



Breaking

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Diehl thanks McCarthy in wake of election victory

By Mikaela Slaney

Wicked Local Abington

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Abington — A strong showing, indeed.

There was a 63 percent voter turnout in Abington during Tuesday's state election.

In the race for a seat as State Rep. of the 7th Plymouth District, which includes Abington, East Bridgewater and Whitman, Republican Geoff Diehl, of Whitman edged out incumbent Democrat Allen McCarthy, 40, of East Bridgewater, who held the seat for four years.

Abington voters supported Diehl, 41, with 3,150 votes to McCarthy's 2,878 votes. The three towns of Abington, East Bridgewater and Whitman also supported Diehl with 8,533 total votes against McCarthy's 8,109.

"The first person I want to thank is Allen McCarthy for serving the district for the last four years, I appreciate the work he's done and I look forward to making sure that our towns are best represented on Beacon Hill. That's the first thing. Second thing on the agenda is to convert my campaign headquarters (529 Washington St.) to a district office and convert my website into a resource for constituent services."

Diehl had a campaign party at the Whitman VFW on Essex Street.

"We had a full house," Diehl said. "I was at the campaign headquarters on Washington Street with a few core campaign team members and we had the results called in from the three towns and soon as we won we headed over to the VFW but they already heard the news. So we got to the VFW and had a chance to celebrate with everybody."

On hand to help celebrate in the victory were former state representatives and Republicans Michael Sullivan and Ronald Whitney.

"Between now and inauguration day (in January), I plan to thank everyone in the district who helped get me elected, and reach out to the leaders of our towns to let them know that I'm available to work with them on a full-time basis," Diehl said.

Diehl has supported introducing a bill that would make local aid a fully funded mandate, rather than discretionary spending. He said he believes this would support the jobs of police, firefighters and teachers.

Diehl is married with two children; works as an account executive for a New Bedford sign company and co-owns a dance studio in Hanson. Geoff Diehl was born in Bethlehem, PA, to parents who taught him the value of hard work, education and honesty. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout by the age of 16, graduated from Lehigh University with a double major, worked in advertising and television.

McCarthy was unable to be reached by press time.

Incumbent team of Democrats Gov. Deval Patrick and Lt. Gov. Tim Murray, edged out Republican candidates Charlie Baker and Richard Tisei, as well as Independent Tim Cahill, who will run without a running mate, and Green/Rainbow party candidates Jill Stein and Rick Purcell.

The state supported Patrick and Murray with 49 percent of the votes, while Baker received 42 percent.

In Abington, voters supported Baker and Tisei with 3,193 votes to Patrick and Murray's 2,107.

In the race for congress, 10th Congressional District, Democrat William Keating won the state election with 47 percent of the votes to Republican Jeff Perry's 43 percent, Independents Maryanne Lewis' 6 percent, James Sheets' 4 percent, and Joe van Nes' 1 percent.

In Abington, voters also supported Keating with 2,805 votes to Perry's 2,458 votes, Lewis' 462 votes, Sheets' 324 votes and Nes' 91 votes.

Ballot questions

Massachusetts voted to drop the alcohol sales tax with **Question 1** as of Jan. 1, 2011. Statewide, 96 percent of the precincts voted to drop the tax.

Abington residents also opted to drop the alcohol sales tax with 3,873 votes against 2,219.

Massachusetts voters opted against supporting **Question 2** which would have repealed Chapter 40B, the state's affordable housing law. The law allows qualified companies to purchase land within a town and build government-subsidized housing, which included low to moderate income units.

Abington voters supported Question 2 with 3,873 votes against 2,219 in opposition.

Massachusetts voters opted against **Question 3**, which would have reduced the current state sales and use tax rates from 6.25 percent to 3 percent, as of Jan. 1, 2011. 96 percent of Rates will remain at 6.25 percent.

Abington voters supported Question 3 with 3,066 votes against 2,947.

Abington voters opted to approve **Question 4**, with 2,826 affirmative votes to 2,758 in opposition, and 721 blanks, to create a charter study commission to study the present government structure of Plymouth County, and to consider and make findings concerning the form of government and make recommendations there on.

Plymouth County races

Incumbent District Attorney Timothy Cruz, a Republican, has won reelection in the race for Plymouth County, edging out Democrat John Shea, with 68 percent of the votes.

Abington voters supported Baker and Tisei with 3,193 votes to Patrick and Murray's 2,107 votes.

Republican Joseph McDonald Jr. ran unopposed for Plymouth County Sheriff.

For county commission, Republican Sandra Wright edged out Democrat Timothy McMullen with 87,294 votes to McMullen's 85,648.

Democrat Martha Coakley was reelection as attorney general, edging her opponent Republican James McKenna with 63 percent of the votes to McKenna's 37 percent. Abington voters also supported Coakley with 3,406 votes to McKenna's 2,794 votes.

In the Secretary of State race, incumbent Democrat William Francis Galvin won the race with 65 percent of the votes to Republican William Campbell's 32 percent and unenrolled James Henderson's 3 percent.

Abington voters also supported Galvin with 3,583 votes to Campbell's 2,315 and Henderson's 177.

In the state treasurer race, Democrat Steven Grossman won with 55 percent of the votes to Republican Karyn Polito's 45 percent. Independent Tim Cahill was the last treasurer.

In the auditor's race, Democrat Suzanne Bump won with 49 percent of the votes to Republican candidate Mary Connaughton's 46 percent, and Green/Rainbow candidate Nathanael Alexander Fortune's 5 percent.

Abington voters also supported Bump with 3,044 votes to Connaughton's 906 votes and Fortune's 58 votes.

Incumbent councilor Democrat Christopher Iannella won his bid for reelection with 69 percent of the votes to Republican Jacquolyn Payne-Thompson's 31 percent.

Abington voters also supported Iannella with 3,067 votes to Thompson's 2,462 votes.

Democrat Thomas Kennedy ran unopposed for his position as senator in general court.

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