

# Teen son struggles after family's move to new state



**DEAR ABBY**  
ADVICE

**DEAR ABBY:** Because of frustration with our state's substantial COVID restrictions and our teen son's struggles with remote learning, we moved to another state. At the time, our son was excited to move (we kept asking him to make sure). However, we are now nearly through the school year and he still hasn't made new friends. He's depressed and wants to move back.

He plays a sport and has a part-time job, but neither have

helped. My husband and I love it here. In fact, our son loves everything except his lack of a social life (beyond texting, FaceTiming and playing video games with his old friends).

We work from home, so it would be an option for us to temporarily return so he can finish his remaining two years of high school in our original state. He has always been very social, so we are surprised he hasn't made new friends. Should we push him to keep trying? Or is moving back for two years the best for his (and our) mental well-being? — **WANTS THE BEST FOR HIM**

**DEAR WANTS:** Moving during one's teens isn't easy, par-

ticularly because cliques have already formed. Before packing your bags, talk with your son's teachers and counselors about why he has had problems integrating there. They may be able to offer some important insight.

However, if they cannot do that and you are prepared to make the move when the school term is over, do it. Being treated as an outcast isn't good for anyone's mental health, and while it might benefit your son to learn to adapt, he might do better academically if you put him in a friendlier environment.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have two grown sons who are 13 months apart. The younger, age 44, con-

stantly and viciously degrades his brother in text messages. His anger level is so high that on Christmas Eve two years ago, while he was visiting from a neighboring state with his wife, he declared, "F— this family!" and stalked out, leaving his wife, my husband and me stunned.

Since then, his wife has divorced him, he's been rear-ended in a car wreck due to road rage, lost his job and alienated himself from our family. Online research I've done indicates he's narcissistic. Last month, I texted him my concern that he'd walked off his job, which unleashed an angry tirade against his brother and me. Everything is our fault, and

he badmouths his ex-wife mercilessly. He's an adult, so I can't force him to seek mental health help. Is there anything I can do? We no longer communicate, but a mother can't erase love and concern for her child. — **WORN OUT IN WYOMING**

**DEAR WORN OUT:** Your son is deeply troubled, and for that you have my sympathy. For the sake of your own mental health, I strongly recommend you consult a licensed mental health professional. You can't diagnose your son's problem, and neither can I. You also cannot force him into therapy before he's ready to admit that he needs it. Please don't wait to do this. I know you are hurting.

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

# Pot shop robberies, deaths fuel calls for US banking bill

By **GENE JOHNSON**  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — A surge in robberies at licensed cannabis shops — including a pistol-whipping, gunshots and killings in Washington state last month — is helping fuel a renewed push for federal banking reforms that would make the cash-dependent stores a less appealing target.

"It makes absolutely no sense that legal businesses are being forced to operate entirely in cash, and it's dangerous — and sometimes even fatal — for employees behind the register," Washington Sen. Patty Murray, the third-ranking Democrat in the Senate, said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press.

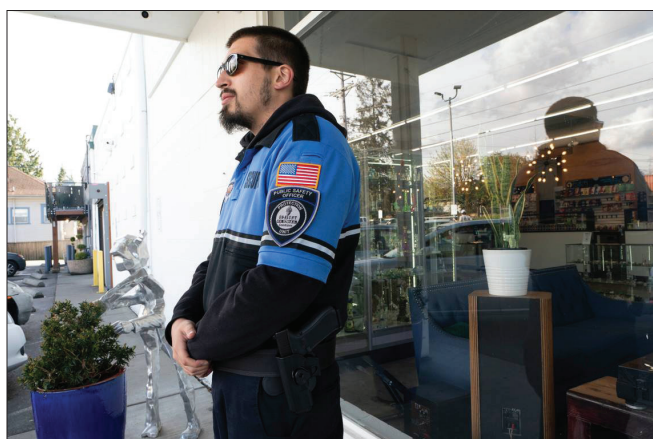
Although 18 states have legalized the recreational use of marijuana, and 37 allow its medical use, it remains illegal under federal law. Because of that, big banks and credit card companies have long been reluctant to work with the

industry, leaving the businesses heavily reliant on cash and making them attractive marks for robbers.

