

Divorced dad carries torch 10 years later



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: I am a 45-year-old divorced father of three. Two of them I share with my ex-wife. We were married for 14 years and have been divorced for 10 years now. Our marriage started falling apart when I became addicted to prescription pain medication. I was using for a couple of years, but I'm sober now.

Our divorce was amicable, and I think we still maintain a great friendship. We call each other occasionally and talk about things other than the kids. After our divorce we both dated and

moved in with other people. I am currently single; she's still in a relationship. She recently called and asked me for advice because she's not happy in her current relationship.

I have never stopped loving her, but I don't want to take advantage of her present situation. My kids know how I feel and so do my friends, so she probably does, too. Would it be wrong of me to try to rekindle what we once had, even if there's the slightest chance of she and her current partner working through their issues? I'm not sure she feels the same way about me as I do her. — **TORN IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR TORN: When your ex-wife called to tell you things aren't going well between her

and her current partner, she opened the door to you doing what you are contemplating. If they are not married, you have every right to tell her you have never stopped loving her and ask if she might have similar feelings. If she doesn't, it would be better for you to know that. But if her answer is yes, it would be worth a try.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I always planned on retiring to Florida. Our son, who is married with children, has been diagnosed with a slow-progressing but deadly disease. My husband still wants to move, but now I am not sure. Our son said we should live our life because we worked hard to retire and should go. I don't know if I could be happy that far away from him and his

family now. Please advise. — **HESITANT GRANDMA IN OHIO**

DEAR HESITANT GRANDMA: I am sorry for the pain you are experiencing regarding your son's diagnosis. Your husband wants to make the move, and your son has told you he does not want you to change your plans. If it's financially feasible, it might make sense for you and your husband to rent a place in Florida for a year and, depending upon how well your son is doing, decide later if you want to make it permanent. Perhaps your husband could go ahead without you if you choose to stay behind.

DEAR ABBY: I have just moved into a room in a shared house. I like the location and my

three roommates. In the course of my interview, the screening process to see if I'd be a good fit for the house, I neglected to mention that I have a girlfriend. Naturally, I'd like to have her see the place, meet my roommates and sleep over, but I also don't want to ruffle any feathers or be premature in having company over. When would be an appropriate time to have this discussion with them? — **PONDERING IN THE PRESIDIO**

DEAR PONDERING: If you want a good relationship with your roommates, NOW would be a good time to raise the subject. If you do, you may be pleasantly surprised to find they have no objection. If they did, they should have mentioned something during your interview.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

'Cheugy,' 'omicron' among 2021's most mispronounced words

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — "Cheugy" is apparently a lot to chew on. Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Billie Eilish and Philadelphia Eagles center Jason Kelce have something in common — broadcasters butcher their names.

And virtually everyone is having trouble with "omicron."

All four made it onto this year's list of most mispronounced words as compiled by the U.S. Captioning Company, which captions and subtitles real-time events on TV and in courtrooms.

The list released Tuesday, Dec. 7, identifies the words that proved most challenging for newsreaders and people on television to pronounce this year.

The caption company said it surveyed its members to generate the list, which is now in its sixth year and was commissioned by Babbel, a language-learning platform with headquarters in Berlin and New York.

"Newsreaders in the U.S. have struggled with 2021's new words and names while reporting on key sporting events, viral internet trends and emerging celebrities," said Esteban Touma, a standup comedian and teacher for Babbel Live.

"As a language teacher, it's always interesting to see that some of these terms are



The Associated Press, File

Billie Eilish, the grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter, made it onto this year's list of most mispronounced words as compiled by the U.S. Captioning Company, which captions and subtitles real-time events on TV and in courtrooms.

usually new colloquialisms, or are rooted or borrowed from another language," he said. "As a non-native speaker, I must confess it's fun to see English speakers stumbling a bit for a change."

Here's how Touma breaks down the proper pronunciations for the most commonly misspoken words:

- Cheugy: A trendy term

popularized by Gen Z and used to mock an outdated and unfashionable aesthetic typically associated with millennials, such as "Live, Laugh, Love" signs.

• Chipotle: The American fast food chain became the center of a viral trend this year challenging Baby Boomers to pronounce the name.

- Dalgona: A Korean treat made with melted

sugar and baking soda, popularized in Netflix's "Squid Game." (Touma notes that some speakers seem to produce a "K" instead of the "G" in the middle syllable.)

• Dogecoin: A divisive cryptocurrency that began somewhat ironically before being popularized by Elon Musk, causing its value to dramatically increase.

- Eilish: The singer Billie Eilish, whose album

"Happier Than Ever" was released this year to critical acclaim and nominated for the Grammy Awards' Album of the Year.

