

Estranged mom pushes closer after first grandchild's birth

DEAR ABBY: My mother and I have never been close. We talk to or see each other five or six times a year at family functions. Honestly, I am fine with this.

I recently had a baby (her first grandchild), and suddenly she wants to come over all the time. I have tried to set boundaries (giving a day and time when she may come over), but it makes me look like a bully, and she tells people she doesn't feel welcome. My issue is she struggles with boundaries. She asks about my finances, inappropiate questions regarding my pregnancy, etc. — topics I don't feel

comfortable discussing with her. I honestly don't view this as my problem. We barely have a relationship and haven't for a long time, so I think she should take what I am offering. I simply do not care to see a lot of her. If she wants to see the baby, I feel I must

be present because her having time alone with the baby is not an option that will work. Should I feel bad that she doesn't feel welcome?

— IT'S COMPLICATED

DEAR IT'S COMPLICATED: I am sorry you weren't willing to share what caused your estrangement from your mother because

it would have given me more to work with.

Assuming there is a good reason for it (which I am), your mother is correct about what she's telling people. She ISN'T welcome. In fact, she's quite the opposite. If she doesn't know the reasons for it, you should make them clear to her. Because you are hearing her complaints repeated by others, feel free to explain to them the reasons. You are within your rights to set boundaries regarding your mother's visits, and you should not be made to feel guilty for doing it.

DEAR ABBY: I have known my friend "Isabella" since elementary school. When we were teenagers, we both developed med-

ical problems. I tried to help her as much as I could, but it became clear that she was having trouble dealing with her condition. She was headed down a bad path and struggling emotionally, so we gradually grew apart.

I friended her on Facebook because I still wanted to remain friendly, but she never posted anything until recently. Now she has started posting about heavy drug use and how much it "helps" her.

I don't want to be associated with this. I'm building a career, and I don't want anyone assuming I use drugs, too. However, I want to remain friends with Isabella on Facebook, since it's our only method of com-

munication, and I want to help her overcome this. What do you suggest?

— DISCREET HELPER IN THE SOUTH

DEAR HELPER: I'm suggesting you unfriend Isabella immediately for the reason you mentioned: the fear of guilt by association. As much as you would like to help your old friend with her addiction problem, and while you might suggest she enter a treatment program, it won't happen until she finally realizes the drugs are not only NOT improving her life, but preventing her from accomplishing it. From what you have written, Isabella is still neck deep in denial, and you cannot fix that.

Koala rescued after 5-car pileup on Australian freeway

CANBERRA, Australia — A koala has been rescued after causing a five-car pileup while trying to cross a six-lane freeway in southern Australia.

Police said the crash in heavy Monday morning traffic in the city of Adelaide caused some injuries but no one required an ambulance.

The animal's rescuer said she got out of her car to investigate what had caused the pileup. Nadia Tugwell, with her coat in hand, teamed up with a stranger clutching a blanket in a bid to capture the marsupial. A concrete highway divider had blocked the koala's crossing.

"The koala was absolutely not damaged in any way," Tugwell said. "It was very active, but very calm."

Once the koala was in her trunk, Tugwell drove to a gas station to turn the animal over to wildlife rescuers. In the interim, the koala was able to climb from the trunk into her SUV's cabin.

"It decided to come to the front toward me, so I said, 'OK, you stay here. I'll get out,'" she said.

"It started sitting for a while on the steering wheel: (as if) saying: 'let's go for a drive,' and that's when I started taking photos," she added.

Tugwell said she had learned from past experience how to calm koalas by covering their eyes. She lives near a eucalyptus forest outside Adelaide and has twice called animal handlers to rescue koalas injured in fights



Nadia Tugwell via AP

A koala perches inside Nadia Tugwell's car in Adelaide, Australia on Monday, Feb. 8, 2021. The koala was rescued after causing a five-car pileup while trying to cross a six-lane freeway in southern Australia.

with other koalas. "I live up in the hills, and if you let them do what they want to do and you don't chase them or something, they're OK," Tugwell said.

The leather trimmings of her luxury vehicle were scratched by the animal, but Tugwell said the happy ending was well worth the damage.

The koala later was released in a forest — well away from the freeway.

Year of Ox puts focus on Hong Kong's wild bovines

HONG KONG— The Chinese Year of the Ox begins Friday, and in the shadow of Hong Kong's futuristic urban skyline,

wild bovines are getting some love.

Cattle and water buffalo embody hard work and serenity in the 12-animal Chinese zodiac, and were used on Hong Kong farms for centuries to plough rice fields, pull carts and provide milk and meat. But as farms began to shut down in the the 1970s, many animals were abandoned and their descendants became the wild cattle and buffalos now commonly seen in rural Hong Kong.