On the annual 4/20 marijuana holiday Wednesday, April 20, Murray held a news conference at Salal Credit Union to say she will prioritize marijuana banking reform as part of her work as a key negotiator on a conference committee that is ironing out differences in House and Senate versions of a major federal competitiveness and innovation bill.

Cannabis industry activists said they consider her announcement an important signal that after years of work, the banking issue might finally get resolved this year, allowing financial institutions to handle marijuana money in states where it is legal without fear of federal prosecution, loss of their federal deposit insurance or other penalties.

There recently has been a massive spike in the robberies for reasons that aren't entirely clear.



Ted S. Warren/The Associated Press

**Security guard Austin MacMath wears a gun on his belt, Tuesday, April 19, 2022, while working outside Mary Mart, a marijuana store in Tacoma, Wash. A surge in robberies at licensed cannabis shops in Washington state is helping fuel a renewed push for federal banking reforms that would make the cash-dependent stores a less appealing target.**

Dozens of cannabis businesses in the San Francisco Bay Area were hit last fall in a wave of attacks that sometimes appeared coordinated. Industry trackers in Washington state have reported at least 80 so far this year, mostly in the Puget Sound region.

While dispensaries are frequent targets for rob-

beries, the spate in Washington is helping drive the national conversation about banking reform. Last month, a suspect shot and killed an employee at a cannabis store in Tacoma; an ID checker shot and killed a robber in Covington; Seattle police shot and killed a suspect following a robbery in Bellevue; and a robber pis-

tol-whipped a worker at an Everett shop.

In the last few days, police have arrested a 15-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy in the killing of employee Jordan Brown, 29, at Tacoma's World of Weed. Authorities said the pair were responsible for at least 10 other armed robberies, including several at pot shops.

"The number of these robberies is shocking," said David Postman, the chairman of the Washington Liquor and Cannabis Board.

The board in the past month has held public safety discussions with retailers, recruited law enforcement to talk to retailers about best practices, and worked with state financial regulators to highlight local banks and credit unions that work with the industry as well as third-party vendors that cannabis retailers can use to conduct cashless phone transactions.

Marijuana shops that can afford it have hired private security guards, sometimes at costs of more than

\$50,000 a month for a round-the-clock detail, said Adán Espino, executive director of the Craft Cannabis Coalition, which represents more than 60 retail stores in Washington. Some of the businesses have tried to hire guards, only to find that security companies are completely booked, he said.

Espino said he's pushing for state lawmakers to give tax credits to cannabis stores that have to shell out money for security.

Mary Mart, a cannabis outlet in Tacoma, hired armed security in March after it was robbed twice in two months — including, police say, by the two teens who days later killed Brown. Budtender Amara Barnes, who was not present for either robbery, said she and other employees had their hours cut to help offset the cost.

"It's scary. I had worked here for four years without any kind of incident," Barnes said. "To have a couple kids come in and do that, it really shakes the confidence."

AccuWeather | Go to AccuWeather.com

# weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Mostly cloudy	Mostly cloudy and cool	A couple of showers	Clouds and sun; warmer	A thick cloud cover
<b>Baker City</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>53 31</b>	<b>50 31</b>	<b>54 30</b>	<b>57 33</b>
Comfort Index™	0	2	0	2	2
<b>La Grande</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>53 31</b>	<b>47 34</b>	<b>56 33</b>	<b>55 37</b>
Comfort Index™	0	2	0	8	2
<b>Enterprise</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>47 29</b>	<b>45 32</b>	<b>50 28</b>	<b>58 36</b>
Comfort Index™	0	0	0	7	9

