Bible club advisers merely monitors

A student and member of a Bible Club at Hunterdon Central High School wanted to sponsor Dr. Robert A. Morey from Faith Defenders to speak on Islam; however, the Bible Club did not have an adviser. Last year’s adviser decided not to oversee the club until the teachers’ contract was settled. The student alleged that there were still clubs functioning with legal advisers. Finally, the student found a teacher who agreed to be the adviser.

The student handed in the application to reserve the auditorium on May 15. The student alleged that the adviser revoked the application and told him that if he just wanted a legal adviser, she didn’t want to be the adviser. (The law states that a legal adviser for a Bible Club can only be a custodial monitor and cannot exercise control over the club.) The student also alleged that this was the first time last year’s adviser decided not to oversee the club until the teachers’ contract was settled. The student alleged that there were still clubs functioning with legal advisers. Finally, the student found a teacher who agreed to be the adviser.

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Remember Korean War vets for service

I noticed just before and during Memorial Day and right afterwards, the Korean War was seldom mentioned. However, I just came back from visiting South Korea in May and the Korean people are very grateful for what we did, plus the other contributions.

They have done a lot in 50 years, very modern, especially in Seoul. Tension seems to be a little less between North and South Korea. My brother, Jim Scott, who made it possible for me to get to South Korea, and I went on GI tours at previous battlefields with eight or nine Marines to their previous areas. We were not allowed to take pictures of those areas.

To all Korean vets — South Korea and its people will never forget. They are our best friends.

PARRY B. SCOTT
7th Div. 32nd Regt. Purple Heart
March 1952-February 1953

State custodian of school funding

Your editorial, “School aid decisions should stay with the court,” displays a complete disregard for our constitutional system of government and an ignorance of the New Jersey Constitution’s educational provision.

First and foremost, there are no provisions in the New Jersey Constitution for a, “thorough and efficient education.” The word “education” simply does not appear anywhere in our Constitution. The constitution ordains: “The Legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of schools.” So it is to the legislature, not the courts, that our constitution delegates the authority and responsibility of providing a system of free public schools.

Our New Jersey Constitution, in Article III, declares: “The powers of government shall be divided among three distinct branches — No person or persons belonging to one branch shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to the others.” So by interjecting itself into the school-funding issue, the court has violated Article III by intruding into an area exclusively delegated to the legislative branch by the Constitution.

The New Jersey Supreme Court has displayed hypocrisy in the continued use of funding as a supposed remedy for student disparity as this court has already ruled in the Abbott decision, “... We realize that our remedy here may fail to achieve the constitutional object (of a thorough and efficient education), that no amount of money may be able to erase the impact of socioeconomic factors that define and cause these pupils’ disadvantages.” So why, then, are we taxpayers being continually exposed to an admitted failed remedy with ever-increasing taxes?

What’s even worse is that all the court’s decisions have overlooked the constitutional mandate that the state provided school funding should be “annually appropriated for the support of the public schools and for the general benefit of all the people of the State.” All of the court’s “remedies” fail to meet this equal benefit provision and are therefore further unconstitutional. The constitution mandates that every student shall receive the exact same state aid. Why isn’t this happening?

Perhaps our Supreme Court should heed the advice of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who in 1937 observed: “I want, as all Americans want — an independent judiciary as proposed by the framers of the Constitution. That means a Supreme Court that will enforce the Constitution as written — that will refuse to amend the Constitution by arbitrary exercise of judicial power — amendment by judicial say-so.” It’s now time for our legislators to step in and forever remove the court from the school funding issue.

DOUGLAS E. WICKS
Basking Ridge

Flowers will help Manville’s image

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mayor, the Council and Mr. Phil Petrone and his crew at the Public Works Department of Borough of Manville. The Mayor, Business and Professional Association recently purchased 1,200 plants to be planted in the areas around the streets on Main St. The Public Works Department did terrific job cleaning, planting and mulching these beds. By allowing the association to purchase plants, it has helped to create a friendlier and more inviting streetscape. We thank all the people and townspersons of Manville.

We hope in light of some of the problems that have occurred in the past few years this will help polish Manville’s image and show the rest of the area Manville is on the rebound and a great place to live and visit.

Again thank you to all involved.

JOHN GLI
President
Manville Business Professional Associates
Weston St.
Mar

New license plate for animal lovers

The new “Animal Friendly” license plate is now on sale at Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles. The adorale plate was designed by syndicated “Mutt’s” toonist Patrick McDonnell, a Jersey native.

Forty dollars from each license plate goes to state’s dedicated Animal Protection Control Fund, to spay neuter to help help cut off the neversoming and to help with keeping an area. As well as animals ad from humane societies, she and municipal pounds. The renewal fee of $10 is also used this plethora.

The Governor’s Domestic Companion Animal Council urges animal lovers to purchase this active license plate. It tells others are “Animal Friendly,” while he countless animals that would otherwise be unable to find loving, manent homes.

NINA AUSTENB
Chairperson, Dom Companion Animal Cet
Flan

Tell Us What You Think

Remember, you must include your full name, address and daytime phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Letters should not exceed 250 words. If you have a question about our Opinion pages, call Editorial Page Editor Keith Ryzewicz at (908) 707-3128.

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