

Birth mother reconnects with biological son



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

Dear Abby: When I was an unmarried 18-year-old, I had a child out of wedlock. Unsure that I could provide for him, I chose to place him for adoption so he would have a chance for a better life. This year, we connected through DNA. The reunion has been great, even though I choose to remain in the background because his mother is still living.

Would it be appropriate this fall and winter to include him in my holiday festivities as long as it doesn't interfere with the time

he should be spending with his family? And, after his mother passes away, what role should I play in his life? His father is deceased, and he and his adopted brother are estranged. — **Bio mom in Texas**

Dear Bio Mom: Your son should have told his adoptive mother about the reunion, regardless of who initiated it. I think it would be better for everyone if she was included. A way to do that would be to thank her for taking such good care of your son and helping him to become the man he is today. I do not think secrecy is healthy. If it backfires, there will be deeply hurt feelings because of the subterfuge. At this point in your son's life it's too late

for you to be his mommy. However, you CAN be a good friend, since his only family now is the woman who loved and raised him.

Dear Abby: I have been dating a man for almost three years. He's retired; I'm still working. He refuses to stay with me during the week because I need to go to bed early. I see him only on the weekends. Am I wrong for wanting him to stay with me during the week? I feel like we really don't have a relationship. My previous boyfriends would stay with me every night. Am I doomed with this man? By the way, he's been married four times. — **Wants more in Michigan**

Dear Wants More: Wake up. The man you have been dating

isn't going to change. He has struck out at marriage four times and may have "plans" during the week that do not include staying with a "Sleeping Beauty." If you want more companionship than what you're getting, you are going to have to seek it elsewhere.

Dear Abby: My daughter is getting married. Her father and I never married, but legally he's listed as her father. For the past 40 years she has used my last name. Well, her wedding invitation arrived today and her father's name is on it. Mine isn't even mentioned!

My parents and I raised her. Her dad was around but never an active father. I raised her, but he gets the glory and the privilege of

walking her down the aisle? She says I'm being "a wacko." Must I accept this and let it go? I feel so hurt that I really don't want to go to the wedding. — **Loving mom left out**

Dear Mom: I understand your feelings. If you haven't asked your daughter why she chose to do this, you should. At the least, you deserve an explanation. Please understand that if you refuse to go to her wedding, it could create a permanent rift. There may be grandchildren and milestones you also could miss. Of course, the decision is yours to make, but since you asked me to weigh in, I'm suggesting you take the high road, attend and support your daughter on "her" day.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Persephone, the robot guide, leads visitors in a Greek cave

By **COSTAS KANTOURIS**
The Associated Press

ALISTRATI, Greece — Persephone is a tour guide in Greece, but perhaps not the type people are used to.

Billed as the world's first robot tour guide inside a cave, Persephone has been welcoming visitors since mid-July to the Alistrati Cave in northern Greece, 84 miles northeast of the city of Thessaloniki.

The multilingual robot covers the first roughly 500 feet of the part of the cave that is open to the public. In the remaining 2,400 feet, a human guide takes over.

The robot was named Persephone because, according to Greek myth, it was in a nearby plain that Pluto — the god of the underworld who was also known as Hades — abducted Persephone, with the consent of her father Zeus, to take her as his wife.

The robot can give its part of the tour in 33 lan-



Persephone guides the visitors inside Alistrati cave, about 84 miles northeast of Thessaloniki, Greece, on Aug. 2, 2021. Persephone, billed as the world's first robot used as a tour guide inside a cave, has been welcoming visitors to the Alistrati cave since mid-July.

guages and interact at a basic level with visitors in three languages. It can also answer 33 questions, but only in Greek.

Nikos Kartalis, the scientific director for the Alistrati

site, had the idea of creating the robot when he saw one on TV guiding visitors at an art gallery. Seventeen years later, "we got our funds and the robot guide became a reality," Kartalis told The

Associated Press.

The robot was built by the National Technology and Research Foundation and cost \$139,000.

"We already have a 70% increase in visitors com-

pared to last year since we started using" the robot, says Kartalis. "People are enthusiastic, especially the children, and people who had visited in the past are coming back to see the robot guide."