• Ethereum: Another cryptocurrency that skyrocketed in value this year amid the decentralized-currency boom.

• Ever Given: The name of the ship that blocked the Suez Canal in March, costing billions of dollars

in lost trade. Many newsreaders mistook the name of the ship as "Evergreen," the name of the company that owns the vessel, which was printed on its hull.

• Glasgow: The host city of November's United Nations Climate Conference was mispronounced by both President Joe Biden and former president Barack Obama.

• Kelce: The Philadelphia Eagles center Jason Kelce revealed on radio this year that his teammates and the media had been mispronouncing his name for years.

• Omicron: A new variant of COVID-19 first identified in November, named in keeping with the World Health Organization's system of identifying variants with Greek letters. (Touma notes it's pronounced differently in the U.S. and the U.K.)

• Shein: The Chinese fast fashion company at the center of the "Shein haul" trend, in which participants record themselves trying on numerous different outfits from the company.

• Stefanos Tsitsipas: Currently ranked as the world's No. 4 tennis player, the Greek athlete rose to international prominence when he lost to Novak Djokovic in the final of the French Open in June.

• Yassify: A popular trend in which multiple beauty filters are applied to well-known pictures or portraits for comic effect.

weather

| TONIGHT | FRI | SAT | SUN | MON |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cloudy with a bit of snow | Cloudy with flurries | A little morning snow | Overcast, showers around | Cloudy, a shower possible |
| Baker City 22 Comfort Index™ 2 | 36 23 3 | 35 29 0 | 38 29 1 | 39 24 2 |
| La Grande 27 Comfort Index™ 0 | 38 29 0 | 37 33 0 | 39 34 1 | 41 32 3 |
| Enterprise 24 Comfort Index™ 0 | 34 22 1 | 37 30 0 | 38 31 0 | 42 33 3 |

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 | Baker City | La Grande | Elgin |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|
| TEMPERATURES | | | |
| High Tuesday | 34° | 44° | 44° |
| Low Tuesday | 30° | 33° | 36° |
| PRECIPITATION (inches) | | | |
| Tuesday | 0.00 | Trace | 0.34 |
| Month to date | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.60 |
| Normal month to date | 0.20 | 0.49 | 0.97 |
| Year to date | 5.07 | 10.06 | 22.64 |
| Normal year to date | 8.41 | 16.01 | 23.15 |

| AGRICULTURAL INFO. | HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest relative humidity | 55% |
| Afternoon wind | SW at 6 to 12 mph |
| Hours of sunshine | 0.3 |
| Evapotranspiration | 0.03 |

| RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday) | PHILLIPS RESERVOIR | UNITY RESERVOIR | OWYHEE RESERVOIR | MCKAY RESERVOIR | WALLOWA LAKE | THIEF VALLEY RESERVOIR |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Phillips Reservoir | N.A. | 17% of capacity | 15% of capacity | 12% of capacity | 11% of capacity | 9% of capacity |

| STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday) | GRANDE RONDE AT TROY | THIEF VALLEY RESERVOIR NEAR NORTH POWDER | BURNT RIVER NEAR UNITY | UMATILLA RIVER NEAR GIBBON | MINAM RIVER AT MINAM | POWDER RIVER NEAR RICHLAND |
|---|----------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Grande Ronde at Troy | 1080 cfs | 0 cfs | 14 cfs | 210 cfs | 150 cfs | 16 cfs |

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 86° Tamiami, Fla.
Low: -22° Babbitt, Minn.
Wettest: 0.42" Salt Point, La.

OREGON
High: 60° Brookings
Low: 23° Lakeview
Wettest: 0.15" Astoria

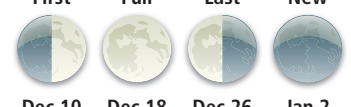
WEATHER HISTORY

A snowstorm hit New York City's northern and western suburbs on Dec. 9, 1786. Morristown, N.J., received 21 inches, and New Haven, Conn., had 17 inches.

