

Grandparents are ‘Mommy’ and ‘Daddy’ to toddler



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

Dear Abby: My daughter passed away last year, and we received custody of our grandson, who was 15 months old at the time. He is now nearly 2½ years old. My daughter wanted him to call me Mamaw because that’s what she called my mother, so I’ve always referred to myself that way, but recently, he has started calling me Mommy. I say Mamaw back to him and sometimes he will say Mamaw, but more often it’s Mommy.

I’m uncomfortable not honoring my daughter as his

mommy. We display her photos, and he will say that that’s his mommy, but I also don’t want to hurt his feelings by saying I’m not his mommy. His father isn’t in the picture, so my husband and I are the only parents he knows. My husband seems uncomfortable with him calling me Mommy and when he hears it, he tries to correct him. Should we allow him to call us Mommy and Daddy or continue to correct him? — **Getting It Right in North Carolina**

Dear Getting It Right: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your daughter. I see nothing positive to be gained by not allowing your grandson to call you what he wants. You and your husband have made clear that his mommy is in heaven, but right

now the boy needs a “Mommy” right here on Earth. It is not at all disrespectful of your late daughter’s memory to allow him that.

Dear Abby: I have been happily married to my husband for five years. When we married, money was tight, so we agreed to use temporary wedding rings and upgrade to our final official set later. Well, we finally did it, and my ring is what I always wanted. It is stunning.

The problem: When friends and family (and sometimes even strangers!) compliment me on my ring, it is often accompanied with, “Can I try it on?” or more forcibly, “Let me try that on!” I would never ask to try on something so precious to someone else, and I never want to see someone else wearing my wedding rings. Why do women do this and how can I politely tell them “No way”? — **Shocked in New York**

Dear Shocked: The women want to see it on their own hand and imagine for a moment that the ring is theirs. Feeling as you do, convey your message by smiling and replying, “I never remove my wedding rings other than to clean them.”

Dear Abby: I live in Florida, and the rest of my big family lives in Canada. Last year, five of my nieces/nephews were admitted to the hospital for varying health reasons. Rather than send flowers, I sent each a check for \$50. I thought money would be more useful.

Well, last week my daughter was diagnosed with malign-

nant melanoma after a mole was removed. After I emailed the news to my sisters, I received one response from a sister saying, “Give your daughter our best!” Other than that, there have been no cards — nothing. Am I petty in thinking they should have at least sent my daughter a card? — **Petty in Florida**

Dear Petty: Your relatives apparently didn’t consider the thoughtfulness you displayed to their children something to be reciprocated. How sad. In situations like this, it isn’t the tangible item that’s most important, it’s the thought, and it appears your relatives didn’t want to put in the effort. I do not think it’s petty to recognize that fact and feel disappointment. You are human.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Crime historian conducts dig for D.B. Cooper case evidence

The Associated Press

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Nearly 50 years after skyjacker D.B. Cooper vanished out the back of a Boeing 727 into freezing Northwest rain — wearing a business suit, a parachute and a pack with \$200,000 in cash — a crime historian is conducting a dig on the banks of the Columbia River in Vancouver, Washington, in search of evidence.

KOIN reports that Eric Ulis, a self-described expert on the infamous D.B. Cooper case, began a two-day dig on Friday, Aug. 6. Ulis and four volunteers are searching for evidence about 10 to 15 yards away from where a boy found \$6,000 of Cooper’s ransom money in 1980.

Ulis said his theory is that Cooper buried the parachutes, an attache case and the money at the same time, but dug smaller holes instead of one large one.

The case of Cooper has become infamous, not only in the Pacific Northwest but also in the country. The FBI Seattle field office called the investigation one of the longest and most exhaustive in the agency’s history.

On Nov. 24, 1971, the night before Thanksgiving, a man described as being in his mid-40s with sunglasses and an olive complexion boarded a flight from Portland, Oregon, to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. He bought his \$20 ticket under the name “Dan Cooper,” but an



The Associated Press, File

This undated artist sketch shows the skyjacker known as D.B. Cooper from recollections of the passengers and crew of a Northwest Airlines jet he hijacked between Portland and Seattle on Thanksgiving eve in 1971. Nearly 50 years after skyjacker D.B. Cooper vanished out the back of a Boeing 727 into freezing Northwest rain, wearing a business suit, a parachute and a pack with \$200,000 in cash, a crime historian is conducting a dig on the banks of the Columbia River in Vancouver, Washington, in search of evidence.

early wire-service report misidentified him as “D.B. Cooper,” and the name stuck.

Sitting in the rear of the plane, he handed a note to a flight attendant after takeoff. “Miss, I have a bomb and would like you to sit by me,” it said.

The man demanded \$200,000 in cash plus four parachutes. He received them at Sea-Tac, where he released the 36 passengers and two of the flight attendants. The plane took off again at his direction, heading to Reno, Nevada, at the low height of 10,000 feet. Somewhere, apparently over southwestern Washington, Cooper lowered the aircraft’s rear stairs

and jumped.

