

# Politics put a sudden end to 20-year-old friendship

DEAR ABBY: In the last presidential election, I had a friend who voted differently than I did. We didn't try to persuade each other to vote "our" way, but I did share on social media some opinions about people who had taken some controversial positions. She regarded these opinions as a personal attack and stepped out of my life without warning.

I have tried to re-engage with her several times -- texts, Facebook messages, phone calls. One message was met with hostility, and the others have gone unanswered. I have tried to apologize for hurting her feelings even though I didn't intend to and asked for forgiveness. I have offered to take her to lunch.

I hate the idea of walking away from a 20-year friendship (we are both in our mid-30s, so this is a friendship that has lasted more than half our lives) over something that seems so insignificant to me. Do I quit? Do I keep trying?

DEAR MISSING: What happened is unfortunate. Because not one of your overtures has been accepted, step back and stop trying for a while. After the next election, cooler heads may prevail, and she may be more receptive.

DEAR ABBY: I work as a secretary in a big law office. At the end of the year we are supposed to box up and summarize our closed files so they can be stored in our warehouse. For some reason, all the women in the office seem to think I should find a man to help me carry the boxes. All I'm doing is picking them up and putting them on a cart so I can take them to my desk.

Abby, I am more than capable of carrying a box that weighs anywhere from 20 to 50 pounds. I'm in my mid-30s, fairly active and have never had a problem with this. I have worked here for about three years, and it's always the same reaction. Today my supervisor made a big scene and insisted I find help.

I hate having to hear the same thing every year. I don't know why it bugs me,

but it does. My feeling is if I can do it, why not? Should I just give in to their demands or stand my ground?

— DOING MY JOB

DEAR DOING: Your supervisor may have told you to have a man place the boxes on the cart, I suspect, because of possible liability should you injure your back doing the lifting. Because ignoring the request could lead to "issues" with your employer, you should comply.

DEAR ABBY: My father was married before he met my mother and had five wonderful children during his previous marriage. When my half-brother got married two years ago, he invited our father, my mother and me to his wedding. My parents declined because they didn't want to see my father's ex-wife (my half-brother's mother). I went because, quite frankly, I have no dog in that fight.

I recently got word that my half-sister is getting married in June and plans on inviting our father and my mother as well. Due to their absence at my half-brother's wedding, my parents have decided they shouldn't go to any of my half-siblings' weddings in order to be fair to everyone.

Although I'm upset that they're refusing to attend, I can't help but wonder what I should do when I get married. Because they're my parents and I love them, I'd like them to come. But I also want to be sensitive to my half-siblings' thoughts and feelings. I don't want them to feel as if their father and stepmother love me more than they love them. What should I do?

— TROUBLED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR TROUBLED: When the time comes, talk to your half-siblings about your concerns and the fact that your parents did not come to their weddings. Explain that they were absent because they were uncomfortable about encountering their mother. I'm sure it won't surprise them. Tell them you would love to have them with you on that special day. But if they refuse out of loyalty to their mother, do not be surprised or regard it as a personal rejection.

# Strong storms in US South kill at least 8 and injure dozens

By The Associated Press

Powerful storms swept across the South on Sunday after unleashing suspected tornadoes and flooding that killed at least eight people, injured dozens and flattened much of a Texas town.

Nearly 90,000 customers were without electricity in Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Georgia as of midday Sunday, according to www.poweroutage.us.

Two children were killed on a back road in East Texas when a tree fell onto the car in which they were riding in a severe thunderstorm Saturday near Pollok.

The tree "flattened the car like a pancake," said Capt. Alton Lenderman of the Angelina County Sheriff's Office. The children, ages 8 and 3, were dead at the scene, both parents, who were in the front seat, escaped injury, he said.

At least one person was killed and about two dozen others were injured after a suspected tornado struck the Caddo Mounds State Historic Site in East Texas during a Native American cultural event in Alto. Cherokee County Judge Chris Davis said the fatality that was reported was of a woman who died of her critical injuries.

In neighboring Houston County, the sheriff's office said one person was killed in Weches.

There was widespread damage in Alto, a town of about 1,200, and the

school district canceled classes until its buildings can be deemed safe.

A tornado flattened much of the south side of Franklin, Texas, overturning mobile homes and damaging other residences, said Robertson County Sheriff Gerald Yezak.

The weather service said preliminary information showed an EF-3 tornado touched down with winds of 140 mph.

It destroyed 55 homes, a church, four businesses, a duplex, and part of the local housing authority building, authorities said. Two people were hospitalized for injuries, while others were treated at the scene, Yezak said. Some people had to be extricated from damaged dwellings.

Heavy rains and storms raked Mississippi into the night Saturday as the storms moved east.

Roy Ratliff, 95, died after a tree crashed onto his trailer in northeastern Mississippi, Monroe County Road Manager Sonny Clay said at a news conference, adding that a tornado had struck. Nineteen residents were taken to hospitals, including two in critical condition. A tornado was reported in the area 140 miles southeast of Memphis, Tennessee.