Ho Loy of the Lantau Buffalo Association and her team of volunteers dedicate most weekends to checking on the cattle that roam the biggest island within the territory of Hong Kong. Starting mid-morning they distribute



VincentYu/AP Photo

Cows and buffalos eat grass at Lantau island, the biggest island within the territory of Hong Kong on Jan. 17, 2021. The Chinese Year of the Ox begins Friday, Feb. 12, and in the shadow of Hong Kong's futuristic urban skyline, wild bovines are getting some love. Ho Loy of the Lantau Buffalo Association and her team of volunteers dedicate most weekends to checking on the cattle that roam the biggest island within the territory of Hong Kong.

grass and hay bought with donated funds to different herds around the island.

"The animals are a very important part of our culture, of our city planning, especially rural planning," Ho said. The animals provide an opportunity to explore "what that means to Hong Kong people about the nature, the remaining nature value in Hong Kong."

Hong Kong's Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department estimates there are approximately 1,100 brown cattle and 120 water buffalo distributed across Hong Kong's Lantau Island and rural parts of the New Territories near the border with China.

The Lantau Buffalo

Association hopes to preserve the animals and their habitat, reduce friction with growing human communities and lobby for long-term environmental preservation policies.

While Hong Kong is best known for its neon-lit, densely-packed urban environment, more than three-quarters of the southern Chinese territory of 7.5 million people remains green hills and forests.

Over her 14 years of caring for the animals, Ho, a Lantau resident herself, has come to know them well. Water buffalo are "very shy, they spend most of the time in the wetland. So, preserving the wetland is one thing will help them to live healthy," she said.

Cattle, on the other hand, are very sociable, especially if you have food.

"They will come and get your food and they are not scared of humans," Ho said.

Fiona Woodhouse of the Hong Kong Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said the welfare of wildlife speaks to the overall health of Hong Kong's environment and cultural heritage.

"So, we need to ... ensure their welfare as much as possible and look at what we're doing in Hong Kong to see how it impacts those animals and their ability to survive and live safely in Hong Kong," Woodhouse said.

— Associated Press

weather

	TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
	Cold with snow, 3-6"	A bit of snow, up to 1"	Snow, 2-4"	Not as cold	Rain and snow
Baker City	23	30 23	35 17	37 27	42 29
La Grande	16	25 22	30 17	38 31	42 32
Enterprise	16	25 18	32 16	34 26	39 33

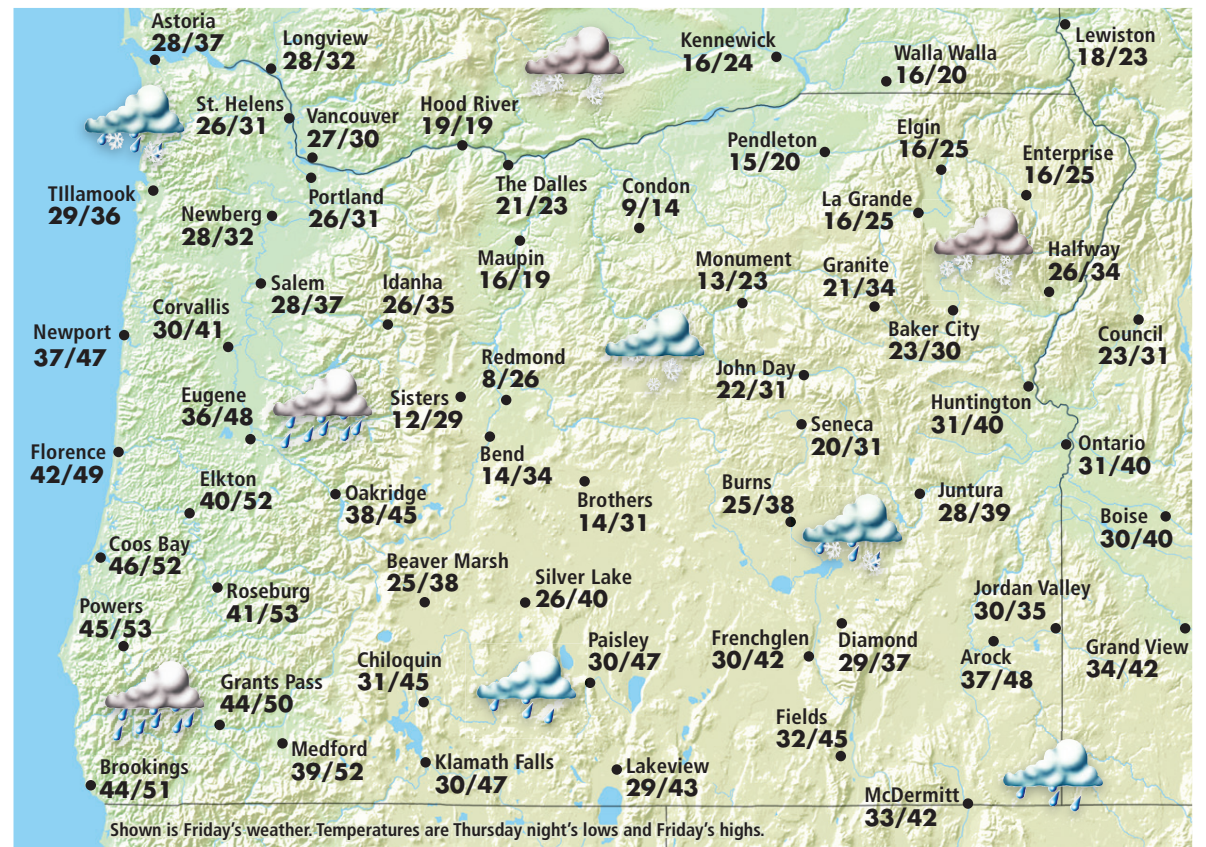
Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC			TUESDAY EXTREMES			
TEMPERATURES			NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)			
High Tuesday	40°	40°	41°	High: 89°	Zapata, Texas	
Low Tuesday	19°	18°	19°	Low: -42°	Cotton, Minn.	
PRECIPITATION (inches)			WETTEST: 1.81" Bainbridge, Ga.			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.03	OREGON		
Month to date	0.01	Trace	0.61	High: 53°	Rome	
Normal month to date	0.19	0.33	0.76	Low: 13°	Howard Prairie	
Year to date	0.38	1.04	4.92	WETTEST: none		
Normal year to date	0.99	1.96	3.93			

