

Couple reconnects but can't rekindle the past they had



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: I met a man, "Gabe," 30 years ago. We had a very good time together. We dated some and even traveled occasionally. I liked him a lot but, when we met, I was divorced and looking for marriage. He was not. I moved for my job, and met and married someone else. Gabe did call to keep in touch for several years, but the calls stopped. I never forgot him.

My husband passed away four years ago, and then COVID hit. Feeling the loneliness of lockdown, I wrote letters to people I hadn't heard from in years. Gabe's was one such letter. He called me after he received it, and we reconnected. We have enjoyed each other's company off and on since then.

I would love to have a deeper relationship with him. Unfortunately, he regards me as nothing more than a friend. He is intelligent, quick-witted, well-traveled and still very handsome. I enjoy his company very much. I've wanted to tell him how I feel, but I don't want to jeopardize what we have together. So here I am,

now in my 60s, feeling lost and not knowing how to handle my desire to be with him. What do you think? — **LONG HISTORY IN FLORIDA**

DEAR HISTORY: If you are looking for more than you already have with Gabe, you are wasting your time. Gabe is satisfied with the relationship just as it is. If he wasn't, believe me, he would have mentioned it. If what you need is someone to "nest" with, you will have to look elsewhere. Sorry, he isn't it.

DEAR ABBY: I am contemplating asking my wife for a divorce. Her 86-year-old mother lives with us. After she moved in,

I quickly realized that her mother is a bigot, nosy and has little to no respect for my wife. I could go on and on. Agreeing to her mother moving in was the worst mistake of my life. I avoid her like the plague now.

I can work from home full time, but prefer to drive 75 miles a day to get out of the house. Her mother needs more care now than can be provided at home. However, my wife wants to bring someone in a few days a week, since I no longer work from home. She's just delaying the inevitable.

I believe her mother is more important to her than I am and, if that's the case, I can't change her

mind. Aside from this, we have a great marriage. I don't want to lose what I have, but I am prepared to walk away. Advice? — **HATES THE HOUSEGUEST**

DEAR HATES: I do have some. If assisted living is in your mother-in-law's future, it would be kinder to have her take up residency soon, while she's capable of adjusting to it rather than postponing it until there is an emergency. You are long overdue for a frank and not very pleasant conversation with your wife about how you feel you rank on her list of priorities. Feeling as you do, it may be your only chance of saving your marriage.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Morning jolt? Swiss find cocaine stash amid coffee bean bags

By DAVID BAUDER
The Associated Press



Fribourg cantonal police/Contributed Photo

This image released by Fribourg cantonal police on Friday, May 6, 2022, shows a shipment containing cocaine seized in the Swiss town of Romont on May 2. Police say an investigation is under way after workers at a Nespresso factory in western Switzerland happened upon a stash of over 1,100 pounds of cocaine, with a street value of about 50 million francs, as they unloaded coffee beans that had arrived by train.

GENEVA — Swiss police say an investigation is underway after workers at a Nespresso warehouse in western Switzerland found over 1,100 pounds of cocaine, with a street value of \$50 million, as they unloaded coffee beans that had arrived by train.

Regional police in Fribourg said late Thursday, May 5, they were alerted May 2 by the company to the discovery at the facility in the town of Romont and immediately set up a "broad security perimeter" around it with a large deployment of officers. Customs and border control agents were called in.

Early indications were that the shipment turned up in five containers that had arrived by sea from Brazil before being transferred onto a train, authorities said.

"The cocaine seized has an 80% degree of purity and its market value is estimated at more than 50 million francs," the police

said, adding that the stash appeared "destined for the European market."

On May 6, the European Union's law enforcement agency Europol and the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction reported that cocaine availability in Europe "is probably at an all-time high."

Switzerland is not an EU member but is part of the Schengen zone that allows for visa-free travel among many European countries.

The monitoring center said it estimates the EU cocaine retail market was worth at least \$11.1 billion in 2020, while cautioning that the figure was likely to underestimate the true size

of the market. It said the largest quantities of cocaine are seized in Belgian, Dutch and Spanish ports, but increasing amounts are turning up at ports elsewhere "suggesting that trafficking groups are extending their activities to ports where cocaine interdiction measures may be perceived as less intensive."

Swiss food and drinks giant Nestle, which owns Nespresso, sought to reassure customers that "all our products are safe to consume."

