

DEAR ABBY

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



Dear Abby: My sister and I have always been close. She's married to a man I have always thought is domineering and arrogant. I also suspect that he's emotionally abusive from things she has confided over the years. These include days of the silent treatment, refusing to celebrate her birthday because he doesn't believe in it and discouraging her from taking a job she was interested in. He refuses to go to counseling and says whatever problems there are between them are her fault. I hold my tongue and try to tolerate him because she has chosen to stay with him.

He recently participated in a marathon and was connected to us and many others through social media so we could follow the entire two-day event from start to finish. After a day of constant "dinging" on my phone, I found his need for attention over the top and stopped following. My sister was very upset about it. She said she was embarrassed and hurt. When she asked why I stopped, I told her the truth.

Now our relationship is damaged. I apologized and tried to smooth things over, but she's now fully aware of my true feelings about him after seeing and hearing how he has treated her over the years. Should I have "kept the peace," as my dear departed mother always said, and continued to keep my mouth shut, or should I have been honest about my feelings?

— *Protective of Sis*
Dear Protective: Because you say you and your sister

are close, I am surprised you held your tongue about her husband's behavior for so long. You did nothing wrong by tuning out of the marathon updates. You should not have been expected to be held hostage for two days because your brother-in-law's ego needed bolstering. You were honest with your sister and, in my opinion, did nothing that requires an apology.

Dear Abby: My partner and I have been in a long-distance relationship for about a year. After I did some casual social media stalking, I learned he still lives with his ex-boyfriend, in spite of the fact that he continually complains to me about his "roommate," whom he never refers to by name.

On top of that, we made a commitment over the last year to phone each other at least once a day. For the past three weeks, there are times I haven't heard from him at all, despite seeing him active on social media (especially on weekends). It's to a point where I stay awake until all hours, hoping to hear from him. Should I approach him about this, or is this just the end to the "honeymoon phase"?

— *Waiting By The Phone In Canada*

Dear Waiting: Not only is it the end of the "honeymoon phase," but it may also be the beginning of the end of this romance because it appears your "partner" isn't as eager to contact you as you are to hear from him. Long-distance relationships can be challenging, and you may be happier if you couple up with somebody local.

TODAY
IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 13, the 133rd day of 2022. There are 232 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On **May 13**, 1981, Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded in St. Peter's Square by Turkish assailant Mehmet Ali Agca.

In **1607**, English colonists arrived by ship at the site of what became the Jamestown settlement in Virginia (the colonists went ashore the next day).

In **1940**, in his first speech as British prime minister, Winston Churchill told Parliament, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."

In **1973**, in tennis' first so-called "Battle of the Sexes," Bobby Riggs defeated Margaret Court 6-2, 6-1 in Ramona, California. (Billie Jean King soundly defeated Riggs at the Houston Astrodome in September.)

In **1985**, a confrontation between Philadelphia authorities and the radical group MOVE ended as police dropped a bomb onto the group's row house, igniting a fire that killed 11 people and destroyed 61 homes.

In **1994**, President Bill Clinton nominated federal appeals Judge Stephen G. Breyer to the U.S. Supreme Court to replace retiring Justice Harry A. Blackmun; Breyer went on to win Senate confirmation.

In **2002**, President George W. Bush announced that he and Russian President Vladimir Putin would sign a treaty to shrink their countries' nuclear arsenals by two-thirds.

In **2016**, the Obama administration issued a directive requiring public schools to permit transgender students to use bathrooms and locker rooms consistent with their chosen gender identity.

In **2019**, Doris Day, the sunny blond film star and singer who appeared in comedic roles opposite Rock Hudson and Cary Grant in the 1950s and 1960s, died at her California home at the age of 97.

In **2020**, the Wisconsin Supreme Court struck down Gov. Tony Evers' coronavirus stay-at-home order, ruling that his administration had overstepped its authority by extending the order for another month.

Ten years ago: The mutilated bodies of 49 people were found near Monterrey, Mexico, apparent victims of a drug cartel.