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	63°	65°	70°
Low Sunday	21°	26°	28°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.77	0.69	2.45
Normal month to date	0.64	1.45	1.97
Year to date	1.44	3.07	9.64
Normal year to date	2.70	6.07	9.83

### SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	Cotulla, Texas
High: 99°	
Low: 8°	Bodie State Park, Calif.
Wettest: 3.32"	Fort Smith, Ark.
OREGON	
High: 77°	The Dalles
Low: 20°	Lakeview
Wettest: Trace	Brookings

### AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY		
Lowest relative humidity		45%
Afternoon wind	NNW at 6 to 12 mph	
Hours of sunshine		1.0
Evapotranspiration		0.08

### RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)

Phillips Reservoir	10% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	78% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	46% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	85% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	45% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	100% of capacity

### STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	3290 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	25 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	7 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	430 cfs
Minam River at Minam	332 cfs
Powder River near Richland	18 cfs

### WEATHER HISTORY

The northern mountains of Arizona have a cooler climate than the southern deserts. Still, a 6-inch snowfall in Flagstaff, Ariz., on April 26, 1963, was rare.

### SUN & MOON

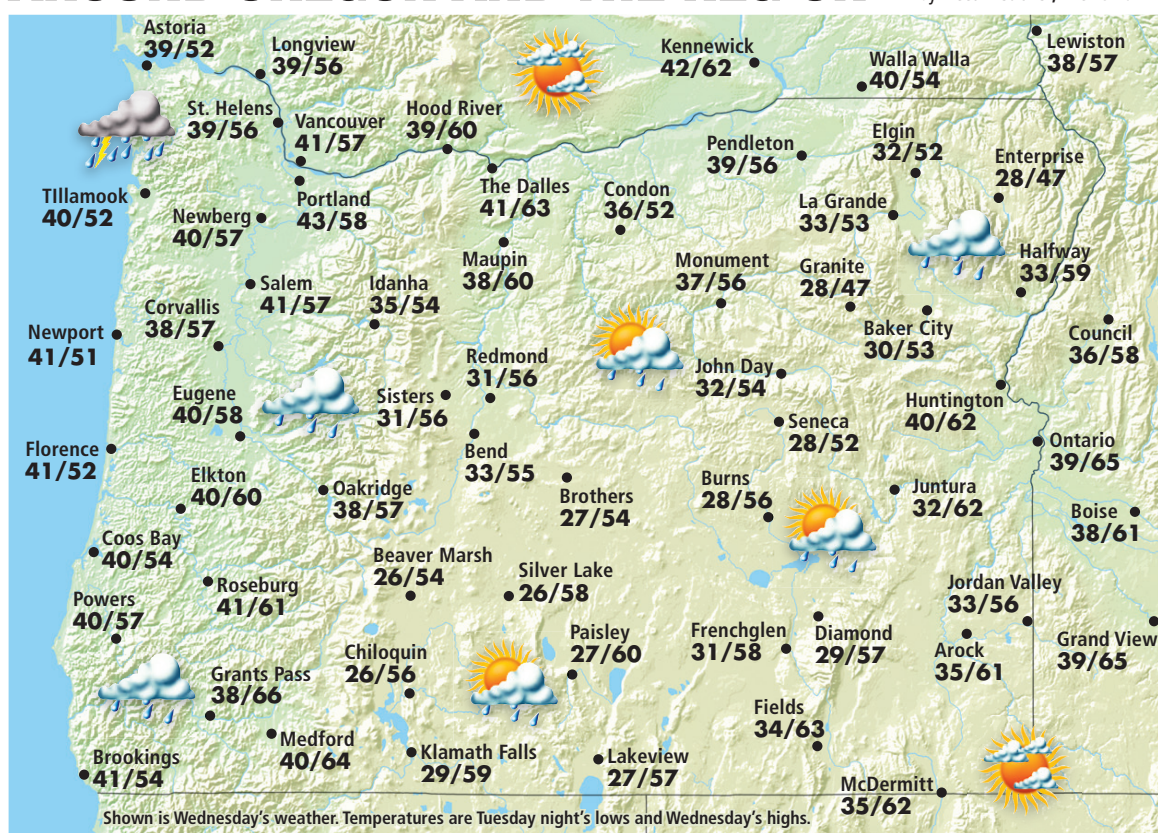
	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	5:49 a.m.	5:47 a.m.
Sunset	7:52 p.m.	7:53 p.m.
Moonrise	4:29 a.m.	4:49 a.m.
Moonset	3:31 p.m.	4:42 p.m.

