

Unguarded comment may cause brothers to break permanently

DEAR ABBY: I am a senior male. I understand I may have some beliefs that others find old-fashioned. However, I consciously try to be tolerant of others' feelings and beliefs. That said, my problem is with my younger brother, who is a homosexual. I have always tried to ignore that side of his life and, consequently, we have always had a good relationship. He lives in another state, so we only talk on the telephone.



DEAR ABBY

poor choice of words. I merely meant to say that I, myself, am and always have been totally heterosexual. I have never had any sexual interest in members of my own sex. I never meant my comment to be judgmental of my brother or anyone else.

I left several messages apologizing for anything I said that he found objectionable. Now, when I try to contact him, he doesn't answer my phone calls.

Abby, I miss my brother. I truly love him, and I don't want to lose all contact with him. If you have any advice for me, please give it to me. I'm desperate and can think of nothing I might be able

to do to restore our relationship. Please help me.

— FEELS LIKE A FOOL IN WASHINGTON

DEAR FEELS LIKE: I have never understood why so many straight people spend so much time obsessing about what gay people might be doing behind closed doors. THAT, to me, is disgusting.

I'll be frank. After what you said to your brother, he would have to be a saint to forgive you. He is doing what emotionally healthy people do, erasing a negative influence from his life.

You can continue trying to apologize by penning a heartfelt letter of apology and remorse, promising to never use those words again, and sending it to

your brother. But if he continues to be unresponsive, you will have to live with it.

DEAR ABBY: I met a man online seven months ago. We hit it off right away. I checked to make sure he wasn't a "catfisher" and everything checked out. We talk on the phone at least twice a day, Facebook Messenger and video chat. He sent me a card for my birthday along with some money.

I have developed strong feelings for him, and he has told me he loves me. He has told me many times he wants to meet, but we couldn't do it because of the pandemic. He's a jewelry designer trying to get his business back up before he loses it. He's afraid to lose everything.

I don't know what to do.

Should I keep waiting or just stay friends with him?

We really care about each other, but circumstances prevent us from meeting.

— BROKENHEARTED IN NEW YORK

DEAR BROKENHEARTED: Because "circumstances" prevent you from meeting this man in person, try HARD to regain your balance and stay friends. Although you think you know him, until you finally meet in person, you really don't. Even if you confirmed he works in jewelry design, he may still be hiding something from you. Often when a significant other keeps making excuses not to meet, there's a good reason for it and not always what you want to hear.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Robot artist sells art for \$688,888, now eyeing music career

HONG KONG — Sophia is a robot of many talents — she speaks, jokes, sings and even makes art. In March, she caused a stir in the art world when a digital work she created as part of a collaboration was sold at an auction for \$688,888 in the form of a non-fungible token.

The sale highlighted a growing frenzy in the NFT market, where people can buy ownership rights to digital content. NFTs each have a unique digital code saved on blockchain ledgers that allow anyone to verify the authenticity and ownership of items.

David Hanson, CEO of Hong Kong-based Hanson Robotics and Sophia's creator, has been developing robots for the past two and a half decades. He believes realistic-looking robots can connect with people and assist in industries such as healthcare and education.

Sophia is the most



Vincent Yu/Associated Press

David Hanson, left, creator of Sophia, shows a work of Sophia at his studio in Hong Kong on March 29, 2021. Sophia is a robot of many talents — she speaks, jokes, sings and even makes art. In March, she caused a stir in the art world when a digital work she created as part of a collaboration was sold at an auction for \$688,888 in the form of a non-fungible token (NFT).

famous robot creation from Hanson Robotics, with the ability to mimic facial expressions, hold conversations and recognize people. In 2017, she was granted Saudi Arabian citizenship, becoming the world's first robot citizen.

"I envisioned Sophia as a creative artwork her-

self, that could generate art," Hanson said in an interview.

"Sophia is the culmination of a lot of arts, and engineering, and the idea that she could then generate art was a way for her to emotionally and visually connect with people," he said.

Sophia collaborated with Italian artist Andrea Bonaceto, who drew portraits of Sophia. Sophia then processed his work via neural networks and proceeded to create a digital artwork of her own.

The digital work that sold for \$688,888 is titled "Sophia Instantiation",

and is a 12-second video file which shows Bonaceto's portrait evolving into Sophia's digital painting. It is accompanied by the physical artwork painted by Sophia.