"We have strict quality controls in place for green coffee arriving at our warehouses right up to the finished product," the Vevey, Switzerland-based company said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press. "The substance in question did not come into contact with any of our products or production equipment used to make our products."

Nestle said it could not provide more details because of the ongoing police investigation.

US mortgage rates rise; 30-year at 5.27%, highest since 2009

WASHINGTON — Average long-term U.S. mortgage rates resumed their ascent last week, as the key 30-year loan reached its highest point since 2009.

The increases came in the week preceding the widely anticipated action by the Federal Reserve, announced Wednesday, May 4, to intensify its fight against the worst inflation in 40 years by raising its benchmark interest rate by a half-percentage point and signaling further large rate hikes to come. The Fed's move, its most aggressive since 2000, will bring higher costs for mortgages as well as credit cards, auto loans and other borrowing for individuals and businesses.

Mortgage buyer Freddie Mac reported May 5 that the 30-year rate rose to 5.27% from 5.1% last week, when it edged down after seven weeks of increases. By contrast, the average

rate stood at 2.96% a year ago.

The average rate on 15-year, fixed-rate mortgages, popular among those refinancing their homes, jumped to 4.52% from 4.4% last week.

With inflation at a four-decade high, rising mortgage rates, elevated home prices and tight supply of homes for sale, homeownership has become less attainable, especially for first-time buyers.

Some economists suggest that home sales this year could decline as much as 10% from 2021 levels.

In a statement following their two-day meeting, Fed policymakers noted that Russia's invasion and war on Ukraine is worsening inflation pressures by raising oil and food prices. Inflation, according to the Fed's preferred gauge, reached 6.6% last month, the highest in four decades. It has been accelerated by a combination of robust consumer spending, chronic supply bottlenecks and sharply higher gas and food prices.

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weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Mainly clear and cold	Showers around	Showers around	Mostly cloudy and cool	Cloudy with a shower
Baker City	28	57 33	56 31	54 40	63 40
Comfort Index™	1	5	1	2	5
La Grande	32	59 32	55 33	54 41	61 44
Comfort Index™	4	7	1	2	4
Enterprise	25	53 30	51 28	49 36	59 44
Comfort Index™	1	8	4	3	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	47°	49°	52°
Low Sunday	28°	32°	35°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.06	0.04	0.27
Month to date	0.57	0.66	1.83
Normal month to date	0.32	0.58	0.63
Year to date	2.50	4.44	11.70
Normal year to date	3.20	7.03	10.92

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	Altus, Okla.
High: 99°	Altus, Okla.
Low: 14°	Alturas, Calif.
Wettest: 1.94"	Wahpeton, N.D.
OREGON	
High: 60°	Hermiston
Low: 18°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 1.13"	Florence

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY		
Lowest relative humidity		35%
Afternoon wind	WNW at 6 to 12 mph	
Hours of sunshine		5.9
Evapotranspiration		0.13

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)

Phillips Reservoir	12% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	91% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	46% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	99% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	52% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	101% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	9400 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	87 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	6 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	1670 cfs
Minam River at Minam	1320 cfs
Powder River near Richland	55 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

On May 10, 1889, tornadoes hit several eastern Pennsylvania communities, including Reading, Pottsville, Shamokin and Philadelphia.

