

Difference of opinion ends longtime friendships



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

I am contending with concerns our 8-year-old daughter. She has been best friends with my (former) best friend's daughter since birth. There have been eight years of sleepovers, birthdays, park visits, get-togethers and everything in between. We haven't seen them in six months. We can't keep telling our daughter the pandemic is the reason she can't see her best friend. This situation is so simple and so complicated. What do I tell my daughter about her best friend?

— **VICTIM OF THE TIMES**

DEAR VICTIM: Tell your daughter the truth — that her friend's parents will no longer allow it. Then explain why. That way she won't think that this is in any way her fault.

DEAR ABBY: I was recently contacted by my graduating class to help organize a reunion. Since then, one of the organizers has decided that our committee is an inseparable trio who must get together regularly by Zoom and occasionally in person.

We were not in touch before the reunion and we have little in common, but I can tell she's lonely, so I've indulged her so far. However, she now wants to convene periodically for long weekends at a nearby inn. I do not want to leave my spouse for long weekends or spend money and time on a person whom I don't care to befriend.

When I've tried to demur with "unavailability" excuses, she

insists we are a trio and we simply will wait a few weeks until I can find an open date. I don't want to be rude, but I can't figure out how to politely tell her that I have no interest in accepting her suggestions for an extended slumber party. How should I handle this?

— **RELUCTANT ALUMNA IN THE WEST**

DEAR ALUMNA: Handle it by being frank with this needy individual. Tell her, "This isn't going to happen. I do not wish to leave my husband for a weekend. I don't mind helping with the reunion, but your demands on my time have increased to the point where they are too much for me."

DEAR ABBY: The season of pleasant weather and outdoor con-

certs is approaching. Invariably, we end up sitting by the chatterboxes. These folks seem oblivious to anyone else, including the performers and the rest of us who want to enjoy the performance. I realize these are free concerts, but I don't want to have to listen to these rude people. Any suggestions for silencing them so we can hear what the rest of us came for?

— **DISGUSTED IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

DEAR DISGUSTED: Keep your tone civil. You might ask, "Would you please talk more quietly? We are trying to enjoy the performance." However, if they aren't receptive to your suggestion, consider moving as far away from them as possible.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Spain probes private taxidermy museum with 1,000 animals

The Associated Press

MADRID — Spain's Civil Guard says it is investigating a businessman in the eastern Valencia region who owned a private taxidermy collection with more than 1,000 stuffed animals, including just over 400 from protected species and at least one specimen of a North African oryx, already extinct.

The collection would fetch \$31.5 million on the black market, the Civil Guard said Sunday, April

10, in a statement, adding that its owner could be charged with trafficking and other crimes against the environment.

It said the finding was the largest of protected stuffed specimens in Spain.

Investigating agents found the stuffed animals in two warehouses extending over 50,000 square meters on the outskirts of Bétera, a small town north of the eastern coastal city of Valencia.

Of the 1,090 stuffed animals found, 405 belonged

to specimens protected by the CITES convention on wildlife protection.

They included the scimitar oryx, also known as the Sahara oryx, which the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, or IUCN, declared extinct in the wild in 2000, and at least two more species nearly extinct: the addax, or white antelope, originally from the Sahara desert and the Bengal tiger.

The agents also recorded stuffed specimens of cheetah, leopard, lion, lynx,

polar bear, snow panther and white rhinoceros, among others, as well as 198 large ivory tusks from elephants.

The Civil Guard said it would investigate whether any documents exist justifying the ownership of the collection.

Accused shooter in Lady Gaga dog theft mistakenly freed

LOS ANGELES — A gunman accused of shooting and seriously wounding Lady Gaga's dog walker and stealing her two

French bulldogs was mistakenly released from jail and is being sought, authorities said Friday, April 8.

James Howard Jackson, 19, was facing an attempted murder charge when he was released from Los Angeles County's jail on April 6 "due to a clerical error," the county Sheriff's Department said in a statement.

