

Disabled son excluded from wedding guest list

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my second husband for more than 15 years. My 30+-year-old son from my first marriage, who was born disabled, lives with us. He walks and talks, but cannot be left unattended. He also needs medication. He cannot read or write, but looks like he has no medical issues at all. I have no extended family members in the state. My husband and I were invited to a family wedding. However, my disabled son was not. Bride's rule: No children allowed. I pointed out that he is older than she is. He sees this relative several times a year.



DEAR ABBY

Child care is hard to find and expensive. I do not know if others tried to get the bride to change her mind. My husband attended alone while my son and I spent the evening with friends and had fun. He didn't say anything to cause a confrontation.

Please share your thoughts. I get very sad whenever family events come around and she is there. Life is different when you have a family with special needs.

— HURT IN THE EAST

DEAR HURT: I agree, life is different for families in which someone has special needs. If you haven't already, I think you have

the right to express your feelings to the bride. It would be better than silently nursing a grudge and fuming when you see her.

While it would have been nice if she had included your son in the invitation, she was within her rights to invite — or exclude — anyone if she had concerns. Because your husband was able to represent the family while you and your son had fun elsewhere, from my perspective, everything turned out well.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend never gets off his phone — like ever! The first thing he does in the morning is grab his phone. He was off one day last week and — I'm not exaggerating — he didn't put it down for 13 hours.

He plays this one particular game, and it's all he does. It's affecting our relationship, but if I say anything about it, he laughs, gets mad or ignores me. I don't know what else to do. Help!

— WOMAN VS. PHONE IN OHIO

DEAR WOMAN: Was your boyfriend always like this? If the answer is no, he may have become addicted to gaming, which, as of 2020, had become a multibillion-dollar industry. According to The Addiction Center, the "average" gamer spends six hours a week glued to his or her cell-phone. That your boyfriend went on a 13-hour binge is cause for alarm. One sign of addiction is when it interferes with daily life

or relationships. That he blows you off when you try to discuss it tells me he is deep in denial. There is treatment for gaming addiction, but only if the addict is willing to admit there's a problem. Treatment may involve private counseling or, in some cases, inpatient care. However, if this is unaffordable, On-Line Gamers Anonymous (olganon.org) may be a helpful alternative. It is a 12-step program based on the principles of AA. If you go online, you will find there is a fellowship of friends and family members of gaming addicts. You might want to check it out. If you intend to continue this romance, get out of the house when he binges and do something YOU enjoy.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Nature at its craziest: Trillions of cicadas about to emerge

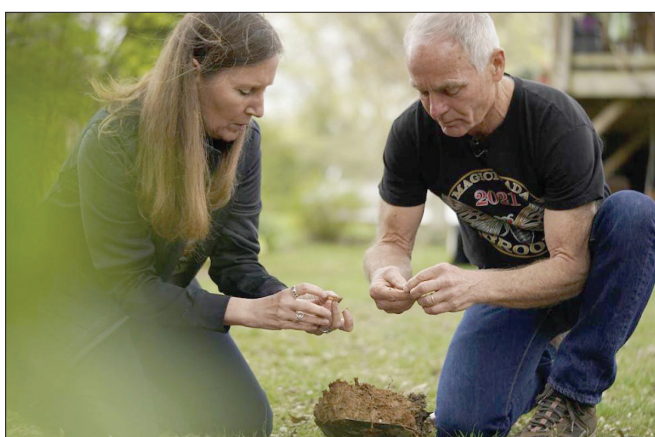
COLUMBIA, Md. — Sifting through a shovel load of dirt in a suburban backyard, Michael Raupp and Paula Shrewsbury find their quarry: a cicada nymph.

And then another. And another. And four more.

In maybe a third of a square foot of dirt, the University of Maryland entomologists find at least seven cicadas — a rate just shy of a million per acre. A nearby yard yielded a rate closer to 1.5 million.

And there's much more afoot. Trillions of the red-eyed black bugs are coming, scientists say.

