



# HUB OBSERVER

ISSUE #3 MARCH 2013

**Boston, MA** - Tom Menino recently returned to the campaign trail, breaking his fast with friends and co-workers at Our Lady of the Cedars in JP. A supporter of the Mayor quipped that the suggested donation for the event (\$25) was the only price that hadn't risen considerably in the twenty years since the Mayor was first elected to lead our city. In the crowd there was an air of expectancy - many believed that THIS would be the moment when he announced his intention to run for a sixth, and likely final term.

With the recent news that he plans to retire, #bospoliticos are curious to know whom Menino will support, in the epic 6-month marathon that is about to begin. For the first time in a long time, September's preliminary will crown two winners. While only one can be the preferred candidate of the machine, which will continue to whirl even without Menino at the helm, each of the victors can now vie not just for the privilege

of opposition, but for the mantle of aspiration. There will be many disappointed activists on the evening of Tuesday the 24th - what kind of candidate can unite the disparate forces of their several former adversaries? Who can represent the city that Boston has become and the city that we hope to be? Who can present a vision, ask Bostonians to see it and, most importantly, vote for it? Tom Menino was our city's first Italian mayor. In order to become our next mayor, at least one of the two September victors will likely bill themselves as Boston's first \_\_\_\_\_.



Menino was introduced to friends and supporters by Suffolk DA Dan Conley.

## CIVIL RESISTANCE (3/12)

The mass of men serve the state thus, not as men mainly, but as machines, with their bodies. They are the standing army, and the militia, jailers, constables, *posse comitatus*, etc. In most cases there is no free exercise whatever of the judgment or of the moral sense; but they put themselves on a level with wood and earth and stones; and wooden men can perhaps be manufactured that will serve the purpose as well. Such command no more respect than men of straw or a lump of dirt. They have the same sort of worth only as horses and dogs. Yet such as these even are commonly esteemed good citizens. Others, as most legislators, politicians, lawyers, ministers, and office-holders, serve the state chiefly with their heads; and, as they rarely make any moral distinctions, they are as likely to serve the devil, without intending it, as God. A very few, as heroes, patriots, martyrs, reformers in the great sense, and men, serve the state with their consciences also, and so necessarily resist it for the most part; and they are commonly treated as enemies by it. A wise man will only be useful as a man, and will not submit to be "clay," and "stop a hole to keep the wind away," but leave that office to his dust at least: —

"I am too high-born to be propertied,  
To be a secondary at control,  
Or useful serving-man and instrument  
To any sovereign state throughout the world."

He who gives himself entirely to his fellow-men appears to them useless and selfish; but he who gives himself partially to them is pronounced a benefactor and philanthropist. **[CON'D...]**

## GOLDEN APPLE

For Boston's brightest, the kids who teach themselves to read by the age of 3; who complete complex jigsaw puzzles as preschoolers; and who, one day, might create a cure for cancer, propel mankind into a new universe, or just shake our country out of its economic doldrums (in the vein of a Steve Jobs or Larry Page) — for those who don't need extra help, but could use extra attention, the options are few. Unless you reside in one of the few state school districts that provide gifted and talented education; or, if your parents have money to afford private schools.

Understandably, perhaps, the best and brightest are not a priority for the state's educational officials, who admittedly have bigger problems to attend to. The Commonwealth's poorer performing students, and even the average ones, are the main concern, with the state's prime preoccupation being their performance on statewide standardized tests: a barometer that, for better or worse, was established to measure academic progress, as well as teacher competence.

Massachusetts stopped funding gifted education nearly two years ago. "When we fail to cultivate talent, we're losing our future potential (as a country)," said Jane Clarenbach of the National Association of Gifted Children. "We're at risk of losing at least a generation of innovators and creative people." **[CON'D...]**

