

Man contemplates adopting stepdaughter he adores

DEAR ABBY: I am thinking about asking my stepdaughter “Gwen” (37 years old with a husband and three kids) if she would like me to adopt her. I married her mother when Gwen was 2. We divorced when she was 8 or 9, so we were out of contact for about 25 years. Gwen really dislikes her father. Her mother and I have patched things up, so much so that we’ve been on a couple of vacations together. Gwen has been along on both.

We have a special bond that goes back to the first time I met her. She was a terror, and her mother, grandmother and the rest of the family had basically given



DEAR ABBY

up on her. But we clicked. I was patient with her, and we became close. When we were together a few weeks ago on vacation, she asked if I wanted to come to Colorado, which is halfway across the country from where I live, for her daughter’s 3rd birthday party. I’m going. I love her dearly and always have. I missed her terribly during the years her mother and I barely communicated. I was able to see my kids, but not her. Now I feel that closeness again, and I want to officially adopt her as I should have back when she was 2. What do you think, Abby?

— LOVING HER IN LOUISIANA

DEAR LOVING HER: Do not make such an important decision on impulse. Be prudent and let this renewed relationship with your ex and her daughter play out a while longer before making any decisions. Then, if you still feel the same, talk to your ex about what you have in mind. If she reacts positively, discuss it with Gwen.

But I urge you to use caution because your ex may consider herself and her daughter to be a package deal and expect you to “adopt” her, too. It goes without saying that this should be discussed with your lawyer because the fact that Gwen still has a father may complicate matters.

DEAR ABBY: The sisters in my family are very close. Today

we live independently and alone in different cities. After we retire, three of the four of us plan to live together in a new location. Our dilemma: The fourth sister marches to a different drummer. Our lifestyles are very different — completely opposite, in fact. We love her and enjoy being with her at family gatherings and doing things together. Yet we feel strongly that because she has little initiative and a “dependent” personality, she shouldn’t live with us, so we haven’t included her in our plans.

We know the news will upset her, and we don’t want to cause hurt feelings, but we feel strongly about this. We have tried to figure out how we could make it work, but always end up knowing it

won’t. The only option we can think of would be that she could move to wherever we are and find a place of her own, but we’re not sure she has the means to make it happen. Can you help us figure out the most compassionate way to share the news with her?

— FORWARD THINKING

DEAR FORWARD THINKING: The most compassionate way to venture into this minefield would be to ask your sister what her plans are once she retires. If she says she plans to live with you, she should be told it won’t happen and why, so she can make other arrangements for herself. While the conversation may not be pleasant, it is necessary, and it should take place sooner rather than later.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Connecticut city renames sewage plant for John Oliver

By Dave Collins
Associated Press

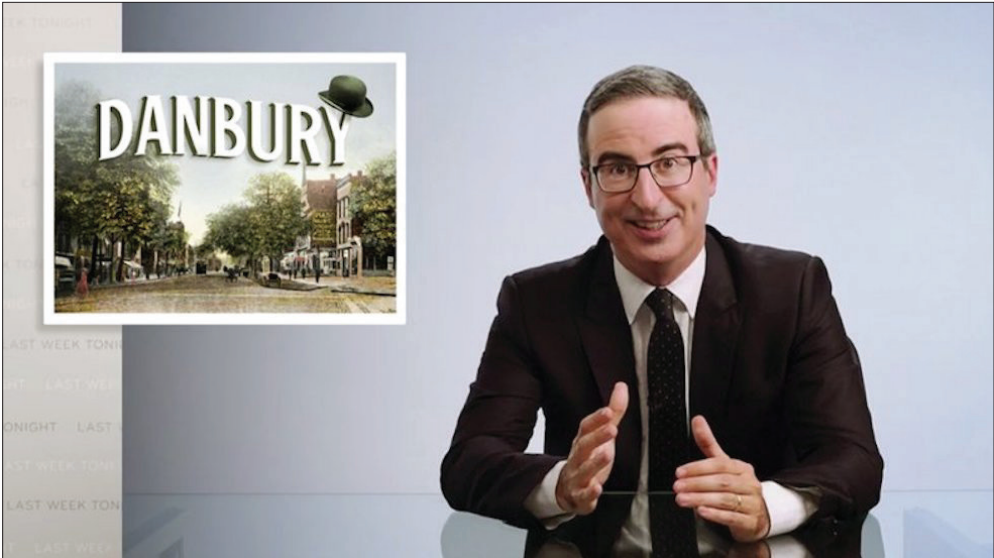
DANBURY, Conn. — It’s official. Every time residents of Danbury, Connecticut, flush, they will be sending their special deliveries to the John Oliver Memorial Sewer Plant.

The city council voted 18-1 last week to rename the sewage plant after the comedian, who began a tongue-in-cheek battle with Danbury when he went on an expletive-filled rant against the city on HBO’s “Last Week Tonight with John Oliver” in August.

