

DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at dearabby.com or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



Dear Abby: I am a single, stay-at-home mom of a special needs 14-year-old. I also take care of my elderly father. When life starts to overwhelm me, I tend to isolate myself to focus on taking care of my son and Dad and taking care of my mental health.

I haven't even been on social media in three years. Because of it I have lost touch with many friends and family members. I'm now being called "antisocial" and a few other not-so-nice names. How can I get people to understand that this is how I handle stress and it has nothing to do with them?

— *Stressed-Out In California*

Dear Stressed-Out: Explain, as you have to me, that when you become stressed, your coping mechanism is to isolate yourself, and your silence is not meant to be offensive. If you are told your silence was hurtful, apologize and point out that because you are stretched thin, sometimes you are overwhelmed and need to quietly recharge. Many people cope with stress the way you do. If it works for you, more power to you.

Dear Abby: I'm an 11th-grader. My parents have been putting massive amounts of pressure on me about college, and it's stressing me into oblivion. When I try to talk to them about it, they tell me I should be, and already should have been, more involved in my college applications process, academics and preparing for college. They say those should be my top priorities right now, and have gone so far as to restrict what I can do — getting a job, hanging out, extracurriculars,

etc. How do I get them to lay off?

— *Burned-Out In South Carolina*

Dear Burned-Out: A way to do that would be to show your parents the extent to which you ARE working on your college applications as well as your grade point average. They are trying to make you focus because they fear you won't be accepted if you don't. If the pressure is really too much for you, discuss this with a counselor at school, so that a person can intercede for you.

Dear Abby: My younger daughter, "Bree," recently moved back into my home after her graduation from university. She's very opinionated and wants things her way. My other daughter, "Tami," will be visiting and would like to bring along her new Yorkie, which is fully housebroken. I don't mind as long as the dog stays off the furniture.

Bree doesn't like animals indoors (because of negative experiences with a prior roommate's dog) and has forbidden it. I let her know that this is MY home and she may not "forbid" anything. It blew up into a huge thing, and now Tami has second thoughts about her visit and wants to cancel. Help!

— *Fur Baby Fiasco In New Mexico*

Dear Fiasco: Inform Bree, whose sense of entitlement is eyebrow-raising, that she owes her sister an apology for the way she behaved. Reiterate that this is YOUR home and you, not she, will decide who may visit. Then set a realistic date after which Bree should be living independently, because if you don't, she may wind up ruling your roost.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 21, the 52nd day of 2022. There are 313 days left in the year. This is Presidents Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On **Feb. 21, 1975**, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and former White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman were sentenced to 2 1/2 to 8 years in prison for their roles in the Watergate cover-up (each ended up serving 1 1/2 years).

In **1437**, James I, King of Scots, was assassinated; his 6-year-old son succeeded him as James II.

In **1885**, the Washington Monument was dedicated.

In **1911**, composer Gustav Mahler, despite a fever, conducted the New York Philharmonic at Carnegie Hall in what turned out to be his final concert (he died the following May).

In **1964**, the first shipment of U.S. wheat purchased by the Soviet Union arrived in the port of Odessa.

In **1965**, minister and civil rights activist Malcolm X, 39, was shot to death inside Harlem's Audubon Ballroom in New York. (Three men identified as members of the Nation of Islam were convicted of murder and imprisoned; all were eventually paroled. The convictions of two of the men were dismissed in November 2021; prosecutors said new evidence had undermined the case against them.)

In **1972**, President Richard M. Nixon began his historic visit to China as he and his wife, Pat, arrived in Beijing.

In **1973**, Israeli fighter planes shot down Libyan Arab Airlines Flight 114 over the Sinai Desert, killing all but five of the 113 people on board.

In **1992**, Kristi Yamaguchi of the United States won the gold medal in ladies' figure skating at the Albertville Olympics; Midori Ito of Japan won the silver, Nancy Kerrigan of the U.S. the bronze.

