

DEAR ABBY

Couple wrestles with communication breakdowns

Dear Abby: I love my wife very much, but we are, unfortunately, having a communication/interpretation issue. She is inquisitive and asks a lot of questions. I become defensive when I'm questioned. Sometimes I feel it shows a lack of confidence or trust in me. My wife says I am being too sensitive.

There are times when I infer a negative tone where there is none, and others when I believe my perception is spot-on. Sometimes, I suspect she's unwilling to accept any answer that does not match her own thinking. She comes from a family where correcting each other, even over the smallest thing, is common. She's an educator, so in some ways, it's part of her job.

My wife seems unable to use alternative phrasing that is less likely to trigger a defensive response. When we have conflict

over this, it seems I am always the one who has to give ground. When I try to explain my feelings, it only makes things worse. When I choose to be more assertive, it results in more escalation. I am blessed with a spouse who is independent, strong-minded and outspoken. How can I develop a thicker skin so I won't feel like I am second-guessed at every turn? When should I speak up? — **Misunderstood in Texas**

Dear Misunderstood: NOW would be a good time to speak up. When you do, tell your wife — the educator — that you feel second-guessed at every turn, and it's time to enlist the help of a licensed marriage and family therapist so you two can improve your communi-

cation skills. If she's willing, it could be helpful for your marriage. If she isn't, then go without her to help you figure out whether you really are "too sensitive."

Dear Abby: My best friend, whom I've known most of my life, has a 7-year-old grandson. The boy, "Cody," is spoiled, rude and makes obnoxious comments to adults. They'll make plans to visit us on a weekend evening when my wife and I want to chill out. While they are here, Cody gets loaded up on sugar, snoops through rooms and picks up breakable objects while watching us to see our reaction. He also does calisthenics and runs around while he's here. He makes snotty comments to us

that my friend encourages and thinks are funny. As much as I love my friend, how do I tell him that his grandson is no longer welcome? — **In a Conundrum**

Dear in a Conundrum: Has it occurred to you that Cody may have problems more serious than a sugar buzz? The behavior you describe can be symptoms of ADHD and/or learning disabilities. If Cody hasn't been evaluated by a medical professional, he should be. If you truly love this friend, suggest it and tell him why. If he ends your relationship because of it, you will no longer be subjected to Cody's unfortunate behavior. On the other hand, if my concern is on target, you could change that boy's life for the better, because he doesn't act out only at your house.



JEANNE PHILLIPS
ADVICE

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago Sept. 18, 1921

Among the Round-Up performers arriving in Pendleton today were Bonnie McCarroll, Kitty Canutt, Mabel Strickland and Lorena Trickey, all famous women riders. Miss Trickey was born in The Dalles and her childhood days were spent in riding bucking bronks. Her father and brothers objected to her riding in contests, but she "sneaked off" to Pendleton one time and came home a winner. Miss Trickey has suffered some injuries for the innumerable prizes she has won. Her worst injury occurred when another team in a Roman standing race crashed her mounts into a fence and trampled upon her. Yet she won the final Roman standing race at Cheyenne this year and her courage is not dimmed by accidents.

50 Years Ago Sept. 18, 1971

Jesse Jones says it can get "chilly out there" when he rides Domino in the Happy Canyon pageant. Much of the show is keyed around the rides of Jones. He has been performing the role for three years. "To do it a person has to have a riding ability and understand a horse," said Jones. Domino is better in the part than

some horses. "With Domino you don't have to worry," Jones said. "He knows his cues." Jones was trampled by a horse in the Thursday performance of the show and received minor injuries, but was back on his mount Friday. As one spectator said after watching the Happy Canyon pageant, "No wonder it took a regiment of cavalry to put down a few Indians. They were tough."

25 Years Ago Sept. 18, 1996

Amtrak's Pioneer Run train service to Eastern Oregon will come to an end Nov. 9. The announced closure of the thrice-weekly passenger train between Portland and Chicago via Boise means Eastern Oregon travelers will soon be without train service in a rural area where hundreds of miles stretch between major population centers. The state Department of Transportation hopes cost-cutting in the 125-mile corridor between Eugene and Portland would free up additional dollars to be spent on transportation in Eastern Oregon. It costs about \$1 million each year in subsidies to maintain daily Amtrak service in the Willamette Valley versus an estimated \$5 million for three-day train service that stretches 430 miles from Portland to the Oregon border in Ontario.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On Sept. 18, 1975, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst was captured by the FBI in San Francisco, 19 months after being kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.

