Son with new girlfriend grows more distant from his mother

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm a mom of three young adults, a daughter and two sons. The oldest recently married. My youngest is finishing his last two years of college out of state. Three months ago, he met a young lady.

I have tried constantly to be close with all my children, but the youngest has always kept me at bay. He expresses how different we are. Now that he has met this young lady, I think he's trying to push me further away and continue on with her and her mom. It makes me sad because no matter how hard I try to be a good mother and be present, it doesn't work. What do you suggest?

— SAD MOM IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR MOM: Your son is pursuing not only this young lady, but also his independence, which is normal for someone his age, and he may need to separate from you for a while. Back off for now and allow him some space. Whether this college romance will pan out is anyone's guess, so calm down. If possible, concentrate on things other than your empty nest. However, if you are unable to do that, ask your physician or your insurance company to refer you to a licensed psychotherapist to help you get through this.

DEAR ABBY: I lost my schnauzer to diabetes five months ago. He was my best and, really, only friend. I can't get over the guilt for having to euthanize him. I hate myself. I have cried every day since because I feel like I let him down. I have never had to go through this before. It was so traumatic I just can't get over it. Why is this so hard?

— BEYOND GRIEF IN UTAH

DEAR BEYOND GRIEF: You have my sympathy. If your dog was suffering and your veterinarian told you the time had come for him to go, you did the right thing. Our beloved pets should run and play rather than suffer. This is so painful because you loved your cherished family member and feel you should have saved him, which, of course, was beyond your power.

Every pet owner faces what you are experiencing when they leave their pet at the Rainbow Bridge. In time, your pain should lessen. But if it persists to the point that it interferes with the rest of your life, consult your veterinarian about joining a grief support group.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 49 years is fighting me left and right about finding someone to help around our house. He is stubborn. He has tunnel vision and a one-track mind, and he doesn't want anyone to assist him in anything. If I hire someone, he always has a negative comment about that person's workmanship.

He's retired after working 44 years and thinks life will wait for him to complete any task, even if it takes another 49 years. I need help with his "I can handle it" attitude while everything stays on hold until he can get to it.

— NEEDS IT YESTERDAY IN MICHIGAN

DEAR NEEDS IT: Give your husband a deadline to either finish a project or hire it done, making clear that if he doesn't do it, you will see it gets done. Then batten down the hatches and be prepared for him not to take the message gracefully.

News of the Weird

Pennsylvania lawmaker joins familiar incumbent – her son

HARRISBURG, Pa. — An incumbent Pennsylvania state representative was joined by a familiar face when lawmakers took the oath of office Tuesday — his own mother.

Six-term Republican Rep. Ryan Mackenzie's district borders, for a couple miles, the one that his mother was elected to in November.

Freshman state Rep. Milou Mackenzie, 70, an interior designer and former schoolteacher, is also a Republican. They'll sit next to each other on the House floor during voting sessions and plan to carpool from their Lehigh County districts.

They lay claim to being the first mother-son pair elected to serve together in the chamber.

"It was really awe-inspiring" to be sworn in together, Milou Mackenzie said. "We didn't set out to make history or anything, but the fact that it was a historical moment is not lost on us."

They both laughed when asked what will happen if they end up voting against each other.

"We're independent thinkers, so I don't think it'll cause any problems at all," she said. "We may disagree at times as family members sometimes do. But it won't affect our relationship."

Milou Mackenzie has long been politically active, and when the Republican who last held the seat where she lives announced he would not seek reelection, Ryan Mackenzie, 38, asked his mother if she had any candidates to suggest.

She said she knocked on doors and tried to find someone, to no avail. She prayed about it. Then it struck her.

"All of a sudden, I said to Ryan, 'I think I'm going to do it,'" she recalled.

They both won contested races in November and joined the Republican majority for the 2021-22 session that got underway this week.

Similar things have happened elsewhere.

