

Teen son struggles after family's move to new state



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: Because of frustration with our state's substantial COVID restrictions and our teen son's struggles with remote learning, we moved to another state. At the time, our son was excited to move (we kept asking him to make sure). However, we are now nearly through the school year and he still hasn't made new friends. He's depressed and wants to move back.

He plays a sport and has a part-time job, but neither have

helped. My husband and I love it here. In fact, our son loves everything except his lack of a social life (beyond texting, FaceTiming and playing video games with his old friends).

We work from home, so it would be an option for us to temporarily return so he can finish his remaining two years of high school in our original state. He has always been very social, so we are surprised he hasn't made new friends. Should we push him to keep trying? Or is moving back for two years the best for his (and our) mental well-being? — **WANTS THE BEST FOR HIM**

DEAR WANTS: Moving during one's teens isn't easy, par-

ticularly because cliques have already formed. Before packing your bags, talk with your son's teachers and counselors about why he has had problems integrating there. They may be able to offer some important insight.

However, if they cannot do that and you are prepared to make the move when the school term is over, do it. Being treated as an outcast isn't good for anyone's mental health, and while it might benefit your son to learn to adapt, he might do better academically if you put him in a friendlier environment.

DEAR ABBY: I have two grown sons who are 13 months apart. The younger, age 44, con-

stantly and viciously degrades his brother in text messages. His anger level is so high that on Christmas Eve two years ago, while he was visiting from a neighboring state with his wife, he declared, "F— this family!" and stalked out, leaving his wife, my husband and me stunned.

Since then, his wife has divorced him, he's been rear-ended in a car wreck due to road rage, lost his job and alienated himself from our family. Online research I've done indicates he's narcissistic. Last month, I texted him my concern that he'd walked off his job, which unleashed an angry tirade against his brother and me. Everything is our fault, and

he badmouths his ex-wife mercilessly. He's an adult, so I can't force him to seek mental health help. Is there anything I can do? We no longer communicate, but a mother can't erase love and concern for her child. — **WORN OUT IN WYOMING**

DEAR WORN OUT: Your son is deeply troubled, and for that you have my sympathy. For the sake of your own mental health, I strongly recommend you consult a licensed mental health professional. You can't diagnose your son's problem, and neither can I. You also cannot force him into therapy before he's ready to admit that he needs it. Please don't wait to do this. I know you are hurting.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Pot shop robberies, deaths fuel calls for US banking bill

By **GENE JOHNSON**
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — A surge in robberies at licensed cannabis shops — including a pistol-whipping, gunshots and killings in Washington state last month — is helping fuel a renewed push for federal banking reforms that would make the cash-dependent stores a less appealing target.

"It makes absolutely no sense that legal businesses are being forced to operate entirely in cash, and it's dangerous — and sometimes even fatal — for employees behind the register," Washington Sen. Patty Murray, the third-ranking Democrat in the Senate, said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press.

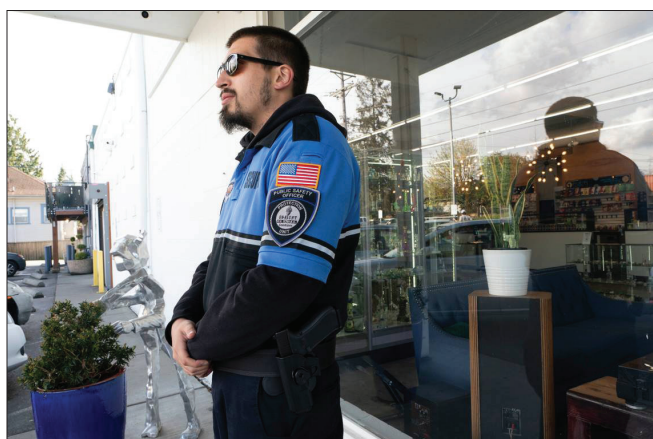
Although 18 states have legalized the recreational use of marijuana, and 37 allow its medical use, it remains illegal under federal law. Because of that, big banks and credit card companies have long been reluctant to work with the

industry, leaving the businesses heavily reliant on cash and making them attractive marks for robbers.

