

VIEWPOINT

Times
EDITORIAL

Cheers and Jeers

Every Saturday on its editorial page, the Gloucester County Times cheers those who make our area a better place in which to live and jeers those whose actions merit derision.

■ **CHEERS:** To a place for plenty. Philabundance, the Philadelphia-based food pantry agency, opened its first site in Gloucester County, with a Fresh for All distribution (it concentrates on fresh fruits and veggies) each Wednesday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars post on Wilmer Street in Glassboro. It's a shame so many of our neighbors are in need, but it's good to see another place to help them. And, if you can donate food or volunteer, please don't forget to help out Philabundance or other local food banks.

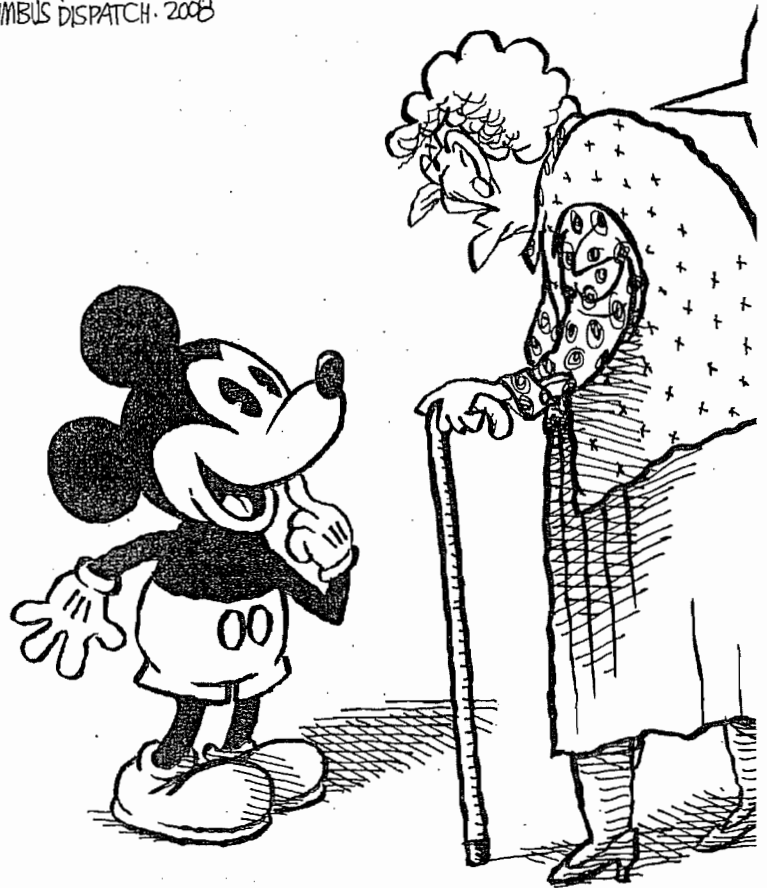
■ **CHEERS:** To snail mail. Since it sounds so "retro," some people may have snickered when the Gloucester County Library System kick-started a books-by-mail system recently. But the results are stunningly positive: Since its June 16 launch, "MailLit" has sent more than 2,500 items to nearly 400 users who have signed up. The mailbox is still an efficient and useful way (see "Netflix") to get books, CDs and DVDs to people who may not be able to get to the library.

■ **JEERS:** To spraying the wealth. We said in a recent editorial that Valero acts responsibly by cleaning up when its Greenwich Township refinery spews oily material on nearby private property, but we apparently spoke too soon about an Oct. 31 incident. Several homeowners who were affected say the company's response has been slow or missing. We don't doubt that Valero will make good on residents' claims, but it needs to improve how it's handling them.

■ **CHEERS:** To a habitat with a twist. Gloucester County Institute of Technology students have a cheerworthy record of building homes for Habitat for Humanity, but their latest project will go further. The students are building their first-ever handicapped-accessible home for the charity. It's one of those "win-win" items: Not only can special-needs families qualify for Habitat housing, the students are learning construction technique experience to meet a demand for accessible housing units.

■ **CHEERS:** To more help on the home front. GCIT students aren't the only ones helping with

STAHLER.
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Reader's
VIEW

Vets' program should

To the Editor:

On Nov. 10, I had the privilege of attending a Veterans Day Assembly at the Whitman Elementary School in Washington Township.

It was a day that those of us being honored will not soon forget. All the veterans and those still on active duty gathered in the art room for a

well received by the attentive audience. The music director then sang the opening stanza of "God Bless America." The children joined in and it was a beautiful moment.

Vince Cardile, the school principal, called for a moment of silence so we could remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this