SUN & MOON

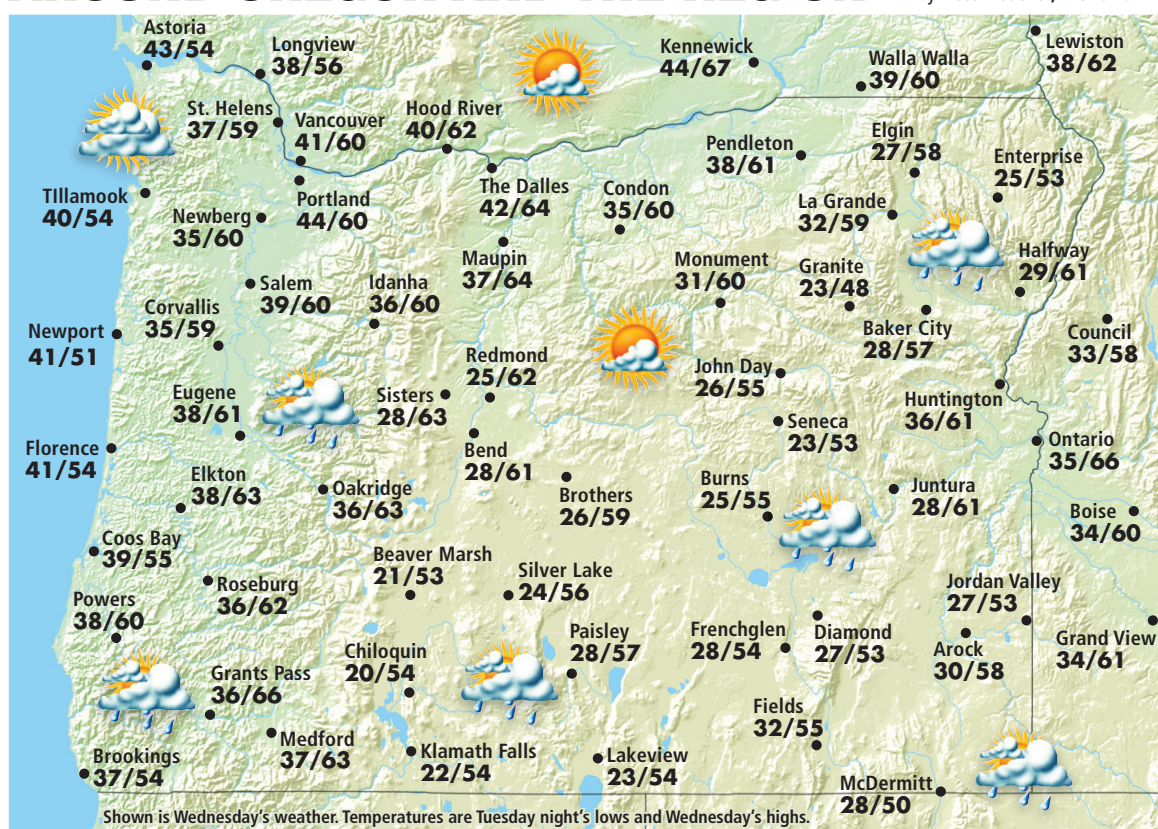
	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	5:29 a.m.	5:27 a.m.
Sunset	8:10 p.m.	8:11 p.m.
Moonrise	1:50 p.m.	3:00 p.m.
Moonset	3:17 a.m.	3:38 a.m.

MOON PHASES

	Full	Last	New	First
	May 15	May 22	May 30	Jun 7

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	54/45/c	53/43/sh	Lewiston	62/40/pc	61/44/c
Bend	61/39/c	54/28/c	Longview	56/46/c	52/40/sh
Boise	60/38/pc	61/40/pc	Meacham	56/31/pc	53/34/sh
Brookings	54/42/c	51/46/sh	Medford	63/41/c	56/43/c
Burns	55/30/pc	54/30/sh	Newport	51/45/c	50/42/sh
Coos Bay	55/44/c	53/41/sh	Olympia	54/42/c	51/38/sh
Corvallis	59/44/c	52/37/sh	Ontario	66/37/pc	64/40/pc
Council	58/31/pc	58/34/c	Pasco	68/47/pc	61/42/sh
Elgin	58/31/pc	54/36/sh	Pendleton	61/42/pc	58/38/sh
Eugene	61/45/c	53/40/sh	Portland	60/47/c	54/43/sh
Hermiston	65/49/pc	62/43/sh	Powers	60/44/c	53/39/sh
Hood River	62/46/c	51/44/r	Redmond	62/36/c	54/28/sh
Imnaha	60/34/pc	59/33/c	Roseburg	62/43/c	54/40/sh
John Day	55/34/pc	56/32/c	Salem	60/45/c	53/41/sh
Joseph	53/30/pc	52/27/sh	Spokane	58/38/pc	52/37/c
Kennewick	67/47/pc	61/43/sh	The Dalles	64/48/c	57/43/sh
Klamath Falls	54/30/pc	52/34/c	Ukiah	55/31/sh	50/27/sh
Lakeview	54/27/pc	49/32/c	Walla Walla	60/43/pc	60/39/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

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	P.M. snow showers	31	23
PHILLIPS LAKE	A shower	51	32
MT. EMILY REC.	A shower	43	28
BROWNLEE RES.	Partly sunny; cool	62	33
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Cold	38	19
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Showers around	49	28
WALLOWA LAKE	A stray shower	53	30
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Clouds and sun	60	39
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Clouds and sun	57	33
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Showers around	59	32

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