The sheriff's Major Crimes Bureau is Major Crimes Bureau is working on finding him, the statement said.

Jackson is one of five

people arrested in connection with the Feb. 24, 2021, attack in Hollywood. Prosecutors said Jackson and two other alleged gang members had driven around looking for expensive French bulldogs to steal, then spotted, tailed and robbed Ryan Fischer as he walked Lady Gaga's dogs near Sunset Boulevard.

During a violent struggle, Fischer was hit, choked and then shot in an attack captured by the doorbell camera of a nearby home.

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weather

TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Mostly cloudy and cold	Cold with snow showers	Cold; a morning shower	An afternoon shower	A.M. rain, then a shower
Baker City 17 / 0	39 / 19 0	41 / 24 0	45 / 27 0	46 / 25 0
La Grande 18 / 0	42 / 18 0	44 / 26 0	45 / 36 1	47 / 29 0
Enterprise 14 / 0	34 / 14 0	41 / 21 0	43 / 30 1	44 / 28 1

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
High Sunday	41°	42°	39°
Low Sunday	20°	28°	30°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.01	Trace	0.16
Month to date	0.05	0.08	0.97
Normal month to date	0.26	0.57	0.81
Year to date	0.72	2.46	8.16
Normal year to date	2.32	5.19	8.67

SUNDAY EXTREMES	NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 103°	Zapata, Texas
Low: 4°	Dixie, Idaho
Wettest: 1.26"	Florence, Ore.
OREGON	High: 54°
Medford	
Low: 17°	Wettest: 0.38"
Burns	Meacham

WEATHER HISTORY
The all-time measured wind speed record was set at Mt. Washington, N.H., on April 12, 1934. The wind averaged 186 mph for five minutes and gusted briefly to a record 231 mph.

SUN & MOON	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	6:13 a.m.	6:11 a.m.
Sunset	7:34 p.m.	7:36 p.m.
Moonrise	3:00 p.m.	4:11 p.m.
Moonset	4:52 a.m.	5:14 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Apr 16 Apr 23 Apr 30 May 8

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022

REGIONAL CITIES	WED.	THU.	WED.	THU.
City	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	City	Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	47/36/pc	49/36/c	Lewiston	48/30/c
Bend	43/29/sn	47/27/r	Longview	48/35/c
Boise	44/27/sf	47/33/c	Meacham	40/18/sf
Brookings	48/42/r	51/37/r	Medford	50/38/r
Burns	40/17/sf	43/24/sn	Newport	48/34/pc
Coos Bay	50/39/r	50/37/sh	Olympia	47/31/r
Corvallis	47/34/sh	48/31/pc	Ontario	50/27/sh
Council	40/19/sf	42/27/pc	Pasco	52/28/c
Elgin	41/16/sf	43/27/pc	Pendleton	43/23/sf
Eugene	49/36/r	50/37/c	Portland	49/36/r
Hermiston	51/28/sn	50/30/c	Powers	49/38/sh
Hood River	47/31/c	48/35/sh	Redmond	42/25/sf
Imnaha	43/20/sf	45/23/c	Roseburg	50/39/sh
John Day	38/19/c	43/26/sf	Salem	47/35/r
Joseph	37/17/sf	41/21/c	Spokane	44/26/c
Kennewick	52/29/c	53/34/pc	The Dalles	49/33/sn
Klamath Falls	39/27/c	45/28/c	Ukiah	35/18/sn
Lakeview	37/24/sf	42/30/c	Walla Walla	46/27/sh

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 Snow showers 15 7	PHILLIPS LAKE Snow showers; cold 34 18
MT. EMILY REC. Snow showers 27 15	BROWNLEE RES. Snow showers; cold 45 23
EAGLE CAP WILD. Snow showers; cold 23 7	EMIGRANT ST. PARK A little a.m. snow 32 12
WALLOWA LAKE Snow showers; cold 37 17	MCKAY RESERVOIR Morning flurries 43 23
THIEF VALLEY RES. Snow showers; cold 39 19	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Snow showers; cold 42 18

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