Five years ago: Donald Trump used his first commencement address as president to urge graduates of Liberty University, a Christian school in Lynchburg, Virginia, to follow their convictions, prepare to face criticism and relish the opportunity to be an "outsider." Pope Francis, during a Mass in Fatima, Portugal, added two shepherd children to the roster of Catholic saints, honoring siblings Francisco and Jacinta Marto, who reported visions of the Virgin Mary 100 years earlier.

One year ago: Israel said it was massing troops along the Gaza frontier and calling up 9,000 reservists ahead of a possible ground invasion of the Hamas-ruled territory. Communal violence in Israel erupted for a fourth night, with Jewish and Arab mobs clashing in the flashpoint town of Lod. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention eased mask-wearing guidance for fully vaccinated people, allowing them to stop wearing masks outdoors in crowds and in most indoor settings. Prosecutors said an active-duty Marine Corps officer who was seen on camera scuffling with a police officer and helping other members of a pro-Trump mob force their way into the Capitol on Jan. 6 had been charged in the riot; Maj. Christopher Warnagiris was the first active-duty member to be charged in the insurrection.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Buck Taylor is 84. Actor Harvey Keitel is 83. Author Charles Baxter is 75. Actor Zoe Wanamaker is 74. Actor Franklyn Ajaye is 73. Singer Stevie Wonder is 72. Former Ohio Gov. John Kasich is 70. Actor Leslie Winston is 66. Producer-writer Alan Ball is 65. Basketball Hall of Famer Dennis Rodman is 61. "Late Show" host Stephen Colbert is 58. Rock musician John Richardson is 58. Actor Tom Verica is 58. Singer Darius Rucker (Hootie and the Blowfish) is 56. Actor Susan Floyd is 54. Actor Brian Geraghty is 47. Actor Samantha Morton is 45. Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., is 45. Former NBA player Mike Bibby is 44. Rock musician Mickey Madden (Maroon 5) is 43. Actor Iwan Rheon is 37. Actor-writer-director Lena Dunham is 36. Actor Robert Pattinson is 36. Actor Candice Accola King is 35. Actor Hunter Parrish is 35. Folk-rock musician Wylie Gelber (Dawes) is 34. NHL defenseman P.K. Subban is 34. Actor Debby Ryan is 29.

Jan. 6 panel subpoenas McCarthy, 4 others

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A House panel issued subpoenas Thursday to House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy and four other GOP lawmakers in its probe into the violent Jan. 6 insurrection, an extraordinary step that has little precedent and is certain to further inflame partisan tensions over the 2021 attack.

The panel is investigating McCarthy's conversations with then-President Donald Trump the day of the attack and meetings the four other lawmakers had with the White House as Trump and his aides worked to overturn his 2020 election defeat.

Subpoenas for McCarthy, R-Calif., and Reps. Jim Jordan of Ohio, Scott Perry of Pennsylvania, Andy Biggs of Arizona and Mo Brooks of Alabama come as the investigation is winding down and as the panel prepares for a series of public hearings this summer.

After the announcement, McCarthy, who aspires to be House speaker if Republicans take the majority in midterm elections, told reporters that "I have not seen a subpoena" and that his view on the committee has not changed since they asked for his voluntary cooperation earlier this year.

"They're not conducting a legitimate investigation," McCarthy said. "Seems as though they just want to go after their political opponents."

The panel had previously asked for voluntary cooperation from the five men, along with a handful of other GOP lawmakers, but all of them refused to speak with the panel, which debated for months whether to issue the subpoenas.

"Before we hold our hearings next month, we wished to provide members the opportunity to discuss these matters with the committee voluntarily," said Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, the Democratic chairman of the panel. "Regrettably, the individuals receiving subpoenas today have refused and we're forced to take this step to help



J. Scott Applewhite/AP

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., heads to his office surrounded by reporters Thursday after House investigators issued subpoenas to McCarthy and four other GOP lawmakers as part of their probe into the violent Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol in Washington. The House Select Committee on the Jan. 6 insurrection has been investigating McCarthy's conversations with then-President Donald Trump the day of the attack and meetings that the four other lawmakers had with the White House as Trump and his aides conspired how to overturn his defeat.

ensure the committee uncovers facts concerning January 6th."