The buyer, a digital artwork collector and artist known as 888 with the Twitter handle @Crypto888crypto, later sent Sophia a photo of his painted arm. The robot then processed that, adding that image to her knowledge and painted more strokes on top of her original piece.

In a tweet on Sophia's account, the work was described as the first NFT collaboration between an "AI, a mechanical collective being and an artist-collector."

"As an artist, I have computational creativity in my algorithms, creating original works," Sophia said when asked what inspires her when it comes to art. "But my art is created in collaboration with my humans in a kind of collective intelligence like a human-artificial intelli-

gence hive mind."

Sophia's artwork selling as an NFT is part of a growing trend. In March, a digital artwork by artist Beeple — whose real name is Mike Winkelmann — sold for nearly \$70 million, shattering records and making it the most expensive digital artwork ever sold.

Henri Arslanian, PricewaterhouseCooper's Global Crypto Leader, said that NFTs give people "bragging rights" of the assets that they own.

"And what is really amazing with NFT is that it not only allows you to actually show to the broader world that you own this, but it really creates this bond between the holder of the NFT and the artists," he said.

It also allows art to be sold without traditional intermediaries, so that artists can connect directly with buyers without being constrained by galleries or auction houses, Arslanian said.

— Associated Press

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weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Weather	Clear	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Partly sunny and cooler	Partly sunny and milder	Showers possible
Baker City	30	69 37	54 25	67 33	52 26
Comfort Index™	10	10	5	10	3
La Grande	34	65 36	47 24	61 34	45 25
Comfort Index™	10	10	1	10	0
Enterprise	32	61 34	44 23	57 30	43 25
Comfort Index™	10	10	2	10	0

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	65°	63°	63°
Low Sunday	26°	30°	31°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.00	Trace	0.00
Month to date	0.00	Trace	0.00
Normal month to date	0.10	0.21	0.27
Year to date	1.09	5.69	13.17
Normal year to date	2.30	4.44	7.97

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High: 103° Ocotillo Wells, Calif.
 Low: 10° Clayton Lake, Maine
 Wettest: 0.44" Caribou, Maine

OREGON
 High: 77° Rome
 Low: 22° Klamath Falls
 Wettest: Trace Brookings

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY
 Lowest relative humidity 30%
 Afternoon wind WNW at 7 to 14 mph
 Hours of sunshine 9.7
 Evapotranspiration 0.15

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)

Phillips Reservoir	18% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	81% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	59% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	86% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	58% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	101% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	7890 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	80 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	49 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	836 cfs
Minam River at Minam	534 cfs
Powder River near Richland	342 cfs

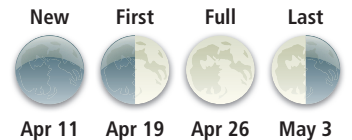
WEATHER HISTORY

During the winter of 1827-28, temperatures never dropped to freezing in central Louisiana. However, a sudden freeze on April 6, 1828, killed many of the early crops as far south as northern Florida.

