

Man is weighed down by sadness four years after separation

DEAR ABBY: I've been separated from my wife for about four years, at her request. It was justified. I wasn't the best husband. I wasn't abusive, but I was sad and feeling sorry for myself, like now.



DEAR ABBY

I took her for granted and didn't show her the affection she deserved, but I have been going to therapy to work through issues that I had suppressed for decades that contributed to me being a bad husband. I wanted to try counseling with her, but she was done and refused, which I'm still saddened by.

boyfriend but still hasn't filed for divorce. I'm struggling because she and her new boyfriend hang out with people I grew up with. It's my own hang-up, I know, but it makes me feel embarrassed and like I can never hang out with my friends again. I get upset when I see posts on Facebook with her and her boyfriend that my family have added heart emojis or nice comments to.

Am I wrong for feeling betrayed in some way? Is my estranged wife belittling me by not filing for divorce and hanging out with my friends and a new boy-

friend? Are my friends and family betraying me by being friends with them?

— BROKEN BEYOND REPAIR

DEAR BROKEN: Marriages end for many reasons. If I read your letter correctly, your wife left because she could no longer cope with someone who was in a chronic state of depression, not because you were a "bad husband" or had some flaw in your character.

You are doing your best to improve your mental state, and for that I applaud you. You should not feel embarrassed or humiliated because she has found a new relationship. Please discuss these feelings with your therapist so you

can move beyond them.

It may also be time to take the initiative and file for the divorce. Quit avoiding your longtime friends. If you haven't started dating, some of them may know women to introduce you to. And because posts on the internet about your almost-ex and her boyfriend cause you pain, block or delete them rather than obsess.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend has an 8-year-old daughter who lives with us part time. Sometimes I watch her when her dad is out running errands or working.

I'll be perfectly honest. There are times she acts like an entitled, spoiled brat. She's rude and disrespectful, and when I ask her to do

something, she doesn't always do it. I can't take it anymore.

I know I'm not her biological mom, but I will not continue to tolerate her behavior and attitude. Although I have spoken with her dad about it, he has done nothing to correct the problem. Please tell me what to do.

— FRUSTRATED

DEAR FRUSTRATED: The next time you are asked to watch your boyfriend's daughter, decline and clearly state the reason why. Perhaps when it becomes inconvenient for him, he will assert himself, act like a parent and insist that his daughter behave respectfully. If not, you may have to rethink the relationship.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Man, a steal! Rare Superman comic sells for record \$3.25 million

NEW YORK — One of the few copies of the comic book that introduced Superman to the world has sold for a super-sized, record-setting price.

The issue of Action Comics No. 1 went for \$3.25 million in a private sale, ComicConnect.com, an online auction and consignment company, announced Tuesday, April 6.

It narrowly bested the previous record for the comic, set in the auction of another copy in 2014 for slightly over \$3.2 million.

The comic, published in 1938, "really is the beginning of the superhero genre," said ComicConnect.com COO Vincent Zurzolo, who brokered the sale.

It told readers about the origins of Superman, how he came to Earth from another planet and went by Clark Kent.

The seller of this particular issue bought the comic in 2018 for slightly more than \$2 million.

Zurzolo said that while there were hundreds of thousands of copies initially published, it's estimated only about 100 exist today, and in varying conditions. He said this copy is among the best-kept ones.

"There's no comic book that you could value higher in terms of a comic book than Action Comics No. 1," he said.

A paper cowboy rides out his quarantine in Australian hotel

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — By Day 3 of being confined to his Australian hotel room for quarantine, David Marriott was getting bored. He'd watched a few seasons of "The Sopranos" and his eyes were getting tired from reading. Then his lunch arrived in a brown paper bowl and he thought "Aha. That's a hat waiting to happen."

The paper cowboy was born.



Metropolis Collectibles via AP
Vincent Zurzolo, co-owner of ComicConnect, holds Action Comics No. 1, the 1938 comic book marking Superman's first appearance, which sold April 6, 2021, during an online auction for a historic, record-breaking \$3,250,000.

Using the good quality paper bags his food was delivered in each day, Marriott, an art director on TV commercials, began fashioning an outfit. He added a brim to his hat, and then came the waistcoat and chaps. Next? A horse, of course.

He found an ironing board in his cupboard and tied on a desk lamp for the neck and head, creating a skeleton. Coffee pods became the eyes and nostrils. He named the horse Russell after an old joke: "Have you heard about the paper cowboys? They were caught and hung for rustling."

