

PARENT'S CORNER



MARILYN SUTTLE

Reasons why kids twist truth

Nothing can infuriate a parent like a bold-faced lie. You say, "Don't throw that ball in the house," and 10 seconds later there's a crash and a smashed picture frame on the floor. Your little one says, "I didn't do it."

It's a good thing kids are so cute, but that cuteness fades quickly when kids continue to fib. Why do kids lie? Some reasons are obvious. Some are surprising. There are things parents can do to limit the lying and encourage honesty.

Why do Kids Lie?
Young children tell lies to express their rich imagination or to fulfill their desires. Kids may tell their teachers about elaborate vacations they didn't really take or new pets they don't really have. It's a form of wishful thinking. When your sticky-faced kid says that the neighbor must have broken into the house and eaten all the marshmallows, it's a fantasy that the child hopes will make everything all right.

Kids lie when they aren't allowed to tell the truth. Mark's mother asked, "Do you like sharing your room with the baby?" Mark answered, "No. I hate it. Take that baby out of my room." Mom screamed at Mark and punished him for being selfish. Mark learned that telling the truth about his feelings isn't what mom wants. He concludes that what mom really wants him to do is lie. He'll say, "I love sharing my room," while his resentment builds.

To encourage honesty, be willing to hear your child's negative feelings. If mom acknowledged Mark's difficulty, "It's not easy sharing a room when you're used to having it all to yourself," he would find it easier to be honest about his feelings and cope with his situation.

Some lies are told with good intentions. To spare someone's feelings: "Your new haircut looks nice." Or to protect others from harm: "I haven't see that kid you want to beat up, Bob."

Kids sometimes lie to improve their self image. They may lie about a test score to avoid embarrassment. They might boast about their abilities to

■ Fear is a big motivator for lying. They lie for fear of getting into trouble. They don't understand that lying is likely to get them in more trouble than whatever it is they are covering up.

impress others.
Fear is a big motivator for lying. They lie for fear of getting into trouble. They don't understand that lying is likely to get them in more trouble than whatever it is they are covering up.

You don't want your kids to develop the habit of lying to you. While responding to a lying child, be careful not to reinforce the behavior you're trying to eliminate. Here are a few things to watch out for:

■ Don't over react to lies. It creates more lying. All that ranting and raving puts your child in the spotlight. Kids crave attention. If they don't get it by being good, they gladly accept it for bad behavior. The bigger the rise your kids get from you, the more they see lying as a useful tool to gain your attention.

■ Don't label your child a liar. It reinforces the behavior. It's destructive to say, "Are you lying again? You better not be lying to me. I can never trust you to tell the truth." Such comments leave kids feeling hopeless. If their parents see them as liars, they must be. It becomes easier to live down to your low expectations.

■ Don't ask kids questions that you already know the answer to. If you see your child feeding green beans to the dog, don't ask, "Were you feeding the dog your vegetables?" If she lies, your anger grows and nothing is solved. Be direct. State the facts and

Please see SUTTLE, C5



Journey through the past

BY RUTH MOEHLMAN
SPECIAL WRITER

The stable-garage-chauffeur's quarters in Heritage Park have been restored and the historic building has been adapted to 21st Century use.

"It should last another hundred years," said George Morrow, Farmington Hills Assistant Director of Public Services.

Morrow recently showed the historic Spicer Stable to the Farmington Hills Historic District Commission.

The stable and a barn in the service area of the popular park are on the Michigan Register of Historic Places. They represent life in the early 20th Century when Farmington was rural and country estates were constructed up and down Farmington Road.

The road was dirt, and people could ride or walk for miles.

The stable is a unique building built in 1916 for Luman Goodenough, a wealthy Detroit attorney. The building was designed by Marcus Burrows, who was an outstanding architect.

He designed numerous buildings throughout Michigan, including manor houses in Farmington and Grosse Pointe, the municipal offices in Birmingham, the Greek Theatre and Brookside School in Cranbrook. A friend of Goodenough, Burrows designed additions to the 1869 country home his friend owned, The Langacre House had been originally purchased as a summer home.

The service building was built to serve the needs of the estate. After World War I, the new auto age made it possible to live in the country and work in the city. The Goodenough family were early examples of this kind of life style. This building is a reminder of that new type of living.

The multi-purpose building had three parts. It was both utilitarian and attractive. A garage was on the south side where the chauffeur-driven autos were kept. The chauffeur and his wife, who doubled as a cook, lived over the garage in a little apartment.

