

# Transgender man has kept full story from his parents

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a transgender male who has grown up in an area where many people discourage such things. They view what I am as a sin and me as a sinful, satanic child. My parents are against anything different, including the LGBT community.

I have already gone through top surgery, but they don't know about it. What they do know is that I am bisexual. How do I tell them that I am male?

— **SINFUL CHILD**

**DEAR "SINFUL" CHILD:**

Why do you want to make an announcement? You know what will happen the minute you do. If you feel you must say something, say that you have discovered your true self, which is male, and that you are happier now than you have ever been.

After you do that you will be free. You can then start building a family comprised of people who are understanding and accepting, which will be healthier for you than the one you were born into.

**DEAR ABBY:** My mother and I have been estranged for many years for multiple reasons. She has bad-mouthed me in emails to other relatives and then denied having done it, invited my ex-husband to family birthday parties knowing I wouldn't show up if he was there, and gone months, sometimes years, without speaking to me over things she has perceived as slights.

I have tried many times to walk away and let the situation go, but I continue being urged by other family members to "be the bigger person," not give up and "just keep trying." I married recently and invited her to the wedding. She texted 48 hours beforehand to indicate she would not be there. I'm wondering, is it OK to stop trying now? I mean, how much of this should one person be forced to take?

— **JUST ABOUT DONE TRYING**

**DEAR JUST ABOUT DONE:** I see nothing to be gained by continuing to tolerate your mother's passive aggression. If you are asking for my permission to stop doing all the work in the relationship, I am pleased to give it to you now.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have socialized with a group of women for the past 20 years. Our connection has always been our children. Now the children are grown and gone, one woman in our group keeps trying to include spouses each time we get together.

My husband works long hours. He doesn't enjoy being with these men, and he doesn't want to go on these outings. I have sympathized with him because I don't like the changes either. I'd prefer these events stay girlfriends-only. I have gone solo a few times and stayed away a few times. But my friends are commenting now, and I feel stuck and uncomfortable. Do you have any suggestions?

— **NO FAN IN MINNESOTA**

**DEAR NO FAN:** Yes, be honest. Level with your women friends and say you prefer socializing with them without the husbands. You are entitled to your feelings, and you do not have to elaborate further.

**DEAR ABBY:** I recently received an email from my ex-husband, who lives in the same state as my daughter. (I am remarried.) In it he asked me to agree to a budget he has given my daughter for her upcoming wedding. There was no discussion with me regarding the amount.

Abby, he gave her a budget of \$100,000 and expects me to pay half! When I emailed him back and asked how he arrived at such a crazy number, he responded that his brother had spent that amount on his two daughters. Wow!!!

I said absolutely not, the number was flat-out ridiculous, and he should never have promised that figure to begin with, let alone without consulting me. Your thoughts?

— **NOW THE BAD ONE**

**DEAR "BAD ONE":** I think the same way you do. He should never have promised any amount of money without first discussing it with you. I also think it is time to bring your daughter and her fiancé into the conversation. Many modern couples split the cost of their wedding between themselves, so don't feel defensive when you do it.

# Apple pledges nearly \$9M to help Oregon town store water

The Associated Press

**PRINEVILLE** — Apple has pledged to spend nearly \$9 million to help the city of Prineville, Oregon, build an underground water storage facility to help meet the demands of the company's two data storage centers there.

Apple is Prineville's largest water user and takes huge volumes of water to cool their facilities, where computers are in constant danger of overheating, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Wednesday.

Its first data center consumed 27 million gallons of water in 2016, based on the most recent data available, and the company has added a second large facility since then.

Prineville, with just over 10,000 residents, produces 600 million gallons annually. City officials could not say Wednesday how much water Apple used last year, but suggested it could be approaching 10 percent of Prineville's total production.

The project will collect water in natural underground geologic formations during cool periods and when river levels are high and then tap into it when needed. It will serve both Apple data centers and Prineville's general needs.

Lisa Jackson, the Apple vice president who runs the company's environmental initiatives, said the Prineville project will support the company's own needs "while increasing the availability of clean, sustainable water as the community prepares for the impacts of climate change."

Prineville currently gets



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Recently, the company pledge \$9 million to build an underground water storage facility to help meet demands of their data center.

all its water from deep wells; this project will bring water up from shallow wells, too, storing them in an aquifer near Apple's data center when demand is low and tapping them when demand rises in the summer heat.