The creative world Marriott made inside his Brisbane hotel room became more intricate by the day as he added plot lines in video clips he posted online. The Clingfilm Kid became the villain, out to steal Russell while he was sleeping.

Like Wilson from the movie "Castaway," Marriott says Russell can also be a sounding board.

"It's an existential conversation, quite philosophical," he says. "Like, why are we here? What are we doing?"

And he's given the Rydges



David Marriott poses with his paper horse "Russell" in his hotel room in Brisbane, Australia, April 1, 2021. While in quarantine inside his hotel room, the art director was bored and started making a cowboy outfit from the paper bags his meals were being delivered in. His project expanded to include a horse and a villain that he has adventures with, in images that have gained a huge online following.

hotel staff a laugh by asking that Russell be taken for walks.

"It's been cheering everyone up," he said. "The hotel staff, they're in hospitality but they have all these guests that they can't see or interact with."

The story behind Marriott's quarantine stay is more sobering. His dad Harry fell at his London home and was taken to a hospital, where he had an operation and was starting rehabilitation. But then he caught the coronavirus.

"I was really lucky my mom

and sisters were there, and were allowed in to see him," Marriott said. "I would Zoom with him at 3 a.m. To see him deteriorating was heartbreaking. But I was able to say goodbye and make peace."

Marriott flew over from Australia for the funeral. Like other Australians returning home, he was required to quarantine at a hotel for two weeks.

Marriott said he's been making props his whole life. When he was a kid he used to get in trouble for breaking his dad's tools.

Because quarantine guests are considered potentially infectious, their food is delivered in disposable containers and plates that are discarded rather than recycled, which Marriott found a bit grating. But he said he's barely thrown anything out since his stay began, and has only needed to order in a few extras like sticky tape and clingfilm.

And when he leaves on Saturday, he's hoping to take Russell and his other creations with him.

— Associated Press

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Mainly clear and colder	Plenty of sun	Mostly sunny	Sunshine and breezy	Partly sunny and breezy
Baker City	20	53 21	56 26	54 26	57 26
Comfort Index™	0	5	8	3	3
La Grande	22	50 22	52 30	52 26	56 28
Comfort Index™	0	5	7	2	3
Enterprise	18	47 20	51 25	46 17	49 27
Comfort Index™	0	5	8	3	3

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 Thursday	48°	47°	48°
Low Thursday	20°	27°	29°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	Trace	0.02	Trace
Month to date	Trace	0.02	Trace
Normal month to date	0.20	0.40	0.52
Year to date	1.09	5.71	13.17
Normal year to date	2.40	4.63	8.22

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 103°	Zapata, Texas
Low: 13°	Gould, Colo.
Wettest: 2.69"	New Orleans, La.

OREGON

High: 63°	Grants Pass
Low: 28°	Klamath Falls
Wettest: 0.16"	Meacham

WEATHER HISTORY

So much dust became airborne in Kansas and Iowa on April 10, 1935, that schools and highways closed. The "Dust Bowl" of the 1930s is blamed on land misuse and climate.

