

# OFF TO THE RACES

SPORTS, C1

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## Dorsett family pleads guilty

### Ocean Twp. woman, father killed her ex-husband

By Michelle Sahn  
@msahnAPP

**FREEHOLD** — Kathleen Dorsett knew the end was near for her ex-husband Stephen when she sent him to pick up tools that he left at her father's house.

Stephen Moore had no idea what was waiting for him that day, when he dropped his 20-month-old daughter at his ex-wife's house.

"I took my daughter into the house, knowing all the time my father was back there, waiting to kill him," said Dorsett, a former third-grade teacher in Neptune.

As she changed her daughter's diaper, she heard screaming coming from the driveway, she said.

Dorsett, 38, and her parents, Thomas, 66, and Lesley Dorsett, 68, all of Ocean Township, pleaded guilty Thursday, admitting their

guilt to various charges stemming from Stephen Moore's murder in 2010.

The plea deal revealed a cold conspiracy of how a family worked together to commit a murder, prosecutors said, cover it up, and then plot a second murder.

For example, Kathleen Dorsett told of how after she heard her ex-



Kathleen Dorsett in court Thursday.  
MARY FRANK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



**CONFESSION**  
Scan the QR code or visit [APP.com](http://APP.com) to see a video of Kathleen Dorsett describing the day of the murder.

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In Our Schools

## SCHOOL TESTING GOING HIGH-TECH



Red Bank Primary School third-grade teacher Brandy Balthazar works with students as they prepare for the upcoming NJ ASK.  
THOMAS P. COSTELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### New online tests set to launch in 2014-15

By Alesha Williams Boyd :: @aleshaboydAPP

Third-grader Kimberly Varela won't miss the white-knuckled grasp of a No. 2 pencil or filling countless columns of test-booklet bubbles when standardized testing goes digital in 2015.

"I think it will be better (on the computer)," Kimberly says matter-of-factly, a neon-green pencil topped with an angular pink eraser between her right forefinger and thumb. "We're not going to have, like, to write and write all of (the answers). And we only have to type

the things we need to."

This year marks the first — and nearly the last — time the 9-year-old and her fellow third-graders at Red Bank Primary School will take the four-day, five-hour New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge, also known as NJ ASK, using the old wood-and-graphite writing utensils. The students this week prepared for the test, which third-graders begin Monday, with a lesson on mapping out coordi-



**WATCH KIDS PREP**

Scan the QR code or visit [APP.com](http://APP.com) to see Brandy Balthazar and class gear up for NJ ASK testing next week.

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## Lawyer: Classroom trysts are 100% false

### Toms River parents remain on edge

By Amanda Oglesby  
@OglesbyAPP

**TOMS RIVER** — A claim by an attorney that a retired police officer accused in a sexual contact case and a teacher he allegedly victimized had multiple romantic rendezvous inside of a Toms River middle school are "blasphemous and 100 percent false," said Bradley Billhimer, an attorney who represents the teacher.

On Wednesday, attorney Robert Fuggi said his client Bruce A. Figular, 50, of Toms River — who was indicted last week by an Ocean County grand jury — merely hugged the woman he was romantically involved with for two years inside of Toms River Intermediate East on Jan. 14.

Figular faces charges of third-degree aggravated criminal sexual contact, third-degree burglary and fourth-degree impersonating a law enforcement officer, after using his retired State Police ID to gain access to the school, officials said. He then, prosecutors said, committed "aggravated sexual contact" against the teacher.

Fuggi countered that his client did not have sexual contact with the woman on Jan. 14, though Figular had other such consensual encounters with her in previous meetings at the school.

Billhimer countered the allegation, saying in a statement to the Asbury Park Press: "The Ocean County Prosecutor's Of-

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