

Husband's dishonesty about finances imperils marriage



**DEAR
ABBY**
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: I am married to a man from a different country, culture and religion. We have an amazing relationship, and he is my best friend. We do everything together — grocery shop, date nights, travel, etc. He is a wonderful husband. The only problem is he doesn't contribute financially. I have told him time and again that this is going to be a big problem for us.

In his country, the people are poor, so he sends money to his family. His parents are wonderful, humble people and I love them dearly. He doesn't earn as much as

I do, but I do not feel that should stop him from making some financial contribution to OUR LIFE. He makes a decent salary and could buy some groceries or pay for a dinner here or there, but he doesn't. I pay for everything — cars, gas, living, groceries, coffee, phones, etc.

We had agreed that after he paid off his debts, he would put a certain amount of money in the savings, which would still leave him \$1,000 for himself. A thousand dollars is half a year's salary in his country. For the last three months he has made no contributions, and when I asked about it, he said he doesn't know what he did with the money. He's obviously lying.

I am so furious that I'm considering divorce. I have never told

him not to help his family, and I have been very generous with them as well. But it worries me that he is only concerned with his family back home and not the well-being of the family we have built together. — **MONEY'S THE ISSUE IN MISSISSIPPI**

DEAR MONEY'S THE ISSUE: Your "wonderful" husband has reneged on his promise to put money in the savings account and lied to you about where the money is going. Could it have gone somewhere other than to his parents? You have a right to know. Marriage is more than a romantic adventure. It is also a partnership — and one in which your husband isn't contributing his agreed-upon share.

You may be able to resolve this with the help of a licensed medi-

ator or counselor, but if it doesn't solve the problem, talk to an attorney about protecting yourself financially.

DEAR ABBY: I am a mother of two and grandmother of three. I have a few cousins I socialize with occasionally, but I can't say I'm particularly close to any of them. I enjoy spending most of my time with my children, grandchildren and husband.

Recently, one of my cousins has been pestering me to have a family reunion. Every time we talk, he brings up the subject, as well as other family members we have lost touch with. I have told him and his wife repeatedly that I am not interested in hosting a family reunion, and quite frankly, wouldn't be interested in attending one, either.

I don't want to seem harsh, but I have little interest in reuniting with many of my cousins, and I find large family gatherings stressful. I feel like they are trying to bully me into hosting and/or attending something I have said time and again I'm not interested in. What should I do? — **NAGGED IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR NAGGED: The next time he brings up the subject of your hosting a family reunion, laugh. Then tell him the folks who should do it are him and his wife because you are not interested. Then change the subject.

■ *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

Georgia slabs called satanic by some torn down after bombing

By JEFF AMY

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — A rural Georgia monument that some conservative Christians criticized as satanic and others dubbed "America's Stonehenge" was demolished Wednesday, July 6, after a predawn bombing turned one of its four granite panels into rubble.

The Georgia Guidestones monument near Elberton was damaged by an explosive device, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation said, and later knocked down "for safety reasons," leaving a pile of rubble in a picture that investigators published.

Surveillance footage showed a sharp explosion blowing one panel to rubble just after 4 a.m. Investigators also released video of a silver sedan leaving the monument.

After prior vandalism, video cameras connected to the county's emergency dispatch center were stationed at the site, said Elbert



WSB-TV/Contributed Photo

This aerial image taken from video shows damage to the Georgia Guidestones monument near Elberton, Georgia, on Wednesday, July 6, 2022. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation said the monument, which some Christians regard as satanic, was damaged by an explosion before dawn.

Granite Association Executive Vice President Chris Kubas.

The enigmatic roadside attraction was built in 1980 from local granite, commissioned by an unknown person or group under the pseudonym R.C. Christian.

"That's given the guidestones a sort of shroud of mystery around them, because the identity and intent of the individuals

who commissioned them is unknown," said Katie McCarthy, who researches conspiracy theories for the Anti-Defamation League. "And so that has helped over the years to fuel a lot of speculation and conspiracy theories about the guidestones' true intent."

The 16-foot-high panels bore a 10-part message in eight different languages with guidance for living in

an "age of reason." One part called for keeping world population at 500 million or below, while another calls to "guide reproduction wisely — improving fitness and diversity."

It also served as a sundial and astronomical calendar. But it was the panels' mention of eugenics, population control and global government that made them a target of far-right conspiracists.

The monument's notoriety took off with the rise of the internet, Kubas said, until it became a roadside tourist attraction, with thousands visiting each year.