Mayor Mark Boughton didn’t waste any time responding on social media. He posted a video of himself at the sewage plant saying the city was going to name it after Oliver.

“Why?” the Republican mayor asked. “Because it’s full of crap just like you, John.”

That drew a delighted response from Oliver, but



This video frame grab shows John Oliver from his program “Last Week Tonight with John Oliver” on HBO, Sunday, Aug. 30, 2020. On Thursday, Oct. 8, the Danbury City Council voted 18-1 to rename the sewage plant after the comedian.

he went off against the city again because Boughton later said he was just joking.

Oliver upped the stakes on his Aug. 30 show by offering to donate \$55,000 to local charities if Danbury actually followed through with renaming the plant.

“I didn’t know that I wanted my name on your (expletive) factory but now

that you floated it as an option, it is all that I want,” Oliver said.

Boughton said Friday the feud has been a good distraction from the coronavirus and other troubles of the times. He also said Oliver’s promised donations have helped spur local fundraising efforts for area food banks that could end

up collecting a few hundred thousand dollars to feed needy families.

The mayor added he will be offering tours of the sewer plant for \$500 donations to local food pantries.

Oliver has offered to provide the new sign for the plant, as well as attend the ribbon-cutting, Boughton said.

Young whales looking to dine flock to waters off NYC

By Patrick Whittle and Ted Shaffrey
Associated Press

NEW YORK — If you’re young and hungry, the place to go is New York City — even if you weigh 25 tons and have a blowhole.

Whale watch captains and scientists around America’s most populous city say recent years have seen a tremendous surge in the number of whales observed in the waters around the Big Apple. Many of the whales are juvenile humpbacks, and scientists say they’re drawn to New York by an abundance of the small fish they love to eat.

There are numerous theories about why whales are suddenly flocking to the city, but one of the most widely held is that the menhaden population has grown around New York and New Jersey.

Menhaden are small, schooling fish that hump-

backs relish, and environmentalists believe cleaner waters and stricter conservation laws have increased their numbers near New York City.

Gotham Whale, a New York City-based whale research organization, made more than 300 observations of 500 total whales in 2019, said Paul Sieswerda, the nonprofit’s president. That’s up from three sightings of five whales in 2011, after which a steady climb began, he said.

“Somehow or other more and more whales seem to be getting the message that New York is a good place to dine,” Sieswerda said. “That kind of magnitude of increase is just phenomenal.”

The resurgence of whales in the area has attracted tourists who want to see and photograph the giant marine mammals. But the concentration of whales near New York City also poses risks to the mammals, as they ply some of the most heavily traversed waters on the planet.

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weather

TONIGHT

Partly cloudy

WED

Partly sunny

THU

Mostly sunny

FRI

Sunny and warmer

SAT

Partly sunny and pleasant

Baker City	37	59	27	60	29	68	33	67	32
Comfort Index™	7	7	9	10	10	10	10	10	10
La Grande	41	56	31	58	33	69	43	70	39
Comfort Index™	3	3	9	10	10	10	10	10	10
Enterprise	36	52	28	55	33	67	40	66	39
Comfort Index™	6	3	8	10	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 Sunday	60°	56°	58°
Low Sunday	34°	41°	43°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Sunday	Trace	Trace	0.20
Month to date	Trace	0.01	0.20
Normal month to date	0.19	0.34	0.42
Year to date	2.99	13.40	26.24
Normal year to date	7.83	11.92	16.35

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 103°	Del Rio, Texas
Low: 19°	Dakota Hill, Colo.
Wettest: 2.91"	Charlotte, N.C.

OREGON

High: 70°	Roseburg
Low: 28°	Lakeview
Wettest: 0.87"	Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

