

Post earns its recognition

or:
 recent convention of the Department of New Jersey, Veterans of For-
 The Michael A. Kelly Post 2433 of Union was recognized as one of
 its in the state. This is based on a point system in which points are
 many areas of service performed by post members. Included, but not
 are participation in community activities, percentage of paid mem-
 assistance to veterans, widows and orphans in care facilities, sponsor-
 V student essay contests and public relations.

atic of our performance was the awarding of the prestigious white
 mmander, Leo Graf. This is the second time he has been so honored.
 o found to be in the top 10 in public relations, for which we are also
 It would not be possible to achieve so high a score without the coop-
 our paper and, on behalf of Commander Graf, our officers and mem-
 ank you. You have been very generous in giving us space to not only
 ens of Union know of our activities, but to recognize publicly those

Robert J. Knecht
 Michael A. Kelly Post 2433, VFW
 Union

Hats off to the 'Best of the Best'

or:
 6, we had the pleasure of attending a unique event presented by the
 Girls Clubs of Union County. It was their first annual Best of the Best
 re they acknowledged people and organizations that have made an
 e youth of Union County.

ne tone for the evening was PBS and CN8 newscaster Steve Aduba-
 y enthused the crowd as he spoke of his passion for youth and with
 the stories of the evening's honorees passions. The youth of our
 the common thread among all of them. The Boys and Girls Club
 ether a diverse group that share their passion and honored them.

dees were the Schering-Plough Corporation, Elizabeth and Carl
 e Louis J. Roncoli Foundation and the Rotary Club of Roselle-
 k. It seems that these groups have devoted much of their time to
 success of our children. Hats off to these men and women who real-
 ys and girls are our next generation in an ever-changing and uncer-
 hats off to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Union County for recogniz-
 n and women!

Erich Peter
 Robert O'Connor
 Minuteman Press of Union, Union

Needs to stop being hypocritical

r:
 y is always mouthing off about the "poor downtrodden minorities,"
 comes time to choose a running mate, he chooses John Edwards,
 rsonable — and white.

month, Kerry plans to speak at an N.A.A.C.P. convention. They
 him to task for not choosing an African-American running mate.
 't the liberal Kerry choose a minority vice-presidential candidate?
 is afflicted with the same malady that has plagued almost every
 ce F.D.R. — hypocrisy.

s he'll never get elected with a minority running mate. Maybe he

should have asked Streisand or Bon Jovi or one of his other bonehead Bush-
 bashing Hollywood cronies.

Richard Lime
 Union

Bravo to our strong music programs

To the Editor:

I am a professional musician and music teacher who moved to Union nearly
 two years ago. I have two children who attend the public schools — Franklin
 Elementary and Burnet Middle. I am writing to comment on the very positive
 experiences I had in attending the spring concerts in those two buildings.

At Franklin, the elementary choruses led by Ms. Moreno-Gold and the ele-
 mentary instrumental students under Mr. Grenner were delightful. It is easy to
 see that quality music teaching is under way and musicality is not sacrificed for
 the "entertainment factor." Ms. Moreno-Gold's students sang with a pleasing
 tone and intonation and even sang in parts. Mr. Grenner's portion of the program
 provided a nice mix of like instrument group and ensemble performances. He
 went out of his way to employ a few "ringers" on the larger instruments so his
 fourth-grade students could have a full band experience.

At Burnet, Mr. Dixon has an enormous job — three bands plus orchestra and
 jazz band — which he handles with a lot of professionalism. He seems to have
 a wonderful rapport with his challenging age group. He also provides for differ-
 ences by featuring his more advanced students in solos and small ensembles.

These three fine music teachers exhibit an enthusiasm for their subject that
 becomes infectious for their students. Bravo to the Union school district for hir-
 ing dedicated professionals and maintaining a strong music program when other
 districts are discussing cuts to arts programs.

David Braham
 Union

Perkins is right person for the BOE

To the Editor:

Recently, a small vocal number of individuals have complained that the
 Board of Education has acted too quickly by appointing Ray Perkins to the board
 to fill the vacancy caused by a resignation. They really are not complaining
 about the process. They simply don't like the choice that was made.

Some have said, since Perkins had failed to be elected in the most recent elec-
 tion, he should somehow be disqualified from being appointed. They are wrong.

In the past, some have argued that the person to be appointed in this kind of
 situation should be the person who received the next greatest number of votes in
 the recent election. In this case, that would be Perkins. But there are other more
 important reasons why Perkins should have been appointed anyway. He showed
 his commitment to service with nine years on the board and subjecting himself
 to the election process. He has experience and background with things the board
 is facing now. The board agreed with the *Union Leader's* endorsement of
 Perkins. The other members of the board know Perkins well, both his good
 points and bad.

Others interested in serving on the board could have shown their interest by
 running for election only a few months ago. None did. Others say the person
 appointed should be an educator and that there is no need for a lawyer, because
 the board employs an attorney. But the board already has three members who are
 educators and employs almost a thousand professional educators.

Ray Perkins will continue to serve the people of Union well.

Eugene Sully
 Union

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