

Members of the Teen Center Board of Advisors have donated their time because we feel Teen Center has made a difference for many Wellesley teens. With your support, Teen Center will continue to offer a safe alternative for the young teens of our town.

Janet Howe
Teen Center Board of Advisors

Good use for bandstand funds

Since the Wellesley Zoning Board of Appeals voted unanimously against a bandstand in Simons Park, wouldn't it seem fitting for the Bandstand Committee to donate their funds to charity?

Nancy J. Sprague
Washington Street

Public education institutions hurt by state funding cuts

We are an English professor, a learning specialist and a reference librarian at Mass-Bay Community College.

We welcome through our doors students embarking on a college education, returning older students who want to re-train for new careers, and immigrants looking for an opportunity to learn English, enter the job market and become citizens of the United States.

The community colleges, along with other public higher education institutions, are already ranked poorly in comparison with

other states, and yet have just been decimated by another 21.5 percent in cuts within the last two years under Governor Romney. In addition, our students now pay more in tuition and fees, also among the highest in the nation, to make up for some of these cuts.

Our faculty presently, through a negotiated contract agreed upon in good faith, teaches a fifth course in return for just a modest increase in our salaries. Although we held up our part of the bargain and are presently teaching these courses, we have not received the agreed-upon raise. We are disheartened, to say the least, by the lack of dignity and respect, not only for the important work we presently do in educating the citizenry of the commonwealth, but for the future workforce of Massachusetts who is being cheated as well.

Our adjunct faculty are paid per course with no benefits. They now outnumber full-time faculty and deserve meaningful benefits like health insurance and pensions.

The mission of the community colleges is to provide students with options they might not otherwise have. As tax cuts flow to the wealthy and corporate CEOs rake in record salaries, what is happening to the public institutions that most of us depend upon?

Linda Stern, Reference Librarian
MassBay Community College

(Also signed by: Professor Marjorie Saunders, Department of English, and Laurel Santini, Learning Specialist)