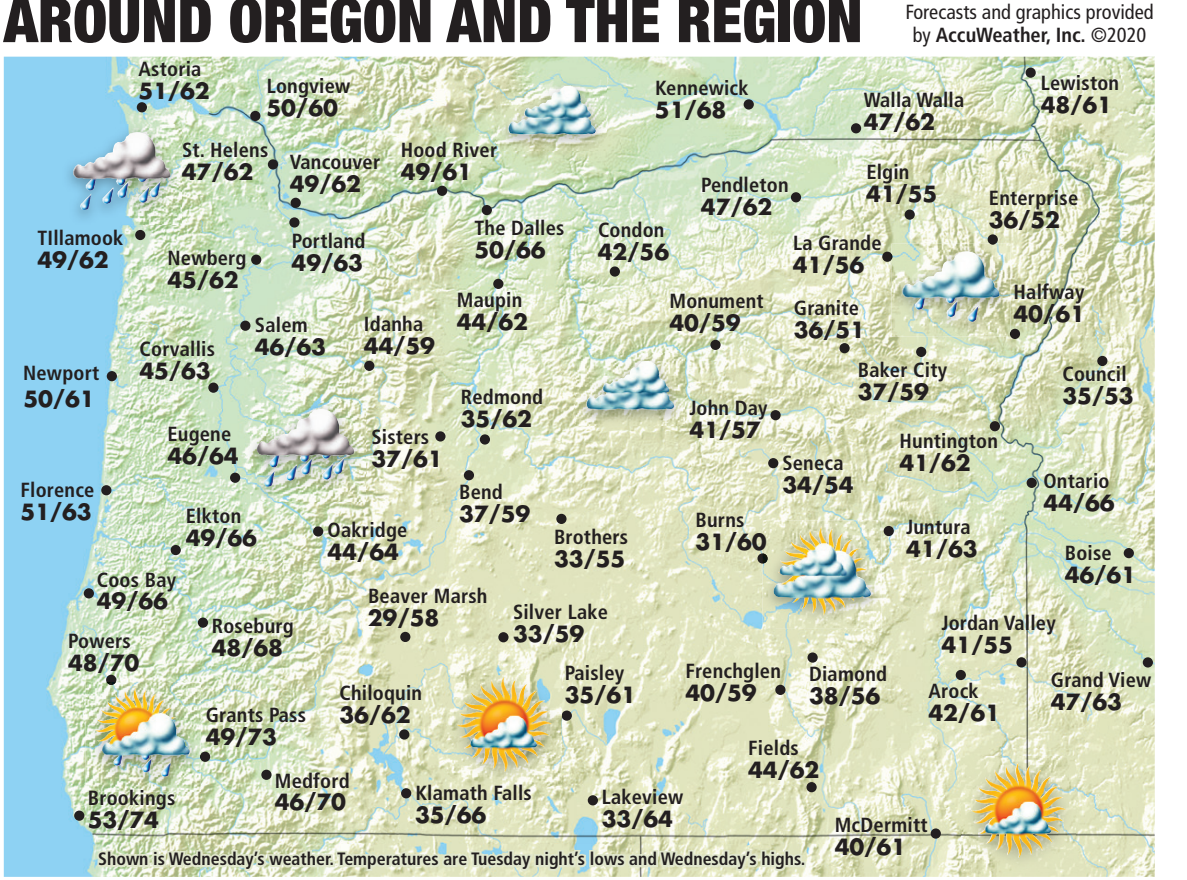
On Oct. 13, the Great Hurricane of 1846 moved from Cuba northward through Georgia and the Carolinas to Pennsylvania and caused great damage all along its path.

SUN & MOON

Sunrise	7:06 a.m.	7:08 a.m.
Sunset	6:10 p.m.	6:08 p.m.
Moonrise	2:45 a.m.	4:04 a.m.
Moonset	5:07 p.m.	5:35 p.m.

MOON PHASES

New	First	Full	Last
Oct 16	Oct 23	Oct 31	Nov 8



REGIONAL CITIES					RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY				
City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W	City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W	ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE	MT. EMILY REC.	BROWNLEE RES.
Astoria	62/46/c	64/48/s	Lewiston	61/39/s	60/41/pc	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Bend	59/33/pc	63/40/s	Longview	60/43/c	64/44/s	36 22	53 27	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Boise	61/36/pc	59/39/s	Meacham	53/30/pc	57/33/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Brookings	74/56/s	76/59/s	Medford	70/40/pc	76/44/s	44 29	59 32	Partly sunny; cold	Partly sunny
Burns	60/22/pc	60/23/s	Newport	61/47/c	63/49/s	39 19	50 26	Partly sunny; cold	Partly sunny
Coos Bay	66/47/pc	68/50/s	Olympia	62/41/c	61/42/s	51 28	61 36	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Corvallis	63/42/c	64/43/s	Ontario	66/34/pc	63/33/s	59 27	56 31	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Council	53/29/pc	60/32/pc	Pasco	68/39/s	63/40/pc	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Elgin	55/31/pc	59/33/pc	Pendleton	62/30/pc	62/39/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Eugene	64/42/pc	65/43/s	Portland	63/45/pc	66/47/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Hermiston	67/39/pc	65/40/s	Powers	70/46/pc	74/50/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Hood River	61/40/pc	64/42/s	Redmond	62/30/pc	63/34/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Imnaha	56/32/pc	60/38/pc	Roseburg	68/44/c	69/43/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
John Day	57/34/pc	63/38/s	Salem	63/42/c	64/44/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Joseph	51/28/pc	52/34/pc	Spokane	56/35/sh	56/38/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Kennewick	68/39/s	64/42/s	The Dalles	66/40/s	56/42/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Klamath Falls	66/29/pc	69/29/s	Ukiah	53/28/pc	58/32/s	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
Lakeview	64/23/pc	66/26/s	Walla Walla	62/40/pc	60/43/pc	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny

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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