

DEAR ABBY

Man needs assertiveness training to cut off dependent

Dear Abby: I have a long-distance friend I met online 10 years ago. I took pity on her because she was nearly destitute, and I have been helping her pay her bills. She's visited me a number of times, and I care about her a lot. However, her constant requests for money are starting to make me uncomfortable. (She can't work for health reasons, and there's a major scarcity of social services or competent care in her Rust Belt locality.)

I do not want to continue enabling her. I have tried suggesting she move closer to her sister, seek better care, etc., but she doesn't have the motivation. I have a hard time saying "no" to people. I got married recently, and I don't want this situation to negatively affect my relationship with my wife.

In my friend's current emotional state,

I'm afraid if I end my friendship with her, she'll never recover from the emotional trauma. She even tattooed my name on her wrist so she'd see it every time she wanted to cut herself, like she used to do before we met. What should I do? —

Dear Tied To Her

Dear Tied: Start researching assertiveness training programs for yourself, because you sorely need more help than I can give you in one column.

Discuss this with your wife for additional emotional support, because you are right — continuing to give your online friend financial help will destroy your marriage. After that, tell this needy woman you won't be sending her more money, and that you do not want her

to contact you until she has moved closer to her sister so she can find the help she needs.

Do not feel guilty for doing this. You have been extraordinarily generous to have let this go on for a decade.

Dear Abby: My husband and I have good friends who winter every year in another state, halfway across the country. For years they asked us to come for a visit. Last winter, we were vacationing about six hours from where they were staying. We called and asked if they were available and if it would be convenient for us to come for three days. They assured us they had no commitments and would love for us to come, which we did.

In the early morning of the third day,

they announced they had been invited to go to a ballgame with a friend and would be leaving almost immediately, adding it was an hour's drive away and they would be gone all day and returning early evening. They said we were welcome to "just hang out" and wait for them to return. We said we would head home the same time they left for the ballgame.

I was stunned and felt they were incredibly rude. Am I overly sensitive, or was this an acceptable way to treat guests? —

Taken Aback In A Cold State

Dear Taken Aback: I agree that it was rude. Your friends had a choice, to fulfill their duties as gracious hosts, or be selfish and go to the game.

By choosing the latter, they damaged a longtime friendship. I can see why you were "taken aback."



JEANNE PHILLIPS
ADVICE

DAYS GONE BY

**100 Years Ago
Oct. 9, 1921**

Richard Hanley, athletic instructor and coach of the Bulldogs of Pendleton high school, returned today from Pullman, where he was one of the stars of the annual Alumni-Varsity game at Washington State College. Mr. Hanley, who played right half, helped the Alumni to give the Varsity the worst drubbing in the history of the college by making a touchdown and kicking four goals. The Alumni team, Mr. Hanley states, was made up of members of the champion teams of 1915-1917 and six W. S. C. players who were members of the Marine team. Despite the poor showing made by the Varsity team, Mr. Hanley believes that the Washington players will after some practice spring a few surprises in the games this fall.

**50 Years Ago
Oct. 9, 1971**

Another area product — bacon — is winning attention across the nation, along with Eastern Oregon's watermelons, potatoes, apples, wheat and lumber. "We turn out about 400 slabs a week," says Wally Gaboury, one of the owners of Hill Meat Co., Pendleton. Hill's sells all its bacon to area markets. Talks with local meat market operators show that their customers buy Hill's bacon and send it to friends and relatives in New York,

Alaska, Minnesota and other states. "You have to start with good hogs," Gaboury says. Hill's buys most of its hogs from Hansell Brothers at Ordinance. But there's more to it than that. Hill's still uses the old-time methods. The slabs are smoked with alder to impart the flavor that results in the bacon being a sell-out as fast as Hill's can process it.

**25 Years Ago
Oct. 9, 1996**

In the five years since Ken Gray first came to work for the tribes, he's seen the fire department expand from a 4x4 pickup that served as a fire truck to a six-bay unit with nine pieces of equipment. It's a fire chief's dream to have better facilities and more staff to meet the community's needs, and Chief Gray is seeing that dream come true on the Umatilla Indian Reservation as a result of the success of the Wildhorse Gaming Resort. The tribes' Board of Trustees authorized half a million dollars of casino-generated funds last year to revamp existing fire department structures, expanding the 2,300-square-foot area to a sprawling 9,500 feet. Gray said the expansion is in response to the increase in medical calls (281 in 1995) as well as to the tribes' economic development. In 1991, there were 168 emergency calls, and the current count this year is 239 and climbing.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On Oct. 9, 1967, Marxist revolutionary guerrilla leader Che Guevara, 39, was summarily executed by the Bolivian army a day after his capture.