He was never found. But a boy digging on a Columbia River beach in 1980 discovered three bundles of weathered \$20 bills — nearly \$6,000 in all. It was Cooper’s cash, according to the serial numbers.

Over the years, the FBI and amateur sleuths have examined innumerable theories about Cooper’s identity and fate, from accounts of unexplained wealth to purported discoveries of his parachute to potential matches of the agency’s composite sketch of the suspect.

In July 2016, the FBI announced it was no longer investigating the case.

Want to pretend to live on Mars? For a whole year? Apply now

Want to find your inner Matt Damon and spend a year pretending you are isolated on Mars? NASA has a job for you.

To prepare for eventually sending astronauts to Mars, NASA began taking applications Friday for four people to live for a year in Mars Dune Alpha. That’s a 1,700-square-foot Martian habitat, created by a 3D-printer, and inside a building at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

The paid volunteers will work a simulated Martian exploration mission complete with spacewalks, lim-

ited communications back home, restricted food and resources and equipment failures.

NASA is planning three of these experiments with the first one starting in the fall next year. Food will all be ready-to-eat space food and at the moment there are no windows planned. Some plants will be grown, but not potatoes like in the movie “The Martian.” Damon played stranded astronaut Mark Watney, who survived on spuds.

“We want to understand how humans perform in them,” said lead scientist Grace Douglas. “We are looking at Mars realistic situations.”

The application process opened Friday and they’re not seeking just anybody. The requirements are strict, including a master’s degree in a science, engineering or math field or pilot experience. Only American citizens or permanent U.S. residents are eligible. Applicants have to be between 30 and 55, in good physical health with no dietary issues and not prone to motion sickness.

That shows NASA is looking for people who are close to astronauts, said former Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield. And, he said, that’s a good thing because it is a better experiment if the participants are more similar to the people who will really go to Mars. Past Russian efforts at a pretend Mars mission called Mars 500 didn’t end well partly because the people were too much like

everyday people, he said.

Boston’s famed Skinny House back on market, listed for \$1.2M

BOSTON — Boston’s famous Skinny House is on sale again for a whopping \$1.2 million.

The vertically rectangular-shaped house was listed on Monday, Aug. 9, the first time it’s been on the market since 2017. Four years ago, it was sold for \$900,000, The Boston Globe reported.

The home, in Boston’s North End, is about 1,165 square feet. But more interestingly, the house is barely 10 feet wide at its widest point. The humble abode narrows in the back, ending at 9.25 feet.

There are four stories in the home and a deck that displays views of Boston Harbor. Also, the house offers updated appliances, hardwood floors and exposed brick, and a Juliet balcony facing private gardens.

The home does not have a front door. Guests enter through a private side door and they’re met with a skitchen and dining room. The second floor holds the living area and the house’s only bathroom.

The third level has a living space and a bedroom. Lastly, the upper level of the house has the only other room — a master bedroom.

Appointments are available to view the home, but potential buyers may want to act quickly because the house was sold in less than three months in 2017.

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Hazy, warm and smoky	Hazy and very hot	Mostly sunny; not as hot	Partly sunny and cooler	Partly sunny and pleasant
Baker City	55	98	55	91	52
Comfort Index™	4	3	6	9	10
La Grande	66	98	60	89	57
Comfort Index™	4	2	6	10	10
Enterprise	61	94	57	87	54
Comfort Index™	3	5	8	10	8

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	96°	99°	102°
Low Thursday	50°	55°	56°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.47	0.21	0.30
Normal month to date	0.17	0.25	0.24
Year to date	2.93	6.33	15.67
Normal year to date	6.16	10.91	15.47

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 116°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 30°	Walden, Colo.
Wettest: 4.38"	Rantoul, Ill.
OREGON	
High: 108°	The Dalles
Low: 49°	Meacham
Wettest: none	

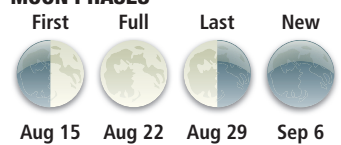
WEATHER HISTORY

Rain on Aug. 14, 1979, left 1,800 Las Vegas residents without electricity and made getting around the flooded city streets dicey. It is a gamble to expect much rain in Las Vegas, Nev., during August.

