

Woman not happy with her life at common milestone



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: For years, I've heard about what and where a woman "should" be in her life once she turns the big 3-0. She should have a thriving career, be married with kids — or at least engaged — and have a full sense of her worth and knowledge.

I recently turned the big 3-0, but my cards aren't all stacked that way. I have never had a romantic relationship. Most of the men I wanted to start one with only wanted sex with me, and a relationship with someone else. As I entered my late 20s, I

began rejecting men who showed signs of wanting only a sexual relationship, and now I seem to have no takers at all. The fact that I have gained weight hasn't helped, either. It's not like once I meet a guy the first thing I say is, "Hey, I want a meaningful relationship." I'm beginning to worry that something is wrong with me. What should I do? — **THIRTY BUT NOT FLIRTY**

DEAR THIRTY: There is nothing wrong with you, just as there is nothing wrong with getting to know someone before embarking on a physical relationship. (In fact, I recommend it.) However, to eliminate a man because you think he "only" is interested in having sex with you was jumping the gun.

I wish you had mentioned where you were meeting men. You may have better luck if you figure out what interests you have in common with the men you meet, and develop relationships based on them. And, because you suspect the weight you have gained may have something to do with your problem, resolve to become involved in physical activities that will get you out of the house and into an environment where you'll not only get some exercise, but also meet some eligible prospects.

DEAR ABBY: I've been married to my husband, "Asher," for 20 years, and during our marriage, I have always been the person who plans and throws birthday parties, including his. I

gave him a large surprise party for his 40th birthday. Abby, this whole time, nobody has thrown me a party or planned a celebration centered on me. I'm lucky to get a last-minute, store-bought cake and a dinner out on my birthday. Our 50th birthdays are coming up in a few months, and friends and family are asking what I'm planning for him, but nobody says anything about mine.

I resent that these people, including Asher, take me for granted, and I'm considering digging in my heels on party planning this time around. I have told Asher that maybe it's about time somebody planned ME a party, but he doesn't seem to get it. Have you any advice for

me? I like a nice celebration, but I'm tired of being the one doing all the work without reciprocation. — **PARTY GIRL IN THE SOUTH**

DEAR PARTY GIRL: While you can't control how other people behave, there is nothing wrong with enlisting some "help" in your planning. Express your feelings (again) to your self-involved husband and also to the friends and relatives who have enjoyed your hospitality for so long without reciprocating. Plan the party for Asher, and if your birthday is again ignored, plan something special you might like with your closest friends — preferably, out of town — and follow through. I think you are entitled, don't you?

WHO says measures used against delta should work for omicron

By **JIM GOMEZ**
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — Measures used to counter the delta variant should remain the foundation for fighting the coronavirus pandemic, even in the face of the new omicron version of the virus, World Health Organization officials said Friday, Dec. 3, while acknowledging that the travel restrictions imposed by some countries may buy time.

While about three dozen countries worldwide have reported omicron infections, including India on Dec. 2, the numbers so far are small outside of South Africa, which is facing a rapid rise in COVID-19 cases and where the new variant may be becoming dominant. Still, much remains unclear about omicron, including whether it is more contagious, as some health authorities suspect, whether it makes people more seriously ill, or whether it can evade vaccine protection.

"Border control can delay the virus coming in and buy time. But every country and every community must prepare for new surges in cases," Dr. Takeshi Kasai, the WHO regional director for the Western Pacific, told reporters Friday during a virtual news conference from the Philippines. "The positive news in all of this is that none of the information we have currently about omicron suggests we need to change the directions of our response."

That means continuing



Ahn Young-joon/The Associated Press

A traveler arrives to enter into a COVID-19 testing center at the Incheon International Airport in Incheon, South Korea, Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021. South Korea's daily jump in coronavirus infections exceeded 5,000 for the first time since the start of the pandemic, as a delta-driven surge also pushed hospitalizations and deaths to record highs.

to push for higher vaccination rates, abiding by social-distancing guidelines, and wearing masks, among other measures, said WHO Regional Emergency Director Dr. Babatunde Olowokure.

He added that health systems must "ensure we are treating the right patients in the right place at the right time, and so therefore ensuring that ICU beds are available, particularly for those who need them." Kasai warned: "We

cannot be complacent."