In 1888, the public was first admitted to the Washington Monument.

In 1910, a coal dust explosion at the Starkville Mine in Colorado left 56 miners dead.

In 1936, the first generator at Boulder (later Hoover) Dam began transmitting electricity to Los Angeles.

In 1940, rock-and-roll legend John Lennon was born in Liverpool, England. (On this date in 1975, his son, Sean, was born in New York.)

In 1975, Soviet scientist Andrei Sakharov was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1985, the hijackers of the Achille Lauro cruise liner surrendered two days after seizing the vessel in the Mediterranean. (Passenger Leon Klinghoffer was killed by the hijackers during the standoff.)

In 2001, in the first daylight raids since the start of U.S.-led attacks on Afghanistan, jets bombed the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar. Letters postmarked in Trenton, N.J., were sent to Sens. Tom Daschle and Patrick Leahy; the letters later

tested positive for anthrax.

In 2004, a tour bus from the Chicago area flipped in Arkansas, killing 15 people headed to a Mississippi casino.

In 2006, Google Inc. announced it was snapping up YouTube Inc. for \$1.65 billion in a stock deal.

In 2009, President Barack Obama won the Nobel Peace Prize for what the Norwegian Nobel Committee called "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."

In 2012, former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky was sentenced to 30 to 60 years in prison following his conviction on 45 counts of sexual abuse of boys.

In 2014, six U.S. military planes arrived in the Ebola hot zone with more Marines as West African leaders pleaded for the world's help in dealing with what Sierra Leone President Ernest Bai Koroma described as "a tragedy unforeseen in modern times."

Today's Birthdays: Retired MLB All-Star Joe Pepitone is 81. Former Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., is 80. C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb is 80. R&B singer Nona Hendryx is 77. Singer Jackson Browne is 73. Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams is 71. Actor Gary Frank

is 71. Actor Richard Chaves is 70. Actor Robert Wuhl is 70. Actor-TV personality Sharon Osbourne is 69. Actor Tony Shalhoub is 68. Actor Scott Bakula is 67. Musician James Fearnley (The Pogues) is 67. Actor John O'Hurley is 67. Writer-producer-director-actor Linwood Boomer is 66. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Mike Singletary is 63. Actor Michael Paré is 63. Jazz musician Kenny Garrett is 61. Rock singer-musician Kurt Neumann is 60. Movie director Guillermo del Toro is 57. Former British Prime Minister David Cameron is 55. Singer P.J. Harvey is 52. Movie director Steve McQueen (Film: "12 Years a Slave") is 52. World Golf Hall of Famer Annika Sorenstam is 51. Actor Cocoa Brown is 49. Country singer Tommy Shane Steiner is 48. Actor Steve Burns is 48. Rock singer Sean Lennon is 46. Actor Randy Spelling is 43. Christian hip-hop artist Lecrae is 42. Actor Brandon Routh is 42. Actor Zachery Ty Bryan is 40. Actor Spencer Grammer is 38. Comedian Melissa Villasebor (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 34. Actor Tyler James Williams is 29. Country singer Scotty McCreery (TV: "American Idol") is 28. Actor Jharrel Jerome is 24.

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 taking a car (7) | _____ |
| 2 taking a plane (6) | _____ |
| 3 taking a yacht (7) | _____ |
| 4 taking a run (9) | _____ |
| 5 taking a toboggan (8) | _____ |
| 6 taking a fast horse (9) | _____ |
| 7 taking a bike (7) | _____ |

| | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| NG | LOP | SPR | LI | ING |
| SAI | INT | DDI | SLE | GAL |
| IVI | FLY | NG | DR | CYC |
| NG | NG | ING | LI | ING |

Today's Answers: 1. DRIVING 2. FLYING 3. SAILING 4. SPRINTING 5. SLEDDING 6. GALLOPING 7. CYCLING

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

Six four-letter colors

Three types of TV programs

Three Canadian cities

Two six-letter U.S. presidents

Sandra of "Speed"

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: TANZANIA CHAD MALI / HADDOCK HALIBUT HERRING / GOOSE DUCK SWAN / HORSE MOOSE MULE / PURPLE VIOLET

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Word search grid with a diagonal line through it.

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