On the annual 4/20 marijuana holiday Wednesday, April 20, Murray held a news conference at Salal Credit Union to say she will prioritize marijuana banking reform as part of her work as a key negotiator on a conference committee that is ironing out differences in House and Senate versions of a major federal competitiveness and innovation bill.

Cannabis industry activists said they consider her announcement an important signal that after years of work, the banking issue might finally get resolved this year, allowing financial institutions to handle marijuana money in states where it is legal without fear of federal prosecution, loss of their federal deposit insurance or other penalties.

There recently has been a massive spike in the robberies for reasons that aren't entirely clear.



Ted S. Warren/The Associated Press

Security guard Austin MacMath wears a gun on his belt, Tuesday, April 19, 2022, while working outside Mary Mart, a marijuana store in Tacoma, Wash. A surge in robberies at licensed cannabis shops in Washington state is helping fuel a renewed push for federal banking reforms that would make the cash-dependent stores a less appealing target.

Dozens of cannabis businesses in the San Francisco Bay Area were hit last fall in a wave of attacks that sometimes appeared coordinated. Industry trackers in Washington state have reported at least 80 so far this year, mostly in the Puget Sound region.

While dispensaries are frequent targets for rob-

beries, the spate in Washington is helping drive the national conversation about banking reform. Last month, a suspect shot and killed an employee at a cannabis store in Tacoma; an ID checker shot and killed a robber in Covington; Seattle police shot and killed a suspect following a robbery in Bellevue; and a robber pis-

tol-whipped a worker at an Everett shop.

In the last few days, police have arrested a 15-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy in the killing of employee Jordan Brown, 29, at Tacoma's World of Weed. Authorities said the pair were responsible for at least 10 other armed robberies, including several at pot shops.

"The number of these robberies is shocking," said David Postman, the chairman of the Washington Liquor and Cannabis Board.

The board in the past month has held public safety discussions with retailers, recruited law enforcement to talk to retailers about best practices, and worked with state financial regulators to highlight local banks and credit unions that work with the industry as well as third-party vendors that cannabis retailers can use to conduct cashless phone transactions.

Marijuana shops that can afford it have hired private security guards, sometimes at costs of more than

\$50,000 a month for a round-the-clock detail, said Adán Espino, executive director of the Craft Cannabis Coalition, which represents more than 60 retail stores in Washington. Some of the businesses have tried to hire guards, only to find that security companies are completely booked, he said.

Espino said he's pushing for state lawmakers to give tax credits to cannabis stores that have to shell out money for security.

Mary Mart, a cannabis outlet in Tacoma, hired armed security in March after it was robbed twice in two months — including, police say, by the two teens who days later killed Brown. Budtender Amara Barnes, who was not present for either robbery, said she and other employees had their hours cut to help offset the cost.

"It's scary. I had worked here for four years without any kind of incident," Barnes said. "To have a couple kids come in and do that, it really shakes the confidence."

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weather

| | TONIGHT | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | Mostly cloudy | Mostly cloudy and cool | A couple of showers | Clouds and sun; warmer | A thick cloud cover |
| Baker City | 30 | 53 31 | 50 31 | 54 30 | 57 33 |
| Comfort Index™ | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| La Grande | 33 | 53 31 | 47 34 | 56 33 | 55 37 |
| Comfort Index™ | 0 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 2 |
| Enterprise | 28 | 47 29 | 45 32 | 50 28 | 58 36 |
| Comfort Index™ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 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 | 63° | 65° | 70° |
| Low Sunday | 21° | 26° | 28° |
| PRECIPITATION (inches) | | | |
| Sunday | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Month to date | 0.77 | 0.69 | 2.45 |
| Normal month to date | 0.64 | 1.45 | 1.97 |
| Year to date | 1.44 | 3.07 | 9.64 |
| Normal year to date | 2.70 | 6.07 | 9.83 |