SUN & MOON

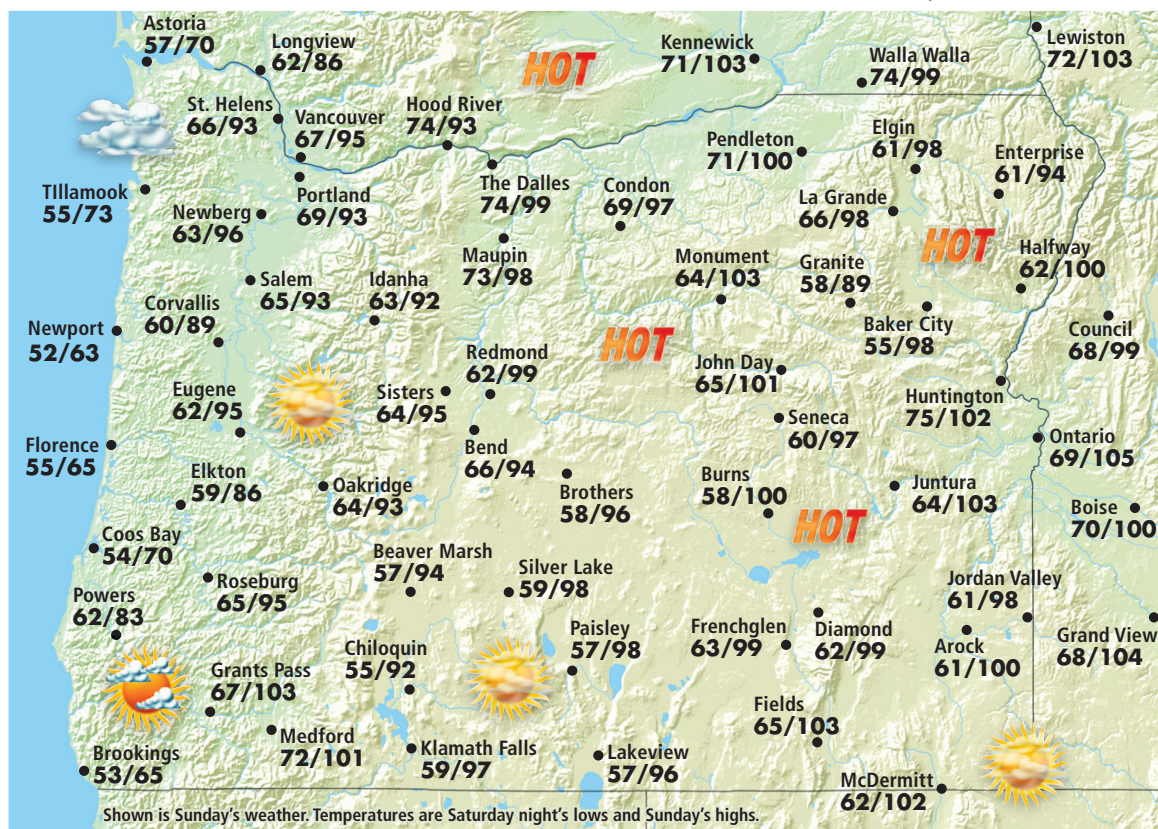
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	5:52 a.m.	5:54 a.m.
Sunset	8:01 p.m.	7:59 p.m.
Moonrise	12:53 p.m.	2:11 p.m.
Moonset	11:14 p.m.	11:45 p.m.

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN.		MON.	
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	70/59/c	68/55/pc	Lewiston	103/71/pc
Bend	94/60/pc	89/52/s	Longview	86/59/pc
Boise	100/68/pc	97/67/pc	Meacham	98/58/pc
Brookings	65/53/pc	68/54/pc	Medford	101/65/s
Burns	100/58/pc	94/53/s	Newport	63/53/pc
Coos Bay	70/57/c	70/52/pc	Olympia	83/57/pc
Corvallis	89/59/pc	84/54/pc	Ontario	105/71/pc
Council Bluffs	99/61/pc	96/57/pc	Pasco	104/68/pc
Elgin	98/57/pc	88/55/pc	Pendleton	100/71/pc
Eugene	95/58/pc	87/58/pc	Portland	93/64/pc
Hermiston	103/72/pc	93/66/pc	Powers	83/58/c
Hood River	93/66/pc	86/61/pc	Redmond	99/58/pc
Imnaha	100/62/pc	92/56/pc	Roseburg	95/60/s
John Day	101/61/pc	91/59/s	Salem	93/62/pc
Joseph	93/57/pc	87/53/pc	Spokane	95/68/pc
Kennewick	103/71/pc	96/67/pc	The Dalles	99/69/pc
Klamath Falls	97/54/pc	88/51/s	Ukiah	95/55/pc
Lakeview	96/57/pc	92/50/s	Walla Walla	99/72/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 SUNDAY

CITY	SUN.	MON.	FORECAST
ANTHONY LAKES	70	49	Hazy sun
MT. EMILY REC.	84	56	Hazy sun and smoky
EAGLE CAP WILD.	80	49	Hazy sun and smoky
WALLOWA LAKE	93	57	Hazy sun and smoky
THIEF VALLEY RES.	98	55	Very hot
PHILLIPS LAKE	91	55	Hot with hazy sun
BROWNLEE RES.	102	64	Hazy sun and smoky
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	91	48	Hazy and hot
MCKAY RESERVOIR	100	68	Hazy sun; very hot
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	98	60	Hazy and very hot