



Boston Bulletin

citywide news • street by street

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FREE

At-Large City Council race taking shape

Austin Hall
Staff Reporter

The results are in, and eight At-Large candidates are still alive and well in the race for the four At-Large City Councilor spots.

Ayanna Pressley, Michael Flaherty, Stephen Murphy, Michelle Wu, Martin Keogh, Jeff Ross, Annissa Essaibi George and Jack Kelly secured the top eight amount of votes in the Preliminary Municipal Election.

Pressley was the top vote getter, with 16.71 percent of the votes, totaling 42,875 votes. Flaherty finished second, with 15.54 percent of the votes. Murphy came in third with 12.35 percent of the votes, totaling 31,701 votes.

Wu got 11.44 percent of the votes while Keogh received 6.13 percent. Ross received 5.43 percent, George received 4.77 percent and Kelly received

4.64 percent of the vote with 11,900 votes.

On November 5, the four candidates with the most votes will each win a seat as an At-Large City Councilor.

If elected, Pressley would retain the position she has held since being elected on November 3, 2009.

Murphy would retain his position on the council that he has held since 1997. On Monday, January 7, 2013 Councilor Murphy was unanimously elected by his council colleagues to lead the city council as its President.

The rest of the candidates are new to the position, but have all done extensive work to help make the City of Boston great.

Wu has advised entrepreneurs at the WilmerHale Legal Services Center in Jamaica

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City unveils new homelessness plan

Gil Haylon
Staff Reporter

Standing with members of the Leadership Council on Homelessness last week, Mayor Thomas M. Menino released a detailed plan to house Boston's homeless individuals

still facing the homeless community, and set forth measurable outcomes to be achieved by the close of the three-year plan.

"We've had great success in reducing homelessness, and the Leadership Council has courageously taken on some of



Mayor Thomas Menino announces a new initiative to help combat homelessness issues.

COURTESY PHOTO

and offer them the support they need to succeed. "Bringing Boston Home," the City's new plan, is the result of a four-year process during which members of the Leadership Council met regularly to discuss challenges

the most difficult remaining issues faced by our homeless population," Menino said. "We are going to help our most challenged and medically frail

Homeless

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Walsh, Connolly to face off November 5



Gil Haylon
Austin Hall
Staff Reporters

In a crowded race where few could find any clear frontrunners, two separated themselves from the pack on Tuesday night.

State Representative Marty Walsh and City Councilor John Connolly easily outpaced the other ten candi-

dates and will face off on November 5 to become the next mayor of Boston.

Walsh was the top vote-getter on Tuesday night, unofficially winning 18.47 percent of the vote or 20,838 votes out of the 113,222 votes cast. Connolly finished a close second, taking in 17.22 percent of the vote.

Walsh, a State Rep. since 1997, has been open about his



personal history, including overcoming childhood cancer and battling alcoholism earlier in his life. Walsh has gained the support of organized labor unions and organizations in the area.

Connolly was the first to declare his intentions to run for Mayor, even before

Mayor's Race
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Sun shines on the Brian J. Honan 5k



Runners take off from the start line at the annual Brian Honan 5k in Allston. The event honors the memory of Boston City Councilor Brian J. Honan.

PHOTO BY JOE DiFAZIO

Joe DiFazio
Staff Reporter

Rainy clouds turned in to a beautiful day for tenth annual The Brian J. Honan 5k road race, which took place in Allston and Brighton on September 22.

"We were really lucky for such a beautiful day for the

event. The turnout was great and the community showed tremendous support all along the racecourse," said Peter Dolan a volunteer for the event.

The charity race is held to honor the memory of Boston City Councilor Brian J. Honan who represented the Allston-Brighton neighborhoods. Brian J. Honan passed away in 2002

due to complications from cancer surgery at the age of 39. Money raised by the New Balance sponsored run helps scholarship funds of the Allston Board of Trade and the Brighton Board of Trade and many area charities. They do-

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nate 3,000 dollars to each board and are their chief funders.