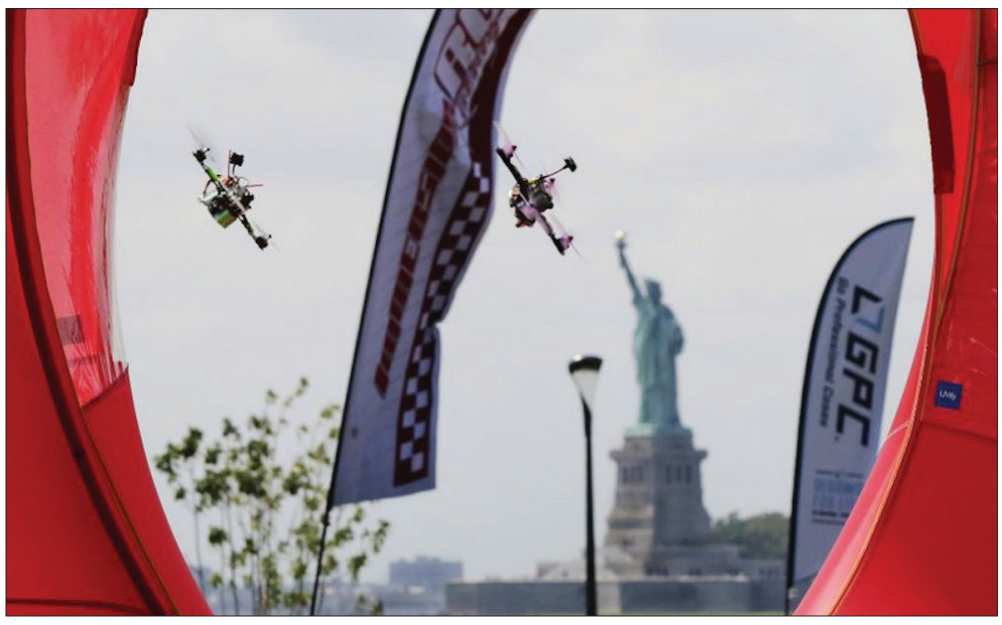
South Dakota has a Republican mother-son duo of state lawmakers as well, though they work in different chambers. Rep. Lana Greenfield took over the House seat of her son, Sen. Brock Greenfield, in 2015 when he switched chambers.

In Ohio, state Rep. Gayle Manning holds office across the legislative hall from her son, state Sen. Nathan Manning, a fellow Republican.

In the Montana Legislature, state Sen. Keith Regier has two children serving in House of Representatives. All three are Republicans. His son, Matt Regier, holds his father's former House seat. Matt Regier's sister, Amy Regier, joined the House for the 2021 session.

Abby E. Chiumento via AP

Six-term Republican Rep. Ryan Mackenzie, left, and his mother Milou Mackenzie pose at the Capitol on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Milou Mackenzie was elected in November 2020 as a state representative in an adjoining district as her son. She took the oath of office Tuesday.



Richard Drew/AP Photo, File

Pilots fly their small racing drones through an obstacle course for the National Drone Racing Championship on Governors Island, a former military installation in New York Harbor, Friday, Aug. 5, 2016. A major sports book is taking bets on aerial drone races.

Plenty of overhead in this market: Betting on aerial drone races

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.— In the "gamblers will bet on absolutely anything" category, here's a new one: A major sports book is taking bets on aerial drone races.

DraftKings said Friday, Jan. 8, it is taking bets for this weekend's championship of the Drone Racing League, in which pilots fly aerial drones in races.

Betting on the league's drone races is legal in Colorado, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Tennessee and West Virginia, with regulatory approvals pending in additional states.

"The sky is now the limit for DRL fans to get skin in the game, and we're thrilled to partner with DraftKings to transform our high-speed race competition into the ultimate sport to bet on," Drone Racing League President Rachel Jacobson said. "The opportunity for us to elevate our engagement through all forms of gaming and gambling will only increase as mobile betting becomes more adopted across the country."

The sports book and the league are hosting "pre-flight shows" Friday night on Twitter ahead of the live events, in which expert sports bettors and top drone pilots will educate fans on how to participate.

Championship events began Saturday.