SUN & MOON

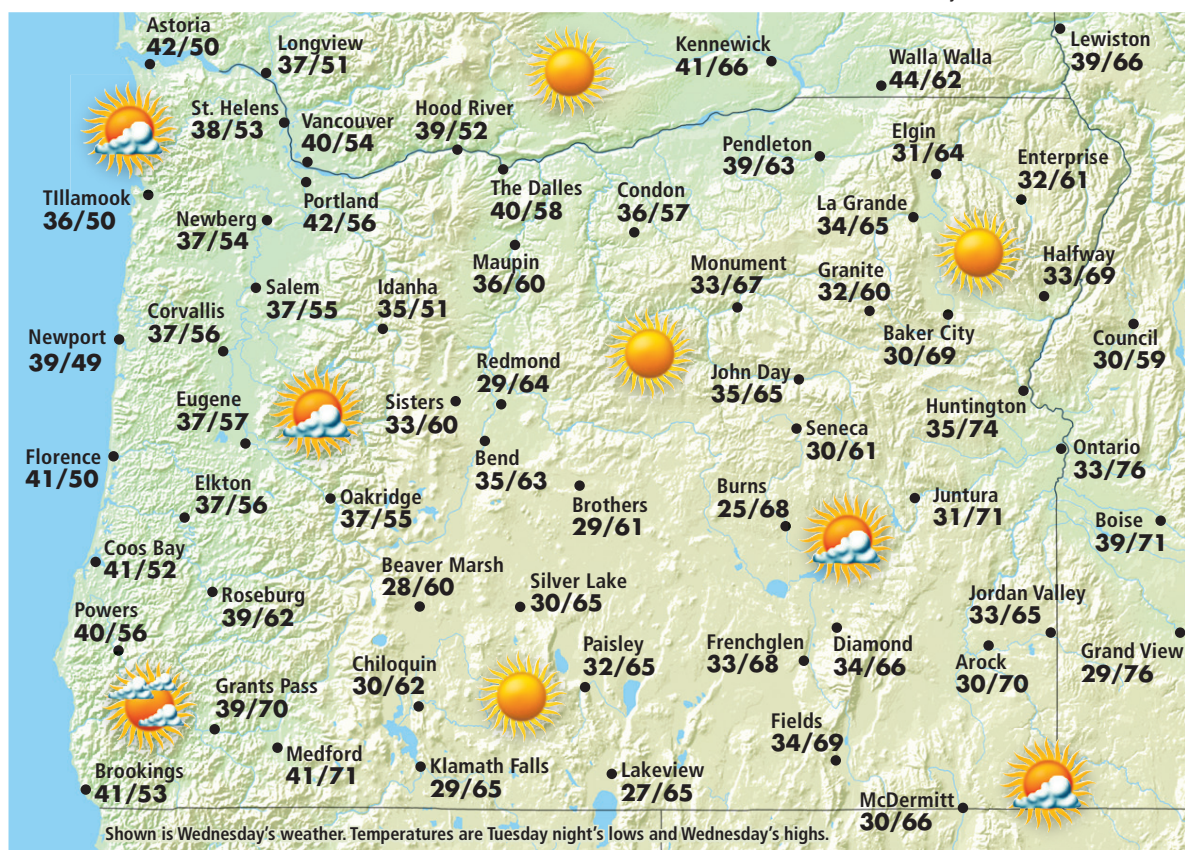
	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	6:23 a.m.	6:21 a.m.
Sunset	7:27 p.m.	7:28 p.m.
Moonrise	4:31 a.m.	5:02 a.m.
Moonset	1:49 p.m.	2:59 p.m.

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED.		THU.	
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	50/40/sh	51/35/pc	Lewiston	66/42/pc
Bend	63/35/s	51/24/pc	Longview	54/35/pc
Boise	71/42/s	57/32/s	Meacham	63/36/s
Brookings	53/41/pc	55/40/c	Medford	71/42/s
Burns	68/30/s	55/21/s	Newport	49/39/sh
Coos Bay	52/41/c	51/33/pc	Olympia	49/34/sh
Corvallis	56/39/c	56/33/c	Ontario	76/42/s
Council	59/33/s	45/25/pc	Pasco	65/42/pc
Elgin	64/36/pc	49/24/pc	Pendleton	63/38/s
Eugene	57/40/c	57/32/c	Portland	56/42/c
Hermiston	63/41/s	59/32/pc	Powers	56/38/pc
Hood River	52/41/r	51/33/pc	Redmond	64/31/s
Imnaha	65/36/pc	49/26/pc	Roseburg	62/41/c
John Day	65/34/pc	49/26/pc	Salem	55/38/c
Joseph	60/32/s	42/23/pc	Spokane	57/34/pc
Kennewick	66/42/pc	61/32/s	The Dalles	58/42/pc
Klamath Falls	65/30/s	58/25/pc	Ukiah	61/32/pc
Lakeview	65/28/s	58/23/pc	Walla Walla	62/40/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 WEDNESDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Partly sunny	40 22	PHILLIPS LAKE Partly sunny; mild	61 34
MT. EMILY REC. Mostly sunny	50 27	BROWNLEE RES. Mostly sunny	64 35
EAGLE CAP WILD. Partly sunny	47 22	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Mostly sunny	56 30
WALLOWA LAKE Mostly sunny	60 32	MCKAY RESERVOIR Mostly sunny	64 37
THIEF VALLEY RES. Partly sunny; mild	69 37	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Sunshine and nice	65 36

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