The robot moves along a walkway, passing through an ornate landscape of stalactites and stalagmites. These varied formations can reach 50 feet tall and are seen throughout the cave's nearly .6-mile walkway, which is accessible to people with limited mobility.

"This cave is one of the most beautiful, not only in Greece but in Europe, as well," says Kartalis. "It has stalactites and stalagmites in many shapes and colors, even red."

He said the cave was 3 million years old and was first explored in 1974 by the Hellenic Speleological Society and a team of Austrian speleologists. It opened to visitors in 1998.

Persephone, with a white body, black head and two luminous eyes, moves on wheels, guiding visitors to the first three of eight stops along the walkway. She can do two more stops, but her low speed slows down the tour, which is conducted in three languages. Persephone's creators are considering ways to speed her up.

The robot's begins by saying: "My name is Persephone, I am the daughter of the goddess Demeter and the wife of Pluto, the god of the underworld. I welcome you to my under Earth kingdom, the Alistrati Cave."

Many visitors are intrigued by the robot guide.

"It was surprising for me. I've never experienced such a thing. Actually, honestly, I prefer a live guide, but it's interesting doing it this way. And I like the pace of the robot. It goes slower, so I can look around," said Patrick Markes, a Czech visitor.

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weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Turning cloudy	Clouds and sun; pleasant	Partly sunny and nice	Nice with plenty of sun	Sunny and pleasant	Sunny and pleasant
Baker City	41	78 46	77 45	74 41	76 40
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	10
La Grande	50	77 52	76 49	71 46	75 45
Comfort Index™	9	9	10	10	10
Enterprise	46	77 49	72 44	68 42	72 45
Comfort Index™	10	9	10	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 Sunday	82°	83°	78°
Low Sunday	37°	43°	40°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.11
Month to date	0.65	0.42	0.42
Normal month to date	0.30	0.48	0.45
Year to date	3.11	6.54	15.79
Normal year to date	6.29	11.14	15.68

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 109°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 25°	Bodie State Park, Calif.
Wettest: 5.13"	Columbia, S.C.
OREGON	
High: 87°	Medford
Low: 28°	Lakeview
Wettest: 0.03"	Troutdale

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY

Lowest relative humidity	20%
Afternoon wind	NW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	10.2
Evapotranspiration	0.20

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)

Phillips Reservoir	0% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	27% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	18% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	47% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	0% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	0% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	561 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	1 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	90 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	43 cfs
Minam River at Minam	79 cfs
Powder River near Richland	7 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

The temperature in Washington, D.C., dropped to 49 degrees on Aug. 24, 1890. The high temperature of 51 degrees in nearby Baltimore, Md., matched the record low daily maximum for the month of August.

