

DEAR ABBY

Wife starts to resent man's constant demands for gifts

Dear Abby: I feel uncomfortable receiving gifts, and I find it hard to meet my husband's requests for constant gifts, especially when I feel I already give so much. He constantly asks me to buy him things, some of which are very expensive.

I'm a saver, not a spender, and I try to watch my budget. I already pay all the household bills, even though we make the same amount of money. I owned my house before we met, and he chips in with occasional upgrades and maintenance or takes me out to dinner once in a while. But I pay for the vast majority of expenses, as well as perform the majority of chores. I have sacrificed and paid for all our vacations because I wanted the experience, and I accept that.

The problem is, he seems to feel unappreciated, suggesting that if I gifted him more often, he would know he was constantly thought of. He says he buys me ran-

dom gifts — usually small items to which there are strings attached or implied reciprocity. These requests, especially when he buys for himself quite a bit, seem like a smack in the face to me. I feel he's impulsive with purchases, and won't be happy until I have nothing left.

How do I handle meeting my husband's need for constant validation without going bankrupt or having all the love sucked out from resentment? Mentioning my financial limitations doesn't seem to quench his thirst for more. — **Excessive in New York**

Dear Excessive: If my reading of your letter is accurate, you are doing all the heavy lifting in your marriage. What, exactly, is your husband contributing except to ask for more? Gifts are supposed to be freely given, not dispensed because

they are requested.

Whether your husband is greedy, selfish or extremely needy, I can't guess, but the balance is off in your marriage. This is why I'm recommending you consult a marriage and family therapist. If your husband is willing to go with you and discuss these issues, they can be resolved. If not, please go alone so you can gain clearer insight into what (and whom) you are dealing with.

Dear Abby: My mother likes to tell people where to sit at every family gathering. It can be anywhere, including at a restaurant or even at my aunt's house. It's annoying and feels disrespectful.

I'm 49, and my girls are in their early 20s. I try to be patient, but she doesn't consider health conditions or if someone is left-handed.



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

DAYS GONE BY

100 YEARS AGO
Sept. 26, 1920

Lettie, the far-famed Round-Up buffalo, is wild no longer. She wears a ribbon on her horn and eats from the hand of Miss Helen Irving, Los Angeles girl who is a Pendleton visitor. Miss Irving, who has for many years been in the movies, became interested in the buffalo and began efforts to tame her. Using kindness and tact, Miss Irving soon trained Lettie to come when called and to do simple tricks. This is Miss Irving's first experience training wild animals. She thinks her next pupil will be Sharkey, the Round-Up bull, for he already has shown signs of repentance and Miss Irving believes he can be coaxed from his wild and wooly ways.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 26, 1970

It isn't summer yet in Australia, so Joe Allison decided not to return there immediately after Round-Up. He has been the guest of Duff Severe during his stay in Pendleton, and this was not his first Round-Up. His home is in the state of Victoria, in the southern part of the continent near Melbourne. He lives on a 10-acre place where he raises horses. Lately his interest has been focused on quarter horses, which are very popular in Australia now. "Last year

one stud sold for \$20,000," he said. He said Jimmy Dix, an Australian who was a judge at the Round-Up, has bought an Appaloosa stud and a quarter horse stud to take back to Australia. Allison will be taking home his third Severe Brothers saddle. He said he had heard about their saddles before he ever came to Pendleton.

25 YEARS AGO
Sept. 26, 1995

The residents of Meacham joke that their sparsely populated mountain village is a refuge for oddballs, thieves and outlaws. Really it's just a place for hardscrabble folks who don't mind dressing in layers. A mere half hour's drive away in Pendleton, memories of a hot, dusty Round-Up aren't yet two weeks old, but up here in the thin, crisp air there is foreshadowing of the sort of mind-numbing cold that comes every winter. It's only a few days into autumn and the mercury has already made several trips into the 20s. Meacham has achieved the dubious honor of recording the nation's overnight low seven times in the last two months. For residents, it helps to have a sense of humor and be of hearty stock. Nearly everyone who lives here has some sort of cold weather story to tell. Like how it got to 52 below last January, and how one time it took 45 minutes to boil water.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On Sept. 26, 1960, the first-ever debate between presidential nominees took place as Democrat John F. Kennedy and Republican Richard M. Nixon faced off before a national TV audience from Chicago.

