

Single, professional woman rebuked for personal choice



DEAR ABBY ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: I am almost 30, not married, no kids. I am a workaholic. I love my nieces and nephews to death, and being an aunt is one of my favorite things ever. My issue is: I don't want to have kids.

I started dating again a few months back, and it seems like any man I go on a date with thinks he can change my mind about kids. I have personal medical reasons for not wanting to give birth. Of course, if I do meet a man who has kids, that would be perfect! I'd be a great mom.

So why is it I get called dirty names because I choose not to have

kids? Everyone says I'll change my mind once I meet the right guy, but this isn't a negotiable issue. If we want to adopt or consider other options for kids, I am more than willing. There are children who need a home more than I need to pass on my DNA. Please help me understand what I am missing. — UNWAVERING IN IDAHO

DEAR UNWAVERING: Not every woman wants to bear children. That is a fact. For someone to call you "dirty names" because of how you feel is judgmental and presumptuous. Motherhood should be — and is — a personal choice, and birth control allows us the freedom to exercise that choice as we see fit.

It's possible you may be dating in the wrong age group. If you concentrate on older men who most likely already have children, I'm

betting you will receive less flak and have a better outcome. There are also dating apps for couples who want to remain child-free or for those who are already parents. Check them out.

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend has a penchant for long stories, many times on the phone, which are trivial. This morning, she called and proceeded to describe, at length, a nightmare she'd had last night. I try — I really do — to listen, but I usually wind up thinking, what's the point of having a looong conversation about a nightmare? Because I got bored, I started using the computer to search for some meal coupons. When I found them, I interrupted her monologue, which led to a back-and-forth accusatory interchange, "I interrupt you, you interrupt me," etc., etc., etc.

I have always been easily bored with long-winded conversations about minor issues or non-issues. People sometimes criticize me because it's obvious I'm not paying attention. How do I fix this so people don't get offended when they persist with these pointless stories? Today I had to hang up as our "discussion" was escalating. — EASILY BORED IN LAS VEGAS

DEAR EASILY BORED: If this happens regularly, the problem may be that you have a short attention span. However, if that's not the case, it's time you realized that relationships are based on people taking the time to communicate with each other. This includes hearing and listening as well as talking. If you value your relationship with your girlfriend, try to make more of an effort. And help

her to compromise by pointing out how she can edit some of her longer monologues.

DEAR ABBY: This may seem kind of morbid, but I want to know if I should write a letter to my daughter and son to be read after my death to let them know how very proud I am to have been their mother. Is this an OK thing to do? — GRATEFUL MOM IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR GRATEFUL MOM: I see nothing wrong with it. However, an even better thing to do would be to convey that message to your son and daughter often while you are still among the living.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

US spy satellite launched into orbit from California

The Associated Press

VANDENBERG SPACE FORCE BASE, Calif. — A classified satellite for the U.S. National Reconnaissance Office launched into orbit aboard a United Launch Alliance Delta 4 Heavy rocket on Saturday, Sept. 24.

The NROL-91 spy satellite lifted off at 3:25 p.m. from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California's Santa Barbara County.