SUNDAY EXTREMES

| NATION (for the 48 contiguous states) | Cotulla, Texas |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| High: 99° | |
| Low: 8° | Bodie State Park, Calif. |
| Wettest: 3.32" | Fort Smith, Ark. |
| OREGON | |
| High: 77° | The Dalles |
| Low: 20° | Lakeview |
| Wettest: Trace | Brookings |

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

| HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------|
| Lowest relative humidity | | 45% |
| Afternoon wind | NNW at 6 to 12 mph | |
| Hours of sunshine | | 1.0 |
| Evapotranspiration | | 0.08 |

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Phillips Reservoir | 10% of capacity |
| Unity Reservoir | 78% of capacity |
| Owyhee Reservoir | 46% of capacity |
| McKay Reservoir | 85% of capacity |
| Wallowa Lake | 45% of capacity |
| Thief Valley Reservoir | 100% of capacity |

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)

| | |
|--|----------|
| Grande Ronde at Troy | 3290 cfs |
| Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder | 25 cfs |
| Burnt River near Unity | 7 cfs |
| Umatilla River near Gibbon | 430 cfs |
| Minam River at Minam | 332 cfs |
| Powder River near Richland | 18 cfs |

WEATHER HISTORY

The northern mountains of Arizona have a cooler climate than the southern deserts. Still, a 6-inch snowfall in Flagstaff, Ariz., on April 26, 1963, was rare.

SUN & MOON

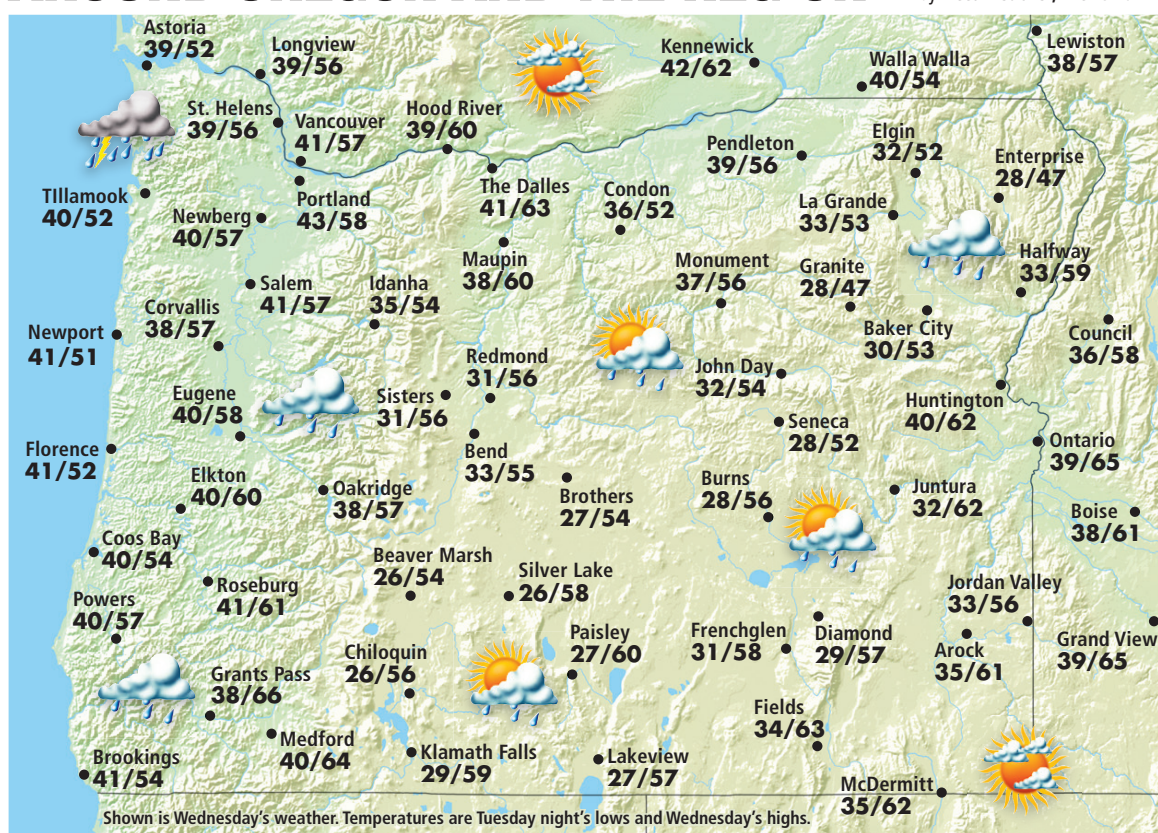
| | TUE. | WED. |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sunrise | 5:49 a.m. | 5:47 a.m. |
| Sunset | 7:52 p.m. | 7:53 p.m. |
| Moonrise | 4:29 a.m. | 4:49 a.m. |
| Moonset | 3:31 p.m. | 4:42 p.m. |

