

Teen Panel

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may tell your parents as much as your relationship with your parents permits you to. Here is the reason: How can a teenager talk to a parent who will laugh at them or show disinterest in them? Or demonstrate lack of understanding towards them or become emotional without helping them?

ON THE OTHER hand how can a parent help his child or listen to his child's experiences if that child thinks the parent is just checking up on him? Or even completely exclude the parent from his life outside the home?

The answer we came up with is not a new one, but one which is difficult and therefore is ignored by many teenagers and their parents. A family is a group, and not individuals so all members of the family must cooperate and share their experiences, not just the one or just the parent living in a vacuum.

The teenager whose parents talk over their experiences with them, are the teens who in turn will talk things over with their parents and be glad of the close relationship.

BOTH THE junior high and senior high school members of the Youth Page Panel concluded that a good family relationship is one which seeds time and gradual development. Even more important to recognize, is the necessity of patience, honesty and understanding by all members, not just one or two.

Independence and censorship of actions told and retained is essential for anyone's development. But so is the ability to share and understand. How much or how little you tell your parents is up to you, but so is the success of your family as a unit.

Do you have a question your Teen Panel can work on?

Write it down, sign your name and address, the school you attend, and send to: TODAY'S YOUTH EDITOR, c/o The Birmingham Eccentric, Birmingham, Mich.

The Teen Panel will deliberate the question, and the answer will appear shortly thereafter in these columns.



Photographer's Prize

This is the \$100 prize-winning picture of Bloomfield Hills high senior Elizabeth Johnson. She photographed the family's pet parakeet being taught a trick (her brother is in the background). Photography is a relatively new hobby for Elizabeth, and this is her first photo prize. She says she's saving it to apply to her college expenses. She'll enter University of Michigan next fall.

There Once Was Farmland Where Southfield Hi Is

By BARBARA BURROUGHS
Southfield High School Senior

Did you know that horses, cows, and pigs roamed the land where Southfield high school is located today?

According to Mrs. Bessie Miller, lifetime resident of Southfield township, a farmer named Nat McClelland once owned and farmed this property.

Several generations of the Miller family have or are presently living in Southfield. Mrs. Miller's great-grandfather cut through what is now 11 Mile road and settled just beyond Lahser road. The first settler, however, came in 1823.

FIVE GENERATIONS of Millers have attended Brooks school or Beddows school as it then was called. Other township schools that were built at the time Mrs.

'Drag Strip'

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the National Association of Police Chiefs passed a resolution against them. The National Safety Council is opposing them.

MANY DEPLORE the lack of facilities for the youth of today to crank up their jobs and burn some rubber in clean wholesome and safe competition. But they seem to be in agreement that drags are not the answer.

Perhaps some enterprising youth group can come up with the answer. If they do, they'll get all the help possible from the men who remember their Fronty and Miller Fords.

So much for drags, now what about racing or speeding? If the average youth could see the preparation, the rules and regulations, and the precautions taken at a big-time race, they wouldn't take the chances they do on our highways.

HERE ARE just some of the rules. Every racing car must have a roll bar and safety belts. Doors are equipped with special locking devices that keep them from flying open. Tail pipes are eliminated and exhaust pipes are cut to a point about even with the back of the front seat and emerge at the sides of the cars to avoid fires from spilled gasoline.

All drivers wear special helmets and ride alone in most stock car races. Spectators are protected with heavy cyclone wire fences at

Miller was a girl are: Southfield 10, Angling road, and Brace.

Schools which have since been torn down include Jackson located at 12 Mile road, and Erity, located at Evergreen and 13 1/2 Mile. Mrs. Miller also added that Lederer Junior high was named after the man who was county school commissioner 20 or more years ago.

TRANSPORTATION then not being what it is today, the mail for Southfield residents had to be taken by horse and buggy from the Birmingham post office, then located at 11 Mile and Lois Lane.

"If you wanted to go to Detroit, then you didn't hop into the family car, but took a horse and buggy into Highland Park and then took a street car to downtown Detroit," recalled Mrs. Miller.

"The first settlers naturally found Indians. What is thought to be an Indian cemetery is located on Lahser road.

Today we have 38 stores and eating places in the township not including Northland, as contrasted by the three stores, cheese factory, town hall, blacksmith shop, postoffice and several churches here," when Mrs. Miller was a girl.

points where cars may leave the track. And still there are accidents and drivers and spectators are killed or injured with the high speeds attained in modern cars. Compare this to a couple of young fellows racing on the streets or highways often in dilapidated or poorly maintained jalopies. These racers are not only taking their own lives in their hands, but are risking the lives of others who are using the streets and highways legally.

FORTUNATELY, these careless

drivers are in the minority. Only But until some method is devised for regulated competition among teenagers, the other 85 per cent will have to suffer. The others have learned to respect the laws made for their protection. Any suggestions?

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