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Saturday, June 10, 2006

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Keep motorcycle helmet mandate

The Detroit News

The Michigan Legislature has just passed a law eliminating the requirement that motorcyclists wear helmets. The governor says she'll veto it. She should. In Florida, hospital costs for motorcycle-related injuries more than doubled after that state's helmet law was repealed -- and there was an 81 percent increase in motorcycle fatalities in the three years following repeal. There is a reason they put eggs in protective cartons at the grocery store.

Two high school doors close, then reopen

Cornerstone Schools in Detroit is celebrating a small miracle. Five anonymous families have donated \$11 million to buy the closed Bishop Borgess and St. Martin de Porres high schools and open them this fall as new elementary and middle school campuses for the nondenominational private school group inspired by Cardinal Adam Maida and nurtured by Clark Durant from nothing to more than 1,000 students.

It is a reminder that faith-inspired education and high standards can help Detroit's children learn and grow. And they even teach Chinese to some of their kindergartners.

Group drops 'social justice' rule for teachers

Political correctness in education suffered another defeat this week when the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education dropped its vague but politically loaded recommendation that education students show a belief in "social justice" to graduate. The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education and others pressured the group to do so, particularly because the accreditation council influences a lot of schools of education. "This real victory for academic freedom and private conscience in our education schools," FIRE President Greg Lukianoff said. Educators only stop their mischief when they are exposed.

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