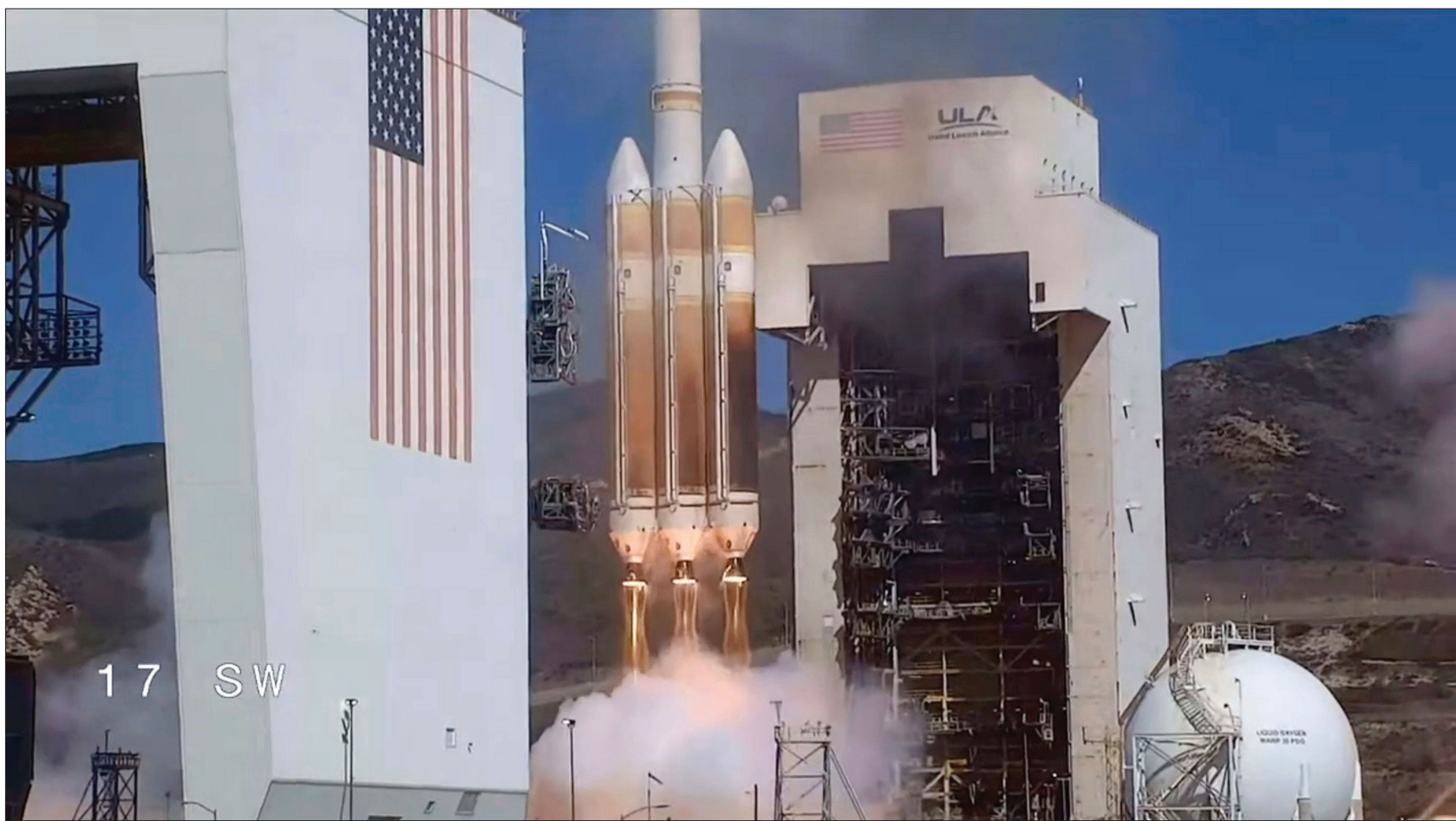
It was the last launch of a Delta 4 from the West Coast. Additional launches are planned from Florida before the Deltas are replaced by ULA's next-generation Vulcan Centaur rockets.

The Delta IV Heavy configuration first launched in December 2004. This was the 387th flight of a Delta rocket since 1960 and the 95th and final launch from Vandenberg.

The National Reconnaissance Office is the government agency in charge of developing, building, launching and maintaining U.S. spy satellites that provide intelligence data to policymakers, the intelligence community and Defense Department.

Soldier who went missing during Korean War accounted for

BOSTON — A soldier from Massachusetts who went missing during the Korean War and was later reported to have died in a prisoner of war camp has



A classified satellite for the U.S. National Reconnaissance Office is launched into orbit aboard a United Launch Alliance Delta 4 Heavy rocket on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022, at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California's Santa Barbara County. It was the last launch of a Delta 4 from the West Coast.

been accounted for using modern scientific techniques, military officials said.

Army Cpl. Joseph J. Puopolo, 19, of East Boston, was accounted for in August, according to a statement Friday, Sept. 22, from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

It was the news his family — including his now 99-year-old sister, Elizabeth Fiorentini — has been awaiting for decades,

Fiorentini's grandson and Puopolo's grandnephew, Richard Graham, said in a telephone interview Sept. 24.