In **1995**, Chicago adventurer Steve Fossett became the first person to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean by balloon, landing in Leader, Saskatchewan, Canada.

In **2018**, the Rev. Billy Graham, a confidant of presidents and the most widely heard Christian evangelist in history, died at his North Carolina home; he was 99.

In **2019**, teachers in Oakland, California, went on strike in the latest in a wave of teacher activism that had included walkouts in Denver, Los Angeles and West Virginia.

In **2020**, a temporary truce between the United States and the Taliban in Afghanistan took effect, setting the stage for the two sides to sign a peace deal the following week.

Ten years ago: The 17-nation eurozone approved a \$170 billion bailout for Greece, which received the news with a mixture of relief and foreboding.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump condemned recent threats against Jewish community centers in the U.S. as "painful reminders" of lingering prejudice and evil; the president also denounced "bigotry, intolerance and hatred in all of its very ugly forms" during his first visit to the new Smithsonian Black history museum.

One year ago: Hospitals across the southern United States grappled with ruptured water pipes and patient transfers as the region carried on with efforts to recover from the winter weather that paralyzed parts of the nation. Police in Liberty, New York, said an expectant father was killed when a device he was building for a gender reveal party exploded. Novak Djokovic beat Daniil Medvedev in three sets to win his ninth Australian Open championship and 18th Grand Slam title.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Bob Rafelson is 89. Actor Gary Lockwood is 85. Actor-director Richard Beymer is 83. Film/music company executive David Geffen is 79. Actor Tyne Daly is 76. Actor Anthony Daniels is 76. Tricia Nixon Cox is 76. Former Sen. Olympia J. Snowe, R-Maine, is 75. Rock musician Jerry Harrison (The Heads) is 73. Actor Christine Ebersole is 69. Actor William Petersen is 69. Actor Kelsey Grammer is 67. Country singer Mary Chapin Carpenter is 64. Actor Jack Coleman is 64. Actor Christopher Atkins is 61. Actor William Baldwin is 59. Sen. Mark Kelly, D-Ariz., is 58. Rock musician Michael Ward is 55. Actor Aunjanue Ellis is 53. Country singer Eric Heatherly is 52. Rock musician Eric Wilson is 52. Rock musician Tad Kinchla (Blues Traveler) is 49. Singer Rhiannon Giddens (Carolina Chocolate Drops) is 45. Actor Tituss Burgess is 43. Actor Jennifer Love Hewitt is 43. Comedian-actor Jordan Peele is 43. Actor Brendan Sexton III is 42. Singer Charlotte Church is 36. Actor Ashley Greene is 35. Actor Elliot Page is 35. Actor Corbin Bleu is 33. Actor Sophie Turner is 26.



California Department of Water Resources

The Harvey O. Banks Delta Pumping Plant, the first major plant designed and constructed within the California State Water Project. Infrastructure like this makes large-scale water transfers, and the water market, possible.

West's water markets change under evolving pressures

BY SIERRA DAWN MCCLAIN
Capital Press

Water has been traded in the Western U.S. for decades, but as the region faces intensifying regulations, shifts in crop plantings and drought concerns, water markets are evolving to reflect these pressures.

"The idea of water moving between uses and large distances has changed over the last 30 years. In the last five years especially, there have been big changes," said Matt Payne, principal with West-Water Research, a Boise-based economic consulting firm specializing in water market research, pricing and trading.

Payne recently spoke at the Land Investment Expo in Des Moines.

A few trends stick out: Water markets are growing. Who's participating in the market is shifting. Prices are volatile. And the agricultural sector is becoming a bigger buyer.

There are three main types of water transactions, said Payne: the spot market, typically a one-year transfer from one user to another; a multi-year transfer, or lease; and a permanent water rights transfer.

There are several commonly traded "asset classes" of water rights: surface water, groundwater, groundwater storage and recovery, storage water and "effluent" water, or treated wastewater.