The new aquifers will be available beginning in 2021. Prineville said it has been studying the project for five years and believes it could store as much as 180 million gallons initially, and up to 400 million gallons with additional wells.

In 2016, Apple financed construction of a water treatment facility designed to save 5 million gallons annually by recycling water from the city's sewage treatment system and using it in the data center.

Apple has spent \$1 billion building its 660,000-square-foot (61,315.5-square meter) Prineville facilities and is in the process of expanding by 50 percent. Its data centers employ 100 people altogether,

according to Apple, which has said it offsets the effects of its power use with nearby solar and wind projects.

Facebook has a large complex of data centers just up the road. It draws water from wells separate from the city's water system.

Both companies chose Prineville because of low land costs and cool desert night air to chill the data centers' computers.

Apple and Facebook also have agreements with the city that exempt them from most local property taxes.

Crook County records show those tax breaks saved Apple \$16.4 million last year and \$9 million the year before.

Those tax breaks are mitigated to some degree by franchise fees generated by the data centers' electricity use, which provide \$2 million annually for Prineville's general fund, accounting for about 4 percent of the city's budget.

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# weather

	TONIGHT	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
	Partly cloudy	Times of clouds and sun	Cloudy with a little snow	Cloudy, p.m. flurries	A bit of snow
<b>Baker City</b>	18	35 28	38 27	38 28	39 19
Comfort Index™	3	1	2	1	2
<b>La Grande</b>	23	37 33	41 34	39 30	37 29
Comfort Index™	2	1	0	1	2
<b>Enterprise</b>	19	36 29	40 31	39 25	35 26
Comfort Index™	1	2	1	2	2

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	45°	48°	44°
Low Thursday	34°	34°	33°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.04	0.07	Trace
Month to date	0.43	0.64	2.96
Normal month to date	0.63	1.11	2.01
Year to date	5.67	14.21	29.43
Normal year to date	9.78	15.97	22.68

## THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 87°	Marathon, Fla.
Low: -8°	Daniel, Wyo.
Wettest: 4.18"	Sarasota, Fla.
OREGON	
High: 61°	Pendleton Lakeview
Low: 20°	Brookings
Wettest: 1.63"	Brookings

## AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	50%
Afternoon wind	SSE at 8 to 16 mph
Hours of sunshine	4.4
Evapotranspiration	0.05

## RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)

Phillips Reservoir	8% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	22% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	35% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	14% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	16% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	39% of capacity

## STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	1440 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	7 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	400 cfs
Minam River at Minam	168 cfs
Powder River near Richland	29 cfs

## WEATHER HISTORY

An East Coast storm on Dec. 22, 1839, caused heavy snow in Pennsylvania and Maryland and then light snow and gale-force wind in New England.

