



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Humboldt Elementary School students enjoy new playground equipment made possible by a donation from Stockamp and Associates, a medical consulting firm. See related photo, front page.

Humboldt's New Playground

Humboldt Elementary School in north Portland dedicated new playground equipment during a ceremony Friday honoring civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Stockamp and Associates, a medical consulting firm, adopted the school for the current school year and donated \$12,000 for the brand new playground, which had not been renovated since the school was originally built more than 50 years ago.

The deteriorating playground was completely removed and replaced with a state-of-the-art playground with modern monkey bars,

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— Cheryl James, president of the Parent Teacher Association

a safety surface, a double slide, a rock wall and a pretend driving station, among other improvements.

"We tried to make sure we got equipment that would take care of all grade levels," said Cheryl James, president of the Parent Teacher Association.

The next phase of playground improvements will be painting a map of the United States on the playground, repainting lines for hopscotch and kickball and making improvements to insure that the space is wheelchair accessible.

Dear Deanna!

My neighbor really upsets me by the way she puts her children on the church bus on Sunday morning. She comes out in her robe with a cigarette in her mouth and sends her kids to church but she doesn't go with them. This makes me so mad that I'm at the point of knocking on her door so I can tell her about herself. Would I be wrong for doing this? --LaTanya; Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear LaTanya:

Don't be foolish by going to that woman's house and get yourself knocked out. People tend to be touchy when you come at them the wrong way concerning religion. Her business is her business but as a Christian, you should invite her and the children to come to church with you instead of judging her current actions. God wants you to do his work by seeking the unsought, teaching the untaught and bringing the unbrought.

Dear Deanna!

I'm 33 years old and have been in a relationship for 11 years. We both are ready to get married but my boyfriend wants to wait. He says our finances aren't in order but I think he's lying. What do you think? --Confused; Columbia, S.C.

Dear Confused:

You both are lying. He's living a lie because after 11 years, there should've been a marriage of love with or without finances. Married couples build together. He's very comfortable and has no plans to marry you and will use excuse after excuse. You're lying to yourself in believing he'll marry you. With your age and the time you've been in the relationship, you should know the status of your finances. You both need to come together, lay your cards on the table and decide to com-



Ask Deanna!
Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

mit or split and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!

I just graduated from high school and started college. I haven't gone to class since the first semester began. I'm tired of school, but my family forced me to go to college so I went along with the plan. Now I feel guilty because of the money spent on tuition and the loans. How do I tell them I want to drop out? --Talisha; Atlanta

Dear Talisha:

It's good your conscience is kicking your behind. You need to wake up and realize you're blessed to go to college when so many people can't go because they can't afford it. You need to change your mind and do the right thing and stay in school. Seek assistance from your guidance counselors and talk with your parents and get yourself back on track. In the long run, you'll greatly benefit as an educated adult with a degree. If not, prepare to say, may I take your order please?

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

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