According to Payne, surface

water rights are the most commonly traded class, but there's also "a market emerging for trading treated wastewater."

WaterWest Research has partnered with Nasdaq Inc., a financial services corporation, to publish a weekly index and develop a database — Waterlitix — with sale and lease information on more than 25,000 transactions.

According to Waterlitix, the largest markets are in California, Colorado, Arizona and Texas.

From 2009 to 2018, in California, the No. 1 water trading state, nearly \$4 billion worth of water traded hands; by volume, it equaled nearly 12 million acre-feet.

Water markets in the Northwest are significantly smaller. From 2009 to 2018, Washington traded \$65 million worth of water, Idaho \$62 million and Oregon \$58 million.

That's partly because California has a superior conveyance infrastructure, including the State Water Project that can deliver water more than 705 miles.

Northwestern states also have bureaucratic policies that make transfers difficult, according to April Snell, executive director of Oregon Water Resources Congress, a non-profit.

Who's buying and selling?

According to Waterlitix, financial investors represented just 1% of buyers and sellers between 2004 and 2008. Be-

tween 2014 and 2018, that jumped to 3% of buyers and 6% of sellers.

Industrial companies and Tribes are also becoming bigger players in the market, and according to Payne, some cities anticipating growth have bought land with water rights.

Agriculture, historically the biggest seller, is becoming a larger buyer, too. From 2004 to 2009, 14% of buyers were in the agricultural sector; 2014 to 2018, it was 19%.

Payne attributes this to more water-dependent permanent crops like almonds, new regulations including the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act coming and concerns over drought.

Farmers have been forced into the market to buy or lease water, he said.

The challenge is that it's often difficult for farmers to predict spot market pricing because major fluctuations are common.

In March 2020, for example, water was trading hands for about \$200 per acre-foot. By June, it was at \$700 per acre-foot. During 2021's drought, spot water prices were \$800 per acre-foot in the spring and hit \$1,000 per acre-foot by summer.

Across the West, consulting firms are popping up, offering data on the latest pricing trends.

"We're seeing the market start to mature," said Payne.

Opal

Continued from A1

He said he went with Alaska Premier Auctions & Appraisals because he thought it would get more attention from the newer company than a larger auction house. The sale is set for Sunday.

Nick Cline, a partner and appraisal specialist with Alaska Premier Auctions & Appraisals, said the family has documentation surrounding the provenance of the opal. As part of his research, he contacted Fiona Altmann, granddaughter of John Altmann and general manager of Altmann + Cherny in Sydney, Australia.

Altmann said her grandfa-

ther, in his business dealings, made regular trips to Europe and the U.S.

Altmann said when Cline emailed her, she was skeptical; the name of the stone, in particular, threw her. But she said she started digging and discovered "something with my grandfather's handwriting with the picture of the opal with the word 'Americus Australis.'"

"I with 100% certainty know that their provenance information is 100% accurate" because it lines up with information she has, she said.

The auction house said the stone was discovered in the same field in Australia as the opal known as the "Olympic Australis," which weighs 17,000

carats and is on permanent display in Altmann's shop. The Olympic had been among the stones that John Altmann and partner Rudi Cherny acquired in 1956, according to Altmann's company.

The auction company sought a minimum bid of \$125,000 during Sunday's auction. Cline said it's a "calculated risk," with the company going with what it sees as a conservative approach in hopes of garnering the most attention. It had targeted a sales price of \$250,000 to \$350,000, Cline said.

The sale includes a smaller piece of the opal that von Brandt said his father cut off to be worn or displayed.

Survey

Continued from A1

The survey asked about the state's direction and mental well-being. The margin of error ranges from 1.6% to 2.6% due to rounding. The Oregon Values and Beliefs Center is an independent, nonpartisan organization. The center partnered with Pamplin Media Group and EO Media Group, which owns The Bulletin.