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



REGIONAL CITIES

| City | WED. HI/LO/W | THU. HI/LO/W | City | WED. HI/LO/W | THU. HI/LO/W |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Astoria | 52/38/c | 52/42/sh | Lewiston | 57/37/c | 59/41/c |
| Bend | 55/32/c | 54/30/sh | Longview | 56/39/c | 56/41/sh |
| Boise | 61/39/s | 61/38/pc | Meacham | 50/30/c | 47/35/sh |
| Brookings | 54/41/pc | 54/42/sh | Medford | 64/43/c | 58/39/sh |
| Burns | 56/33/pc | 52/27/c | Newport | 51/39/pc | 50/40/sh |
| Coos Bay | 54/41/pc | 54/41/pc | Olympia | 54/35/c | 54/36/sh |
| Corvallis | 57/39/sh | 54/37/pc | Ontario | 65/42/c | 61/41/c |
| Council | 58/34/sh | 53/33/c | Pasco | 61/38/pc | 62/40/pc |
| Elgin | 52/30/c | 48/33/sh | Pendleton | 56/40/c | 54/42/c |
| Eugene | 58/41/pc | 57/40/pc | Portland | 58/43/c | 57/44/sh |
| Hermiston | 62/42/pc | 62/45/pc | Powers | 57/40/pc | 53/39/sh |
| Hood River | 60/44/c | 59/43/c | Redmond | 56/33/pc | 56/29/sh |
| Imnaha | 54/37/c | 53/38/sh | Roseburg | 61/42/pc | 58/39/pc |
| John Day | 54/32/c | 46/34/sh | Salem | 57/40/c | 56/42/pc |
| Joseph | 47/31/sf | 43/31/sh | Spokane | 53/34/pc | 53/35/c |
| Kennecook | 62/40/pc | 62/42/pc | The Dalles | 63/42/pc | 62/44/pc |
| Klamath Falls | 59/34/pc | 52/26/pc | Ukiah | 49/32/sf | 44/31/sh |
| Lakeview | 57/31/pc | 49/26/sh | Walla Walla | 54/39/c | 54/40/c |

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

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

| Location | Forecast | High | Low |
|---------------------|------------------|------|-----|
| ANTHONY LAKES | Snow | 29 | 22 |
| PHILLIPS LAKE | Mostly cloudy | 50 | 31 |
| MT. EMILY REC. | Snow showers | 38 | 29 |
| BROWNLEE RES. | Mainly cloudy | 60 | 38 |
| EAGLE CAP WILD. | A little snow | 36 | 20 |
| EMIGRANT ST. PARK | A morning shower | 44 | 26 |
| WALLOWA LAKE | Snow showers | 47 | 31 |
| MCKAY RESERVOIR | Rather cloudy | 56 | 38 |
| THIEF VALLEY RES. | Rather cloudy | 53 | 31 |
| RED BRIDGE ST. PARK | Mostly cloudy | 53 | 31 |

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Sun. 12 noon-4 pm

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