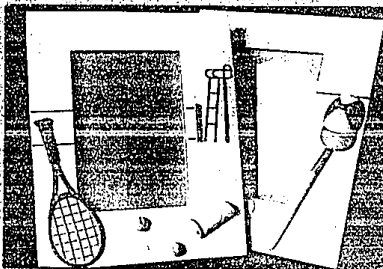


street seen

Charlene Mitchell



Street Seen 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 48150, or call 561-0300, Ext. 313.



Framed for life

These 3-by-5 frames sport a baseball, tennis or football design. What better way to show off the timely accomplishments of your special Little Leaguer — or even your own. \$14.95. Warren Drug Store, Farmington Hills.

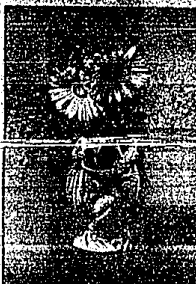
Face It! It's novel!

What a funny new way to display your fables. Come up that ubiquitous cardboard box with a zany ceramic head that actually has a face, with a nose and opened mouth from which the fables are pulled. Un-mmm-hmm, but cute in its own way. Escapades on the Boardwalk, West Bloomfield.



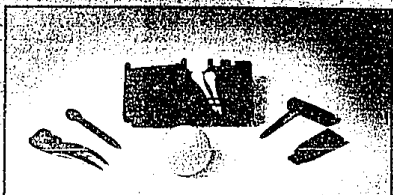
A jump ahead

Say it is — what a wonderful way to hold your spring flowers. The ceramic vase is just about 12 inches tall. Looks great by itself or in a pair. Glazed ceramic is in green, of course. \$122.50 for the pair. Jeff Fontana Designs, 4335 N. Woodward, Royal Oak.



A message here

Now you can keep up with the time for your aerobic workout while letting the world know you're into fitness. A watch with the logo of an "in-shape" couple adorns the face. The grey watch with a white combination is "fit" for just about everything in your workout wardrobe. \$30. The Workout Co., 2822 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Plaza, Birmingham.



Dad's Day alert

OK — Mom has the day at the end of May, it's soon be Dad's. And lots of Dad's are spending it in the sun with golf bags in tow. So make sure you have your favorite putter in the car. Show Dad's how to play for the green. 225. 5614 Philk Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, Troy.

STREET SENSE

Don't be afraid of another failure; Second marriages are successful

Dear Barbara,

I am currently divorced after a long and unhappy marriage. Despite this negative experience, I still believe that a good marriage is the best of all worlds and definitely do not want to spend the rest of my life alone. However, I am really reluctant to even think about even trying again as I would hate to fail and experience a second divorce.

Statistics prove that the failure rate for second marriages is extremely high. What advice (or formula) can you provide for a successful second marriage?

D.J.

Dear D.J.,

My research at the local library has turned up different statistics than yours.

In my research, first marriages have a 50 percent chance of ending in divorce and second marriages have a 20 percent chance of ending in divorce. These statistics fit my own personal observations and sense of logic.

In other words, some people do learn from their mistakes. If you sincerely believe that a good marriage is the best of all possible worlds, then try for it. It is better to have had a divorce and learned than never to have been married at all.

You can put new insights into a second marriage or even a third. Second marriages are usually made by older, smarter and more sophisticated partners. These partners should, as a result of greater self-knowledge and confidence, be able to write better contracts for themselves.

More often in a second marriage, really testing is more adequate and so the contracts can be explicit rather than implicit. The naive should now be tempered by understanding that most people do not change after marriage.

The person entering a second marriage should be more realistic about the importance of being loved. First marriages often fail because the need for love is not being gratified. Love is defined in this context as the ability to put someone else's needs before your own. Had that need been gratified, there would not have been a divorce.

What there will be less of is the feeling of infatuation that comes with coupling for the first time. The initial excitement that comes with independence from one's parents is also not present.

If you are reluctant to try again because you have not gained in self-knowledge, then you should postpone further marriage until you have accomplished greater growth. But if



Barbara Schiff

you have grown in maturity and understanding through the years, then your fears are not well founded. Go for it!

Barbara

Dear Barbara,

1. What is the customary percentage to tip your hairdresser? With the high cost of services these days, 15 percent seems rather high. Am I wrong?

2. Is one supposed to tip a masseur/masseuse?

J.F.

Dear J.F.,

It continues to be customary to tip one's hairdresser 15 percent as long as he/she is not the store owner. The reasoning is that their expenses have escalated just as ours have and so the percentage of our income that they are getting hasn't changed. If you feel that the charges in your beauty shop have gone up unreasonably, you could probably take a point or two or three off. But remember, the charges probably have more to do with the salon proprietor than your own hairdresser.

As regards your masseur, the answer depends, at least partially, on where the service is performed. In a salon, the same rules hold as for a hairdresser. However, if the massage is at your house, there is no customary rule to follow. The reasoning is that at your home, the masseur is running his own business. As such, he does not have to split his fee and, therefore, it does not require supplementation. It is always generous and acceptable to tip if you so desire.

Barbara

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

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