Within days, a couple weeks at most, the cicadas of Brood X (the X is the Roman numeral for 10) will emerge after 17 years underground. There are many broods of periodic cicadas that appear on rigid schedules in different years, but this is one of the largest and most noticeable. They'll



Carolyn Kaster/Associated Press

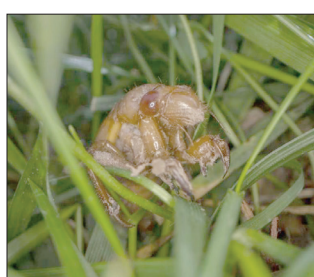
University of Maryland entomologists Michael Raupp and Paula Shrewsbury sift through a shovel of dirt to pick out cicada nymphs in a suburban backyard in Columbia, Maryland on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. At right, a cicada nymph moves in the grass. Within days, a couple weeks at most, the cicadas of Brood X (the X is the Roman numeral for 10) will emerge after 17 years underground. There are many broods of periodic cicadas that appear on rigid schedules in different years, but this is one of the largest and most noticeable.

be in 15 states from Indiana to Georgia to New York; they're coming out now in mass numbers in Tennessee and North Carolina.

When the entire brood emerges, backyards can look like undulating waves, and the bug chorus is lawnmower loud.

The cicadas will mostly

come out at dusk to try to avoid everything that wants to eat them, squiggling out of holes in the ground. They'll try to climb up trees or anything vertical. Once off the ground, they shed their skins and try to survive that vulnerable stage before they become dinner to a host of critters



including ants, birds, dogs, cats and Raupp.

It's one of nature's weirdest events, featuring sex, a race against death, evolution and what can sound like a bad science-fiction movie soundtrack.

Some people may be repulsed. Psychiatrists are calling entomologists worrying about their patients, Shrewsbury said. But scientists say the arrival of Brood X is a sign that despite pollution, climate change and dramatic biodiversity loss, something is still right with nature. And it's quite a show.

Raupp presents the narrative of cicada's lifespan with all the verve of a Hollywood blockbuster:

"You've got a creature that spends 17 years in a

COVID-like existence, isolated underground sucking on plant sap, right? In the 17th year these teenagers are going to come out of the earth by the billions if not trillions. They're going to try to best everything on the planet that wants to eat them during this critical period of the nighttime when they're just trying to grow up, they're just trying to be adults, shed that skin, get their wings, go up into the treetops, escape their predators," he says.

"Once in the treetops, hey, it's all going to be about romance. It's only the males that sing. It's going to be a big boy band up there as the males try to woo those females, try to convince that special someone that she should be the mother of his nymphs. He's going to perform, sing songs. If she likes it, she's going to click her wings. They're going to have some wild sex in the treetop.

"Then she's going to move out to the small branches, lay their eggs. Then it's all going to be

over in a matter of weeks. They're going to tumble down. They're going to basically fertilize the very plants from which they were spawned. Six weeks later the tiny nymphs are going to tumble 80 feet from the treetops, bounce twice, burrow down into the soil, go back underground for another 17 years."

"This," Raupp says, "is one of the craziest life cycles of any creature on the planet."

America is the only place in the world that has periodic cicadas that stay underground for either 13 or 17 years, says entomologist John Cooley of the University of Connecticut.

The bugs only emerge in large numbers when the ground temperature reaches 64 degrees. That's happening earlier in the calendar in recent years because of climate change, says entomologist Gene Kritsky. Before 1950 they used to emerge at the end of May; now they're coming out weeks earlier.

— Associated Press

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weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Partly cloudy	Mostly cloudy and warm	Partly sunny and warm	Increasing cloudiness	Nice with lots of sun
Baker City	37	78 40	78 43	75 45	71 38
Comfort Index™	10	9	9	10	10
La Grande	43	78 48	75 45	75 46	73 42
Comfort Index™	10	8	10	10	10
Enterprise	39	74 48	72 43	72 44	66 40
Comfort Index™	10	9	9	9	9

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	58°	59°	61°
Low Sunday	29°	37°	33°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.03	0.02	0.03
Normal month to date	0.38	0.57	0.65
Year to date	1.69	5.86	13.74
Normal year to date	3.43	6.38	10.34

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High: 107° Zapata, Texas
 Low: 7° Daniel, Wyo.
 Wettest: 3.43" Lufkin, Texas

OREGON
 High: 72° The Dalles
 Low: 27° Burns
 Wettest: 0.03" Tillamook

WEATHER HISTORY

A deadly tornado swept through Waco, Texas, on May 11, 1953. The twister killed 114 people and caused \$200 million in damage. May 11, 1951, marks the latest springtime snowfall in Baltimore.