"We also try to bring the community together at this event so there's an awful lot of residents of Allston-Brighton running and then we also have people from the local colleges," said Kevin Honan, brother of Brian, and Representative in the Massachusetts State House Of Representatives.

The race started at Tavern In The Square at 161 Brighton Avenue in Allston and followed down Brighton Avenue up to Union Square in Brighton then through Brighton Center and turned around to come back to where it started. The event is certified and sanctioned by USA Track and Field. Hundreds of people participated in the event which was won by Bo Waggoner.

"[The race] is really great because I'm walking around here and meeting many many friends of Brian, many of who have moved away, but come back for the road race," said Kevin Honan.

Mayor Thomas Menino even made an appearance just before the race began and said a few words to honor the late councilor.

Brian Honan was born in Allston in 1963. He spent much

of his life in and around the area playing sports, going to punk and new wave shows and aiming to improve the neighborhood and beyond. One of Brian's first jobs was as Director of the Parks Improvement Program for the Allston/Brighton Community Development Corporation. He graduated from Boston College and later in 1989 the New England School of Law. In 1995 Brian was elected to the Boston City Council. He worked on improving the neighborhoods he represented and focused on affordable housing. He was re-elected three times before his death.

"Some of Brian's friends wanted to do something in his memory... and this is what we do," said Kevin Honan. The first road race took place in the fall of 2004.

Honan is honored in various places and ways throughout the city and the Allston-Brighton neighborhoods. The Allston branch of the Boston Public Library is named after Brian Honan, as is a park at 300 Allston Street. The West End House Boys and Girls Club have a fellowship in Brian's name that places youth in internships at community agencies and government offices.

"They learn about public service and they're all local kids from Boston, most of them from Allston-Brighton and the Brian Honan fellows is a real nice way to remember Brian and to have people continue doing public service," said Kevin Honan.

The race donates to the West End House, a place that was enjoyed by Brian, One Fund Boston Inc., Oak Square YMCA, and many others.



State Representative Kevin Honan presents Mayor Thomas Menino with a shirt before the beginning of the race.

PHOTO BY JOE DIFAZIO

Man loses hands in scary chemical explosion

Gil Haylon
Staff Reporter

A man lost both of his hands in a chemical explosion in his basement apartment at 15 Riley Rd. in Hyde Park last week.

The incident, still under investigation, resulted in a massive police and emergency response to the Geraghty Apartment Complex where the apartment was located.

According to Boston Police Commissioner Edward Davis, two individuals were mixing chemicals in the basement apartment causing the explosion. One individual lost both of his hands in the incident and was transported to Brigham & Women's Hospital for treatment.

"Officers found heavy smoke and fire on arrival and the window in the cellar apartment was blown out," said



One of the individuals injured in the explosion is taken away by paramedics.

PHOTO BY GIL HAYLON

Davis. "The officers entered and found a victim who had lost both his hands."

The commissioner said the victim, in his late 30s or early 40s, was working with chemicals, including a white powder, in the kitchen of his basement apartment when the blast occurred.

The other individual, the victim's roommate, was treated for respiratory problems.

According to Davis the incident did not appear to be drug related, and there were no connections to terrorism. Police officials are analyzing the substances found in the apartment to see what chemicals were involved.

At the time of the incident, the apartment complex was evacuated and the air quality was tested and found to be okay.

The incident resulted in the Bomb Squad, the Hazardous Materials team and the Fire Investigation unit being brought in to examine the scene.

Neighbors described the scene as shocking.

"I heard the explosion and

came outside to see a man bleeding badly," said one neighbor. "It was just a very scary thing."

Davis reported that man who lost his hands explained to police officers that he was "experimenting" with chemicals, causing the explosion.

Davis said the officers were to execute a search warrant of the apartment after the chemical had been checked.

"We'll be going through everything, not just the chemicals in the room, but all of the evidence as we execute a search warrant," Davis said.

No charges have been brought against the individual as of press time, although police officials were investigating his background and criminal history.

Police officials say they used extra caution and that response was particularly large because of the uncertainty surrounding the explosion and the chemical involved.

Two firefighters were hospitalized while battling the small fire, one for chemical inhalation. Both have been treated and released.

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