

Mom Found Sex Education Teachings Valuable

EDITOR:
As a parent of a second grader at Johnson School, I feel compelled to write and relate my experiences with the Human Growth and Development program my son took last year in the first grade.

I was among the first group of parents asked to review the program and give approval for it to be put before the Board of Education. After they approved the program, as a room mother I was asked to call parents to stress the importance of them coming to the orientation as the other room mothers did.

At the orientation we were shown again the two movies, "Parent to Child" about sex, (this movie for parents only) and "Human and Animal Beginnings." The teachers then outlined the entire unit. We were allowed question and answer time and our signed permission was requested for our child.

This year we conducted a telephone survey of all the parents in our area whose children had the course.

I was asked along with four or five other mothers to help with this, so I spoke directly to parents who know what they are talking about when they discuss the human growth program. Out of the 15 people I talked to only two were not in favor. Many thought it should be continued all through school.

From experience I know we have needed this program for a long time. Why? Because when a child is young he has not yet heard the piggy-in-the-corner version of sex which they will hear from other children from second or third grade on. He learns the true facts in the quiet impersonal atmosphere of the classroom. He then tells to you and tells or questions what he was taught the same as he does with math or reading. You answer as matter of factly as you would any other subject and long term communication is established.

Also, just as some things we don't use day to day, but we learned in school, are discarded so is this subject put away in the child's mind. The only time it is recalled is when something is heard from someone. And then as my child has done, twice in the year since he took part in this program, he has come to me to ask if what he heard was right, and I became pregnant and answered questions he asked to the best of my ability and what I thought he could absorb.

Well, when he got a little older he found out that someone besides God planted the seed that starts the baby growing. When I tried to bridge the gap when he was about 15, he got very embarrassed and told me he "knew all about that."

He got it from his friends and couldn't or wouldn't come to me with what he'd heard. We had lost communication, so the whole family benefited from the unit taught at Johnson, even my four-year-old girl.

Most of the questions came up at the supper table and my other children saw I was not ashamed or embarrassed when I answered.

I have heard also about the immorality of the program. My son learned in school that his organs were private and personal, and just as he didn't invite friends in when he had a bowel movement, neither did

he show or discuss his body with his friends.

He was also taught that we are different from animals in the way we live and care for each other. We live as a family for a long time and how he grew from a seed, to a baby, to a boy. This knowledge according to some people is the cause who are pregnant now and in years past are the ones who had no formal sex education, just what they could glean from friends, books, TV, etc.

I was at the meeting June 23 at Stevenson, and the garbage that Motorede, headed by the John Birch Society passed out to parents is not what our children were taught. We were allowed in the classroom at any time without notice. I sincerely hope you parents will get the true facts before you condemn this unit.

LINDA STUBBS
LIVONIA

Explain Refusal Of Military Rites

EDITOR:
We would like to clarify our position as to not accepting a military funeral for our son, Robert Fraser Alloway, who was a Heat Stroke Casualty at the R.O.T.C. Training Camp at Fort Benning, Georgia on June 29, 1968.

An article appeared on the front page of your paper on Wednesday, July 2, stating that the family had refused a military burial for their son. We would not like to have anyone think that we are, or were, against our son training for service. He entered the training program because he wanted to serve his country. Our decision was based on wanting to keep the arrangements as simple as possible, due to the sudden death and the great emotional strain we were all enduring.

We deeply appreciate all that the military, both at Ft. Benning and the R.O.T.C. Office from Northern Michigan University did to help us in this most trying time. They gave us every consideration at the hospital in Georgia, and also sent officers to Farmington to be with us during the week of the service. Mr. and Mrs. John Alloway Farmington, Michigan

Vets Deserve Tax Exemption

EDITOR:
I would greatly appreciate your printing this letter in the Observer, if it is at all possible.

Four years ago, I purchased my home and have qualified as a disabled veteran under the Homestead Act for tax relief. Just two short years ago, the people of Michigan were asked to vote for a new state constitution.

Hidden among the many amendments or articles, was one that was soon to become a many armed and legged monster. I do not profess to know the constitutionality of this amendment, nor am I qualified to question it, but the manner in which this law can and does increase taxes and the inequality of taxation is one of the greatest wrongs ever to be put upon so many people with one master stroke.

1. Livonia, I believe, will in 1969 be the first city in the United States to remove every disabled veteran who previously qualified under the Homestead Act for property tax exemption, from the rolls.

2. This year another great number of senior citizens will lose the benefits so graciously voted by the state.

3. While some cities like Livonia, raised the assessment to come more in line with state requirements, others did for some areas, while others not, resulting in lower taxes are excessive. State equalization, a law that is not enforced in every city, town or community is not a law at all.

I am a disabled veteran who purchased a home in Livonia and have qualified for benefits under the Homestead Act.

My home was reassessed, and then the past two years because of state equalization, I, like all other disabled veterans in Livonia have lost my benefits. My home, basic model cost \$14,900 in April 1964, and now, my assessed valuation is almost equal to this price.

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

I believe the present state equalization law should have a firm factor for all in Michigan, or a limitation as to the amount of taxation it can impose without representation.

FRANK S. DORIC
LIVONIA

Will Taxes Be Cut In Half Too?

EDITOR:
We feel potential half-days

for certain grades is discrimination at its worst.

My neighbor has five children in the Livonia schools -- all will be in classes attending full days.

We have one child in the public school in Livonia who will be in one of the threatened half-day classes.