SUN & MOON

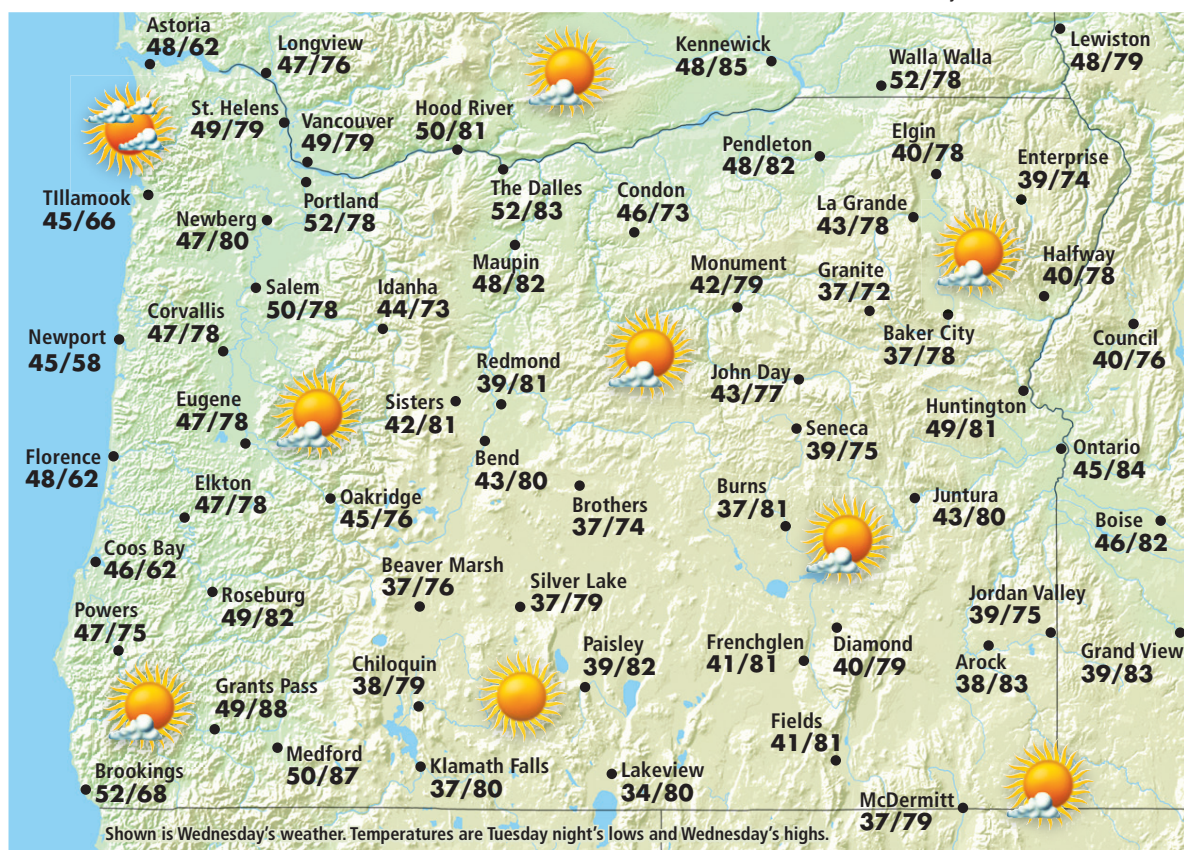
	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	5:27 a.m.	5:26 a.m.
Sunset	8:11 p.m.	8:12 p.m.
Moonrise	5:36 a.m.	6:01 a.m.
Moonset	8:21 p.m.	9:25 p.m.

MOON PHASES

	New	First	Full	Last
	May 11	May 19	May 26	Jun 2

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	62/47/c	60/47/pc
Lewiston	79/51/c	81/53/s
Longview	76/47/pc	75/45/s
Meacham	77/45/c	74/43/pc
Medford	87/50/pc	86/52/pc
Newport	58/46/pc	57/44/s
Olympia	73/43/c	71/42/s
Ontario	84/52/pc	87/55/pc
Pasco	84/48/c	84/50/s
Pendleton	82/51/c	78/53/s
Portland	78/51/pc	76/49/s
Powers	75/47/s	71/43/s
Redmond	81/41/pc	80/45/pc
Roseburg	82/49/s	80/47/s
Salem	78/52/pc	78/46/s
Spokane	74/47/pc	75/48/s
The Dalles	83/53/c	83/55/s
Ukiah	77/41/pc	73/40/pc
Walla Walla	78/54/c	77/54/s

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	Partly sunny	51	35
PHILLIPS LAKE	Periods of sun	71	40
MT. EMILY REC.	Rather cloudy	61	44
BROWNLEE RES.	Partly sunny	79	42
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Turning cloudy	56	33
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Mostly cloudy	72	40
WALLOWA LAKE	Turning cloudy	73	47
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Mostly cloudy	81	52
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Partly sunny	78	40
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Mostly cloudy	78	48

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