## SUN & MOON

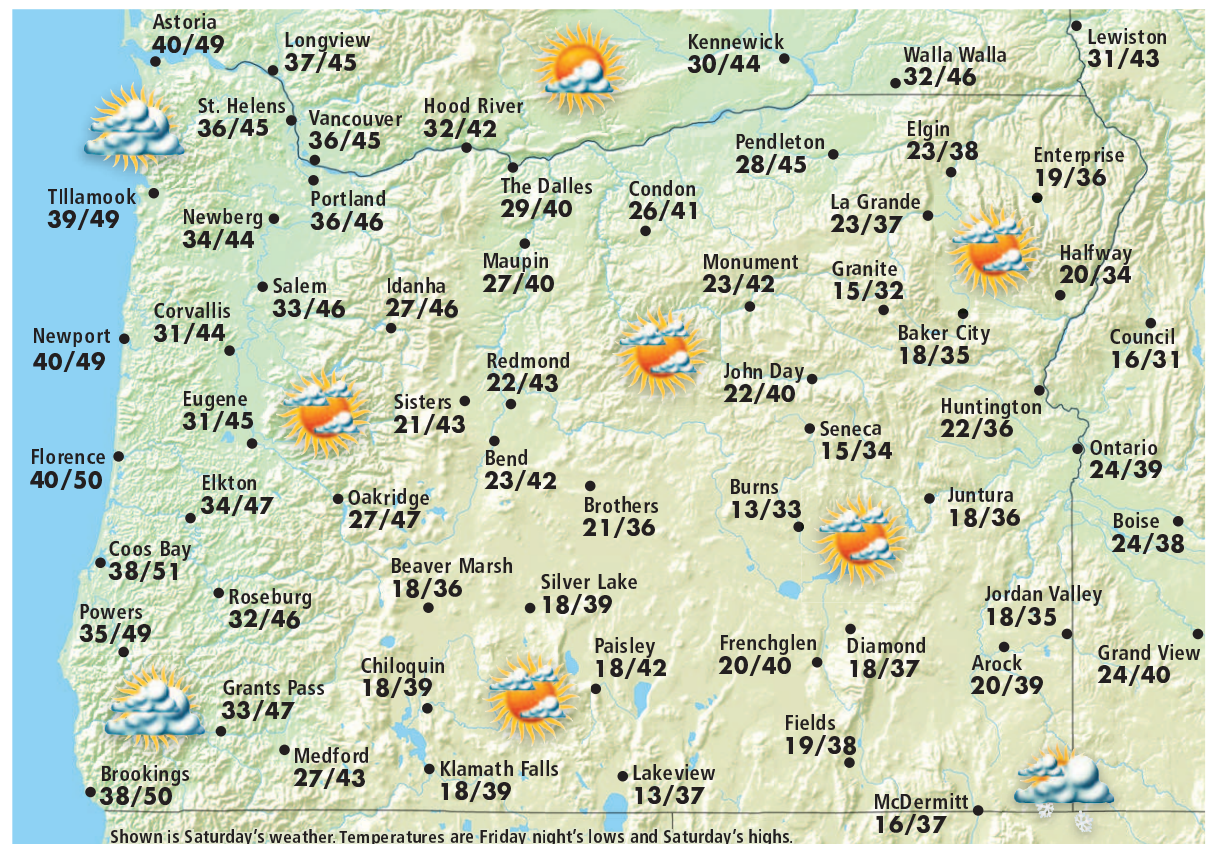
	FRI.	SAT.
Sunrise	7:29 a.m.	7:29 a.m.
Sunset	4:12 p.m.	4:13 p.m.
Moonrise	3:42 p.m.	4:35 p.m.
Moonset	6:04 a.m.	7:15 a.m.

## MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
Dec 22	Dec 29	Jan 5	Jan 13

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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## REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W	City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	49/45/r	51/42/r	Lewiston	43/36/pc	45/35/sn
Bend	42/36/pc	44/32/sh	Longview	45/42/r	49/42/r
Boise	38/31/pc	40/34/sn	Meacham	36/32/pc	39/33/sn
Brookings	50/47/r	53/45/r	Medford	43/36/c	49/38/r
Burns	33/22/pc	39/27/sn	Newport	49/46/r	52/44/r
Coos Bay	51/47/r	52/47/r	Olympia	46/40/r	49/40/r
Corvallis	44/40/r	50/41/r	Ontario	39/30/pc	40/33/sn
Council	31/23/pc	35/30/sn	Pasco	43/34/pc	49/37/sn
Elgin	38/32/pc	41/34/sn	Pendleton	45/37/pc	48/38/sh
Eugene	45/41/r	50/42/r	Portland	46/42/r	51/43/r
Hermiston	44/37/pc	51/39/sh	Powers	49/48/r	52/46/r
Hood River	42/37/sh	47/40/r	Redmond	43/35/pc	47/32/sh
Imnaha	40/35/pc	43/34/sn	Roseburg	46/42/sh	50/43/r
John Day	40/35/pc	43/34/sn	Salem	46/43/r	51/43/r
Joseph	35/28/pc	39/30/sn	Spokane	36/30/c	38/33/sn
Kennewick	44/37/pc	50/39/c	The Dalles	40/32/c	47/37/sh
Klamath Falls	39/30/pc	41/30/c	Ukiah	39/31/pc	40/32/sn
Lakeview	37/25/pc	39/28/c	Walla Walla	46/38/pc	50/40/sh

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

## RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

Location	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W
<b>ANTHONY LAKES</b> Periods of sun	16	7
<b>MT. EMILY REC.</b> Partly sunny	27	20
<b>EAGLE CAP WILD.</b> Partly sunny	23	8
<b>WALLOWA LAKE</b> Partly sunny	34	18
<b>THIEF VALLEY RES.</b> Partly sunny	37	18
<b>PHILLIPS LAKE</b> Some sun returning	32	14
<b>BROWNLEE RES.</b> Partly sunny	39	21
<b>EMIGRANT ST. PARK</b> Colder	30	18
<b>MCKAY RESERVOIR</b> Cooler	44	30
<b>RED BRIDGE ST. PARK</b> Partly sunny	38	23

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