"We have all heard about him, and we all knew of him, and we all knew he was a war hero. We always hoped we'd find him," he said. "But I never thought my grandmother would be here for it."

Fiorentini had not seen her brother since she was in her 20s and had mixed reactions on hearing the news

that his remains had been identified.

"In her mind it was like he died again," Graham said.

Puopolo, an artilleryman with the 8th Army, was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after his unit attempted to withdraw from Kunu-ri, North Korea, following the Battle of Ch'ongch'on, according to the military. Four former POWs reported in 1953 that Puopolo had died at a POW

camp in February 1951.

After the war, the sides exchanged remains, but not all could be identified and those were buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, the agency said.

A set of previously unidentified remains were disinterred in December 2019 and identified as being those of Puopolo through dental and anthropological analysis, mitochondrial DNA

analysis and circumstantial evidence, the agency said.

The family hopes to hold a burial service for Puopolo in another month or so either in a family plot in Malden or the veterans' cemetery in Bourne, Graham said. Puopolo was one of six children, all of whom had large families of their own, and as many as 60 or 70 relatives might show.

"He has not been forgotten," Graham said.

weather

	TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Weather	Mostly cloudy	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Pleasant with sunshine	Sunny and very warm
Baker City	42	71 38	71 39	76 39	78 37
Comfort Index™	4	9	10	10	10
La Grande	47	70 42	73 41	77 44	81 43
Comfort Index™	3	9	10	10	8
Enterprise	45	66 41	70 41	75 43	79 42
Comfort Index™	4	9	10	10	10

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 Tuesday	90°	93°	93°
Low Tuesday	36°	44°	40°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.65	0.16	0.10
Normal month to date	0.40	0.59	0.86
Year to date	5.38	9.38	18.31
Normal year to date	6.82	11.92	16.77

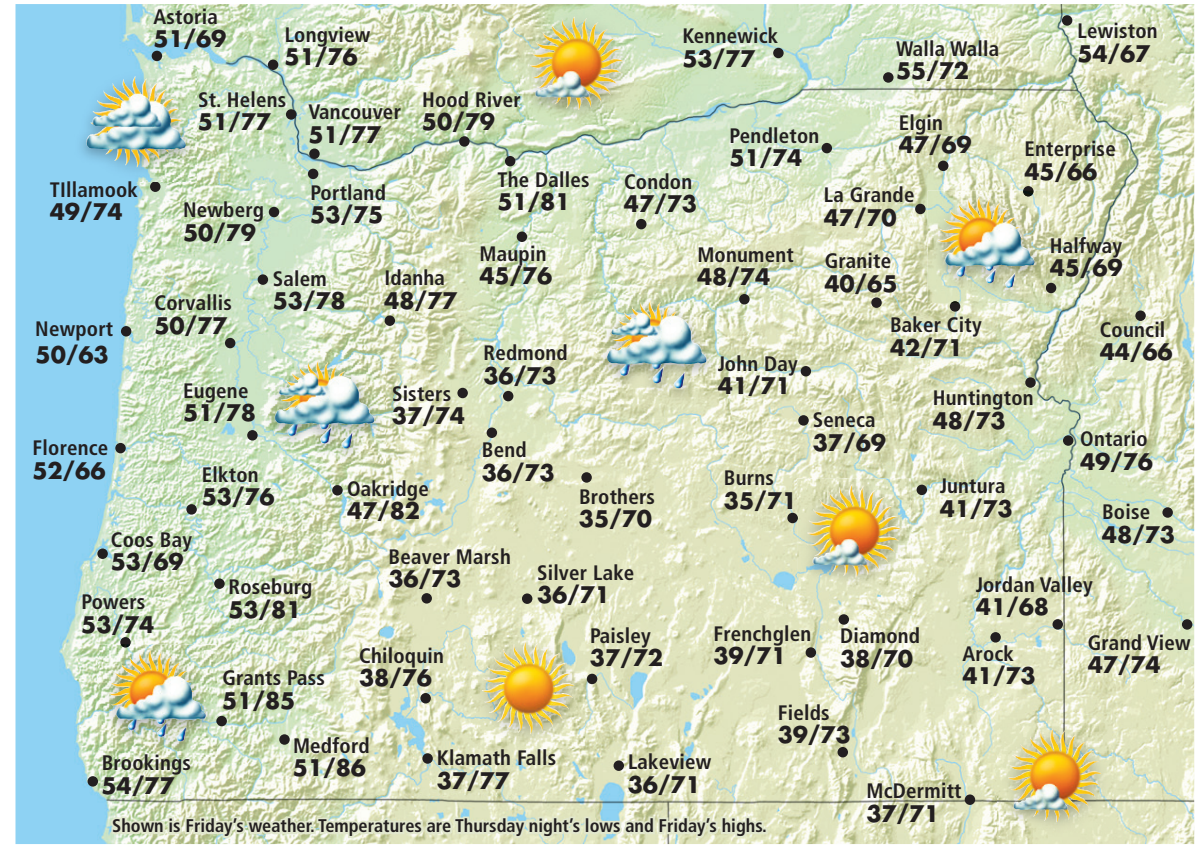
AGRICULTURAL INFO.			
HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY			
Lowest relative humidity		45%	
Afternoon wind	NNW	at 6 to 12 mph	
Hours of sunshine		4.9	
Evapotranspiration		0.13	