Jacobson said its races are all virtual this year, taking place in a simulation in which real-life drone physics are incorporated. But is also hosts live drone racing in venues that have included Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida; Alexandra Palace in London, and an auto-museum in Munich.

DraftKings says there's a market for this. It offered free-to-play contests on drone races last year to gauge interest in the activity, and the response was 30% higher than usual for a new sport introduced to the betting platform. There have been more than 150,000 entries into these free contests so far.

DraftKings said consumer research has shown that drone racing fans are three times more likely to place a bet than fans of major sports leagues, and are 90% more likely to be interested in sports betting than the average sports fan.

The drone league is a privately owned New York company founded in 2015. It has held events in six countries.

— Associated Press

AccuWeather Plan your week | Get the NEW app

weather

	TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
	Partly cloudy	A few afternoon showers	Some sun, then clouds	A bit of ice in the a.m.	Mostly sunny
Baker City	21	38 21	40 29	43 27	42 24
Comfort Index™	4	3	3	4	3
La Grande	27	40 30	39 32	42 30	43 30
Comfort Index™	2	2	2	0	3
Enterprise	28	41 30	38 32	41 31	41 31
Comfort Index™	4	2	4	1	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 Tuesday	41°	41°	40°
Low Tuesday	31°	33°	30°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.03	0.03	0.17
Month to date	0.29	0.63	2.76
Normal month to date	0.35	0.69	1.30
Year to date	0.29	0.63	2.76
Normal year to date	0.35	0.69	1.30

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	55%
Afternoon wind	S at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	5.6
Evapotranspiration	0.04
RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)	
Phillips Reservoir	8% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	40% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	47% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	36% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	31% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	77% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	1810 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	1 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	15 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	595 cfs
Minam River at Minam	234 cfs
Powder River near Richland	19 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 79°	Tamiami, Fla.
Low: -38°	Antero Reservoir, Colo.
Wettest: 3.93"	Shelton, Wash.

OREGON

High: 61°	Roseburg
Low: 22°	Rome
Wettest: 1.36"	Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

Cold air penetrating the natural barriers of Southern California on Jan. 14, 1882, brought a record 15 inches of snow to San Bernardino.

SUN & MOON

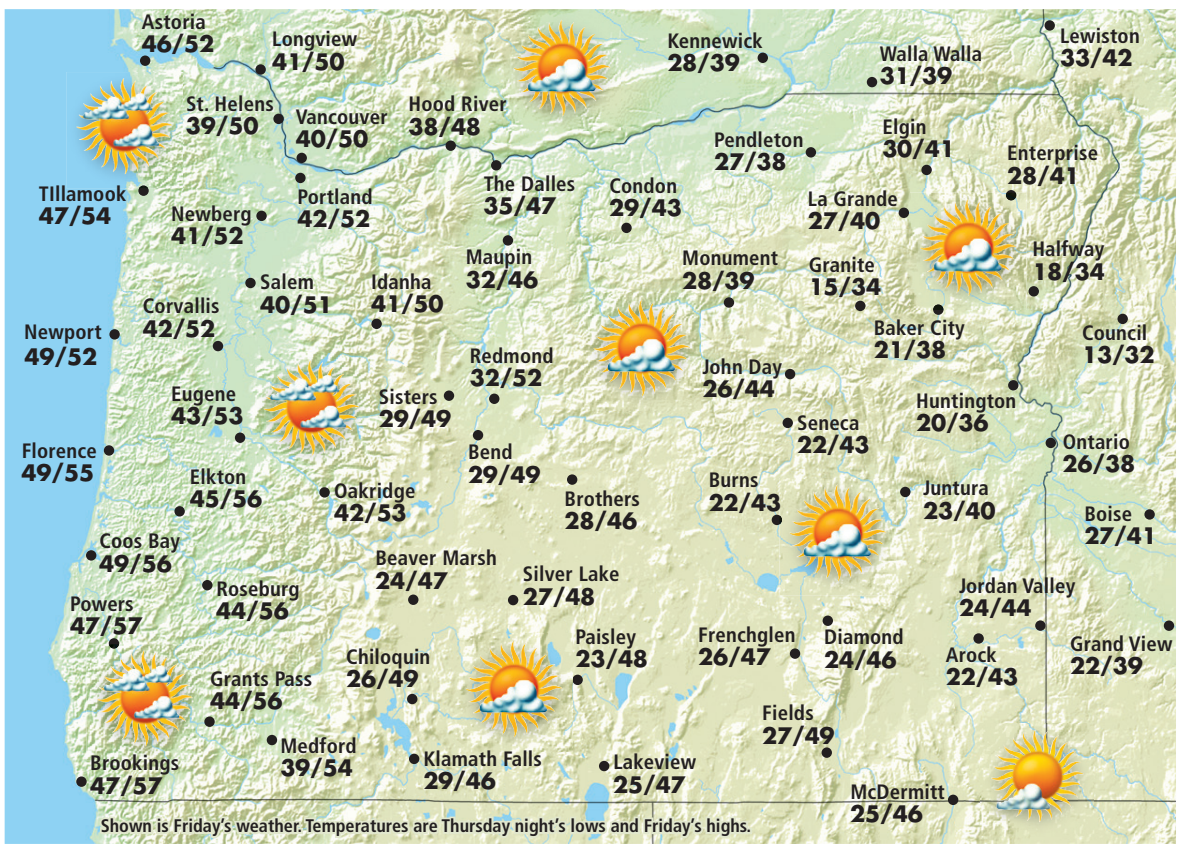
	THU.	FRI.
Sunrise	7:29 a.m.	7:28 a.m.
Sunset	4:35 p.m.	4:36 p.m.
Moonrise	8:56 a.m.	9:28 a.m.
Moonset	6:21 p.m.	7:32 p.m.

