

# Sister gets more of man’s time than his wife and kids

DEAR ABBY: I don’t know how to handle this. My husband of 29 years spends more time with his sister and her family than he does with me and our children. If I say anything about it, he jumps all over me, defending her. He says she doesn’t have anyone to help her. But Abby, she has two grown sons and a husband she recently decided to divorce.

I think his relationship with his sister is weird, and other people have said they think so, too. One person even called it creepy. When I told my husband I thought it was a weird relationship, he yelled at me. I can no longer talk about his sister with him; it’s off limits. Please help.

— ONLY THE WIFE

DEAR ONLY THE WIFE: Has your husband always been close to this sister? It may be the reason he is spending time with her. I’m sure she wouldn’t be divorcing her husband if the marriage had been a bed of roses, and she may need private time with her brother to help her detoxify.

That said, that he spends more time with his sister than with you and the children is unusual. It makes me wonder about the state of your own marriage. If there is stress and tension the two of you can’t resolve together, you may need to consult a licensed marriage and family therapist.

DEAR ABBY: Our 47-year-old son remarried two years ago. We have a 15-year-old grandson from his previous marriage who lives with his mom and who visits his dad every other weekend. We are not close with our new in-laws, who live out of state.

We recently found out that they have purchased a second home very close to our son. The problem is, the home is located within a nudist colony and, therefore, we assume they are in fact nudists. Should this be a problem for us (we are both 70), or should we not be concerned?

— WONDERING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR WONDERING: I don’t think there is anything to be worried about. If you are concerned that your grandson will “see” something shocking, please know that he can find whatever he is curious about on his computer or cellphone. However, if you are

worried that either of you will be forced to view or participate in nude activities when you visit your son, all you have to say is, “I think we’ll stay at a nearby hotel, thank you.”

DEAR ABBY: I recently attended a wedding and was videotaped while I was dancing. I was shown the tape later at a family gathering. I’m not a great dancer, and I looked silly, so I asked that the video be deleted. Instead, it was passed around and everyone laughed and made fun of me. It was embarrassing and hurtful.

My husband says I’m overreacting. Am I? I said nothing and don’t intend to, but I can’t get it out of my mind.

— DANCING FOOL IN OHIO

DEAR DANCING FOOL: Your feelings are your feelings. Nobody wants to be made fun of. But you have two choices: The first is to continue to stew about it. The second is to join in the laughter, admit you don’t dance like a gazelle — few people do — and let it go. If you downplay it, it will go away.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently lost our beloved pet of 12 years, “Bootsy.” He was our first “fur baby.” His death was very sudden, and we are devastated. We don’t have children; it was as if he was our firstborn. What can we do to get through the death of our beloved dog-child?

— SUFFERING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR SUFFERING: I am sorry for your loss. An unfortunate aspect of being emotionally invested in a pet is the reality that they have much shorter lifespans than humans do. Start the healing process by reminding each other that you gave Bootsy the best life possible. Consider making a contribution in his name to an animal rescue organization. Then contact the veterinarian who cared for Bootsy about joining a grief support group to help you through this time of bereavement.

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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## OREGON

# New law opens up process for post-conviction testing

By Donald Orr  
Oregon Public Broadcasting

SALEM — A new law that took effect on Jan. 1 will allow better access to post-conviction DNA testing for people who say they’ve been wrongfully convicted of aggravated murder and other serious crimes.

The new measure amends statutes previously introduced in 2015 that said someone requesting a DNA test would have to show that specific evidence would lead to finding that they were “actually innocent,” in effect having to vouch for their innocence before DNA could even be tested.

The new law opens up the process by eliminating gate-keeping language that would have prevented access to the discovery of evidence from the initial conviction.

Steve Wax is the legal director for the Oregon Innocence Project, an Oregon nonprofit focused on preventing and correcting wrongful convictions. Wax helped propose the initial 2015 legislation with the project and he was among a handful of advocates who testified for the newer changes last February. While the 2015 bill was a big leap forward for a modern standard of DNA testing, Wax said some of its language was still restrictive.

