

Churlish customers make life even more stressful for clerk

DEAR ABBY: I work in the deli department of a grocery store and have been struggling lately. With everything that is going on, people are overwhelmed and have been taking it out on us.



DEAR ABBY

I asked one person, "How are you doing today?" The response I got was, "I'm not interested in conversation. Just feed me!" Another who came to the register didn't utter a single word except to exclaim, when I offered her a bottle opener for her soda, "I've got it!" Then she snatched her change out of my hand. I don't even get the brunt of it; the cashiers have to handle the

worst of it. We employees are stressed out about the same things everyone else is. We are struggling to get the same products everyone else is searching desperately for. I had to shop at five different stores to get what I need and still haven't found many things.

Between the stress of the virus and the stress of being treated so rudely, my mental health is running low. I have struggled on and off with depression and anxiety, and many of my coping methods are unavailable to me due to closures. Could you please remind your readers that we are all in the

same boat and need to be kind to one another, and direct those of us who are struggling emotionally to resources we can access during this time of panic?

— STRUGGLING IN RETAIL
DEAR STRUGGLING: I agree that many people react badly when under stress, as the customers you described have done. But many others respect and appreciate the efforts you and so many others in the food supply chain make every day — at some risk to your own health. I am one of them.

Because you have had issues with depression and anxiety in the past, consider contacting the therapist you worked with and ask if the person is doing online ses-

sions. These days, many of them are. Just talking with someone — friends or like-minded co-workers — about what you are experiencing could bring some relief.

However, if that isn't possible, consider exploring whether there are online support groups for retail workers such as you. If there aren't, consider starting one so you and others can exchange ideas about coping with these extremely stressful circumstances in which we all find ourselves.

DEAR ABBY: My husband loves our cat too much. He buys "Miss Kitty" special treats, pets her, talks nicely to her, plants quick kisses on the top of her head and lets her sit on his lap while he watches TV for hours. It's like I'm

nonexistent. I wish he would be that nice to me.

He's a good provider and, when we are away from the house, I have his full attention. I'm resenting this queen of our home. What should I do? I'd like to take her back to the animal shelter. It was my sorry idea to adopt her.

— IN SECOND PLACE

DEAR SECOND PLACE: My first suggestion is to find reasons to spend more time with your husband away from the house. The second would be to adopt a dog. And if you do, make sure YOU are the one who feeds and walks it, unless your husband has such an affinity for pets that adopting another one isn't worth the risk.

Virus could lead more states to allow sports, online betting

By Wayne Parry
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The coronavirus pandemic could lead to a quicker expansion of sports betting and internet gambling in the U.S. as states deal with huge budget deficits and look for new tax revenue wherever they can find it.

Most major sports remain shut down due to the virus, but European soccer and Asian baseball have begun play, NASCAR is racing again and PGA Tour golf restarts in two weeks. Major U.S. sports leagues including the NBA and NHL are making plans for resuming their seasons.

The virus "will accelerate the expansion of sports betting and online casinos in the next 12 to 24 months," said Chris Krafcik, a managing director with Eilers & Krejcik Gaming, which tracks sports and internet betting legislation in the U.S. "Both activities provide states, whose economies have been massively disrupted by the outbreak,



Photo by Wayne Parry/Associated Press

This Feb. 10 file photo shows slot machines at the Hard Rock casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey, that gamblers control over the internet. The coronavirus pandemic could lead to a quicker expansion of sports betting and internet gambling in the U.S. as states deal with huge budget deficits and look for new tax revenue wherever they can find it.

the opportunity to capture new revenue immediately in the form of upfront license fees, and over time through taxes."

Sports betting is not a golden goose for states seeking new tax revenue. An Associated Press analysis last year found that taxes on sports betting would generate just a fraction of 1% of most states' budgets if they met their

estimates — and many states fell far short of those projections.

But with many state budgets now resembling smoking craters in the ground as tax revenue disappears in a largely idled economy, even a small revenue boost is better than none.

So far, 18 U.S. states plus the District of Columbia offer sports

betting, and four offer internet gambling, which can include online casino games, slots and poker.

In addition, Virginia and Tennessee have approved sports betting but have yet to launch. North Carolina allows two tribal casinos to offer it, and is considering a bill to allow it statewide. Washington state allows sports betting at tribal casinos once regulations are in place, and Oklahoma allowed two tribes to do so, pending approval from federal authorities.