Congressional subpoenas for sitting members of Congress, especially for a party leader, have little precedent in recent decades, and it is unclear what the consequences would be if any or all of the five men decline to comply. The House has voted to hold two other noncompliant witnesses, former Trump aides Steve Bannon and Mark Meadows, in contempt, referring their cases to the Justice Department.

In announcing the subpoenas, the Jan. 6 panel said there is historical precedent for the move and noted that the House Ethics Committee has "issued a number of subpoenas to Members of Congress for testimony or documents," though such actions are generally done secretly.

McCarthy has acknowledged that he spoke with Trump on Jan. 6, 2021, which happened as Trump's supporters were beating police outside the Capitol and forcing their way into the building. But he has not shared many details. The committee requested information about his conversations with Trump "before, during and after" the riot.

McCarthy took to the

House floor after the rioters were cleared and said in a forceful speech that Trump "bears responsibility" for the attack and that it was the "saddest day I have ever had" in Congress — even as he went on to join 138 other House Republicans in voting to reject the election results.

The GOP leader soon made up with Trump, though, visiting him in Florida and rallying House Republicans to vote against investigations of the attack.

The other four men were in touch with the White House for several weeks ahead of the insurrection, talking to Trump and his legal advisers about ways to stop the congressional electoral count on Jan. 6 to certify Joe Biden's victory. Several of their efforts were detailed in texts released to the committee by Meadows, who was Trump's chief of staff at the time.

"These members include those who participated in meetings at the White House, those who had direct conversations with President Trump leading up to and during the attack on the Capitol, and those who were involved in the planning and coordination of certain activities on and before January 6th," the committee said in a release.

COVID-19

House report: Meatpackers hyped 'baseless' shortage to keep plants open

BY TAYLOR TELFORD

The Washington Post

The biggest players in the U.S. meat industry pressed "baseless" claims of beef and pork shortages early in the pandemic to persuade the Trump White House to keep processing plants running, disregarding the coronavirus risks that eventually killed at least 269 workers, according to a special House committee investigating the nation's pandemic response.

In a report released Thursday, the committee alleges that Tyson Foods's legal team prepared a draft with input from other companies that became the basis for an executive order to keep the plants open that the Trump administration issued in April 2020, making it difficult for workers to stay home.

"Meatpacking companies knew the risk posed by the coronavirus to their workers and knew it wasn't a risk that the country needed them to take," according to the report by the select subcommittee on the coronavirus crisis. "They nonetheless lobbied aggressively — successfully enlisting USDA as a close collaborator in their efforts — to keep workers on the job in unsafe conditions, to ensure state and local health authorities were powerless to mandate otherwise, and to be protected against legal liability for the harms that would result."

The report alleges the nation's largest meatpackers and

industry trade groups repeatedly misled the public when they warned that a slowdown in their operations posed an imminent threat to the nation's meat supplies. But "these fears were baseless," investigators wrote.

The report from the bipartisan House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis is based on review of 151,000 pages of documents, more than a dozen survey calls with meatpacking workers union representatives, former U.S. Department of Agriculture and Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials, and state and local health authorities. The subcommittee also held a staff briefing with OSHA and USDA.

Internal industry documents showed that "despite awareness of the high risks of coronavirus spread in their plants, meatpacking companies engaged in a concerted effort with Trump Administration political officials to insulate themselves from coronavirus-related oversight, to force workers to continue working in dangerous conditions, and to shield themselves from legal liability for any resulting worker illness or death," the report states.

In the run-up to the publication of the executive order, executives from Smithfield and Tyson held calls with members of the Trump White House, including former chief of staff Mark Meadows and Vice President Mike Pence's chief of staff, Marc Short.

