

Generous friend ready to cut off assistance



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

Dear Abby: I have a long-distance friend I met online 10 years ago. I took pity on her because she was nearly destitute, and I have been helping her pay her bills. She's visited me a number of times, and I care about her a lot. However, her constant requests for money are starting to make me uncomfortable. (She can't work for health reasons, and there's a major scarcity of social services or competent care in her Rust Belt locality.)

I do not want to continue enabling her. I have tried suggesting she move closer to her sister, seek better care, etc., but she doesn't have the motivation. I have a hard time saying "no" to people. I got married recently, and I don't want this situation to negatively affect my relationship with my wife.

In my friend's current emotional state, I'm afraid if I end my friendship with her, she'll never recover from the emotional trauma. She even tattooed my name on her wrist so she'd see it every time she wanted to cut herself, like she used to do before we met. What should I do? — **Tied To Her**

Dear Tied: Start researching assertiveness training programs for yourself, because you sorely need more help than I can give you in one column. Discuss this with your wife for additional emotional support, because you are right — continuing to give your online friend financial help will destroy your marriage. After that, tell this needy woman you won't be sending her more money, and that you do not want her to contact you until she has moved closer to her sister so she can find the help she needs. Do not feel guilty for doing this. You have been extraordinarily generous to have let this go on for a decade.

Dear Abby: My husband and I have good friends who winter every year in another state, halfway across the country. For years they asked us to come for a visit. Last winter, we were vacationing about six hours from where they were staying. We called and asked if they were available and if it would be convenient for us to come for three days. They assured us they had no commitments and would love for us to come, which we did.

In the early morning of the third day, they announced they had been invited to go to a ballgame with a friend and would be leaving almost immediately, adding it was an hour's drive

away and they would be gone all day and returning early evening. They said we were welcome to "just hang out" and wait for them to return. We said we would head home the same time they left for the ballgame. I was stunned and felt they were incredibly rude. Am I overly sensitive, or was this an acceptable way to treat guests? — **Taken Aback In A Cold State**

Dear Taken Aback: I agree that it was rude. Your friends had a choice, to fulfill their duties as gracious hosts, or be selfish and go to the game. By choosing the latter, they damaged a longtime friendship. I can see why you were "taken aback."

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Thai riverside restaurant finds silver lining in floods

By **TASSANEE VEJONGSA**
Associated Press

NONTHABURI, Thailand — A flood-hit riverside restaurant in Thailand has become an unlikely dining hotspot after fun-loving foodies began flocking to its water-logged deck to eat amid the lapping tide.

Now, instead of empty chairs and vacant tables, the Chaopraya Antique Café is as full as ever, offering an experience the canny owner calls "hot-pot surfing."

If you like your food washed down with plenty of water, this is the place for you.

Shortly after the water tops the parapet, the first diners arrive. Before long, the deck is crammed with carefree customers happily tucking in as if dining in a deluge is the norm.

The wait staff — some clad in rubber boots — step gingerly through the swirl that quickly rises to more than 20 inches.

The restaurant, in Nonthaburi near Bangkok, opened in February in a riverside location that perfectly complements its antique architecture and décor.

But a recent severe tropical storm and heavy monsoon rains combined to raise the river's water level. Add in the tides and the result has been daily inundation.

Coming straight after



Photos by Sakchai Lalit/The Associated Press
Customers of the riverside Chaopraya Antique Café enjoy themselves despite the extraordinary high water levels in the Chao Phraya River in Nonthaburi, near Bangkok, Thailand, Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021.

a monthslong coronavirus shutdown, it could have spelled disaster. Instead — boosted by publicity in the Thai media — it's now so popular that customers need to make reservations. "This is a great atmosphere. During this flood crisis this has become the restaurant's signature attraction. So I wanted to challenge myself and try out this new experience," 24-year-old Siripoj Wai-inta said as he munched his food with the water creeping up his shins.