Next to the garage was a storage area and to the north were the stalls for the horses and the are to store feed.

The stable-garage building was designed with dormers to match the ones used on the estate house Burrows designed. The Langacre house was transformed from a farmhouse to a country estate with multiple additions.

The chauffeur could bring the car up the gravel drive to the front door to take Mr. Goodenough to his office in downtown Detroit. After World War I almost all important commerce and courts were centered in Michigan's largest city.

Now the garage of this historic building is still used

to house park vehicles. The chauffeur's quarters will be used for storage. The stables will hold special exhibits. The center of the building has been converted to a center for crafts and for the use of artists.

Morrow said that during the restoration, all usable parts of the original building were used.

David Boyer, Director of Special Services, said that when he came to Farmington Hills, the building was in danger of collapse. He made sure the project to restore the stable-garage was ahead of schedule in order to save the building that had been neglected.

Jerry Ellis, Farmington Hills Councilman was determined the building would be useful for recreation.

This criteria was met. Boyer said there will be classes there. Special events and exhibits will all take place in the restored stable-garage. Leon Kohl was the architect for the impressive restoration.

Also to be used in special events is the 1880 Spicer barn, with its concrete site and original hand-hewn beams. The barn is also listed on the Michigan register of historic places.

The barn was moved from a farm on Eight Mile Road

in the 1930's by the Spicer family. William Spicer married Luman and Elizabeth Goodenough's daughter Eleanore. The young couple was given a house next to her parent's estate as a wedding gift.

Eleanore Spicer loved country living. She raised sheep, dairy herds and her family's estate eventually became hers.

The 212 acre Heritage Park was Mrs. Spicer's land. The barn's are a reminder of a time in history when Farmington Hills was rural, with country estates and "gentleman" farmers in a farming community.

Farmington Township was a fruit farming and dairy center from post-Civil war until the 1960's.

After the Spicer farm became a park, much of the land reverted its natural state. Wild flowers grow where sheep and cattle used to graze. Where Eleanore Spicer rode her horses there are walking trails. Summer camps are held in the sheep barn and meetings take place in the Spicer home.

All of Farmington can enjoy the beautiful land where a farm used to be. The barns and stable building are a reminder of that important time in our history.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRIDGES

Restored: The long white barn is ready for use.

Locals mark Holocaust 'Days of Remembrance'

BY JONI HUBRED
STAFF WRITER

hubredj@homecomm.net

Acknowledging the atrocities committed by Nazis during World War II, Farmington Hills City Council members Monday passed a resolution commemorating "Days of Remembrance" April 7-14.

Read by councilman Jerry Ellis, the resolution read in part:

"We the people of the City of Farmington Hills should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny, and should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society."

More than 6 million Jews died at the hands of the Nazi regime during the Holocaust. The Hills resolution also acknowledged others who died, including Poles, the handicapped, homosexuals, Gypsies, Soviet dissidents and prisoners of war.

Members of Adat Shalom temple in Farmington Hills observed the Jewish calendar's Day of Remem-

■ 'It was declared in the State of Israel that a certain day on the calendar would be set aside to remember victims of the Holocaust. There were also other good people who died at the hands of the Nazis, but more Jews than anyone else.'

Rabbi Yaskowicz
Adat Shalom temple, Farmington Hills

brance, from sundown Monday through Tuesday. According to Rabbi Yaskowicz, the day varies on the secular calendar but is always the same in Israel.

"It was declared in the State of Israel that a certain day on the calendar would be set aside to remember victims of the Holocaust," he explained. "There were also other good people who died at the hands of the Nazis, but more Jews than anyone else."

A memorial service was held at Adat Shalom Mon-

day night, during which Holocaust survivors lit six candles, representing the 6 million lives lost. The Rabbi said a teenager also lit a candle, "to signify hope for the future."

In Israel, Yom Hashoah is a solemn occasion marked by memorial services throughout the country, held at sundown. The following morning, ceremonies begin with a siren sounding for two minutes throughout the entire country. For the duration, work is halted, people walking in the streets stop, cars pull off to the side of the road and everyone stands at silent attention in reverence to the victims.

Throughout the day, television and radio stations broadcast shows about the Holocaust.

Additional information for this article was obtained from the Web site of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset in order to commemorate the six million Jews whose lives were taken in the Holocaust. For information, go to www.yad-vashem.org.il