

Dinner parties dominated by woman's nonstop talking

DEAR ABBY: I am part of a couples group that gets together on a regular basis for dinner.

The problem is one of the women takes over the conversation, and it becomes her monologue. She just won't stop! She goes into minute detail about every aspect of her life for the last couple of weeks (or months or years!) and the lives of her family, friends, friends of family and friends of friends. These are people we don't know and don't care about!

We have tried to redirect the conversation by asking someone else a specific question. Before they can hardly comment, she jumps right in again. She's a nice person, and a friend. Can you suggest a kind way we can fix this, or do we just have to exclude them from these dinners?

— EARS HURTING IN OHIO

DEAR EARS HURTING: The woman may not realize how her

efforts to be entertaining are perceived by the rest of you. Someone — possibly you — has to summon up the courage to tell her how off-putting her monologues are.

DEAR ABBY

It may not be an easy conversation to have, but it would be better than excluding her with no explanation. If, however, she is unable (or unwilling) to change her behavior, the solution would be to stop inviting her.

DEAR ABBY: I just turned 51 and have been diagnosed with cancer for the second time. Why is it that when I tell someone I have cancer, their first response is to tell me about every person in their life who has had cancer and all the gloomy stories? One family member actually pulled out pictures to show me her SIL's hair growing back. Why do they think this is an appropriate response? It's the last thing I want to hear. It is difficult to remain

positive, and I struggle with letting people in. The more this happens, the more I shut down. Your thoughts?

— TRYING IN SALEM, MASS.

DEAR TRYING: It might help to remind yourself that these individuals may be trying to show you they identify with what you and their relatives have experienced.

The family member who showed you that picture may have thought she was being encouraging by showing you a positive outcome — that after chemo, your hair may grow back.

If someone starts a conversation along these lines, it is perfectly acceptable to tell the person you would rather not discuss the subject right now — or ever. Please don't allow the fact that some people are inappropriate to isolate you. As I am sure you are aware, there are cancer support groups in which you can receive emotional support. If you need to find one, visit cancer.org.

Coronavirus stalls work to keep alive a rare rhino subspecies

By Joe Mwiha and Kheled Kazziha
Associated Press

NANYUKI, Kenya — It's not quite a case of coitus interruptus, but efforts to create a very special baby are definitely on hold. Blame the pandemic.

Groundbreaking work to keep alive the nearly extinct northern white rhino subspecies — population, two — by in-vitro fertilization has been stalled by travel restrictions. And time is running out.

The two northern white rhinos are female. The goal is to create viable embryos in a lab by inseminating their eggs with frozen sperm from dead males, then transfer them into a surrogate mother, a more common southern white rhino.

As of January, three embryos had been created and stored in liquid nitrogen. But further key steps now have to wait.

"It has been disrupted by COVID-19, like everything else," said Richard Vigne, managing director of Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya, home of the two

remaining rhinos. "That is, the process of collecting more eggs from the females as well as the process of developing the technique to introduce the northern white rhino embryo into the southern white rhino females."

It's an international effort that includes conservationists from Kenya, the Czech Republic, Germany and Italy — many affected by closed borders or restricted travel.

For those involved in the effort, acutely aware of time, the delay can be painful. The procedure to create viable embryos has proven to be safe, they say, and can be performed regularly before the animals become too old.

In January, the transfer of the embryos to surrogates had been planned for the coming months. In March, the plan had been to collect another round of eggs from the two remaining females.

Because those eggs are limited, scientists are working with embryos from southern white rhinos until they can establish a successful pregnancy.

Seven or eight transfers so far have failed to take hold. A receptive female is needed, along with the knowledge of exactly when she ovulates.

"We know time is working against us," said Cesare Galli, an in-vitro fertilization expert based in Italy. "The females will age and we don't have many to choose from."

He hopes restrictions on international travel will loosen in the coming weeks so key steps can resume in August. "The problem is quite serious," he said.

Certainly as soon as international travel is resumed, it will be the first priority to go to Kenya and collect more eggs from the two females.

Even when travel can resume, another problem looms. The Ol Pejeta Conservancy also is home to primates — non-human primates — which are susceptible to the coronavirus, Galli said.

"If you bring in the virus accidentally, it's an additional risk," he said. "You threaten one species to save another."