In 1777, British troops occupied Philadelphia during the American Revolution.

In 1789, Thomas Jefferson was confirmed by the Senate to be the first United States secretary of state; John Jay, the first chief justice; Edmund Randolph, the first attorney general.

In 1888, poet T.S. Eliot was born in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1955, following word that President Eisen-

hower had suffered a heart attack, the New York Stock Exchange saw its worst price decline since 1929.

In 1964, the situation comedy "Gilligan's Island" premiered on CBS-TV.

In 1986, William H. Rehnquist was sworn in as the 16th chief justice of the United States, while Antonin Scalia joined the Supreme Court as its 103rd member.

In 1990, the Motion Picture Association of America announced it had created a new rating, NC-17, to replace the X rating.

In 1991, four men and four women began a two-year stay inside a sealed-off structure in Oracle, Arizona, called Biosphere 2.

(They emerged from Biosphere on this date in 1993.)

In 1996, President Clinton signed a bill ensuring two-day hospital stays for new mothers and their babies.

In 2003, President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin opened a two-day summit at Camp David.

In 2005, Army Pfc. Lynndie England was convicted by a military jury in Fort Hood, Texas, on six of seven counts stemming from the Abu Ghraib prison abuse scandal. (England was sentenced to three years in prison; she ended up serving half that time.)

In 2016, Republican Donald Trump and Demo-

crat Hillary Clinton participated in their first debate of the presidential campaign at Hofstra University in New York; Clinton emphatically denounced Trump for keeping his personal tax returns and business dealings secret from voters while Trump repeatedly cast Clinton as a "typical politician."

Today's Birthdays: Retired baseball All-Star Bobby Shantz is 95. Singer Olivia Newton-John is 72. Rock singer-musician Cesar Rosas (Los Lobos) is 66. Actor Linda Hamilton is 64. Singer Tracey Thorn (Everything But The Girl) is 58. Actor Mark Famiglietti is 41. Singer-actor Christina Milian is 39. Tennis player Serena Williams is 39.

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

Six Asian countries
 Four Jetsons
 Three four-letter metals
 _____ in "Thelma and Louise"
 Home of the Dodgers: _____

ANSWERS:
 SOVIET UNION / NORTH KOREA / SOUTH KOREA / JAPAN / PHILIPPINES / SINGAPORE
 GEORGE JETSON / JOE JETSON / JANE JETSON / LEAD GOLD IRON / LEAD GOLD IRON / LEAD GOLD IRON / LEAD GOLD IRON
 Answers to Saturday's puzzle: PAKISTAN VIELNAMI NEPAL NIHON VIETNAM / SOVIET UNION
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W O R D ★ R O U N D U P

L L E A D J L O S A K V
 N A I R O N U N I C V M
 E E O G O L D D V H S A
 G N P S V J N M Y I U N
 R A P A K I S T A N S T
 O J C E L R O Y K A A E
 E K S A R A N D O N N I
 G X A N G E L E S K J V

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 list of restaurant choices (4)	_____
2 student (7)	_____
3 woman soon to be wed (7)	_____
4 little shop (8)	_____
5 mixture (9)	_____
6 the business of fashion (7)	_____
7 driver (9)	_____

NU	EGE	RRI	OT	CO
FI	POT	UE	EE	UFF
ME	ANC	POU	RE	TIQ
PR	CHA	EUR	BOU	UTU

Today's Answers: 1. MENU 2. PROTEGE 3. FIANCEE 4. BOUTIQUE 5. POTPOURRI 6. COUTURE 7. CHAUFFEUR

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