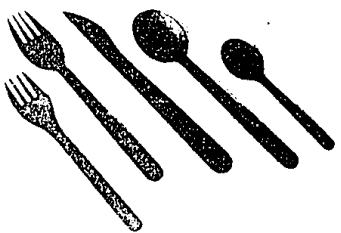


street seen

Charlene Mitchell

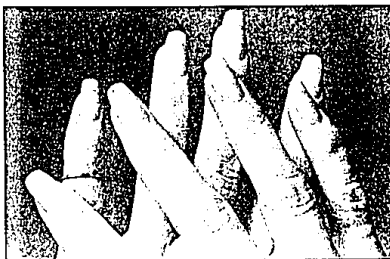


Street Seen reporter Charlene Mitchell is always looking for the unusual and the unique. She welcomes comments and suggestions from readers. Write her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2380, Ext. 313.



Dishin' it up

This truly non-conventional tableware is definitely not for traditional minded folks, but paired with the right dishes, it spells "in" for '88. Simple and different, the black matte flatware will probably never go out of style. By Elika. Five-piece place setting, \$46. Ilona and Gallery, Farmington Hills.



Nailing it down

The freshest look for manicured nails this year is the completely natural look — pale, clear colors with lots of shine. A new way to achieve this look is to go with gel nail wraps cured under ultraviolet lights. Sounds pretty high tech, but the procedure is less time consuming than your conventional linen or silk wraps and lasts for about four to five weeks while your own nails strengthen and grow without breaking. Starting at \$35 for a full set of 10. By Suzanne Clark at Daniel J. Salon, Farmington Hills.

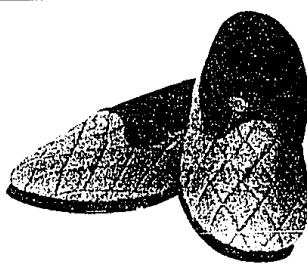
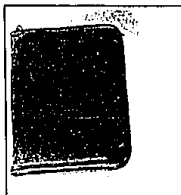


Clear ski ahead

It's that time of year again when snow lovers hit the slopes. Whether you ski in Michigan or out West, this is the look — clear and unfoggy. Extra warm ski hat comes in dozens of designs and the vented goggles make you look like a pro even if you aren't. Beat of all, they don't fog up. Hat, \$22. Goggles, \$40. Don Thomas Sporthaus, Birmingham.

Got your number

Now that we're into a new year, there are lots of new appointments to be made. This classy all-purpose appointment/address book comes in a buffalo skin zippered portfolio. By Carlos Fatchi. Comes in a variety of colors, \$115. Quintessence, Farmington Hills.



Perfect padding

Now this is what we call padding out in perfect style — comfy cashmere house slippers. Long day's journey into night will be more pleasant — not to mention luxurious — in these 100 percent cashmere with suede trim slippers in smashing shades of purple, red, black and charcoal. \$90. Diane M, Birmingham.

STREET WISE

All that jazz

Suzanne Lane and the J.C. Heard Orchestra will bring their brand of jazz to the Depot Town Building at 8 p.m. Saturday in Ypsilanti to kick off WEMU's winter jazz series.

The jazz concert will be held on the third Saturday of the month through March with David Pilino and the White/Margalea Quintet performing in February and the Russell Green Quintet and the Regular Boys in March.

Tickets cost \$8.50 per show or \$20 for the series and are available at businesses in Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor or at the WEMU radio station. For information call WEMU at 487-2229.

Curing that cabin fever

With winter well entrenched and cabin fever on the rise, the Novi Hilton and Alpine Valley are offering a cure — a weekday or weekend ski package.

For a cost of \$82 per person Monday through Thursday and \$74 per person for weekends (Friday through Sunday), those with the fever can enjoy a day of downhill skiing at Alpine Valley in Milford followed by an overnight stay at the Novi Hilton.

Included in the ski package is a one-day lift ticket at Alpine Valley, a trail mix for the slopes, complimentary hot toddy or hot chocolate in the Hilton's Whisper's Lounge and a guest room. The package doesn't include transportation to and from the slopes.

Alpine Valley bills itself as the area's largest ski area with a new 1,000-foot long expert run with a vertical drop of 300 feet and a 2,000-foot long intermediate slope.

The ski package is valid through March and subject to availability. For reservations call the Hilton at 349-4000.

'When you're a Jet...'

Leonard Bernstein wrote the music and Steven Sondheim provided the

lyrics for what has become a modern musical classic, "West Side Story."

The modern day version of "Romeo and Juliet," set on the streets of New York City, will come to life Jan. 22-23 at the Bedford Film Theater, 17360 Lashar, just north of Grand River.

The revival is more than the average theater screening. Members of the Motor City Organ Society, who have restored the 1,495-seat theater, will provide a 7:30 p.m. prelude concert, featuring the 1928 Barton theater organ. The movie will be shown at 8 p.m.

