



**Alderman Stone faces Silverstein's challenge and Forms Alliance with Senator Hillary Clinton's Presidential Campaign**



**Larry Suffredin Campaigns for State's Attorney**

**Complete Election Guide Inside**



**Are the Republican Candidates the Jewish Community's best bet?**

**Senator Barack Obama Where does he stand on Israel?**



**Santos Meany and Maragos compete for MWRD slots**



**Senator Ira Silverstein challenges Alderman Berny Stone**



**Justices Alan Greiman & Michael B. Hyman Full judicial review inside**

# Jewish Chicago Election Analysis

by Avy Meyers

Election day in Illinois has been moved up by the governor and the Illinois legislature to Tuesday February 5th with the idea that Illinois voters should have an early voice in what should still be a very active, vibrant and undecided presidential campaign. A voice that will enable Illinois voters to give an extra push in favor of Illinois' freshman, junior U.S. Democratic Senator, Barack Obama.

Early voting is already underway at a number of locations through out the area. No need to file for an absentee ballot. Just walk in and vote. It is perfectly legal to take Jewish Chicago into the voting booth and use it as your election guide.

The Chicago Board of Election's "grace period" registration is underway through Tues., Jan 22, 2008. "Under this newer provision of the state Election Code, eligible voters may still register or update their records during the 'grace period,' but only at Election Board headquarters – and they must vote in that same visit" according to Chicago Election Board Chairman Langdon D. Neal.

Chicago voters who use the "grace period" must come to 69 W. Washington St., Suite 600. Hours for "grace period" registration and voting are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 9 a.m. to noon on Sundays.

Unlike voters who registered by the January 8 deadline, voters who update records or register during the "grace period" cannot vote at their polling places on Election Day or in the Early Voting Program.

If for whatever reason you are not registered and won't be able to vote in this primary election, it still makes good sense to register now so you will be able to vote in the Presidential election this fall. In Chicago, you would call the Chicago Board of Elections at (312) 269-7936 to find the location nearest you. In suburban Cook County call (312) 603-0906.

Before I get started with the candidate rundown, it is important for everyone to know the criteria used in making endorsements.

Just being Jewish is not enough, not even close. If a Jewish candidate is pitted against a non-Jewish candidate and all things are equal in terms of their ability to do the job, there won't necessarily be an endorsement.

There are some non-Jews who have done an absolutely superb job of taking care of both Jewish concerns and the community. They will most certainly be endorsed and yes, even against Jewish opposition. If a Jewish candidate is well qualified for the office but does not take care of real Jewish concerns for his or her constituents, he/she will not be endorsed.

If there is no real benefit to the Jewish community in a race, it may not be touched. There are regular newspapers and various political experts in other media who can perform that function. This is a Jewish newspaper and I focus on Jewish concerns.

The bottom line is that Jewish Chicago looks for candidates of quality for the community as a whole who will take care of Jewish concerns as they arise. The primary Jewish concerns are on a national level and concern Israel.

Advertising in Jewish Chicago has nothing to do with who gets endorsed and people that know me understand that. Compare the ads and the endorsements and it is obvious many endorsed candidates placed no ads and there are advertisers who are not endorsed.

I hosted a live one hour election preview show on CANTV-19, Sunday morning January 20th that featured Cook County States Attorney Candidate, **Commissioner Larry Suffredin** (D) and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District **Commissioner Cynthia Santos** (D), with live call-ins from **Judge Alan Greiman** and **Judge Michael B. Hyman** among others. The program was produced by Sonny Hersh and cohosted by Jim Nally and can be watched in its entirety on the web at <http://ntnm.org/>.

If you are reading this publication at <http://avyworld.com/> on a computer that is hooked up to the web, all you have to do is double click on any active web address in this publication and that web site will open in a secondary window.

## The Presidential Election & Israel

*Elect*

# Judge Laretta Higgins Wolfson

## For Cook County Circuit Court

### Legal Experience:

- General Counsel, Illinois Department of Human Services
- Cook County Assistant State's Attorney
- Cook County Hearing Officer

### Teaching:

- Adjunct Professor of Law, Chicago-Kent College of Law 1993 - present
- Lecturer at Law, University of Chicago Law School 1994 - 2000

### Endorsements:

- Cook County Democratic Party
- Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
- Cook County Colleges Teachers Union
- Fraternal Order of Police
- Chicago Fire Fighters Union
- Cook County State's Attorney Richard A. Devine
- Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart

### Quotes:

"Ms. Wolfson has a distinguished legal career and an excellent public service record."  
*Chicago Bar Association, September 19, 2006*

"Highly Recommended" *Decalogue Society*

"Laretta Higgins Wolfson has had a distinguished career in the law, including her work with the State's Attorney's office. Throughout her career in our office, she represented the County in the civil area, handling difficult cases with professionalism and sound judgment. Her legal background and extensive experience have prepared her well to serve as a judge in Cook County."  
*Richard A. Devine, Cook County State's Attorney*



**Mark Ballot #77**

One of the biggest Israel problems facing pro Israel Presidential candidates is that the present Israeli Prime Minister Ohlmert and ruling party don't appear to be very pro Israel themselves. The increasing concessions that the Prime Minister is willing to make are horrifying and mind numbing.