“There are still hurdles that need to be jumped through, but what a person has to prove is now more reasonable,” Wax said.



EO Media Group file photo

In this April 15, 2014 file photo, a criminalist trainee prepares sample bone fragments for DNA testing at the training lab in New York.

The Oregon Innocence Project has successfully assisted two men who have seen their convictions overturned thanks to better standards of DNA testing. Nicholas McGuffin’s conviction was overturned thanks to previously undisclosed DNA evidence, revealing another man’s DNA at the crime scene. He had served nine years of a 10-year prison sentence after being convicted of manslaughter in 2011 with a non-unanimous 10-2 verdict from the jury. Oregon is the only state in the country that allows for non-unanimous jury convictions in criminal felony cases.

Coos County District Attorney Paul Frasier decided not to pursue a retrial and McGuffin currently awaits being released from custody. Janis Puracal is the

executive director with the Forensic Justice Project and represented McGuffin during his trial along with the Oregon Innocence Project.

“If there is DNA that can prove a person’s innocence, we want to know that,” Puracal said. “The changes to the statute give us a better opportunity to look critically at our justice system and right the wrongs.”

The Oregon Innocence Project is now working on a case with Jesse Johnson, a death row inmate who was charged with aggravated murder after the 1998 fatal stabbing of a Salem woman.

The Oregonian reported that Johnson and his attorneys requested 37 pieces of evidence to be tested, but that request was opposed and denied. Attorneys with the Oregon Innocence Project have since appealed.

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# weather

| TONIGHT                               | THU                     | FRI                     | SAT                       | SUN                       |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| A bit of evening snow                 | Mostly cloudy, a shower | A little afternoon snow | Snow showers; not as cold | Chilly with snow at times |
| <b>Baker City</b><br>Comfort Index™ 3 | <b>38 23</b><br>3       | <b>34 30</b><br>0       | <b>40 24</b><br>1         | <b>35 24</b><br>0         |
| <b>La Grande</b><br>Comfort Index™ 0  | <b>28 22</b><br>0       | <b>33 30</b><br>0       | <b>39 27</b><br>0         | <b>34 26</b><br>0         |
| <b>Enterprise</b><br>Comfort Index™ 0 | <b>24 18</b><br>0       | <b>32 26</b><br>0       | <b>37 24</b><br>0         | <b>32 24</b><br>0         |

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                       | Baker City | La Grande | Elgin |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|
| <b>TEMPERATURES</b>           |            |           |       |
| High Monday                   | 38°        | 39°       | 38°   |
| Low Monday                    | 28°        | 31°       | 33°   |
| <b>PRECIPITATION</b> (inches) |            |           |       |
| Monday                        | Trace      | 0.07      | Trace |
| Month to date                 | 0.01       | 0.42      | 1.27  |
| Normal month to date          | 0.18       | 0.34      | 0.63  |
| Year to date                  | 0.01       | 0.42      | 1.27  |
| Normal year to date           | 0.18       | 0.34      | 0.63  |

| AGRICULTURAL INFO.              |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY</b> |                  |
| Lowest relative humidity        | 60%              |
| Afternoon wind                  | W at 8 to 16 mph |
| Hours of sunshine               | 0.7              |
| Evapotranspiration              | 0.03             |

| RESERVOIR STORAGE      | (through midnight Tuesday) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Phillips Reservoir     | 23% of capacity            |
| Unity Reservoir        | 43% of capacity            |
| Owyhee Reservoir       | 68% of capacity            |
| McKay Reservoir        | 21% of capacity            |
| Wallowa Lake           | 40% of capacity            |
| Thief Valley Reservoir | 99% of capacity            |

| STREAM FLOWS                             | (through midnight Monday) |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grande Ronde at Troy                     | 1100 cfs                  |
| Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder | 32 cfs                    |
| Burnt River near Unity                   | 10 cfs                    |
| Umatilla River near Gibbon               | 127 cfs                   |
| Minam River at Minam                     | 124 cfs                   |
| Powder River near Richland               | 72 cfs                    |