In the survey, suburban respondents were more optimistic than rural residents. Yet

rural residents said they were less likely to believe the state is headed in the right direction than other Oregonians, according to the survey.

Roughly a quarter of the respondents defined themselves as from rural areas and 37% were suburban.

The younger the respondents were and the further west of the Cascades they lived, the more optimistic the responses about 2022, according to the survey. Generally, those who were ages 45 to 74 were not optimistic about the year, according to the

results. And Black, indigenous and other people of color were significantly more likely to say they were hopeful about 2022.

"I have lived many years growing up in Portland and now live outside of Portland in a rural area," wrote Aurora Kay Sancyo, who lives in Lane County. "One thing I have learned is that politics differ geographically. Basically, Republicans live in rural areas and Democrats inherit the larger suburbs."

Reporter: 541-633-2117, sraig@bendbulletin.com

YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

★★★★★ DYNAMIC | ★★★★ POSITIVE | ★★★ AVERAGE | ★★ SO-SO | ★ DIFFICULT

MOON ALERT: After 4:30 a.m. EST today (1:30 a.m. PST), there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, FEB. 21, 2022: You have a fine sense of humor and are well-liked by others. You are down to earth, practical and organized. (Few might realize how sensitive you are.) This year will be slower-paced. Take time to enjoy yourself. You will have a stronger focus on relationships. It's time to discover what makes you happy.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ This is a positive day to begin your week! (We like positive.) It's a good time to check out red-tape details that might be nagging you about shared property, inheritances, taxes and debt. Pull up your sleeves and dig in. Tonight: Be generous.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Relations with friends and groups are warm and supportive today. This is a good day to deal with members of the general public as well. You will be particularly effective when interacting with classes, clubs and groups, because people are willing to cooperate. Tonight: Schmooze.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ This is a good day to talk to the boss, parents or the police. That's because people are open-minded and cooperative today. Everyone is ready to go along to get along. Ask for permission or approval for what you want. Tonight: Feel healthy!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Vacation plans and ideas about how to escape your daily grind are on your mind today. If you can't swing a big vacation, can you plan a short trip? This is also a good day to explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine or the law. Tonight: Socialize!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Money and resources from others will help you or your family today. If you need money or help, now is the time to ask. (This includes asking for equipment and support related to your job.) This is also a good day to discuss banking and financial matters. Tonight: Home and family.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Conversations with the general public and those who are close to you will be a positive experience today. You're eager to enlighten someone about what is important to you, and others are willing to listen. "Confidence is high!" Tonight: Talk and learn.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ This is a positive day with your work and activities in general. In fact, your health feels positive because you feel vigorous! Having said that, you might not work harder. Instead, you will use your increased energy to do whatever you want, which is still a plus. Tonight: Check your money.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign dancing beautifully with the Sun, which is invigorating for you. This is a wonderful day because you feel in harmony with yourself. In addition, you have an increased feeling of vitality. Don't hesitate to ask the universe for a favor. Tonight: You win!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ This is a feel-good day for your sign! It's particularly good for those of you who work with children or work in the entertainment world, the hospitality industry or anything to do with sports. It's a positive day for any kind of group activity! Tonight: Cocoon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Today is an excellent day to work with classes, groups, clubs and organizations! Rally your troops and set them marching! Feel free to share your hopes and dreams for the future with someone to get their feedback, because this might help you. Tonight: Be friendly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Business and commerce are favored today, which is why this is a solid day to explore financial negotiations, plus boost your income. You might explore the possibility of a better paying job. It's also a good day to ask the boss for a raise. With Mercury in your sign, you are articulate! Tonight: You're admired.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Today the Sun is in your sign dancing with the Moon, which makes you feel that life is easier today. (And it is!) You're able to relate to others better. Furthermore, other people are drawn to you in a positive way. It's a great day to deal with groups. Tonight: Explore!