The site received renewed attention during Georgia's May 24 gubernatorial primary when third-place Republican candidate Kandiss Taylor claimed the guidestones are satanic and made demolishing them part of her platform. Comedian John Oliver featured the guidestones and Taylor in a segment in late May. McCarthy said right-wing personalities including Alex Jones had talked about them

in previous years, but that "they sort of came back onto the public's radar" because of Taylor.

"God is God all by Himself. He can do ANYTHING He wants to do," Taylor wrote on social media. "That includes striking down Satanic Guidestones."

The monument had previously been vandalized, including when it was spray-painted in 2008 and 2014, McCarthy said. She said the bombing is another example of how conspiracy theories "do and can have a real-world impact."

"We've seen this with QAnon and multiple other conspiracy theories, that these ideas can lead somebody to try to take action in furtherance of these beliefs," McCarthy said. "They can attempt to try and target the people and institutions that are at the center of these false beliefs."

Kubas and many other people interpreted the stones as some sort of guide to rebuilding society after

an apocalypse.

"It's up to your own interpretation as to how you want to view them," Kubas said.

The site is about 7 miles north of Elberton and about 90 miles east of Atlanta, near the South Carolina state line. Granite quarrying is a top local industry, employing about 2,000 in the area, Kubas said.

Elbert County sheriff's deputies, Elberton police and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation are among agencies trying to figure out what happened. Bomb squad technicians were called out to look for evidence, and a state highway that runs near the site was closed for a time.

No suspects were identified.

Kubas said local officials and community leaders will have to decide who, if anyone, pays for restoration.

"If you didn't like it, you didn't have to come see it and read it," Kubas said. "But unfortunately, somebody decided they didn't want anyone to read it."

FINES

Continued from Page B1

inspections and issuing about 251 citations, according to data as of last month. The majority of those citations were issued to employers who the agency deemed had not intentionally violated COVID-19 safety rules and came with fines under \$1,000.

Most of those employers did not appeal their penalties. However, businesses the

state says intentionally flouted COVID-19 safety restrictions almost invariably appealed their citations.

The appeals process typically takes more than a year and up to 30 months to resolve, said Mark Peterson, a spokesperson for the Department of Consumer and Business Services.

Historically, more than 40% of Oregon OSHA fines have been amended on appeal. That means many of the businesses that the state says committed

the most egregious COVID-19 violations will be able to delay their fines for several years and could end up paying significantly reduced penalties after their appeals are resolved.

Oregon OSHA has little power to force businesses into compliance during the appeals process, beyond telling them to remedy violations. Even after receiving citations, some businesses continued to defy COVID-19 restrictions during the height of the pandemic.

The agency issued five citations to one gym chain, Salem-based Courthouse Club Fitness, after the gym remained open in November 2020 against state health regulations and continued operating even after receiving multiple citations. Owner John Miller at the time called the state's decision to shut down gyms unreasonable and said its actions were bankrupting businesses.

In total, Oregon OSHA fined the gym chain more

than \$217,000 — the largest COVID-19 fine issued to a single employer. A year and a half later, though, the citations remain tied up in the appeals process.

In fact, of the 48 citations issued by Oregon OSHA for willful COVID-19 safety violations, 42 remain in the appeals process. The other six have become final orders, but one of those fines was reduced by half on appeal and no payments have been made on three others.

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weather

TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Mainly clear	Sunny and very warm	Sunny and very warm	Sunny and nice	Sunny and pleasant
Baker City 53 Comfort Index™ 6	91 52 7	92 54 7	89 49 7	84 47 8
La Grande 61 Comfort Index™ 6	91 58 6	93 58 6	88 54 8	84 53 8
Enterprise 56 Comfort Index™ 5	89 57 5	89 56 5	86 51 7	81 53 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 98°

La Grande 98°

Enterprise 89°

High Tuesday 98°

Low Tuesday 45°

Normal month to date 0.25

Year to date 4.47

Normal year to date 5.69

High Tuesday 104°

Low Tuesday 51°

Normal month to date 0.30

Year to date 8.94

Normal year to date 17.76

High Tuesday 50°

Low Tuesday 30°

Normal month to date 0.34

Year to date 14.86

Normal year to date 14.86

High Tuesday 50°

Low Tuesday 30°

Normal month to date 0.34

Year to date 14.86

Normal year to date 14.86

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Low Tuesday 30°

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