| MONDAY EXTREMES                              |                     |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>NATION</b> (for the 48 contiguous states) |                     |
| High: 84°                                    | Santa Ana, Calif.   |
| Low: -12°                                    | Waverly, Colo.      |
| Wettest: 4.20"                               | Stamper Pass, Wash. |
| <b>OREGON</b>                                |                     |
| High: 60°                                    | Hermiston           |
| Low: 20°                                     | Crater Lake         |
| Wettest: 2.34"                               | Astoria             |

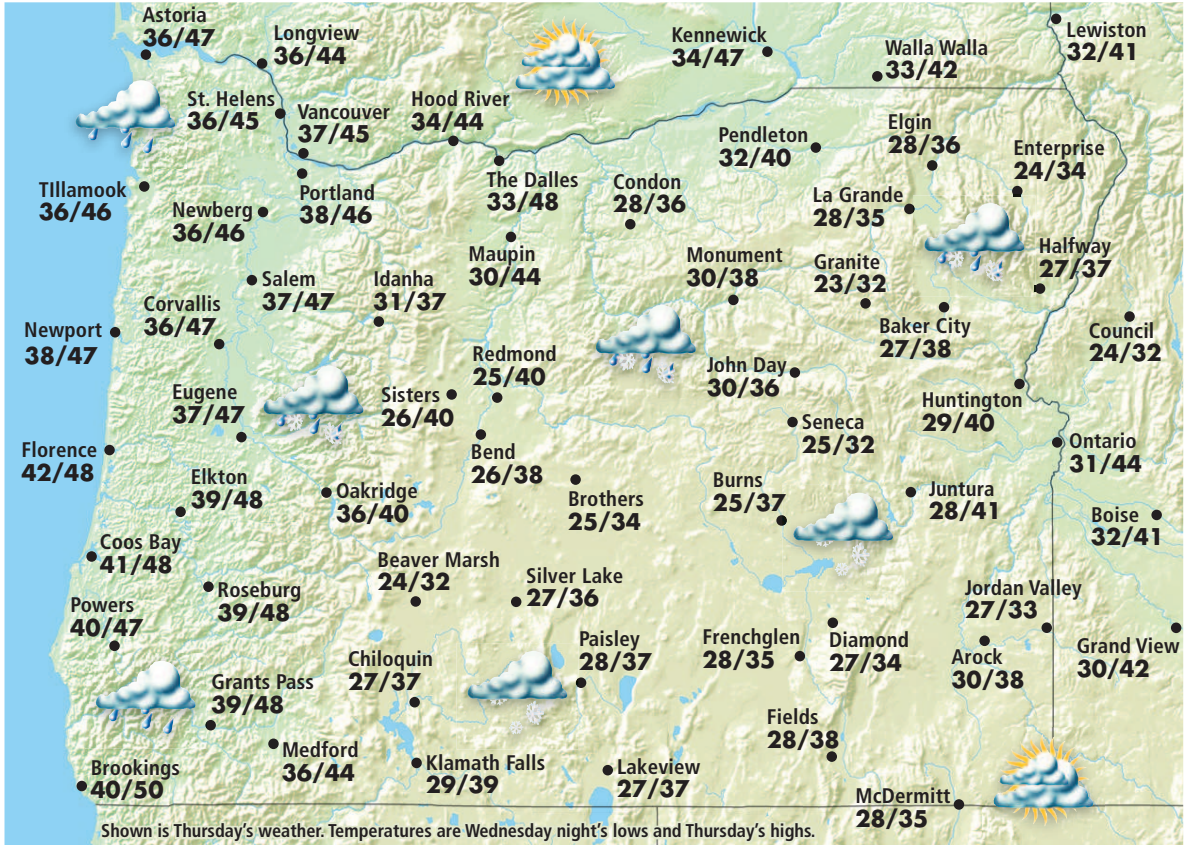
| WEATHER HISTORY                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| The temperature stayed below zero in New York City for an entire day only once—on Jan. 8, 1859. During the same cold snap, Toronto had its coldest January temperature ever with a low of 27 degrees below zero. |  |