Louisiana, Massachusetts and Ohio are realistic candidates to legalize sports betting this year, Krafcik said.

Louisiana is close to approving a November referendum on sports betting, and Ohio's Legislature is moving forward this week with a bill that could authorize sports betting, including mobile betting, although a competing measure could limit it to in-person bets at casinos and race tracks.

On Thursday, legislators in California pro-

moted sports betting as a way to help a state budget facing a \$54 billion deficit. The nation's largest state is considering a November referendum on the topic.

Krafcik said Illinois could approve internet gambling by the end of the year, at least in part to recoup tax revenue lost to the virus outbreak.

"States are facing unprecedented financial challenges," said Matt King, CEO of FanDuel Group. "We are firm believers that mobile sports betting and online gaming legislation will be the type of commonsense legislation that states will look to when legislatures return."

New York state Sen. Joseph Addabbo has been pushing his state to adopt mobile and online sports betting as a way to generate new revenue, including recapturing money from gamblers crossing the border into New Jersey to bet on sports. He said his state faces a budget deficit of up to \$17 billion, "largely

because of the virus." Other estimates have placed the shortfall around \$13 billion.

"We should be preparing now — creating regulations, lining up vendors, setting up servers," said Addabbo, a Democrat. "Let's get it ready so that when we come back, we don't miss another Super Bowl."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, also a Democrat, maintains that approving mobile sports betting would require amending the state's constitution.

While casinos in many states are moving to reopen, including Nevada next week, not all gamblers will be anxious to race back into crowded, enclosed buildings with the virus still spreading.

"If social distancing safeguards remain in place, it is possible that some gamblers would prefer to play from home rather than going into a casino," said David Schwartz, a gambling historian with the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	A heavy t-storm early	Partly sunny and cooler	A thunderstorm in spots	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Partly sunny and pleasant
Baker City	51	72 49	70 45	77 47	77 44
Comfort Index™	4	10	9	8	10
La Grande	50	66 47	66 46	75 47	76 55
Comfort Index™	4	10	8	10	10
Enterprise	46	64 43	65 44	72 47	73 47
Comfort Index™	4	9	9	10	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

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	86°	83°	91°
Low Thursday	42°	41°	43°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	Trace	0.01	0.00
Month to date	1.03	4.08	2.87
Normal month to date	1.32	1.79	2.01
Year to date	2.02	10.67	22.60
Normal year to date	4.39	7.64	11.78

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 120°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 25°	Gould, Colo.
Wettest: 3.08"	Camp Douglas, Wis.
OREGON	
High: 96°	Medford
Low: 36°	Meacham
Wettest: 0.09"	Meacham

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	35%
Afternoon wind	NW at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	4.2
Evapotranspiration	0.16

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

Phillips Reservoir	50% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	99% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	81% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	100% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	80% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	106% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	9780 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	486 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	117 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	435 cfs
Minam River at Minam	2220 cfs
Powder River near Richland	537 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

On May 30, 1968, flooding in northeastern New Jersey caused \$133 million in damage. This followed a severe drought in the mid-1960s that had led to water restrictions in the Northeast.

