

ENCORE

CONNECTION

January, 2021



E.P. Clarke
Interactive Learning



Fire Drill at Brown

Which picture did your participation in ENCORE not help the Foundation support?

Teaching children to Count is fine, but Teaching them **WHAT** counts is best.

A **teacher's** task, regarding creativity is to help young people climb their own mountains, as high as possible



Computers at Upton

Good **teaching** is 1/4 preparation is 3/4 theater.



Band at SJHS



Lincoln School Readers

Teachers affect eternity; no one can tell where their influence stops!



Sometimes we are forced to make hard decisions. Knowing that there will be opposition shouldn't preclude making the decisions, nonetheless. After several surveys of groups deeply involved with ENCORE, the decision has been made to *postpone* the show one more time until 2022. This was the overwhelming choice of all that were surveyed. You all know the reason and you do need to know that the safety and well-being of those involved in the show as well as our audiences were the prime concerns.

We have no intention of letting this go and we are going to do it right! The year 2022 is the 150th anniversary of SJHS and our theme for 2020ne was going to deal our history.....however, we now have a reason to have a REALLY BIG PARTY!!!! We want the cast, the crew, the audiences to have the best time they have had in years and to do it safely. It's anticipated that everyone will not forget their experiences at SJHS or, in many cases, their experiences at ENCORE in 2022.

We don't have a new name and would welcome suggestions. And, we'll continue to bombard you with issues of "Connections", just to make sure you know we're still looming out there.

So put things on hold but continue to plan and create and let's make some memories. Also, remember the small saying that was in every ENCORE program.....

Forget Us Not!

Here's to the school and all her hosts

Sing we Hail to Alma Mater

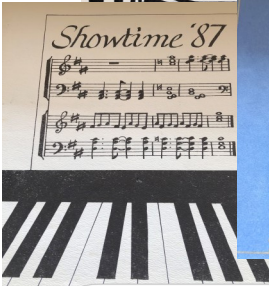
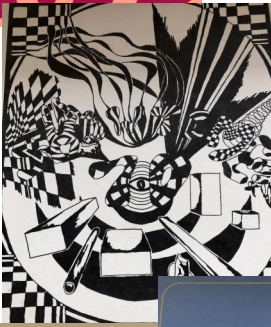
Fight on to victory, and shout our battle cry

SAVE THE DATES FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 & 13, 2022



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Memories



Can anyone identify these young ladies—the old people know who they are!!!!!! A free ticket to ENCORE 2020ne if you are first in and get 100% correct.

DO YOU REMEMBER? (Herald Palladium 1995)
Debbie Knuth majored in modern dance at WMU and began teaching in 1983 at the Pat Bryant School of Dance. When the owner retired in 1989, Deb took over the studio and renamed it *Sawyer Dance Troupe and Dance Academy*. She enjoys teaching teen students the jazz they see being done on music videos.



Do you remember what she wore to the prom?



Four score and twenty-years





Connie Jean Alti Cassidy, 80, of St. Joseph, passed away peacefully, with her family by her side, on Monday, December 14, 2020 at her home in St. Joseph.

o Connie was born March 23, 1940 in Benton Harbor to Anthony and Bernice Alti. In 1958 when she was barely 18 years old, Connie's beloved dance teacher passed away of cancer, and parents and students asked Connie to finish the dance season as recital time was near. Connie agreed to continue, "just until she decided what she wanted to be when she grew up." The Connie Cassidy School of Dance, has continued ever since, and "Miss Connie," as she became known, has been loved by thousands of children and their parents. How fortunate it was that she never did grow up.

Known to love dogs nearly as much as she did dance, Connie adopted many retired greyhounds, whippets, and assorted mutts over the decades. During Connie's last years of life, her beloved whippets WhoDo and Tegan were her companions, rarely straying far from her side.

Connie is survived by her children, Cammie (Mark Winnell) Hernandez, and Patrick (Eileen Perlmeter) Cassidy; her grandchildren, Anthony and Caitlin Hernandez; her great granddaughter, Zoe Jane Blocker; her brother, Gilbert (Leslie) Alti; and nieces Kelly and Tracy.

She is preceded in death by her sister, Janice McGee; her dance and business partner, Ross McDowell; former husband and dearest friend, Tom Cassidy; and her parents.

Services for Connie will be held at a later date.

Our beloved Connie had either appeared in or was choreographer or was an advisor for every Variety Show from the 1950's through ENCORE 2018. That's a lot of mileage on her tap shoes! She choreographed not only the V.S. but every musical from 1963-1987. She will be truly missed. This narrows the quartet of Bob Brown, Connie Alti, Steve Reed, Betty Theisen and Dennis Bowen significantly!

