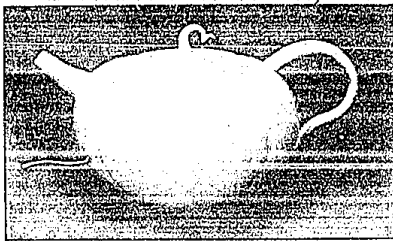


## street seen Charlene Mitchell



Street Scene reporter Charlene Mitchell is always looking for the unusual. She welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Write her, in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia #150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.



## Spouting off

Even Cinderella would take time from her midnight run for tea from one of the original pumpkin series teapots by Farmington Hills artist Elizabeth Lurie. This offering plus other original works will be on display at Somerset's Invitational Art Fair April 20-22. Her work is also available at the Detroit Artist's Market, Pewabic Pottery and the Swidler Gallery, Royal Oak.

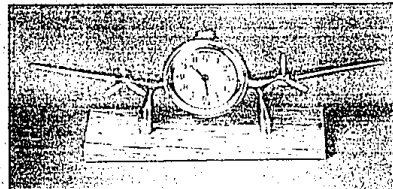
## Head freezer

One of the most important lessons in golf is keeping your eye on the ball and a new Michigan-made product called a Headfreezer helps you do that. It uses the principals of binocular vision to create an optical illusion to help the beginning golfer learn the lesson of holding the head motionless. More information on the Headfreezer is available by writing to P.O. Box 209, Jackson 49204.



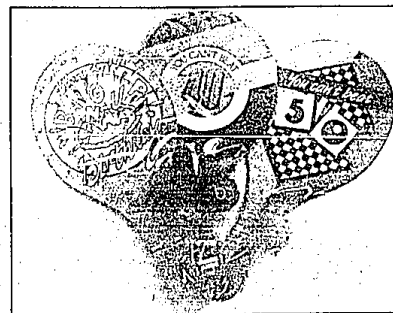
## Eggactly artsy

This clever combination shows that candlesticks can be used in a number of ways to provide an artsy look around the home. The different styles of these silver and brass candlesticks get away from the traditional matching pair and each is topped with a jumbo egg, one in brass and the other in verdigris. Candlesticks, \$18.50 and \$22.50; eggs, \$2.50 each. Jeff Fontana Designs, Royal Oak.



## Winging it

Time sure flies and what better reminder of that basic fact of life than this handsome solid brass clock in the shape of a twin-engine plane. The "landing strip" is a marble base. \$143. The Time Shop, Sugar Tree Mall, West Bloomfield.



## Remember when?

Fun is... an old-fashioned wooden paddle with a rubber ball attached with a piece of elastic. Painted with greetings for birthdays and other occasions, these items can take the place of a traditional greeting card when the occasion deserves a chuckle. The "bang-up" birthday messages include "Can't Beat 40," or "Can't Beat 50." The opposite side has a label with 'to and from which you fill in. \$3.50. Esqpadec/On the Boardwalk, West Bloomfield.

## STREET SENSE

# Shower your sister, but ask first

Dear Barbara,

My sister is engaged to be married soon. She and her fiancé are planning on a very small wedding and a reception consisting of only the immediate families at a nice restaurant. They must do this because of limited funds.

My question is: I'd still like to have a shower for her, but I'm just not sure if it would be proper to invite family and friends to a shower who won't be invited to the wedding. Can you help?

Michelle in Canton

Dear Michelle

The experts agree that there is no rule that only people who are invited to the wedding may be invited to a shower or the other way around. However, a question you did not ask, who can appropriately give a shower, is controversial.

According to some cultural traditions, it is not considered good etiquette for immediate family members — mothers, sisters, grandmothers — to host showers. There are two exceptions to this rule.

The first is when the bride is from out of town and has few acquaintances in her fiancé's home town. In this instance, it is appropriate for someone in the groom's immediate family to give a shower.

The second exception is when a sister who is a member of the bridal party, joins with the other bridesmaids in hosting a shower. Immediate family members can also lend their home or financial support as long as they are not the hostesses.

There are other cultures, mainly Central European, whose traditions allow even elaborate gift giving parties by the immediate family. I don't know which cultural traditions your

family observes.

There is another way to approach this subject. Your sister and fiancé have planned the wedding and reception they are most comfortable with. Have you asked them what kind of pre-wedding festivities would please them most? Even though you would love to give a shower, perhaps they would be happier with a nice dinner and an extravagant present that you couldn't afford if you gave a shower. This may please your sister and avoid controversy.

Let me know what you decide. I wish you all a festive and happy wedding season.

Barbara

If you have a question for Barbara Schiff, a trained counselor and experience therapist, send it to Street Sense, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



Barbara Schiff

## Boats give 'taste' of Europe

Continued from Page 1

I have never done the whole river, which takes at least four days in one direction, but even a two-day stretch gave me a wonderful taste of Europe. Sitting on a deck chair, looking up at ancient castles perched on hills on either side of the Rhine. Walking through the half-timbered houses of a 1,000-year-old village. Touring a vineyard on the Moselle River, which leads off the Rhine at Koblenz.

There are several cruise lines on the Rhine, but KD German Rhine Line has the most complete schedule. You can start in Basel, Switzerland, and end up passing ocean-going cruise ships in the North Sea near the Netherlands.

You can spend three days on the Moselle or cruise part of the Rhine on your way to other pleasures. You can also sign up for a special cruise; they include the waterways of Holland, a floating wine seminar, Christmas and New Year's cruises.

I LOVE the leisure of any kind of water travel, but my favorite is aboard a luxury hotel barge on one of Europe's canals. I've done it on the Thames between Windsor and Oxford in England, and on the Canal du Midi in southern France.

Someday I hope to do them all — the wine villages of Burgundy; the tulip fields of Holland; the pubs along the Shannon River in Ireland. It is important to know what "pleasures" you before you join six to 12 people for a week aboard a

small boat. The gourmet food and fine wines will certainly make a family of you in a hurry, but this is not for people who need privacy or those who like to travel in a hurry. The passengers may be older than you are.

It can take a week to go 50 miles. Your "itinerary" is riding bikes along the town paths, pushing through kissing gates to ancient river towns, eating fresh croissants or drinking beer with the locals, or maybe just sitting on deck watching the world go slowly by. I love it. Floating Through Europe offers a wide variety of these luxury hotel barge cruises.

### Campbell's Soups

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Cast of skaters may change due to injury or other unforeseen circumstances