

- Letter to the Editor

NuPath employees plead for reserve

To the editor,

I've never written to a newspaper before. I am usually too busy working one of my 2 or 3 jobs to take the time. Today, however, I have to speak out. I am just so frustrated. Actually, I am completely bewildered and totally confused!

This past July, all of our Senators and Representatives unanimously voted for us (Human Service workers) to get a \$20 million dollar salary reserve after Governor Patrick vetoed it from the state budget. The legislature made it quite clear that they wanted us to have it for the holidays. We have not had a raise in 5 years.

Just to put it into perspective, the Salary Reserve, once broken down to all the direct care workers, would give us about an additional \$300 per year, not much in today's world.

We were told we had it, and for once, we felt appreciated; feeling that our work with the most vulnerable of our citizens (managing feeding tubes, dispensing medications and dealing with major behavioral disorders) was being recognized. My job is demanding, both physically and emotionally.

I give my all, everyday, all day. I cannot work any other way. At the end of the week I am depleted, then I look at my paycheck and I am just sad.

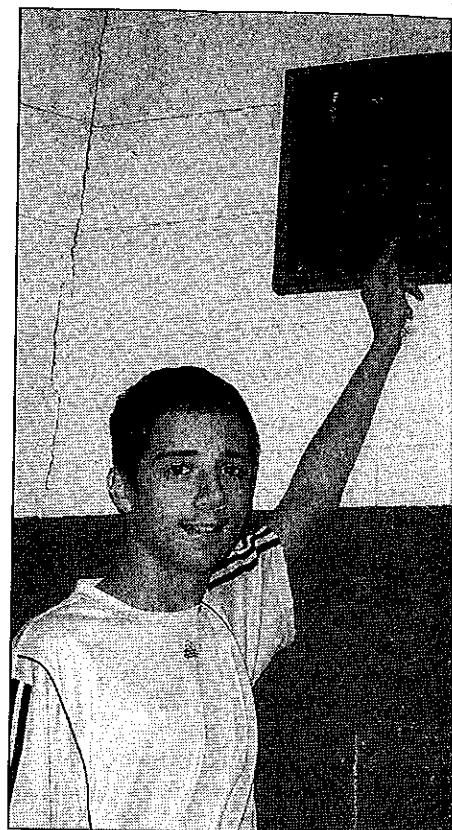
Now I hear that Governor Patrick has made the decision to "delay" the implementation of the Salary Reserve indefinitely. It is, according to his staff, because the revenues of the state are under the predictions. Whatever it is, it is not right! I am a Direct Care staff worker in the Human Services field. We have been promised this money and we have been planning for this money and for some of us, this will allow us to give to a nice holiday season to our own children, for others, just a chance to pay another bill.

I am one of over 300 direct care workers at NuPath in Woburn, but there are over 29,000 Direct Care workers in Human Services in the State that would be affected by the Salary Reserve. After years of talking, begging and pleading, we are still starting these extremely hard jobs at \$9 to \$12 per hour. That amounts to less than \$25,000 per year. This is certainly not enough to "Make it in Massachusetts".

I am asking you to help us at this time as we help others daily. Please join me by contacting Gov. Patrick's office to let him know you want the Salary Reserve released: 1(617)725-4005.

Thank you!
Deidra Bradley
NuPath, Direct Care worker
Resident of Woburn

Woburn Historical Society Civil War production



POINTING at their new Woburn School cross-country records are two (l-r) Matt Dimauro and Gina D'A... broke the boys freshman record while on the 3-mile Woburn course while... new standard of 18:28 for the sopho...

• Arraigned (Continued)

worn by the suspect in the robberies.

The vehicle was registered to Taylor Goulding.

Stoneham Police detectives, working in conjunction with detectives from the Wakefield, Woburn, Reading, Melrose and FBI Robbery Task force began to focus their investigation onto Mr. Goulding. Significant resources from these cooperating agencies were brought together during the subsequent two-week investigation and surveillance of Mr. Goulding.

On Wednesday, Stoneham Police detectives, assisted by Wakefield, Woburn and Reading detectives, conducted a motor vehicle stop of Mr. Goulding's Toyota

detective

agreed

Stoneham an interview vehicle w scene for t tions.

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Stoneham. Gouldin Thursday