WHO has previously urged against border closures, noting they often have limited effect and can cause major disruptions. Officials in southern Africa, where the omicron variant was first identified, have decried restrictions on travelers from the region, saying they are being punished for alerting the world to the mutant strain.

Scientists are working furiously to learn more about omicron, which has

been designated a variant of concern because of the number of mutations and because early information suggests it may be more transmissible than other variants, Kasai said.

A few countries in the Western Pacific region are facing surges that began before omicron was identified, though COVID-19 cases and deaths in many others have decreased or plateaued, Kasai said. But that could change.

Among the places that

have found the variant in the region are Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia — and it is likely to crop up elsewhere.

The emergence of omicron is of particular concern for organizers of the Beijing Winter Olympic Games, now about two months away.

Beijing is adopting a series of measures to reduce the risk the virus will spread during the Games, Zhao Weidong, spokesperson for the organizing committee,

told reporters at a briefing on Dec. 3.

China has adopted a zero-tolerance policy toward COVID-19 transmission and has some of the world's strictest border controls. Games participants will have to live and compete inside a bubble, and only spectators who are residents of China and have been vaccinated and tested will be permitted at venues.

Globally, cases have been increasing for seven consecutive weeks and the number of deaths has started to rise again, too, driven largely by the delta variant and decreased use of protective measures in other parts of the world, Kasai said.

"We should not be surprised to see more surges in the future. As long as transmission continues, the virus can continue to mutate, as the emergence of omicron demonstrates, reminding us of the need to stay vigilant," Kasai said.

He warned especially about the likelihood of surges due to more gatherings and movement of people during the holiday season. The northern winter season will also likely bring other infectious respiratory diseases, such as the flu, alongside COVID-19.

"It is clear that this pandemic is far from over and I know that people are worried about omicron," Kasai said. "But my message today is that we can adapt the way we manage this virus to better cope with the future surges and reduce their health, social and economic impacts."

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Showers of rain and snow	Turning cloudy and colder	Periods of rain	Times of sun and clouds	A rain or snow shower
Baker City	28	38 24	37 13	32 18	35 19
Comfort Index™	3	2	0	2	0
La Grande	31	38 29	39 17	37 30	39 28
Comfort Index™	1	3	0	3	1
Enterprise	26	35 24	39 17	36 19	37 30
Comfort Index™	2	2	1	3	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 Thursday	50°	57°	58°
Low Thursday	23°	35°	37°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.00	0.00	0.00
Normal month to date	0.06	0.15	0.29
Year to date	5.01	9.98	22.04
Normal year to date	8.27	15.67	22.47

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	High: 87°	Ocotillo Wells, Calif.
Low: 7°		Angel Fire, N.M.
Wettest: 1.08"		Clayton, Maine
OREGON	High: 64°	Rome
Low: 20°		Lakeview
Wettest: 0.10"		Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

On Dec. 4, 1995, a rare severe thunderstorm formed over the Black Hills of South Dakota which produced 2-inch-diameter hail and wind gusts to 60 mph.