Taxes are paid the same for all level students -- or will our taxes be cut in half too?

ANGRY TAXPAYER
LIVONIA

Now...watch 5% grow to 6% with a Timesavings Passbook Account

Get the same maximum earnings of a Savings Certificate with the convenience of a Passbook record.

1. **5% Annual Interest** . . . is compounded daily to give an effective annual rate of 6% for money on deposit 86 months.
2. **\$500 Initial Deposit** . . . is all you need. Make additional deposits of \$50 or more at anytime.
3. **Withdrawals Can Be Made** . . . quarterly on amounts on deposit for 90 days or more.

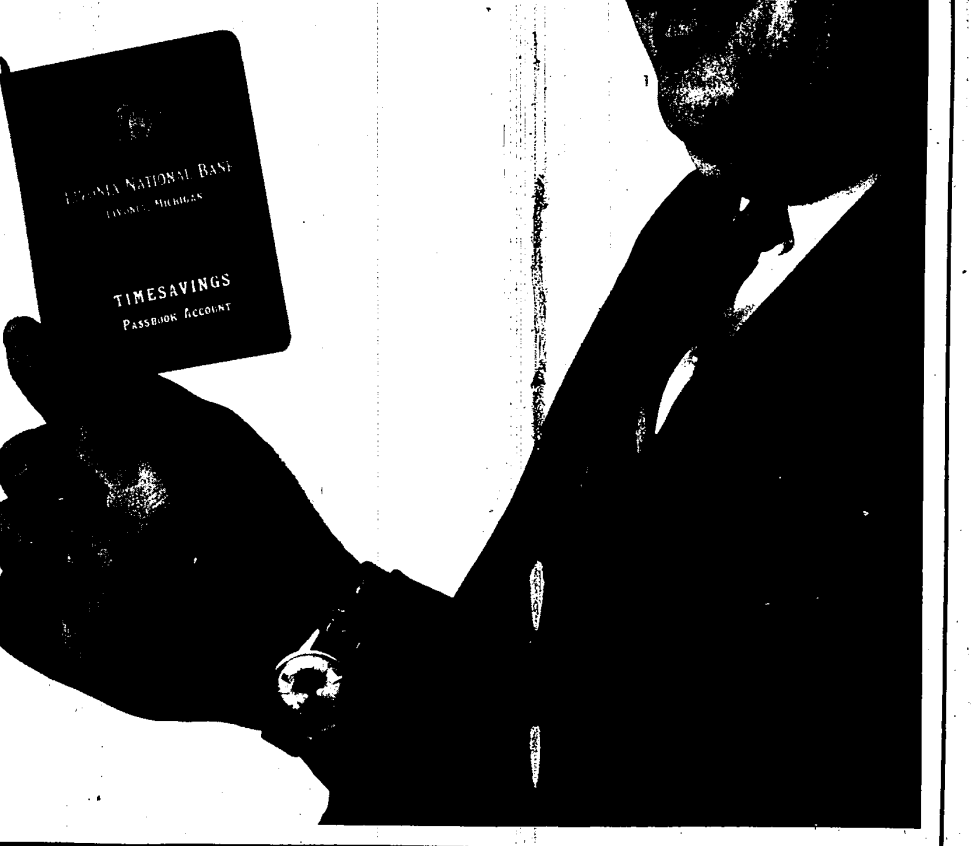
Watch what happens to \$5,000 held for . . .			
12 months	36 months	60 months	86 months
\$5,256.30	\$5,804.03	\$6,419.88	\$7,154.33

Visit us now and start a Timesavings Passbook Account that earns you the maximum interest allowed by banking law.

Open Mon. thru Sat. 'til 4:30 P.M. . . 'til 6:00 P.M. Fri.

LIVONIA NATIONAL BANK

6 Offices to Serve You / Phone 421-8282 / Member F.D.I.C.



WEEKLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Presidential Parade

HORIZONTAL

- 1 Civil War President
- 8 Sixth U.S. President
- 13 Intestines
- 14 Guilted again
- 15 Foot race
- 16 Spanish river
- 17 Finish
- 18 Rapist
- 20 Claire Booth
- 21 Solves (Scot.)
- 22 Thailand
- 23 Southwestern river
- 24 Walk heavily
- 25 Destructive
- 26 Offer
- 27 Elude
- 28 Fifth U.S. President
- 29 Placed
- 30 Property
- 31 Throw back
- 32 Accomplished
- 33 Rim
- 34 Workless (Brit.)
- 35 Russian czar
- 36 Half
- 37 Uncooked
- 38 Fathers
- 39 Competition
- 40 City in Michigan
- 41 Repeat
- 42 German river
- 43 Test-

VERTICAL

- 1 Newer
- 2 Laundry machine
- 3 Sewing implement

Answers:

1. Abraham Lincoln
8. James Madison
13. Intestines
14. Guilted again
15. Foot race
16. Spanish river
17. Finish
18. Rapist
20. Claire Booth
21. Solves (Scot.)
22. Thailand
23. Southwestern river
24. Walk heavily
25. Destructive
26. Offer
27. Elude
28. Fifth U.S. President
29. Placed
30. Property
31. Throw back
32. Accomplished
33. Rim
34. Workless (Brit.)
35. Russian czar
36. Half
37. Uncooked
38. Fathers
39. Competition
40. City in Michigan
41. Repeat
42. German river
43. Test-