AGRICULTURAL INFO.	
HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	45%
Afternoon wind	NNW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	0.1
Evapotranspiration	0.03
RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)	
Phillips Reservoir	9% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	47% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	49% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	44% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	37% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	96% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	1450 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	58 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	10 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	146 cfs
Minam River at Minam	95 cfs
Powder River near Richland	90 cfs

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



REGIONAL CITIES	
City	FRI. SAT.
Astoria	Hi/Low/W 37/29/sn 43/32/i
Bend	34/15/sn 33/24/sn
Boise	40/29/sn 38/20/sn
Brookings	51/46/r 50/40/r
Burns	38/32/sf 38/19/sn
Coos Bay	52/45/r 50/41/r
Corvallis	41/35/sn 45/33/sh
Council	31/21/sn 35/8/sn
Elgin	25/22/sn 28/16/sn
Eugene	48/41/sn 47/38/r
Hermiston	24/20/sf 26/16/sn
Hood River	19/17/sn 28/20/sn
Imnaha	24/18/sn 33/15/sn
John Day	31/26/sn 38/23/sn
Joseph	26/18/sn 34/15/sn
Kennewick	24/18/sf 28/12/sf
Klamath Falls	47/33/sh 42/25/sn
Lakeview	43/30/sf 40/21/sn
Lewiston	23/18/sn 25/19/sn
Longview	32/26/sn 37/30/sn
Meacham	26/22/sn 28/14/sn
Medford	52/42/r 50/38/r
Newport	47/39/r 45/36/r
Olympia	31/25/sn 37/27/sn
Ontario	40/28/sn 42/21/sn
Pasco	25/18/c 26/15/sn
Pendleton	20/16/sn 23/14/c
Portland	31/24/sn 36/27/sn
Powers	53/46/r 50/40/r
Redmond	26/11/sn 27/16/sn
Roseburg	53/45/r 50/40/r
Salem	37/32/sn 40/33/sn
Spokane	17/14/pc 20/15/sn
The Dalles	23/21/sn 26/21/sn
Ukiah	22/18/sn 22/16/sn
Walla Walla	20/18/sn 20/16/sn

RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY	
ANTHONY LAKES	Snow, 1-3"
20	15
MT. EMILY REC.	A little snow
20	18
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Snow, 1-3"
23	15
WALLOWA LAKE	Snow, 1-3"
26	18
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Snow, 1-2"; cold
30	23
PHILLIPS LAKE	A bit of snow
36	28
BROWNLEE RES.	A bit of snow
35	24
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Snow, 1-3"
17	13
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Snow, 1-3"; frigid
18	14
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	A bit of snow
25	22

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