

Easter Was Bright And Cold



FURRY COATS went with new finery on a chilly Easter morning. Preparing to attend services in Ward United Presbyterian Church of Livonia, Mrs. Roy Smith of Livonia helped daughter Laura with a stubborn hairbow while Mrs. Smith, Mark and Kathy wait.



MRS. BETTY KESSELING of Plymouth took daughter Heather and son Todd to the first Easter services in the new First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.



FARMINGTON RESIDENTS Mr. and Mrs. James Herbert and their son Jimmy attended Easter mass in St. Clare Catholic Church in Farmington. (Observer photos by Bob Woodring.)

Spotlight on Women

What Do We Owe Children?

By BETTY MASSON
How much do we really owe our children.
"Practically nothing," says Rabbi Mordecai S. Halpern, "... as far as material things are concerned."
"It is absolutely appalling to watch how kids in our community are pampered, spoiled and deluged with gifts, clothes, cars, money and things. No wonder some of them are living in communes and in the hills."
RABBI HALPERN, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom of Oak Park, made his observations recently for the Town Hall series of Birmingham Temple in Farmington.
They grew, he said, out of three years' research on "what has been happening to you as adults -- and to our children as the forthcoming generation."
What do we owe our children?
Two things, according to the Rabbi.
"First, to teach him or her to be a 'mensch' (a fine human being). How? Through example.
"Second, to give them a first-rate education, general and Jewish, combining the best elements and teachers of Western culture, with the finest possibilities of Jewish learning."
Rabbi Halpern implied that a third thing parents owe their children is time. He told of

meeting one 12-year-old in his religious school who seemed to be wasting a great potential.
"He looked up at me and through tears said, 'My father doesn't care what I do and my mother is never home,'" said the Rabbi.
RABBI HALPERN told his audience to "ease up a bit."
"Life is short enough. I know. I'm in the ICU (intensive care unit of hospitals) every week visiting our members in their 40s.
"After you've given your best, you owe your children nothing more -- they owe you. They owe you a modicum of respect, affection and friendship, and they've got to earn their own way and deserve, just like you did."
There are four things parents do not owe their children according to Rabbi Halpern -- money, beyond their education, over protection from the raw elements of life and death, the license to do as they please and continuous attachment.
"And," he said, "we owe ourselves as parents, more than we owe them, the ability to let go."
He added, "I have one simple statement to make to parents. When older teenage children cause great pain -- on heavy drugs -- or miserable disrespect -- or refusal to bear their responsibility in the household -- to use the vernacular -- tell them to shape up or get out!"

"At some point, for each parent to determine, a child should learn that the parent is Number One, not the child. That the parent has rights, just as does the child, and when that line is crossed, it is going to be the child who changes most, not the parent!"
RABBI HALPERN said that he was brought up as an environmentalist, "but I am becoming more and more of a hereditary person."
He advised his listeners to

think of raising children in terms of baseball. Two out of three is not a bad average and four out of four would be phenomenal.
"By what right ofchutzpah (nerv) do you think you will develop two out of two or three out of three or four out of four superb children?"
He discussed at length all the changes which have affected the modern family, bringing with them changing attitudes toward discipline. In a sign he saw, the advice was

"spank," in 1910; "deprive," in 1920; "ignore," in 1930; "reason," in 1940; "love," in 1950; "spank lovingly," in 1960; and "to hell with them," in 1970.
"AT THIS particular time, we have less control over the direction of our children's lives than ever before. In the early years we should give love and understanding, and then just pray. Our kids are going to live their own lives and we should live our own lives."

African Princess, 3 Men Livonia Town Hall Stars

An African princess will share the spotlight with humorist Sam Levenson, journalist Charles Bartlett and oceanographer Jon Lindbergh in the Livonia Town Hall's 1972-73 lecture series.
Princess Elizabeth Bagaya of Toro also is a lawyer, model and actress -- and United Nations ambassador -- at large from Uganda.
She will open the Town Hall series Wednesday, Oct. 18.
Levenson, the former teacher famed for his homespun wit, will be the headliner Nov. 15.
Pulitzer prize winner Bartlett is scheduled on Jan. 17, and Lindbergh winds up the series March 21.

resignation of Harold Talbot, secretary of the Air Force in the Eisenhower administration. He now writes a four-times-a-week column, "News Focus" for the Washington Bureau of the Chicago Sun-Times.
Lindbergh is senior staff advisor to the president of Ocean Systems, Inc., chairman of the Oceanographic Commission of Washington, director of Environmental Sciences Corp., vice president of Marine Technology Society and a presidential designate to the Peace Corps National Advisory Council.
A man who has spent his life on, in and under the sea, he was a special field adviser in the search for the lost H-bomb off the coast of Spain a few years ago.
His press releases don't say so, but he's the son of American hero Charles Lindbergh and equally famous writer -- mother, Ann Morrow Lindbergh.

Barlett is a Washington correspondent who's a long-time friend of the Kennedy family. He earned his coveted journalistic prize in 1956 for exposing the conflict of interest that led to the

m. m. memos

Those bright-colored patches in the early spring skies always make me feel a bit envious. I can't help wondering how that little kid at the other end of the kite string ever in the world managed to get that thing up in the air.
Because it's one of the dark secrets of my life that I never ever was able to fly a kite. It's a good thing old Ben Franklin wasn't as inept as I, or we never would have found out about electricity.
I remember making kites with my father -- no kits then but carefully pasted-together strips of wood and tissue paper and rags for a tail.
I also remember going to the school playground and running like crazy with those kites a few inches above my head. I don't once remember the feeling of a string tugging from a flying kite.
As the girls reached kite-flying age, I made excuses. Knowledgeable-sounding ones like you can't fly a kite from the top of a hill and practical ones like there are too many trees and mother-type ones like it's too muddy in the park.
We did one summer visit an Atlantic beach where there was a stiff breeze and kite-flying seemed to be in. In those ideal conditions, our youngest managed to get one up in the air -- with her father's help, of course. Certainly not mine.
But one of the girls has noticed a new product on the market that should help other inadequate types like me. It's an inflatable plastic kite. Not very challenging, I know, but maybe with one of those things even I could practice this rite of spring.

—Margaret Miller

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, all lectures will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Terrace Theater, 30400 Plymouth, Livonia.

Celebrity luncheons in the Mayflower Meeting House, Plymouth, will follow each talk.

Regular season tickets cost \$10 and may be ordered from Mrs. Guido Krumpoch, 14818 Ingram, Livonia, 48154. The Livonia Town Hall, which supports the American Field Service program in the community, also has sponsor memberships for \$15 and patron memberships for \$30.

Tickets for the lectures may be purchased only by the season. None are available for individual lectures. Luncheon reservations are made for each program by calling the telephone number that is printed on the reverse side of the season ticket.

IN ANNOUNCING its 1972-73 series, the Livonia Town Hall also introduced recently its officers for the coming year. DeDe Dittmar is taking over as president, Verna Lee Stewart is vice president, Carole Bolin secretary and Marlene Krut is treasurer.
Princess Elizabeth is the daughter of the King of Toro, one of four kingdoms now incorporated into the state of Uganda. The dynasty, she has said, dates back to Egypt and Ethiopia. She left after 1967 revolution with the aid of Princess Margaret and Lord Snowden of England and



SAM LEVENSON



PRINCESS BAGAYA



CHARLES BARTLETT



JON LINDBERGH

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