Tickets are a bargain at \$2. For more information call 537-2560.

All that glitters

Dust off the lapels of your tux and brush up on tying your black tie. Friday night is the night to do the social scene at the annual Detroit Auto Show's preview night.

The black tie event will give ticket holders a first look at 500 new cars

and trucks that will be on display Saturday through Jan. 24 at Cobo Hall while helping four metropolitan charities.

Tickets cost \$50 each and are available from the four charities — Children's Center, Boys and Girls Club of Metropolitan Detroit, the Eastern Seals Society and Assistance League to the Northeast Guidance Center.

Hand-made couturier

T-shirts are making their own fashion statement, thanks to a 21-year-old college student who has given new meaning to handmade, and made it a registered trademark.

Daniel Golds, owner and conceptual artist for Hand-Made, is designing and producing high fashion active wear for adults and children with each and every design handmade and individually numbered for authenticity.

Hand-Made is just one of several lines of clothing that the West Bloomfield Nubred Enterprises Inc. is responsible for in the metro area.

Counselors put bliss back in marriage

Continued from Page 1

erage you have. How long varies. Oesterle thinks six to eight months of weekly sessions is average. Pollack establishes time limits to meet agreed-upon goals. Both re-evaluate as needed.

Pollack says couples in their early 30s are his most common customer, but cautions that age group may grow older since people are marrying later in life.

OESTERLE SAYS she used to see people who had been married 10-15 years; she now sees them around the five-seven-year point. Pollack sees some clients even earlier than that — during the three-five-year interval — but also consults with couples during "times of stress," such as when a woman goes back to work and expectations change, or when children leave home.

Some signs of a marriage on the rocks

By Philip A. Sherman
special writer

Marriage counselors Helen Oesterle and Peter Pollack believe there are clear warning signals that a relationship could be in trouble if problems aren't addressed. They also think healthy relationships give off unmistakable signs. Here are a few of the warning signs and signals that a relationship is healthy, according to both therapists.

It might be time to consult a therapist if:

- Feelings of closeness and caring are starting to wear away.
- Children are becoming more important than your relationship with your spouse.
- You're starting to feel like a victim in the relationship.
- You've been feeling physically ill a lot. That could indicate depression.
- Your spouse suggests counseling.
- You and your spouse are stuck and can't resolve problems.
- Communication has broken down.

There's been a marked change in the relationship.

Healthy relationships are defined by:

- Good communication.
- Spontaneity.
- Affection, not necessarily sexual in nature.
- A sense of "mutuality," the ability, for example, to take pleasure in your spouse's success.
- Enjoying being with one another in the simplest of circumstances.
- Working time for yourselves into the marriage.
- Showing a willingness to work at the marriage, compromise, negotiate and communicate.

It's important to remember you can't change your partner.

— Peter Pollack,
psychotherapist

"You can't base everything on the kids because when they're gone there's nothing left between you," Oesterle says. She has two teenage boys of her own. When asked how they like having a therapist for a mom, Oesterle smiles and says "sometimes they'll say 'don't social work me.'"

What actually goes on during a session depends on why the couple decided to seek counseling (see sidebar). Both counselors believe in holding joint sessions to see how the couple interacts. But sometimes they're seen individually because of damage already done. "I deal with what's going on, how do you feel about what you're learning and then saying these are the issues we need to address," Oesterle says.

"I also encourage them to feel spiritually good about themselves. I encourage them to talk to a minister or priest or rabbi to get in touch with that side of their lives. They also should feel physically good. The sexual relationship must be based on good feelings the couple has for each other," Oesterle adds.

POLLACK TAKES the couple

through a similar period of evaluation to determine and clarify problems, ascertain whether the therapist and therapist are appropriate, and then decide if there's a good patient-therapist match.

"It's important to remember you can't change your partner," Pollack says. "Freud said love is a very narcissistic thing — very self-oriented."

"We typically fall in love with opposites, with the thought that 'I'm half but when I join with this person I'll be whole.' Opposites attracting each other is inevitable because that's how we notice each other. They (opposites) can survive after the sizzle if they gain skills — then the relationship grows," Pollack adds, agreeing that those with similar qualities who marry can be very boring.

Both counselors also think it's much more realistic to go through life being madly in love, as opposed to madly in love, with one's spouse.

"People often want marriage counselors to be decision makers, a trap no marriage counselors should fall into," Pollack says. "Instead, we help them gain the skills necessary to solve problems." The answers, Oesterle and Pollack say, are in learning to communicate, negotiate and disagree without fighting.

"It's like any other problem — the sooner it's addressed, the more potentially good the outcome. Too often people come to us as a last-ditch effort. That's often too late," Pollack says.



Outlying Areas -

a continuing story

by Ray Kosarin



Grumblecord

by Neal Levin