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)			
Phillips Reservoir	N.A.		
Unity Reservoir	23% of capacity		
McKay Reservoir	9% of capacity		
Wallowa Lake	54% of capacity		
Thief Valley Reservoir	3% of capacity		

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)			
Grande Ronde at Troy	606 cfs		
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	0 cfs		
Burnt River near Unity	61 cfs		
Umatilla River near Gibbon	44 cfs		
Minam River at Minam	57 cfs		
Powder River near Richland	9 cfs		

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



REGIONAL CITIES				RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY			
City	FRI. HI/Lo/W	SAT. HI/Lo/W	City	FRI. HI/Lo/W	SAT. HI/Lo/W	City	FRI. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	69/55/5	74/53/5	Lewiston	67/50/pc	76/53/5	ANTHONY LAKES	51 33
Bend	73/40/5	73/42/5	Longview	76/50/pc	83/51/5	PHILLIPS LAKE	66 37
Boise	73/47/5	74/51/5	Meacham	66/39/5	71/40/5	BROWNLEE RES.	70 42
Brookings	77/52/5	69/52/pc	Newport	86/51/5	91/54/5	MT. EMILY REC.	59 40
Burns	71/38/5	74/39/5	Medford	63/51/5	71/50/5	Mostly sunny	53 31
Coos Bay	69/51/5	74/53/5	Olympia	71/48/pc	78/47/5	EAGLE CAP WLD.	62 41
Corvallis	77/49/5	86/51/5	Ontario	76/49/5	76/44/5	Some sun, a shower	71 38
Council	66/41/pc	73/41/5	Pasco	77/49/5	80/49/5	WALLOWA LAKE	71 38
Elgin	69/43/5	74/44/5	Pendleton	74/48/5	78/49/5	Rain and drizzle	73 48
Eugene	78/49/5	86/50/5	Portland	75/57/5	82/55/5	MCKAY RESERVOIR	73 48
Hermiston	78/48/5	82/49/5	Powers	74/54/5	78/54/5	Mostly sunny	70 42
Hood River	79/53/5	83/54/5	Redmond	73/40/5	78/47/5	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	70 42
Imnaha	66/50/5	75/50/5	Roseburg	81/53/5	88/55/5	Sunshine and nice	
John Day	71/39/5	75/41/5	Salem	78/53/5	87/52/5		
Joseph	62/41/5	69/41/5	Spokane	69/49/5	74/49/5		
Kennewick	77/50/5	82/51/5	The Dalles	81/53/5	83/54/5		
Klamath Falls	77/40/5	79/42/5	Ukiah	66/39/5	71/40/5		
Lakeview	71/39/5	75/41/5	Walla Walla	72/53/5	76/54/5		

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