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weather

TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Clearing	Partly sunny and warm	Very warm with sunshine	Warm with clouds and sun	Thunderstorms possible
Baker City 47 Comfort Index™ 8	78 47 8	85 54 6	91 58 4	90 53 4
La Grande 47 Comfort Index™ 8	76 46 8	82 54 6	88 59 4	90 51 6
Enterprise 45 Comfort Index™ 8	73 44 9	80 52 6	87 56 4	89 52 4

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 Sunday	71°	71°	78°
Low Sunday	37°	38°	38°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	1.03	4.03	2.79
Normal month to date	1.11	1.51	1.70
Year to date	2.02	10.62	22.52
Normal year to date	4.18	7.36	11.47

AGRICULTURAL INFO.
HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY

Lowest relative humidity	35%
Afternoon wind	NNW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	3.7
Evapotranspiration	0.21

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)

Phillips Reservoir	47% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	99% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	81% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	103% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	79% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	106% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	10900 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	755 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	210 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	797 cfs
Minam River at Minam	1450 cfs
Powder River near Richland	1003 cfs

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 102° Thermal, Calif.
Low: 20° Bodie State Park, Calif.
Wettest: 4.88" Manhattan, Kan.

OREGON
High: 82° Medford
Low: 27° Crater Lake
Wettest: Trace Newport

WEATHER HISTORY
A devastating tornado ripped through Illinois on May 26, 1917. The storm killed 70 people as it tracked along a damage path 293 miles long for a period of seven hours and 20 minutes.

SUN & MOON

	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	5:11 a.m.	5:11 a.m.
Sunset	8:28 p.m.	8:29 p.m.
Moonrise	8:25 a.m.	9:30 a.m.
Moonset	none	12:24 a.m.

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
May 29	Jun 5	Jun 12	Jun 20

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

Shown is Wednesday's weather. Temperatures are Tuesday night's lows and Wednesday's highs.

City	WED.	THU.
Astoria	48/68	47/78
St. Helens	48/79	50/79
Vancouver	50/79	50/82
Hood River	50/82	51/85
The Dalles	51/85	48/76
Condon	48/76	51/80
Pendleton	51/80	47/76
Elgin	47/76	45/74
Enterprise	45/73	51/81
Halfway	51/81	50/80
Council Bluffs	50/80	58/85
Huntington	58/85	58/87
Ontario	58/87	55/84
Juntura	55/84	52/76
Boise	58/83	55/83
Arocl	55/83	58/86
Grand View	58/86	51/80
McDermitt	51/80	

REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED.	THU.
Astoria	68/52/pc	70/53/pc
Bend	79/50/s	83/54/pc
Boise	83/57/s	90/63/s
Brookings	70/56/s	73/55/s
Burns	82/52/s	88/53/pc
Coos Bay	65/50/s	66/52/s
Corvallis	80/53/s	85/54/s
Council	80/49/s	85/55/s
Elgin	76/48/pc	83/57/s
Eugene	80/52/s	83/53/s
Hermiston	86/53/pc	91/59/s
Hood River	82/53/pc	88/58/s
Imnaha	78/54/pc	86/57/s
John Day	78/50/s	86/60/pc
Joseph	73/44/s	80/51/s
Kennewick	86/52/pc	92/59/s
Klamath Falls	84/53/s	89/53/s
Lakeview	83/53/s	87/51/s
Lewiston	80/56/pc	84/62/s
Longview	78/48/pc	82/52/s
Meacham	74/44/pc	80/53/s
Medford	90/59/s	94/63/s
Newport	64/51/pc	65/52/s
Olympia	77/48/c	81/51/pc
Ontario	87/56/s	91/61/s
Pasco	86/52/pc	92/60/s
Pendleton	80/52/s	85/59/s
Portland	81/57/pc	87/59/s
Powers	79/53/s	80/50/s
Redmond	83/50/s	87/53/pc
Roseburg	84/57/s	88/58/s
Salem	79/54/s	85/55/s
Spokane	74/51/pc	79/55/s
The Dalles	85/56/pc	91/60/s
Ukiah	73/43/s	80/51/s
Walla Walla	79/55/pc	84/61/s

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

City	WED.	THU.
ANTHONY LAKES	55 41	Mostly sunny; mild
MT. EMILY REC.	64 46	Partly sunny
EAGLE CAP WILD.	62 36	Mostly sunny; mild
WALLOWA LAKE	73 44	Mostly sunny
THIEF VALLEY RES.	78 47	Mostly sunny; warm
PHILLIPS LAKE	75 46	Mostly sunny; warm
BROWNLEE RES.	81 50	Mostly sunny
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	70 41	Mostly sunny; warm
MCKAY RESERVOIR	78 51	Mostly sunny
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	76 46	Partly sunny; warm

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

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