SUN & MOON

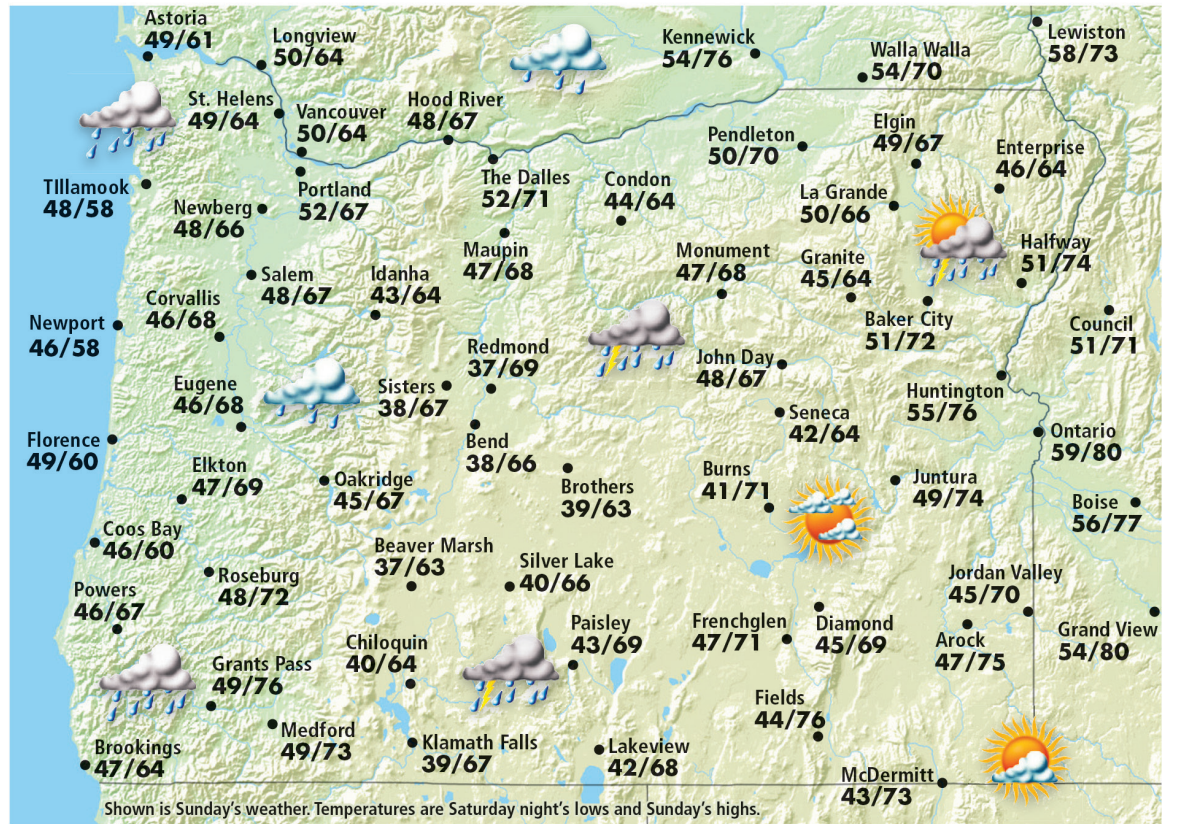
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	5:09 a.m.	5:08 a.m.
Sunset	8:32 p.m.	8:33 p.m.
Moonrise	1:08 p.m.	2:24 p.m.
Moonset	2:09 a.m.	2:36 a.m.

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	MON. Hi/Lo/W	City	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	MON. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	61/46/c	62/47/s	Lewiston	73/52/pc	73/52/c
Bend	66/44/pc	65/42/c	Longview	64/45/c	70/45/pc
Boise	77/56/pc	79/58/c	Meacham	64/44/pc	65/44/c
Brookings	64/48/pc	65/50/c	Medford	73/53/pc	77/51/c
Burns	71/47/pc	71/42/c	Newport	58/44/c	59/45/s
Coos Bay	60/46/c	61/45/pc	Olympia	64/43/c	70/43/pc
Corvallis	68/45/c	72/45/pc	Ontario	80/58/pc	84/58/c
Council	71/49/pc	76/51/c	Pasco	76/49/pc	77/49/c
Elgin	67/46/pc	67/44/c	Pendleton	70/48/pc	72/49/c
Eugene	68/45/c	71/45/pc	Portland	67/50/c	73/49/pc
Hermiston	75/51/pc	77/52/c	Powers	67/48/pc	68/45/pc
Hood River	67/48/pc	75/46/pc	Redmond	69/44/pc	70/40/c
Imnaha	68/51/pc	73/52/sh	Roseburg	72/50/pc	74/49/pc
John Day	67/51/pc	68/46/c	Salem	67/47/c	72/46/pc
Joseph	64/43/pc	66/43/c	Spokane	64/46/pc	68/47/c
Kennewick	76/49/pc	78/49/c	The Dalles	71/48/pc	77/49/pc
Klamath Falls	67/47/pc	67/42/c	Ukiah	64/43/pc	65/43/c
Lakeview	68/46/pc	65/44/c	Walla Walla	70/49/pc	70/52/c

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

ANTHONY LAKES Cooler	46 37	PHILLIPS LAKE Cooler	66 47
MT. EMILY REC. Some sun; cooler	53 43	BROWNLEE RES. Cooler	74 52
EAGLE CAP WILD. Cooler	53 35	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Cooler	60 37
WALLOWA LAKE Cooler	64 43	MCKAY RESERVOIR Cooler	70 48
THIEF VALLEY RES. Cooler	72 49	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Some sun; cooler	66 47

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