SUN & MOON

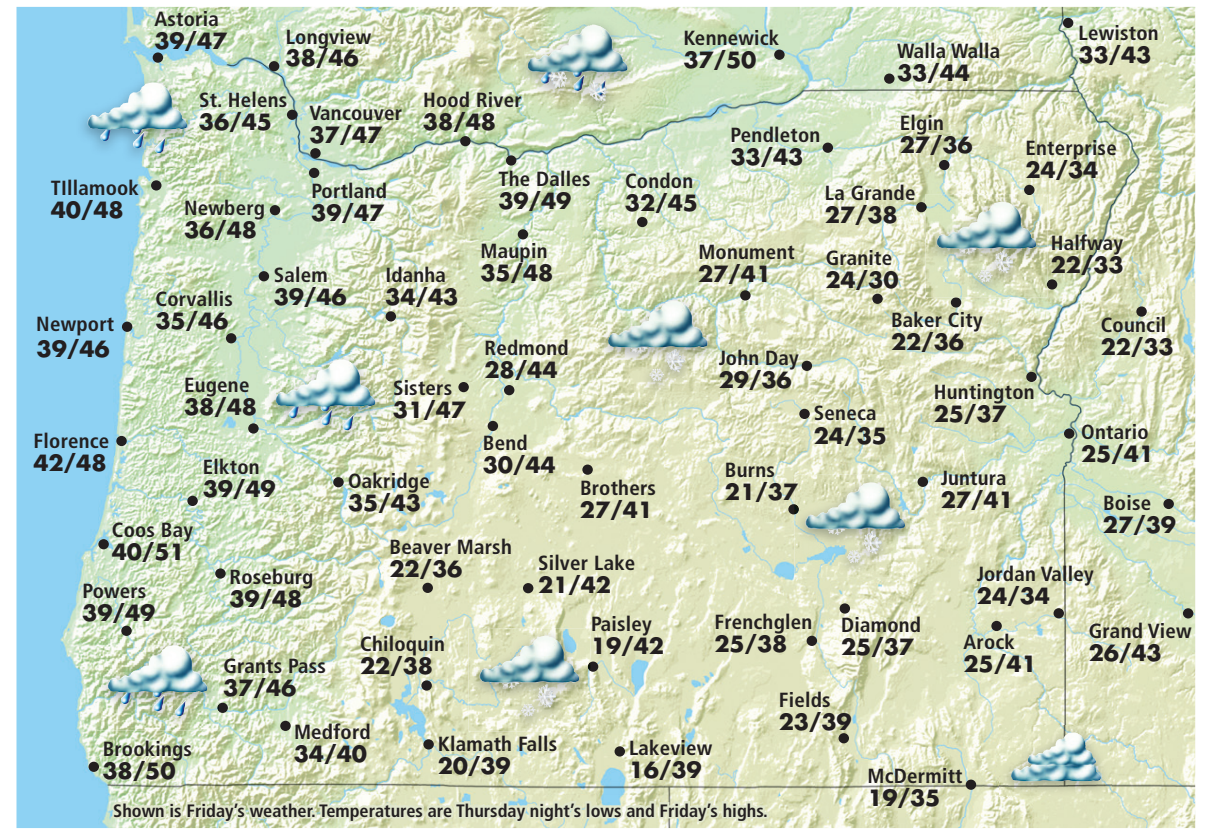
| | THU. | FRI. |
|----------|------------|------------|
| Sunrise | 7:20 a.m. | 7:21 a.m. |
| Sunset | 4:09 p.m. | 4:09 p.m. |
| Moonrise | 12:10 p.m. | 12:33 p.m. |
| Moonset | 10:29 p.m. | 11:40 p.m. |

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021



| REGIONAL CITIES | | RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| City | FRI. HI/Lo/W | City | FRI. HI/Lo/W |
| Astoria | 47/44/sh | Anthony Lakes | 17 13 |
| Bend | 44/33/c | Phillips Lake | 32 22 |
| Boise | 39/27/pc | Brownlee Res. | 38 29 |
| Brookings | 50/42/pc | Emigrant St. Park | 32 26 |
| Burns | 37/20/pc | Mckay Reservoir | 43 37 |
| Coos Bay | 51/40/c | Red Bridge St. Park | 38 29 |
| Corvallis | 46/40/c | | |
| Council | 33/25/c | | |
| Elgin | 36/27/c | | |
| Eugene | 48/40/c | | |
| Hermiston | 50/40/c | | |
| Hood River | 48/40/c | | |
| Imnaha | 38/32/c | | |
| John Day | 36/28/c | | |
| Joseph | 33/23/c | | |
| Kennewick | 50/44/c | | |
| Klamath Falls | 39/17/c | | |
| Lakeview | 39/15/c | | |
| Lewiston | 43/33/c | | |
| Longview | 46/43/c | | |
| Medford | 40/30/c | | |
| Medford | 46/42/c | | |
| Newport | 46/42/c | | |
| Olympia | 44/39/c | | |
| Ontario | 41/25/c | | |
| Pasco | 48/41/c | | |
| Pendleton | 43/37/c | | |
| Portland | 47/42/c | | |
| Powers | 49/39/c | | |
| Redmond | 44/30/c | | |
| Roseburg | 48/38/c | | |
| Salem | 46/43/c | | |
| Spokane | 32/30/pc | | |
| The Dalles | 49/38/c | | |
| Ukiah | 34/27/sn | | |
| Walla Walla | 44/38/pc | | |