



## Diehl set to jump into Senate race full time on Aug. 1

**By BRIAN DOWLING**

Republican state Rep. Geoff Diehl, who has been canvassing the state knocking U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren at every stop, is finally ready to announce he's officially running against her. Diehl told the Herald yesterday he made the decision to challenge the dar-

**MASS. FIRST:** State Rep. Geoff Diehl is ready to enter the Senate race full time.

ling of the progressive wing of the Democratic Party after making exploratory stops "from Belchertown to Wellfleet, Lowell up north to Fall River."

On Aug. 1, he's set to jump in the race full time. The Whitman Republican, first elected to the State House in 2010, said he sensed the same enthusiasm present when he led a fight against a push for automatic gas tax increases in 2014, and he argues Warren

hasn't delivered for Massachusetts.

"Those facts led me to believe this race is not only something I should do, but also a very good chance of being able to win," he said. Diehl, co-chairman of Donald Trump's presidential campaign in Massachusetts, has a message that echoes of the Trump's "America First" slogan.

"I am running to put Massachusetts first ... rather than myself," Diehl said.

"I am running to be a jobs senator for the state. I'm running to continue my record of cutting taxes, and I'm also running to make sure we do a better job of stemming illegal immigration."

Diehl said Warren has not delivered for Massachusetts, attacking her for voting against the 21st Century Cures Act and making huge sums from writing books.

Warren has proposed

limiting outside influence in the race, a reprisal of the People's Pledge she and Scott Brown agreed to in 2012. Diehl said Warren's campaign war chest is flush with outside cash such that she should start from scratch to make it a fair fight.

Warren campaign spokeswoman Kristen Orthman said the Bay State's senior senator "is taking nothing for granted."

— brian.dowling@bostonherald.com



STAFF PHOTOS BY PATRICK WHITTEMORE

## EAT, GROW, LEARN

Kids at the Boston Medical Center Culinary Camp, above, surround Tracy Burg, chief dietician at BMC Demonstration Kitchen, and harvest vegetables, right, at its rooftop garden.



# THE DUKE TAKES ON THE DONALD



**Peter GELZINIS**

"We've obviously got a guy with a serious personality disorder."

The "guy" Michael Dukakis was referring to yesterday afternoon was the guy in the White House, Donald J. Trump.

"My wife, Kitty, is very good at recognizing all the signs," the Duke said, "and she says there's absolutely no doubt.

"But what troubles me," the former governor and Democratic presidential nominee added, "is that Trump is surrounded by people who don't seem to even know when they're not telling the truth.

"I mean, my God, every day is like a 'Gong Show' with this crew."

It was right about here when I thought the Duke might sail into a laundry list of tweets and tantrums from the bizarre landscape of TrumpWorld. But I was wrong.

When I asked Dukakis if he thought, or hoped, that some Watergate-like echo might envelop the president before the midterms, or the 2020 election, he politely scoffed at me.

"Are you kidding?" he said, "I don't want Trump going anywhere for a while. He's the best organizing tool Democrats have at the moment.



STAFF FILE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX  
**FIRED UP:** Ex-Bay State Gov. Michael Dukakis with wife, Kitty.

"Look, we need a good kick in the pants to wake up and stop writing off half the country. There are 185,000 precincts in the country and there's no reason why Democrats shouldn't have a precinct captain in every single one of them and people knocking on every single door. We have to start organizing now in every corner of this country."

The Duke sounded absolutely buoyant.

But as for the current sandstorm surrounding Donald the Younger over his bizarre, ever-changing account of last summer's meeting with a low-rent Soviet Mata Hari promising dirt on Hillary, that left Dukakis just a bit cold.

Obviously if the "Russia thing," were to hasten the fall and ultimate departure of the Trumps, that would be fine. But the Duke isn't holding his breath.

"I gotta tell ya," he said, "I'm a bit of a skeptic on this Russia

stuff. I have no doubt this bunch in the White House may have been ham-handed in dealing with the Russians, but the truth is we've been hacking each other for years."

On most nights, Mike Dukakis said, "My bride insists I sit down with her in front of the TV and watch CNN I keep telling her I have work to do.

"I had a student out at UCLA, Jimmy Gomez, who won a seat in the California assembly from East L.A. and just went on to win a Democratic seat in Congress by some 20 points," he said. "He is the son of immigrant parents who came to this country under Ronald Reagan. That's what excites me and gives me hope for the future.

"Seeing Seth Moulton out there urging his fellow veterans to consider running for office at the local level, that's what excites me."

Yelling at the television does not excite Michael Dukakis.