The owner has dubbed the experience "hot-pot surfing." When a passenger boat motors past you find out why. The delighted scramble to avoid a soaking from the wave is the moment everyone waits for, and with one passing every 15

minutes, no one goes home disappointed.

It's TV presenter Titiporn Jutimanon's first restaurant venture. He says he was worried what would happen when the floods came.

"It turns out the customers have a great reaction. They are happy. We can see the atmosphere of customers enjoying the experience of eating in the water. So a crisis has turned into an opportunity. It encourages us to keep the restaurant open and keep customers happy."

Best of all, he says, it means he can keep his staff happy by keeping them employed. So, even amid harsh economic times, the only thing that needs a bailout is the restaurant itself.





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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Turning cloudy	Cloudy, a shower, cool	Showers around	Sunny and cold	Mostly cloudy and cold
Baker City	33	57 31	47 25	52 24	51 23
Comfort Index™	5	5	0	2	2
La Grande	37	55 31	46 29	50 27	49 27
Comfort Index™	8	1	0	3	2
Enterprise	33	53 24	43 26	47 27	48 30
Comfort Index™	8	2	0	3	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	61°	61°	68°
Low Thursday	30°	23°	24°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.00	0.00	Trace
Month to date	Trace	Trace	Trace
Normal month to date	0.11	0.22	0.31
Year to date	3.58	7.38	16.41
Normal year to date	6.97	12.22	17.18

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 99° Castolon, Texas
Low: 24° Coeur D'Alene, Idaho
Wettest: 3.33" Greenwood, S.C.

OREGON
High: 70° Ontario
Low: 20° Meacham
Wettest: 0.01" Troutdale

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY
Lowest relative humidity 45%
Afternoon wind WNW at 7 to 14 mph
Hours of sunshine 4.0
Evapotranspiration 0.07

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

Phillips Reservoir	N.A.
Unity Reservoir	9% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	10% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	24% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	1% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	0% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	553 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	0 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	17 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	44 cfs
Minam River at Minam	52 cfs
Powder River near Richland	N.A.

WEATHER HISTORY

On Oct. 9, 1804, a hurricane in New England caused massive damage. Tropical moisture and cold air combined in central New England; 2-3 feet of snow fell in the Berkshires and Green Mountains.