In Hamilton, Mississippi, 72-year-old Robert Scott said he had been sleeping in his recliner late Saturday when he was awakened and found himself in his yard after a

tornado ripped most of his home off its foundation.

His 71-year-old wife, Linda, was in a different part of the house and also survived, he said. They found each other while crawling through the remnants of the house they have lived in since 1972.

"We're living, and God has blessed us," Scott, a retired manager for a grocery store meat department, said Sunday as neighbors helped him salvage his belongings.

National Weather Service meteorologist John Moore said a possible twister touched down in the Vicksburg, Mississippi, area. No injuries were reported, but officials reported damage to several businesses and vehicles.

The storm is expected to continue moving toward the Northeast.

The Times Gazette reported several homes and businesses were damaged after an apparent tornado struck Shelby, Ohio, Sunday about 4 p.m.

The Richland County Emergency Management Agency reported about a half-dozen homes were damaged and at least six people were taken to a hospital to be treated for storm-related injuries.

The National Weather Service has issued tornado watch warnings for parts of Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

But the majority of damaged remained in the Southern part of the U.S.

# weather

<b>TONIGHT</b> Showers around early	<b>TUE</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>WED</b> Partly sunny	<b>THU</b> Abundant sunshine	<b>FRI</b> Mild with clouds and sun
<b>Baker City</b> 36 Comfort Index™ 1	<b>57 37</b> 5	<b>61 34</b> 10	<b>72 43</b> 9	<b>71 41</b> 10
<b>La Grande</b> 37 Comfort Index™ 1	<b>54 38</b> 5	<b>58 36</b> 7	<b>70 45</b> 10	<b>69 41</b> 10
<b>Enterprise</b> 35 Comfort Index™ 4	<b>50 35</b> 5	<b>55 32</b> 6	<b>64 41</b> 10	<b>66 40</b> 10

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

<b>TEMPERATURES</b>	<b>Baker City</b>	<b>La Grande</b>	<b>Elgin</b>
High Saturday	59°	61°	60°
Low Saturday	29°	32°	37°
<b>PRECIPITATION</b> (inches)			
Saturday	0.05	0.08	0.06
Month to date	0.69	1.74	4.31
Normal month to date	0.33	0.64	0.85
Year to date	4.32	6.65	16.03
Normal year to date	2.53	4.87	8.55

## SATURDAY EXTREMES

<b>NATION</b> (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 95° McAllen, Texas
Low: 5° Gothic, Colo.
Wettest: 3.72" Tunica, Miss.
<b>OREGON</b>
High: 68° Rome
Low: 22° Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.40" Astoria

## AGRICULTURAL INFO.

<b>HAY INFORMATION TUESDAY</b>	
Lowest relative humidity	45%
Afternoon Wind	WNW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	0.8
Evapotranspiration	0.09

## RESERVOIR STORAGE

Phillips Reservoir	33% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	88% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	74% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	106% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	87% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	N.A.
<b>STREAM FLOWS</b> (through midnight Saturday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	17200 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	584 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	1570 cfs
Minam River at Minam	935 cfs
Powder River near Richland	1048 cfs

## WEATHER HISTORY

Silver Lake, Colo., had 75.80 inches of snow on April 15, 1921. This was the most intense 24-hour snowfall in United States history.