SUN & MOON

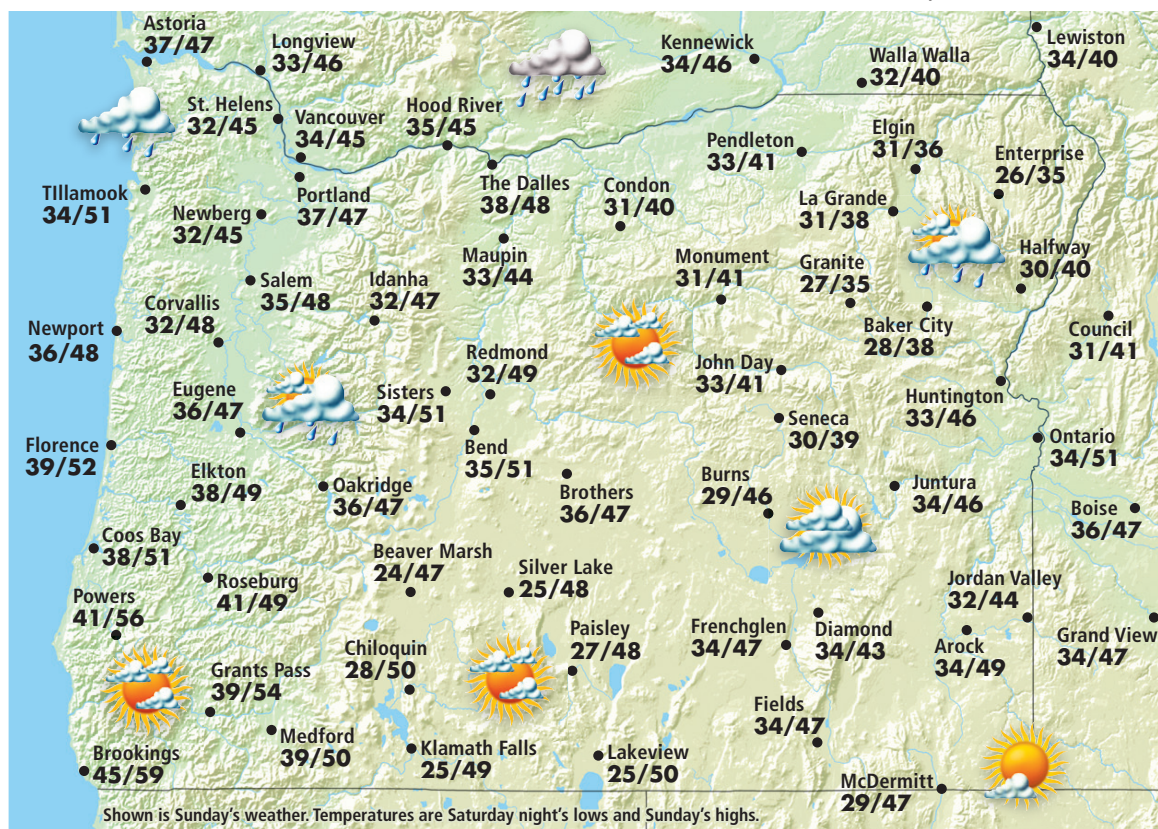
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	7:15 a.m.	7:16 a.m.
Sunset	4:10 p.m.	4:10 p.m.
Moonrise	7:52 a.m.	9:09 a.m.
Moonset	4:30 p.m.	5:29 p.m.

MOON PHASES



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	47/40/c	48/38/r	Lewiston	40/32/c	40/28/sn
Bend	51/36/c	48/32/r	Longview	46/36/c	44/33/r
Boise	47/31/pc	42/22/sh	Medford	36/28/c	38/14/sn
Brookings	59/44/pc	53/42/r	Medford	50/38/c	49/39/r
Burns	46/25/pc	46/18/sh	Newport	48/40/pc	51/40/r
Coos Bay	51/38/pc	55/43/r	Olympia	42/35/c	41/30/r
Corvallis	48/37/c	49/36/r	Ontario	51/28/c	43/20/sh
Council	41/25/pc	36/16/sn	Pasco	46/34/c	40/28/sh
Elgin	36/27/c	38/18/sn	Pendleton	41/31/c	43/23/sn
Eugene	47/37/c	52/40/r	Portland	56/41/pc	55/45/r
Hermiston	45/35/c	45/27/sh	Powers	47/40/pc	55/45/r
Hood River	45/37/c	45/36/r	Redmond	49/32/c	50/28/r
Imnaha	39/33/c	43/23/sh	Roseburg	49/40/c	53/40/r
John Day	41/25/c	44/28/sn	Salem	48/40/c	50/38/r
Joseph	34/25/c	40/18/sn	Spokane	34/27/c	33/19/sn
Kennewick	46/35/c	41/29/sh	The Dalles	48/37/c	47/36/sh
Klamath Falls	49/28/pc	46/25/sh	Ukiah	36/27/c	37/17/sn
Lakeview	50/25/pc	46/23/sh	Walla Walla	40/33/c	39/25/sn

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

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	Turning cloudy	25	20
MT. EMILY REC.	Colder	29	26
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Turning cloudy	26	17
WALLOWA LAKE	Colder	34	25
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Colder	38	24
PHILLIPS LAKE	Turning cloudy	37	27
BROWNLEE RES.	Turning cloudy	44	32
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Colder	33	23
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Cooler	41	31
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Colder	38	29