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
Jan 20	Jan 28	Feb 4	Feb 11

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



Shown is Friday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday night's lows and Friday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	FRI. Hi/Lo/W	SAT. Hi/Lo/W	City	FRI. Hi/Lo/W	SAT. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	52/38/c	49/42/c	Lewiston	42/36/c	46/38/c
Bend	49/29/c	49/31/c	Longview	50/40/c	49/40/c
Boise	41/28/c	43/31/s	Meacham	40/27/pc	39/31/pc
Brookings	57/44/c	57/45/c	Medford	54/37/c	55/38/c
Burns	43/25/c	42/28/pc	Newport	52/41/c	51/45/c
Coos Bay	56/43/c	56/44/c	Olympia	52/38/c	46/41/c
Corvallis	52/39/c	48/40/c	Ontario	38/26/c	42/32/s
Council	32/20/c	34/20/pc	Pasco	42/30/c	42/32/pc
Elgin	41/33/sh	40/34/pc	Pendleton	38/32/c	42/33/pc
Eugene	53/40/sh	48/41/c	Portland	52/39/c	49/41/c
Hermiston	40/30/c	42/33/pc	Powers	57/41/r	59/46/c
Hood River	48/35/c	48/36/c	Redmond	52/31/c	51/34/c
Imnaha	42/28/sh	43/32/c	Roseburg	56/43/r	53/44/c
John Day	44/23/c	43/27/pc	Salem	51/39/c	47/40/c
Joseph	39/27/sh	36/29/pc	Spokane	35/27/c	36/31/c
Kennewick	39/30/c	44/31/pc	The Dalles	47/35/c	46/36/c
Klamath Falls	46/28/c	46/30/pc	Ukiah	41/27/c	39/32/pc
Lakeview	47/26/c	46/26/c	Walla Walla	39/32/c	41/35/pc

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

RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY

ANTHONY LAKES
A little p.m. snow
30 16

MT. EMILY REC.
Showers around
39 29

EAGLE CAP WILD.
A bit of p.m. snow
30 13

WALLOWA LAKE
Showers around
39 27

THIEF VALLEY RES.
Mostly cloudy
38 21

PHILLIPS LAKE
A shower
34 17

BROWNLEE RES.
Rain/snow shower
32 21

EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Rain and drizzle
40 26

MCKAY RESERVOIR
Cloudy, a shower
38 33

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Showers around
40 30