projections show.

Although non-Hispanic whites currently are a majority in the U.S., their numbers will dip below 50% of the population in 40 years, declining from 199 million next year to 179 million in 2060, the projections show.

People who identify as two or more races will be the fastest-growing group in the next 40 years, its population expanding as births outpace deaths.

Other fast-growing groups include Asians, whose growth will be driven by migration, and Hispanics, whose growth will be driven by natural increases, according to the projections.

The U.S. is expected to cross the 400 million-person threshold by 2058, as it adds 79 million more people in 40 years, but annual growth

will slow down. The U.S. has about 326 million people today.

Population growth is expected to go from an additional 2.3 million per year currently to an additional 1.6 million people a year by 2060.

Growth comes from immigration and when births outpace deaths, but that natural increase will decline as the nation ages. The nation's median age is expected to go from 38 today to 43 by 2060.

As the number of people over age 65 grows, the share of working-age adults, who pay with their employers for Social Security through a payroll tax, will also decline. Next year, there are expected to be 3.5 working-age adults for every person of retirement age, but that ratio declines to 2.5 by 2060, according to the projections.

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weather

TONIGHT	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
A shower in spots late	Cooler with a few showers	Chilly with plenty of sun	Partly sunny and chilly	Plenty of sunshine
Baker City 32 Comfort Index™ 10	49 24 0	47 17 1	50 20 3	52 20 5
La Grande 35 Comfort Index™ 10	46 24 0	45 20 3	48 22 3	53 26 9
Enterprise 32 Comfort Index™ 10	43 22 0	41 18 2	45 22 4	51 26 6

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 Wednesday	58°	57°	57°
Low Wednesday	25°	28°	29°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Wednesday	0.00	0.00	0.07
Month to date	0.11	0.59	3.17
Normal month to date	0.43	0.86	1.09
Year to date	7.14	13.10	25.85
Normal year to date	8.05	12.40	16.94

WED. EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 100°	Thermal, Calif.
Low: 5°	Lake Yellowstone, Wyo.
Wettest: 2.28"	Wiscasset, Maine
OREGON	
High: 79°	Brookings
Low: 23°	Burns
Wettest: Trace	Corvallis

WEATHER HISTORY

On Oct. 25, 1959, Yuma recorded its latest 100-degree-Fahrenheit reading ever. Even in Yuma, the heat usually eases in fall. From June 4 through Sept. 20, the normal high is over 100.