SUN & MOON

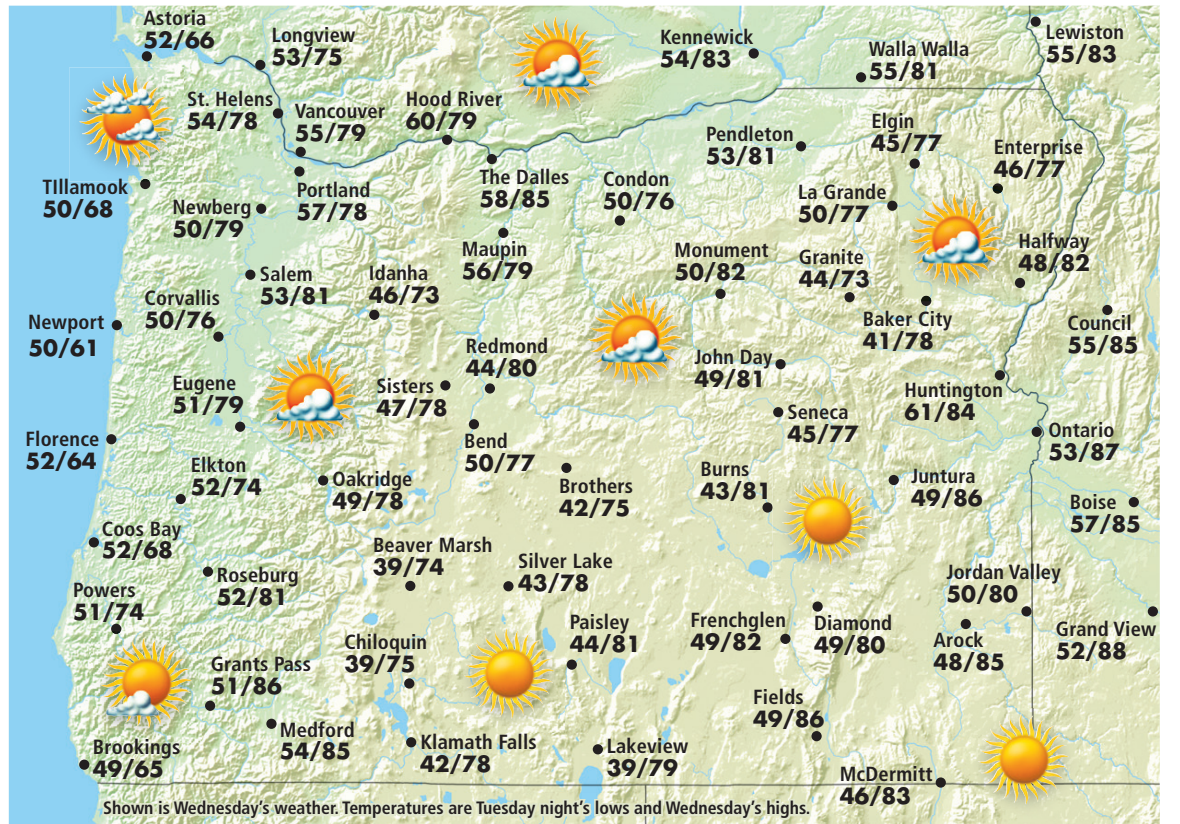
	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	6:04 a.m.	6:06 a.m.
Sunset	7:44 p.m.	7:42 p.m.
Moonrise	9:12 p.m.	9:31 p.m.
Moonset	8:18 a.m.	9:26 a.m.

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED.		THU.	
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	66/56/pc	67/56/pc	Lewiston	83/59/pc
Bend	77/44/s	78/47/s	Longview	75/54/c
Boise	85/56/s	83/55/s	Meacham	77/49/pc
Brookings	65/51/pc	69/55/s	Medford	85/55/s
Burns	81/47/s	80/43/s	Newport	61/51/c
Coos Bay	68/52/pc	70/55/pc	Olympia	73/54/c
Corvallis	76/51/pc	79/54/pc	Ontario	87/58/s
Council	85/51/s	81/49/s	Pasco	85/57/pc
Elgin	77/51/pc	75/47/c	Pendleton	81/60/pc
Eugene	79/51/s	82/53/s	Portland	78/57/pc
Hermiston	85/65/pc	83/61/c	Powers	74/48/pc
Hood River	79/60/pc	78/60/pc	Redmond	80/43/c
Imnaha	82/53/pc	81/49/pc	Roseburg	81/52/s
John Day	81/48/pc	77/46/s	Salem	81/54/s
Joseph	78/52/pc	77/44/pc	Spokane	77/53/pc
Kennewick	83/61/pc	83/58/s	The Dalles	85/61/pc
Klamath Falls	78/39/pc	80/44/s	Ukiah	76/44/pc
Lakeview	79/39/pc	80/43/s	Walla Walla	81/60/pc

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Cool with some sun	53 39	PHILLIPS LAKE Partly sunny; nice	75 42
MT. EMILY REC. Cool with some sun	62 48	BROWNLEE RES. Turning cloudy	87 60
EAGLE CAP WILD. Partly sunny	63 42	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Clouds and sun	70 42
WALLOWA LAKE Some sun	78 52	MCKAY RESERVOIR Partly sunny	80 55
THIEF VALLEY RES. Nice with some sun	78 46	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Partly sunny	77 52

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