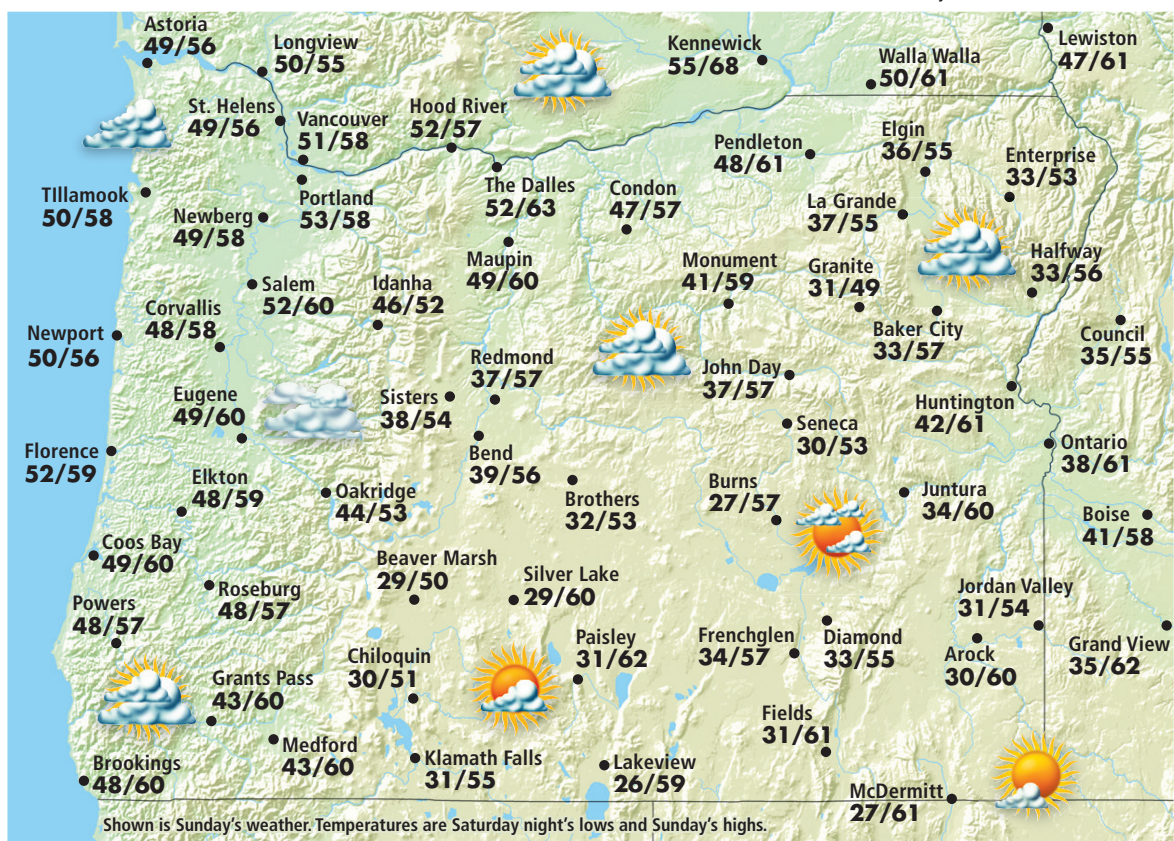
SUN & MOON

	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	7:01 a.m.	7:02 a.m.
Sunset	6:18 p.m.	6:16 p.m.
Moonrise	11:05 a.m.	12:25 p.m.
Moonset	8:20 p.m.	9:04 p.m.



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	MON. Hi/Lo/W	City	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	MON. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	56/43/sh	57/41/pc	Lewiston	61/40/c	57/36/pc
Bend	56/32/c	49/29/pc	Longview	55/44/sh	55/37/pc
Boise	58/36/s	51/34/pc	Meacham	53/31/c	47/27/pc
Brookings	60/46/sh	60/42/s	Medford	60/41/c	56/34/pc
Burns	57/25/pc	47/24/pc	Newport	56/43/r	55/41/pc
Coos Bay	60/45/sh	60/38/pc	Olympia	55/39/sh	56/36/pc
Corvallis	58/38/r	58/34/pc	Ontario	61/40/pc	55/40/c
Council	55/29/pc	48/32/pc	Pasco	67/38/c	60/36/s
Elgin	55/31/c	47/26/pc	Pendleton	61/37/c	56/31/pc
Eugene	60/43/r	58/36/pc	Portland	58/46/r	56/40/pc
Hermiston	63/40/pc	61/37/s	Powers	57/45/pc	56/38/c
Hood River	57/45/r	57/34/pc	Redmond	57/32/c	50/23/s
Imnaha	55/35/c	57/34/sh	Roseburg	57/44/c	56/37/pc
John Day	57/31/c	45/28/sf	Salem	60/43/r	58/36/pc
Joseph	53/26/c	41/25/sn	Spokane	55/34/c	52/33/pc
Kennewick	68/40/c	60/37/s	The Dalles	63/46/c	61/36/s
Klamath Falls	55/29/pc	47/25/sn	Ukiah	53/30/c	43/24/pc
Lakeview	59/22/s	45/19/pc	Walla Walla	61/40/c	55/35/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 SUNDAY

ANTHONY LAKES A shower	37 14	PHILLIPS LAKE A p.m. shower	51 27
MT. EMILY REC. Cold with a shower	43 23	BROWNLEE RES. A p.m. shower	60 32
EAGLE CAP WILD. A p.m. shower	40 16	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Cloudy, a shower	49 28
WALLOWA LAKE A p.m. shower	53 26	MCKAY RESERVOIR A shower; cooler	58 36
THIEF VALLEY RES. A p.m. shower	57 31	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Cloudy, a shower	55 31