



## Republican Geoff Diehl upsets Rep. Allen McCarthy in 7th Plymouth District

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Geoff Diehl started his first door-to-door political campaign during the summer of 2009 and never stopped – at least not until a few days before he upset incumbent state Rep. Allen McCarthy and claimed the 7th Plymouth District for Republicans.

And according to voters in Abington, Whitman and East Bridgewater, his neighborhood campaigning and mind for business paid off.

“I voted for Diehl because I wanted to see something different,” said 31-year-old Lillian Vallee, of East Bridgewater.

For Ed Smith, also of East Bridgewater, a vote for Diehl meant more than a change of pace.

“He’s a businessman. He knows finance,” Smith, 62, said. “He knows we can’t live by borrowing, borrowing, borrowing.”

Diehl, a political newcomer, small-business owner and married father of two, is also a member of Whitman’s Finance Committee.

“I want to let everyone know I am going to be there,” Diehl said Tuesday night. “And I’m going to promote a message of fiscal responsibility.”

Diehl said his temporary campaign headquarters at 529 Washington St., Whitman, will become a permanent office for constituents in coming weeks.

He celebrated his victory with family, friends and supporters at Whitman’s Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 697.

When his campaign learned of its victory Tuesday night, Diehl said, “Everybody in the room exploded with shock and joy.”

McCarthy, 40, said he called Diehl to congratulate him shortly afterward. The East Bridgewater High School graduate and former assistant district attorney served two terms as state representative.

“It was a very close race,” McCarthy said Tuesday. “I’m very proud of my service.”

Diehl claimed victories in two of the district’s three towns. In Whitman, where he lives, Diehl topped his opponent by about 750 votes. In Abington, Diehl’s winning margin was an estimated 272 votes. McCarthy won his hometown of East Bridgewater by about 600 votes.

McCarthy spent election after-hours with his family and campaign staff at T.J. Smith’s Victorian House in East Bridgewater.

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Republican</b>
	<b>McCarthy</b>	<b>Diehl</b>
Abington	2,878	3,150
East Bridgewater	2,926	2,328
Whitman	2,305	3,055
Total	8,109	8,533

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