DEAR EDITOR:
With the sudden death of Ms. Dorothy Tate, the community has lost a lady that touched the lives of many young people in the city of Delphos over the past 40-plus years. She was a professional educator in very way. She was an even better person and she cared deeply about her students.
In July of 2002, we needed to hire a Spanish teacher and I had no idea of where I should look. I decided to call Bruce Sommers, who was the superintendent of Delphos City Schools. He told me about Ms. Tate and that she had retired after 30 years with the Delphos City Schools. He told me what an excellent teacher she had been. He said she was presently selling calendars in the Lima Mall and might in interested in teaching again. I will be forever grateful to Mr. Sommers.
I called Ms. Tate and she was more than willing to talk to me. Over the next 10 years, she didn't work for me, she worked with me. She was that special teacher that worked hard in the classroom and was respected and loved by her students and colleagues alike. She always kept me informed of everything going on in her classroom and was not afraid to voice her opinion or tell me when she disagreed with something I did or said.
It was about this time last year she told me this would be her final year of teaching. I tried to talk her out of retiring and kept asking her, "if she had changed her mind." She told me, "after 40 years, it was time to retire." I know she looked forward to a new chapter in her life.
She will be missed by her many special friends and everyone she came into contact with over the years. I know I will never forget her. Rest in peace, Ms. Tate, and thank you for all you've done.
Sincerely,
Don Huysman, principal
St. John's High School