## RAISER'S EDGE \*asterisk: monthly rather than semi-monthly filers

	2/15/2013	3/15/2013	last deposit	1-month net
12911 Menino	\$628,609.17	\$618,284.15	<b>\$13,221.00</b>	-\$10,325.02
14361 Connolly	\$329,566.91	\$344,864.00	<b>\$33,390.40</b>	<b>\$15,297.09</b>
15073 Ross*	\$238,975.24	\$233,423.97	\$3,460.50	-\$5,551.27
13681 Consalvo	\$67,133.65	<b>\$79,677.25</b>	\$8,910.00	<b>\$12,543.60</b>
10328 Murphy	\$80,690.69	\$78,538.00	\$1,450.00	-\$2,152.69
14896 Arroyo	\$75,638.27	\$74,004.61	\$492.00	-\$1,633.66
15563 Wu	\$42,840.75	\$46,858.35	\$7,620.00	\$4,007.60
15281 Lee	\$33,368.21	\$41,110.00	\$2,402.88	\$7,741.79
14920 Pressley	\$22,438.45	\$31,782.12	\$9,830.00	\$9,343.67
14092 O'Malley	\$18,866.98	\$24,935.09	\$5,836.27	\$6,068.11
15111 Yancey*	\$14,336.09	\$15,978.90	\$4,114.25	\$1,642.81
15085 LaMattina	\$2,251.87	<b>\$15,651.11</b>	<b>\$22,825.00</b>	<b>\$13,399.24</b>
14931 Jackson	\$7,594.38	\$13,013.26	\$3,837.12	\$5,418.88
15071 Ciommo*	\$13,469.30	\$11,498.54	\$500.00	-\$1,970.76
15079 Linehan	\$6,471.67	\$4,420.67	\$2,800.00	-\$2,051.00
15333 Baker*	\$750.15	\$4,282.46	\$3,140.00	\$3,532.31
15562 Clemons	\$29.68	\$254.62	\$244.92	\$224.94
15311 Dorcena	\$18.17	-\$13.15	\$5,254.21	-\$31.32

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## UPTOWN/DOWNTOWN

The buzz in town this past week (before Menino's future abdication shook the media world to its molten core) was of "micro-units," and how Boston could solve a seemingly permanent housing crisis with a few hundred 300-square foot apartment units along Fort Point Channel. If only it were going to be that easy.

For the uninitiated, micro-units, also known as "innovation units," are one-room studio apartments with as little as 300-square feet of space per unit, including room for a bed, kitchenette, closet, and separate bath with stand-up shower. Cost to rent: estimated to be around \$4 per square foot, or roughly \$1,200 per month.

Theoretically - and that is the thought space we inhabit now, since only a couple of these units have yet been built - the idea makes sense. Young, single professionals don't need a lot of storage space, just a place to crash at night and drink coffee in the morning. Many eat out or have dinner delivered; find attainment in activity (clubs and concerts); and don't own cars or other bulky possessions. A micro-unit is the modern version of the "bachelor pad" of days past - no frills, and no frill-related expenses (Mary Tyler Moore lived in such a small apartment, now that I come to think of it.) **[CON'D...]**

## MASS GENERAL

M.G.L c. 140, § 121 - "Rifle", a weapon having a rifled bore with a barrel length equal to or greater than 16 inches and capable of discharging a shot or bullet for each pull of the trigger... "Semiautomatic", capable of utilizing a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round, and requiring a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge.

M.G.L c. 140, § 128B - Any resident of the commonwealth [and any nonresident of the commonwealth] who purchases or obtains a firearm, rifle or shotgun or machine gun from any source within or without the commonwealth, other than from a licensee under section one hundred and twenty-two or a person authorized to sell firearms under section one hundred and twenty-eight A...and receives such firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun, within the commonwealth shall within seven days after receiving such firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun, report, in writing, to the commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services the name and address of the seller or donor and the buyer or donee, together with a complete description of the firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun, including the caliber, make and serial number. Whoever violates any provision of this section shall for the first offense be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 and for any subsequent offense by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than ten years.

## SPES PUBLICA

Lost in the media hysterics surrounding the tweet heard round the hub was the fact that the coldest burning primary third rail was touched in both 30-minute U.S. Senate debates on Wednesday. Remarkably, each of the five candidates (2 Democrats and 3 Republicans), had a different position on what - for many people - is simply an either-or, yes-no, sort of issue. In the order in which they were asked to address it:

### REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES for U.S. SENATE

Sullivan: Have always been pro-life.  
Winslow: Is pro-choice.  
Gomez: Is Catholic, but supports a women's right to choose.

### DEMOCRAT CANDIDATES for U.S. SENATE

Lynch: Personally pro-life, unwilling to force views on others.  
Markey: Pro-choice, with support and endorsement of NARAL and Planned Parenthood.

