Man discovers his wife's old affair has rekindled online

DEAR ABBY: I went into our home office and noticed that my wife had left her e-mail on. I spotted an odd name, so I opened one of the messages and my jaw dropped. It was from a man with whom my wife was having an affair. The emails were so graphic as to leave nothing to the imagination. This person is someone with whom my wife had an affair before we got to-

He was going to leave his wife and live with her before we met, but when push came to shove, he stayed with his wife and just used mine for

One of the messages discussed a planned meeting that did not take place — only because he got stuck at work. She e-mailed him and told him he could stop by the house any night after 10 and have sex for an hour or two because our 5-year-old son and I were sleeping in other

She insists that "nothing happened," which I have trouble believing. We have been seeing a therapist who believes my wife, and says that since "nothing happened" it wasn't an affair. I disagree. Am I

– FURIOUS IN NEW **JERSEY**

DEAR FURIOUS: You now have two problems. You have a therapist who is siding with your wife, and an advice columnist who sees it your way. No, I do not think you are wrong. And unless your wife can come up with a satisfactory explanation for inviting



Abigail Van Buren

is O.V.E.R.

DEAR ABBY: I have one sister. consisting of two homes and various businesses.

Because my sister lives 300 miles away, I will likely be the one taking but says it will never happen becare of Dad's affairs after his death. This will involve a great deal of time, going through both houses, some cleaning, and too many phone calls to count, etc.

the time my husband and I devote other people he gets mad. How to this, charge an hourly fee, and should I handle this? deduct it from my sister's share of our father's estate? Let's face it, fair

> DREADING WHAT'S AHEAD

DEAR DREADING: It seems fair to me. However, if your father has his faculties, this is something that should be discussed while you allow the relationship to conhe's still living so it can be noted tinue as it is. I say, move on. in his will. If he's too ill to talk, then speak to the lawyer who

her old lover over for sex under drew up the will. You may be surthe same roof as her child and her prised to learn that what you have husband, I'd say your marriage in mind is usual and customary. The lawyer can explain it to you.

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend, Our mother is deceased. When our "Craig," whom I have known alfather passes away, he will leave a most a year. We have become closer sizable estate to my sister and me, than friends in a lot of ways — except the one way that counts, if you know what I mean.

> cause he doesn't want to ruin the friendship. Do you think it's fair for him to arouse me and then just run out the door? Craig says he doesn't want me,

Craig likes to tease me about sex,

Would it be fair to keep track of but when I go out on dates with - IRRITATED IN GEORGIA

DEAR IRRITATED: The key phrase in your letter is "he says he doesn't want me." Craig may enjoy teasing you (a power play), or he might be gay (unavailable for romance). In either case, the result will be frustration for you if

DEAR ABBY: This is the first

that people in their teens through showing up to make sure she's weltheir 40s do not know what a white come? cane means.

Teachers should tell their children in class — as we were taught — that it means the person is blind or legally blind.

— H.M.L. IN NEW HAMP-

SHIRE DEAR H.M.L.: I agree!

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have always made it a priority to spend time with the people in our lives we care for. At this stage, our children are gone and our large home is ideal for gatherings, so we are frequent hosts to friends and

One of our close friends, "Gloria," has a roommate, "Ivy," who has taken it upon herself to show up at any event she hears about without being invited. This has put Gloria in the uncomfortable position of being the "informant." In most cases, it wouldn't present a problem.

However, Ivy has shown up at sitdown dinners with limited seating. She never offers to bring anything or calls to make sure she's welcome. Sometimes she shows up earlier than when our guests have been told to arrive. This has caused some awkward situations for me, to put it mildly.

Not only that, but Ivy is a very demanding guest. On a few occasions she has tried to boss me around and

time I have ever written to you, but expects me to wait on her hand and should I send her? She reads your I was shocked to find out recently woman she needs to call before your reply?

> — HOSTESS WITH THE MOSTEST IN OHIO

DEAR HOSTESS: You have described a boor who knows no boundaries. Please do not waste your time trying to be "tactful," because it won't work. The next her exactly what you have written to me and do not admit her. Pe-

DEAR ABBY: I have struggled with my weight ever since the death of my child several years ago. This year for Christmas, a family member — who despises me — drew my name. Her gift to me was a glass pie dish containing cookie-making ingredients, plus a pastry cutter and two basting brushes.

you cards. What kind of thank-you Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

I need you to help get the word out. foot. How can we tactfully tell this column. Maybe I can just send her STUMPED IN WEST

RICHLAND, WASH.

DEAR STUMPED: Do not clip and send the woman my reply. That would be bad manners. Instead, copy it on stationery in vour own handwriting. Here's what to tell her:

"How kind of you to remember time Ivv shows up uninvited, tell me with the goodie-fixings. I have always felt that the thought and planning that go into selecting a gift are what makes it - and the sender - so special. Your generosity will not soon be forgotten!"

I think that will express what you would like to say in a way that will leave you above reproach.

Editor's note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.-She knows I always send thank- DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440,



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Expert suggests to build emergency fund now

MANHATTAN — Emergencies leaky plumbing, a sudden illness, an unexpected but necessary car repair - can be costly, said Carol Young, Kansas State University Research and Extension financial management specialist.

Such expenses can exceed They do not need to add stress, however, if an emergency fund is available, she said.

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Young advised this start for building an emergency fund: "Pay yourself first. Consider asking your bank. It can simplify saving and bank or financial service provider also make spending the planned to make a periodic automatic transfer from your checking account to a savings account."

Transferring \$25 from each payweekly or monthly cash available. check adds up to \$300 a year for aimforone month's take-home pay. paid every two weeks and \$1,300 for those paid weekly.

time - there's no need to go to the savings more difficult," Young said.

How big should an emergency

"If just beginning a savings plan, those paid monthly, \$650 for those Then add to it," she said. "Having three to six months' earnings set aside can smooth the way if a lay-

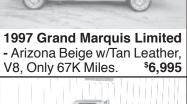
"An automatic transfer will save off or illness interrupts earning power."

> More savings and money management tips are available on Kansas Extension's financial management Web site: www.oznet.ksu.edu/financialmanagement

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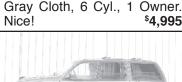
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