Gary Mickelson, Tyson's director of public relations, said that the company has worked with government officials at many levels in both the Trump and Biden administrations as it navigated the pandemic.

"This collaboration is crucial to ensuring the essential work of the U.S. food supply chain and our continued efforts to keep team members safe," Mickelson said in a statement. "For example, last year Tyson Foods was supported by the Biden Administration as we became one of the first fully vaccinated workforces in the U.S. Our efforts have also included working cooperatively and frequently with local health department officials in our plant communities."

Jim Monroe, Smithfield's vice president of corporate affairs, said that the company has invested more than \$900 million to support worker safety, including paying workers to stay home, and have exceeded CDC and OSHA guidelines.

"The meat production system is a modern wonder, but it is not one that can be redirected at the flip of a switch," Monroe said in a statement. "That is the challenge we faced as restaurants closed, consumption patterns changed and hogs backed-up on farms with nowhere to go. The concerns we expressed were very real and we are thankful that a true food crisis was averted and that we are starting to return to normal."

YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

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

MOON ALERT: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022: You are reliable and dependable. You are also witty, friendly and loyal to family. You work hard to achieve what you want. This year you will be of service to others, especially family. Take care of yourself as well. Enroll in a class or get a makeover.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★ Because of the possibility of transportation delays, missed buses and auto breakdowns (to name a few reasons for hang-ups today), be smart and give yourself extra time so you have wiggle room to deal with the unexpected. You'll be glad you did. Tonight: Get advice.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Double-check financial dealings in case there are errors that will create future delays. If you're looking for a job, go back to where you have applied or worked before, because contacts from the past will be your best option. Checks in the mail are late. Tonight: Get organized.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Don't be hard on yourself for forgetting things, leaving things behind, missing appointments or running late, because these are par for the course when Mercury retrograde is taking place in your sign. Lighten up! Enjoy your day. It's a brief dark cloud on your horizon. Tonight: Practice and teach.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Your ability to research and dig up answers from the past is strong because of the placement of Mercury retrograde in your chart. Your mind is like a diamond drill bit that can burrow deep down to find what you're looking for. Tonight: Accept support.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ This is a good time to examine your attitude toward a group, club or organization to which you belong. You might want to discuss a problem with a friend, something that's been going on for a while. You might see a way to remedy things so that in the future, things will work better for everyone. Tonight: Make plans.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ This is the perfect day to wrap up old business, especially if it means talking to a boss or an employer. In fact, you might want to reassess old goals. This is a good time to finish any kind of course or training that you have been going to help your career. Tonight: Be thrifty.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Although delays to travel plans are likely, you will find that your ability to study and learn is excellent. You will get the best results if you study something from the past — history, archaeology, anthropology — or if you finish a paper or project that was already started. Tonight: Work.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ During this window of Mercury retrograde, you will find it easy to wrap up details that have been dragging on regarding insurance matters, wills, estates, inheritances and anything to do with shared property. You can get this stuff done now! Tonight: Research.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Mercury goes retrograde three times a year. It is retrograde now, and this particular Mercury retrograde is taking place opposite your sign. This is why you will attract old partners and ex-spouses back into your life — possibly an opportunity for closure. Tonight: Someone knows more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Be patient with delays and silly goof-ups and mistakes at work. Late deliveries, mixed-up communications, machinery breakdowns and staff shortages will be par for the course. Instead, work to finish old projects, because these will go quickly and be successful. Tonight: Follow instructions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Many things from the past might be bubbling up on your plate now. Old flames and romantic interests might be one of them. Meanwhile, some of you will have a chance to get a diagnosis for an ailment or sickness that has plagued you. At last — clarity. Tonight: Study.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Do take advantage of this window of opportunity that is yours for a few more weeks, because it will help you finish repair projects at home and wrap up important family conversations, including disputes. Anything that helps should not be ignored. Tonight: Take care of paperwork.