SUN & MOON

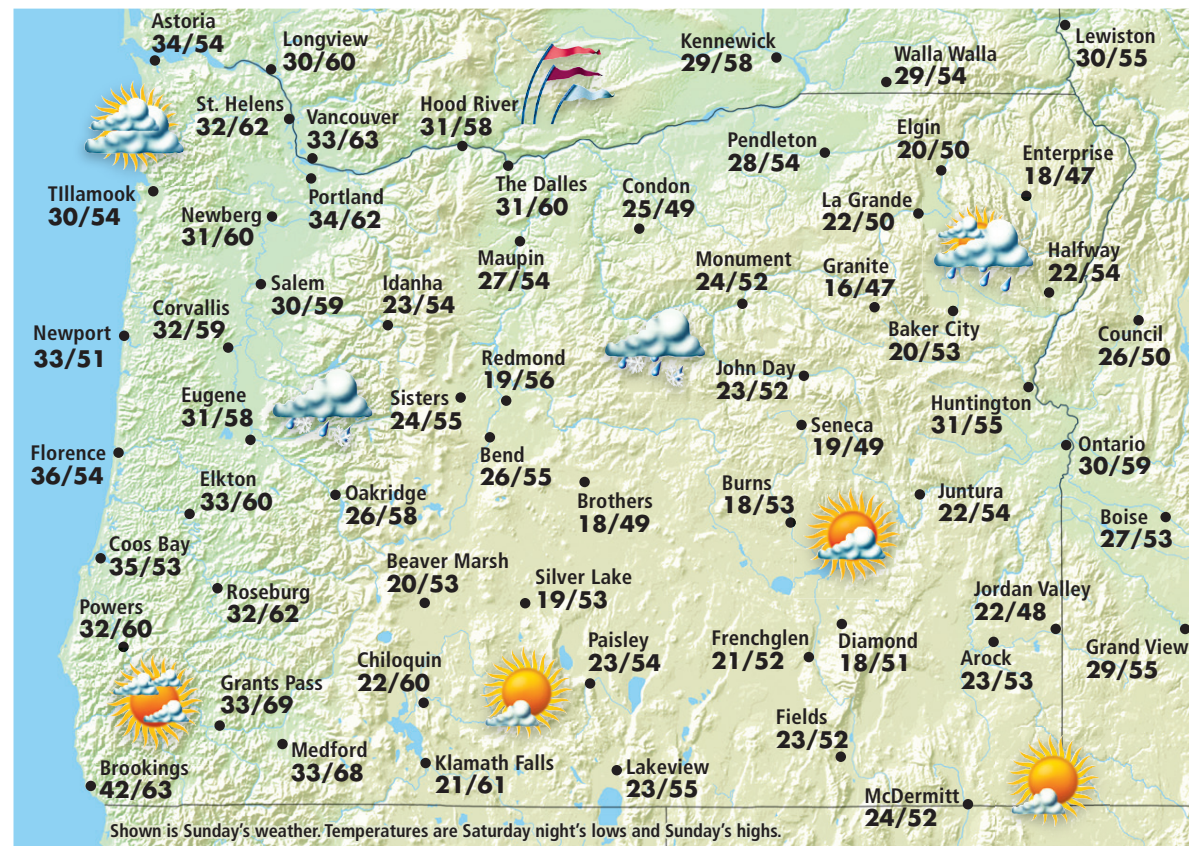
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	6:16 a.m.	6:14 a.m.
Sunset	7:32 p.m.	7:33 p.m.
Moonrise	6:09 a.m.	6:29 a.m.
Moonset	6:16 p.m.	7:19 p.m.

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN.		MON.		City	SUN.		MON.	
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	
Astoria	54/36/pc	61/39/s	Lewiston	55/31/s	58/36/pc				
Bend	55/24/s	53/32/s	Longview	60/32/pc	65/36/s				
Boise	53/30/s	59/34/s	Meacham	49/22/s	52/29/s				
Brookings	63/45/pc	63/47/s	Medford	68/35/pc	71/37/s				
Burns	53/19/s	58/26/s	Newport	51/35/pc	58/42/s				
Coos Bay	53/37/pc	57/42/s	Olympia	56/32/pc	62/34/s				
Corvallis	59/33/pc	65/37/s	Ontario	59/29/s	63/39/s				
Council	50/22/s	52/32/s	Pasco	59/27/s	64/38/s				
Elgin	50/22/s	53/28/s	Pendleton	54/28/s	58/30/s				
Eugene	58/32/pc	64/36/s	Portland	62/35/pc	67/39/s				
Hermiston	58/27/s	62/45/s	Powers	60/33/pc	64/35/s				
Hood River	58/33/s	63/44/s	Redmond	56/20/s	56/29/s				
Imnaha	50/27/s	54/33/s	Roseburg	62/33/pc	66/35/s				
John Day	52/22/s	53/31/s	Salem	59/33/pc	66/36/s				
Joseph	48/20/s	49/23/s	Spokane	50/27/s	51/32/s				
Kennewick	58/25/s	64/41/s	The Dalles	60/33/s	65/39/s				
Klamath Falls	61/25/s	61/26/s	Ukiah	48/23/s	47/22/s				
Lakeview	55/21/s	61/24/s	Walla Walla	54/30/s	58/34/s				

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

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Not as cold	28 12		PHILLIPS LAKE Mostly sunny	47 17	
MT. EMILY REC. Plenty of sunshine	35 20		BROWNLEE RES. Mostly sunny	52 27	
EAGLE CAP WILD. Not as cold	33 12		EMIGRANT ST. PARK Sunny; not as cold	44 16	
WALLOWA LAKE Mostly sunny	48 20		MCKAY RESERVOIR Sunshine	52 28	
THIEF VALLEY RES. Mostly sunny	53 21		RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Plenty of sun	50 22	