In A.D. 14, the Roman Senate officially confirmed Tiberius as the second emperor of the Roman Empire, succeeding the late Augustus.

In 1850, Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act, which created a force of federal commissioners charged with returning escaped slaves to their owners.

In 1851, the first edition of The New York Times was published.

In 1927, the Columbia Phonograph Broadcasting System (later CBS) made its on-air debut with a basic network of 16 radio stations.

In 1947, the National Security Act, which created a National Military Establishment and the position of Secretary of Defense, went into effect.

In 1961, United Nations

Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld was killed in a plane crash in northern Rhodesia.

In 1965, the situation comedies "I Dream of Jeannie" and "Get Smart" premiered on NBC.

In 1970, rock star Jimi Hendrix died in London at age 27.

In 1990, the organized crime drama "GoodFellas," directed by Martin Scorsese, had its U.S. premiere in New York.

In 2001, a week after the Sept. 11 attack, President George W. Bush said he hoped to "rally the world" in the battle against terrorism and predicted that all "people who love freedom" would join. Letters postmarked Trenton, N.J., that later tested positive for anthrax were sent to the New York Post and NBC anchorman Tom Brokaw.

In 2010, despite Taliban rocket strikes and bombings, Afghans voted for a new parliament in the first election since a fraud-marred ballot cast doubt

on the legitimacy of the embattled government.

In 2014, voters in Scotland rejected independence, opting to remain part of the United Kingdom in a historic referendum. The Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St. Andrews, Scotland, ended years of male-only exclusivity as its members voted overwhelmingly in favor of inviting women to join.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Blake is 88. Gospel singer Bobby Jones is 83. Singer Frankie Avalon is 81. Actor Beth Grant is 72. Rock musician Kerry Livgren is 72. Actor Anna Deavere Smith is 71. Former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson, is 70. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Rick Pitino is 69. Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-Ala., is 67. College Football Hall of Famer and retired NFL player Billy Sims is 66. Movie director Mark Romanek is 62. Baseball Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg is 62. Alt-coun-

try-rock musician Mark Olson is 60. Singer Joanne Catherall (Human League) is 59. Actor Holly Robinson Peete is 57. R&B singer Ricky Bell (Bell Biv DeVoe and New Edition) is 54. Actor Aisha Tyler is 51. Former racing cyclist Lance Armstrong is 50. Opera singer Anna Netrebko is 50. Actor Jada Pinkett Smith is 50. Actor James Marsden is 48. Actor Emily Rutherford is 47. Actor Travis Schuldt is 47. Rapper Xzibit is 47. Comedian-actor Jason Sudeikis is 46. Actor Sophina Brown is 45. Actor Barrett Foa is 44. Talk show host Sara Haines (TV: "GMA3: Strahan, Sara & Keke") is 44. Actor/comedian Billy Eichner is 43. Actor Alison Lohman is 42. Designer Brandon Maxwell is 37. Congressman and former NFL player Anthony Gonzalez, R-Ohio, is 37. Actors Brandon and Taylor Porter are 28. Actor Patrick Schwarzenegger is 28. Country singer Tae Dye (Maddie and Tae) is 26. Actor C.J. Sanders is 25.

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 wear and tear (5)	_____
2 odds and ends (11)	_____
3 null and void (8)	_____
4 over and over (10)	_____
5 hard-and-fast (8)	_____
6 hems and haws (11)	_____
7 huff and puff (7)	_____

ELLA	BLU	NEA	AGE	ELED
LY	CO	MISC	IRON	ATES
NSTA	VOC	CANC	CLAD	NT
ST	UI	ER	US	EQ

10 days' answers: 1. USAGE 2. MISCELLANEA 3. CANCELLED 4. CONSTANTLY 5. IRONCLAD 6. EQUIVOCATES 7. BLUSTER

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four words ending with CH (four-letter min.)
- Three Canadian provinces
- Three evergreen trees
- Two two-syllable metals
- Monarch: _____ II

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: CLUTCH HUTCH EACH OUCH / ALBERTA ONTARIO QUEBEC / SPRUCE CEDAR PINE / SILVER IRON / QUEEN ELIZABETH

9/18
E Q U E E N E R O L K B
C A J T O C C H U A E M
L C C Q N E U C C L N R
U E X H T D R T H B I E
T B C B A A P U V E P V
C E R R R R S H Z R H L
H U E L I Z A B E T H I
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.....Spanish 7:00pm
SUNDAY.....English 9:00am
.....Spanish 11:00am
.....Spanish 1:00pm
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