

street seen

Charlene Mitchell



Street Scene reporter Charlene Mitchell is always looking for the unusual and the unique. She welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Write her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.

Doggone thoughtful



Pink sweatshirts (nightshirts, too) are available with a whimsical imprint of a lovestruck pooch embracing his frotting feline. "Ah . . . my pet." is the humorous caption. Both come in adult sizes only and are priced at \$19 and are available from the Michigan Humane Society in Detroit, Auburn Hills and Westland, at the MHS Sweatshop in Clawson, and at Mark Keller and Twigs in Birmingham. Call 435-4710 for more information. All proceeds benefit the homeless animals at MHS shelters.

STREET SENSE

Where's the sex life after 'I do'?

Dear Barbara,

I just finished Ann Landers' column (I'm kind of a self-help junky) about sex after marriage. Eighty-one percent of those responding said that their sex life had gotten worse. Is there anything I can do about it? Needing some excitement

Dear Needing some excitement,

I read that survey, too, and then saw Ann Landers on the Donahue Show discussing it. I'm with you in finding people and their reactions interesting.

The conclusion that Ann and the Donahue audience came to was that sex worsens after marriage because of poor communication and a lack of affection, both physical and emotional, between partners. In other words, the problem is not sexual, but psychological. I agree that it is true, but the problem is even more complicated.

* What a lot of people call "good sex" before marriage is often pseudo-excitement. The stereotype used to be of the woman wild in bed before marriage, but disinterested afterwards.

Since the feminist revolution, I've had many women tell me that their husbands behaved this way. In these situations, it was the excitement of "bagging your prey" that the partners probably felt, not the sexual intimacy.

ANOTHER variable not mentioned by the Donahue audience and Landers was that marriage for many can mean a loss of freedom. These feelings can trigger resentment and anger, which would fight natural feelings of sexual excitement. Resentment in a marriage can be stimulated in many ways and is almost always a deterrent to exciting sex.

So is there anything you can do?



Barbara Schiff

Yes, you can work on yourself to become an interesting, exciting person and then someone else who is this

way could relate to you. First, if anything I said about feeling resentful applies to you, you must find the reasons and the solution. Being a person who can find solutions will make you more exciting all by itself.

Now you will be free to use your imagination to heighten your sexual responses. There are lots of self-help books on this subject that will tell you how other people have heightened their sexual response.

If you are able to do these things for yourself, then you can find excitement within yourself. If you can't, you may want to find a qualified sex therapist or a personal therapist who can help you. Good Luck.

Sincerely,
Barbara

If you have a question for Barbara, write her at Street Sense, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

Soaring opportunity has few takers

Continued from Page 1

Twenty percent of the market in 1978 was female, she estimated. Since then, the female market has declined by half, "dropping down to about 10 percent today," she said.

Olsen is bothered by the phenomenon. She also can't explain it. "Maybe yuppies are more conservative than we know," she said. "Maybe we're going back to the helpless female image. Flying is physically draining, so women don't find the work appealing. It's tough to generate interest."

TERROR MOTIVATED Ann Esposito of West Bloomfield to begin flying in 1980.

Married to a commercial airline pilot, Esposito was "terrified of flying" and thought flying lessons might help dispel the fear, she said. Instead, they offered "freedom of spirit," she likened to "an addiction I lived and breathed."

"One license became another license. One rating became another rating."

Esposito spent an estimated \$30,000 in six years, earning an airline transport pilot rating and logging 3,000 hours of flight time. Although she "never dreamed of a career in aviation," she is now employed as a corporate pilot.

SYDNEY HALE of Farmington Hills set her sights on a flight career as a child, when she was turned on to flying by her father who was "an airport bum," she said.

By the time Hale graduated from high school in 1970, she had already earned a private license at a cost of \$800. The same license today costs approximately \$3,000.

In 1978, Hale was hired as a first officer with North Central Airlines (later Republic and now Northwest). By then, she had logged slightly more than 2,000 hours, including substantial time in jets. She now flies right seat in a DC-9.

HALE IS among the vanguard of female pilots hired by commercial airlines in the mid and late 1970s, a small trickle of women whose numbers have yet to increase measurably.

"Carriers would love to hire more women; they're just not out there to hire," said Molly Smith of the Atlanta-based Future Aviation Professionals of America.

The organization tracks the number of female pilots hired annually by major U.S. carriers.