| SUN & MOON | WED.      | THU.      |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Sunrise    | 7:31 a.m. | 7:31 a.m. |
| Sunset     | 4:27 p.m. | 4:28 p.m. |
| Moonrise   | 2:40 p.m. | 3:32 p.m. |
| Moonset    | 5:28 a.m. | 6:33 a.m. |

| MOON PHASES | Full   | Last   | New    | First |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
|             |        |        |        |       |
|             | Jan 10 | Jan 17 | Jan 24 | Feb 1 |

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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### REGIONAL CITIES

|               | THU.     | FRI.     |             | THU.     | FRI.     |
|---------------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| City          | Hi/Low/W | Hi/Low/W | City        | Hi/Low/W | Hi/Low/W |
| Astoria       | 47/41/c  | 50/41/r  | Lewiston    | 41/28/pc | 41/37/sf |
| Bend          | 38/23/c  | 44/31/sn | Longview    | 44/36/c  | 43/41/r  |
| Boise         | 41/22/c  | 38/33/pc | Meacham     | 33/21/sn | 31/28/sn |
| Brookings     | 50/35/r  | 47/41/r  | Medford     | 44/29/r  | 43/37/r  |
| Burns         | 37/18/c  | 37/29/sn | Newport     | 47/39/c  | 49/42/r  |
| Coos Bay      | 48/36/c  | 49/43/r  | Olympia     | 43/35/c  | 43/40/r  |
| Corvallis     | 47/35/c  | 45/40/r  | Ontario     | 44/25/c  | 40/33/pc |
| Council       | 32/13/sf | 28/26/sn | Pasco       | 48/33/pc | 47/41/c  |
| Elgin         | 36/22/c  | 32/29/sn | Pendleton   | 40/27/c  | 45/40/sh |
| Eugene        | 47/35/c  | 46/41/r  | Portland    | 46/38/r  | 45/42/r  |
| Hermiston     | 47/32/pc | 46/41/sh | Powers      | 47/33/r  | 47/40/r  |
| Hood River    | 44/35/sh | 42/38/r  | Redmond     | 40/24/c  | 46/30/r  |
| Imnaha        | 36/19/c  | 35/30/sf | Roseburg    | 48/34/c  | 48/42/r  |
| John Day      | 36/23/c  | 38/32/sn | Salem       | 47/37/c  | 45/41/r  |
| Joseph        | 33/15/sf | 30/25/sn | Spokane     | 36/24/pc | 33/30/sn |
| Kennewick     | 47/32/pc | 46/43/r  | The Dalles  | 48/34/c  | 44/37/r  |
| Klamath Falls | 39/18/sh | 39/30/pc | Ukiah       | 33/20/sf | 34/30/sn |
| Lakeview      | 37/16/c  | 38/27/sn | Walla Walla | 42/30/pc | 44/40/sn |

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

### RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

| ANTHONY LAKES     | PHILLIPS LAKE       |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Very cold         | Mostly cloudy       |
| <b>18 6</b>       | <b>33 17</b>        |
| MT. EMILY REC.    | BROWNLEE RES.       |
| A snow shower     | Snow showers        |
| <b>26 18</b>      | <b>36 21</b>        |
| EAGLE CAP WILD.   | EMIGRANT ST. PARK   |
| A snow shower     | Snow, up to 1"      |
| <b>23 6</b>       | <b>29 18</b>        |
| WALLOWA LAKE      | MCKAY RESERVOIR     |
| A snow shower     | A passing shower    |
| <b>33 15</b>      | <b>40 28</b>        |
| THIEF VALLEY RES. | RED BRIDGE ST. PARK |
| Mostly cloudy     | A shower            |
| <b>38 23</b>      | <b>35 22</b>        |

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EVERY FRIDAY

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