### MOON PHASES

	New	First	Full	Last
	Apr 30	May 8	May 15	May 22

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



### REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. HI/LO/W	THU. HI/LO/W	City	WED. HI/LO/W	THU. HI/LO/W
Astoria	52/38/c	52/42/sh	Lewiston	57/37/c	59/41/c
Bend	55/32/c	54/30/sh	Longview	56/39/c	56/41/sh
Boise	61/39/s	61/38/pc	Meacham	50/30/c	47/35/sh
Brookings	54/41/pc	54/42/sh	Medford	64/43/c	58/39/sh
Burns	56/33/pc	52/27/c	Newport	51/39/pc	50/40/sh
Coos Bay	54/41/pc	54/41/pc	Olympia	54/35/c	54/36/sh
Corvallis	57/39/sh	54/37/pc	Ontario	65/42/c	61/41/c
Council	58/34/sh	53/33/c	Pasco	61/38/pc	62/40/pc
Elgin	52/30/c	48/33/sh	Pendleton	56/40/c	54/42/c
Eugene	58/41/pc	57/40/pc	Portland	58/43/c	57/44/sh
Hermiston	62/42/pc	62/45/pc	Powers	57/40/pc	53/39/sh
Hood River	60/44/c	59/43/c	Redmond	56/33/pc	56/29/sh
Imnaha	54/37/c	53/38/sh	Roseburg	61/42/pc	58/39/pc
John Day	54/32/c	46/34/sh	Salem	57/40/c	56/42/pc
Joseph	47/31/sf	43/31/sh	Spokane	53/34/pc	53/35/c
Kennecook	62/40/pc	62/42/pc	The Dalles	63/42/pc	62/44/pc
Klamath Falls	59/34/pc	52/26/pc	Ukiah	49/32/sf	44/31/sh
Lakeview	57/31/pc	49/26/sh	Walla Walla	54/39/c	54/40/c

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, F-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

### RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

Location	WED.	THU.	Forecast
ANTHONY LAKES	29	22	Snow
PHILLIPS LAKE	50	31	Mostly cloudy
MT. EMILY REC.	38	29	Snow showers
BROWNLEE RES.	60	38	Mainly cloudy
EAGLE CAP WILD.	36	20	A little snow
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	44	26	A morning shower
WALLOWA LAKE	47	31	Snow showers
MCKAY RESERVOIR	56	38	Rather cloudy
THIEF VALLEY RES.	53	31	Rather cloudy
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	53	31	Mostly cloudy

**SAVE HUNDREDS WITH A FREE LEATHER UPGRADE\***

OR SAVE \$300 OFF STRESSLESS® MAX, MIKE & ROYAL RECLINERS.

Stressless® Mary shown in Paloma Sand  
Stressless® Max shown in Paloma Espresso

\* See store for details.

**HELLO SPRING. HELLO SAVINGS.**

**APRIL 15 - MAY 31**

**Stressless**

**GLOBE furniture**

**HOURS:**  
Mon. - Fri. 9:30 am-6:30 pm.  
Sat. 9:30 am-5:30 pm.  
Sun. 12 noon-4 pm

**1520 ADAMS AVENUE La GRANDE, OREGON 97850 (541) 963-4144 • 888-449-2704**

- Free Delivery • In-Store Credit
- 70 Store Buying Power
- Decorating Assistance