Of the 6,683 pilots hired by the 12 major carriers last year, a mere 247, or 3.7 percent, were women, according to FAA figures. In 1985, the first year such figures were maintained, 235, or 3.9 percent, of the 7,840 who were hired were women. In 1986, the figure dipped to 184, or 2.9 percent. It increased to 3.3 percent in 1987.

WOMEN ASPIRING to aviation need "role models and encouragement," said Dorothy Vallee, a DC-9 first officer with Northwest Airlines. Vallee is one of 21 female commercial pilots who founded the International Society of Women Airline Pilots in 1978.

The organization now has 250 members who, among other things, comb newspapers, magazines and other sources for names of females entering aviation.

Once identified, "we call her up and encourage her," Vallee said. "It's tough finding girls going all out (for such careers)," she said.

COMMITMENT IS one reason why.

"It takes a lot of money and it takes a lot of time to become a pilot," Vallee said.

Once hired by a commercial carrier, female pilots also face chal-

lenges special to them because employment is designed for men. Vallee, hired in 1978 by Republic Airlines, took maternity leave two

times of up to one year each. Republic has since been bought by Northwest.

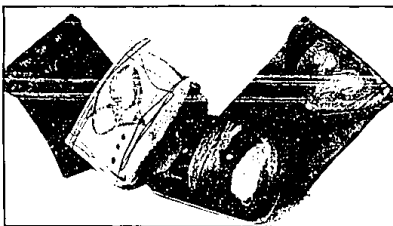
"Thank God I don't need maternal

leave now," Vallee said. "You get six weeks. Period. Anyone knows that isn't long enough for bonding with a new baby," she said.



Artful pillow talk

Machine quilting becomes art when Lori Bolt creates her colorful and decorative heart pillows. A contemporary twist on a traditional craft that has to be seen — and touched — to be believed. The pillows retail at \$40-\$50. Ariana Gallery, 388 Maple Road, Birmingham.

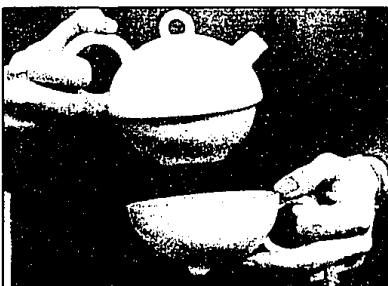
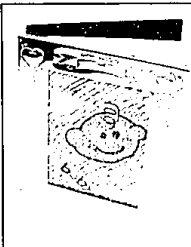


Art for the heart

Functional art is always a joy and Victoria Rubenstein's handpainted purses and cosmetic bags are no exception. No two pieces are ever the same and all trim on the purses is genuine leather. Prices range from \$20-\$35. Ariana Gallery, 388 E. Maple Road, Birmingham.

Picture perfect

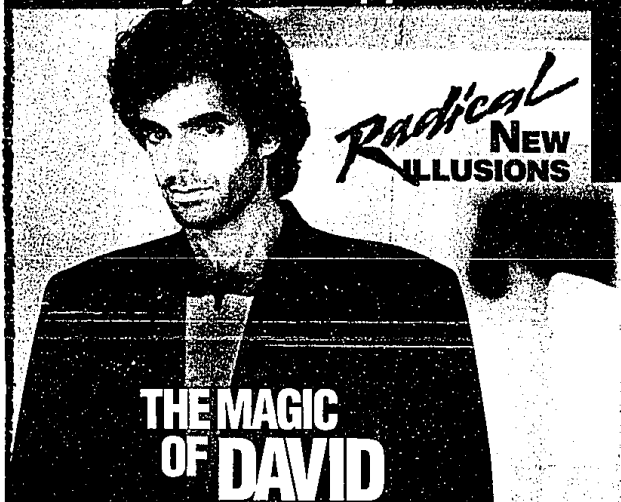
This item is a perfect keepsake for all your baby's precious photos from birth on up through the growing years. The cover is an actual picture frame with specific areas ready to be engraved with all the vital statistics. Comes in bronze or sterling. Wedding album also available. \$35. Marmell Gifts, Farmington Hills.



Tea for one

Who says you can't do something special for yourself? Hutchenreuther's "Tea for One" two-piece porcelain novelty set contains a teapot, cup and saucer in the shiniest white. \$45. Jacobson stores.

Get your tickets before they all disappear!



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