SUN & MOON

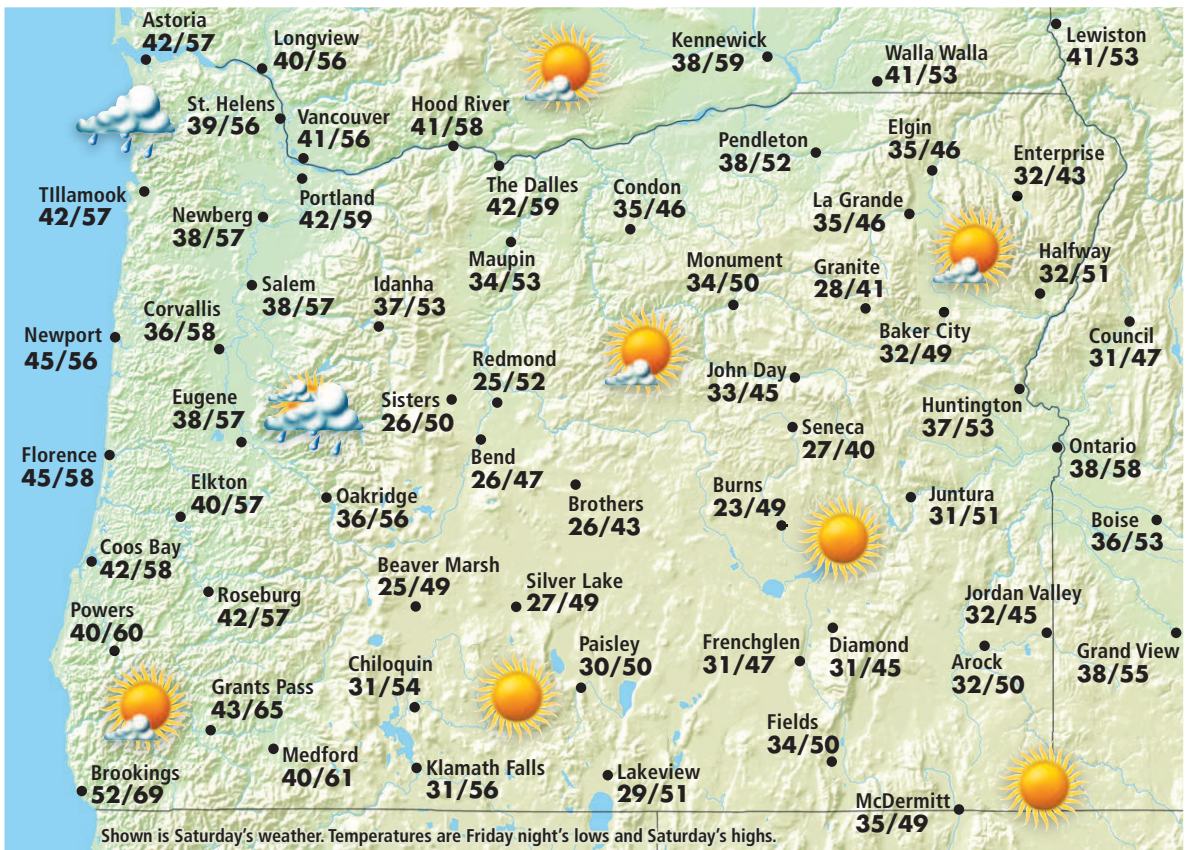
	FRI.	SAT.
Sunrise	7:21 a.m.	7:23 a.m.
Sunset	5:51 p.m.	5:49 p.m.
Moonrise	3:56 a.m.	5:14 a.m.
Moonset	5:06 p.m.	5:34 p.m.

MOON PHASES

New	First	Full	Last
Oct 27	Nov 4	Nov 12	Nov 19

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	57/38/s	58/35/s	Lewiston	53/31/sh	50/29/s
Bend	47/24/s	47/21/s	Longview	56/33/s	56/31/s
Boise	53/28/s	49/25/s	Meacham	43/23/pc	43/19/s
Brookings	69/49/s	66/45/s	Medford	61/31/s	62/29/s
Burns	49/19/s	47/10/s	Newport	56/43/s	57/39/s
Coos Bay	58/42/s	61/37/s	Olympia	55/33/pc	56/29/s
Corvallis	58/34/s	59/32/s	Ontario	58/31/s	53/22/s
Council	47/24/s	45/18/s	Pasco	59/30/s	56/28/s
Elgin	46/25/pc	45/20/s	Pendleton	52/29/pc	51/27/s
Eugene	57/33/s	59/31/s	Portland	59/36/pc	59/34/s
Hermiston	58/33/s	56/27/s	Powers	60/38/s	64/36/s
Hood River	58/35/s	55/30/s	Redmond	52/23/s	50/20/s
Imnaha	47/25/sh	46/23/s	Roseburg	57/35/s	61/32/s
John Day	45/27/pc	46/24/s	Salem	57/35/pc	59/30/s
Joseph	42/21/sn	39/18/s	Spokane	47/27/pc	45/28/s
Kennewick	59/31/s	56/28/s	The Dalles	59/35/s	56/29/s
Klamath Falls	56/25/s	50/16/s	Ukiah	42/22/sf	43/19/s
Lakeview	51/22/s	44/13/s	Walla Walla	53/32/pc	53/30/s

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

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE
Snow, up to 1"	Some sun; cooler
23 11	43 20
MT. EMILY REC.	BROWNLEE RES.
A snow shower	A shower; cooler
34 21	51 29
EAGLE CAP WILD.	EMIGRANT ST. PARK
A bit of p.m. snow	Partly sunny
32 13	39 20
WALLOWA LAKE	MCKAY RESERVOIR
Snow and rain	Showers around
42 21	50 28
THIEF VALLEY RES.	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
A shower or two	Spotty showers
49 24	46 24

GO!

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