## SUN & MOON

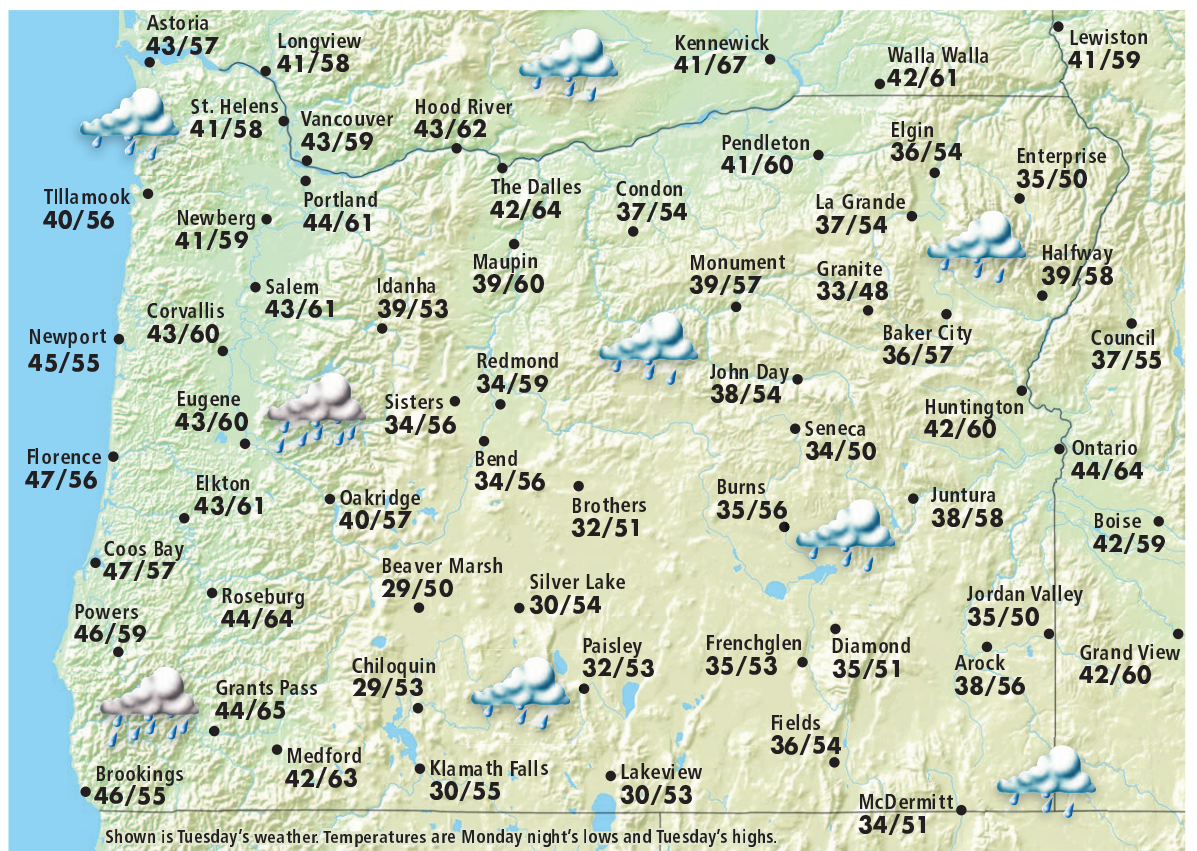
	<b>MON.</b>	<b>TUE.</b>
Sunrise	6:08 a.m.	6:06 a.m.
Sunset	7:38 p.m.	7:39 p.m.
Moonrise	3:10 p.m.	4:27 p.m.
Moonset	4:33 a.m.	5:07 a.m.

## MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
Apr 19	Apr 26	May 4	May 11

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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## REGIONAL CITIES

	<b>TUE.</b>	<b>WED.</b>		<b>TUE.</b>	<b>WED.</b>
<b>City</b>	<b>Hi/Lo/W</b>	<b>Hi/Lo/W</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Hi/Lo/W</b>	<b>Hi/Lo/W</b>
Astoria	57/47/sh	58/46/c	Lewiston	59/45/c	63/43/pc
Bend	56/37/c	63/37/pc	Longview	58/46/c	61/43/pc
Boise	59/40/sh	62/40/pc	Mecham	51/37/c	55/34/pc
Brookings	55/44/c	62/50/s	Medford	63/43/c	72/46/s
Burns	56/33/c	63/34/pc	Newport	55/48/c	57/46/pc
Coos Bay	57/47/c	60/47/pc	Olympia	59/44/c	60/43/pc
Corvallis	60/46/c	66/44/pc	Ontario	64/41/c	67/41/pc
Council	55/32/sh	57/32/pc	Pasco	67/49/c	71/44/pc
Elgin	54/37/c	57/35/pc	Pendleton	60/45/c	64/42/pc
Eugene	60/46/c	67/45/pc	Portland	61/48/c	64/42/pc
Hermiston	65/48/c	69/43/pc	Powers	59/45/c	67/46/pc
Hood River	62/48/c	65/44/pc	Redmond	59/39/c	65/38/pc
Imnaha	56/40/c	59/36/pc	Roseburg	64/47/c	71/47/pc
John Day	54/35/c	60/35/pc	Salem	61/47/c	65/45/pc
Joseph	50/33/c	54/31/pc	Spokane	57/40/pc	61/40/pc
Kennewick	67/48/c	71/43/pc	The Dalles	64/48/c	67/45/pc
Klamath Falls	55/31/c	64/35/s	Ukiah	51/36/c	57/33/pc
Lakeview	53/33/c	62/36/s	Walla Walla	61/49/c	65/49/pc

## RECREATION FORECAST TUESDAY

<b>ANTHONY LAKES</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>31 23</b>		<b>PHILLIPS LAKE</b> A stray shower	<b>50 33</b>	
<b>MT. EMILY REC.</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>42 33</b>		<b>BROWNLEE RES.</b> A p.m. shower	<b>59 37</b>	
<b>EAGLE CAP WILD.</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>38 25</b>		<b>EMIGRANT ST. PARK</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>47 34</b>	
<b>WALLOWA LAKE</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>50 33</b>		<b>MCKAY RESERVOIR</b> Mainly cloudy	<b>59 43</b>	
<b>THIEF VALLEY RES.</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>57 37</b>		<b>RED BRIDGE ST. PARK</b> Mostly cloudy	<b>54 38</b>	



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