As pro Israel as Bush always seemed to be, he is not going to do more than Israel wants, not even close. The serious missteps of the Israeli leadership threaten Israel's security, the life of its' citizens and empower the numerous Arab nations and groups that will settle for nothing less than the complete and utter annihilation of Israel and its Jewish people.

### The Democratic Candidates

There are three people still standing in the Democratic presidential race and only two real players, **Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton** and **Sen. Barack Obama**. **John Edwards** has the money to stay in the race and the polls show he is still in double digits. **Bill Richards, Dennis Kucinich, Chris Dodd** and **Joe Biden** are also on the ballot.

Edwards actually isn't that bad, very intelligent, fair minded, despite the wealth and \$400 haircuts, he wasn't born rich and achieved wealth on his own. He has a decent record on Israel but is well behind in the polls.

Hillary Clinton is a 2nd term senator from New York, first lady of the United States for eight years, highly successful and respected attorney in Arkansas before hitting the national scene. She was born in Park Ridge, Illinois.



Obama was born to a Kenyanese father and a Kansas Christian mother. He did his share of traveling before settling in Chicago. He was a State Senator, lost a congressional bid to Bobby Rush and was down double digits in the polls for his Democratic primary senate bid when the details of Blair Hull's ugly divorce came to light. Obama won.

When his Republican opponent was caught lying about his divorce and ugly personal matters became public, his opponent withdrew from the race and Obama had a virtual free ride against a weak out of State candidate to a seat in the U.S. Senate.

Obama's voting record and stances on many key issues are remarkably similar to that of Clinton, except for one key area, Israel.

In choosing New York, Sen. Clinton had a need to ingratiate herself to its large Jewish community.

She has been a consistent friend of Israel in her voting and actions. Whether she really believes in Israel or just pandering to the Jewish community is an excellent question. Still, you have to like that she has chosen to seek strongly seek our favor.

Where does Obama stand on Israel? Nobody really knows. True, he attended a Muslim school overseas and is a practicing Christian today. Most of the Obama stories making the rounds on the internet are pretty exaggerated and not all that believable. Still, Obama really hasn't done anything to befriend himself to the Jewish people or Israeli interests. He has met with some Jewish leaders and organizations. He has really not done anything tangible to curry our favor, just rhetoric. He does have Jewish friends. Illinois **State Senator Ira Silverstein** (8th) who is challenging **Ald. Berny Stone** (a Clinton Delegate in the 9th) for 50th ward Democratic committeeman is one and he is supporting Obama. Silverstein shared a suite with Obama when Obama was a State Senator. Silverstein, who is observant, was advised by Sen. Joseph Lieberman regarding what to do when the legislature was in on Shabbos, had Obama flicking switches for him during Shabbos Senate sessions. Nationwide, Obama has no real significant Jewish support (outside of some of the ultra liberal crowd) in fact the vast majority of the pro-Israel crowd is dead set against him. Obama also has absolutely no record as an executive, merely a legislator. Given how long he has been running for President, he also has very little experience as a national legislator and virtually no experience in foreign policy.

Another very troubling matter is the close relationship Obama has with twice indicted influence peddler, businessman **Tony Rezko**. The Chicago Sun-Times wrote (<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/353829,CST-NWS-rez23.article>)

"Obama has been friends with Rezko for 17 years. Rezko has been a political patron to Obama and many others, helping to raise millions of dollars for them through his own contributions and by hosting fund-raisers in his home.

"Obama, who has worked as a lawyer and a legislator to improve living conditions for the poor, took campaign donations from Rezko even as Rezko's low-income housing empire was collapsing, leaving many African-American families in buildings riddled with problems -- including squalid living conditions, vacant apartments, lack of heat, squatters and drug dealers."

# Greiman FOR JUSTICE

**Justice Alan Greiman has served on the Illinois Appellate Court for 16 years and has been the Chief Judge for the last 11 years.**

**The Chicago Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association and Decalogue Society of Lawyers found Judge Greiman "Highly Qualified"**



**"Justice Greiman's experience intelligence and integrity strengthen our court system"**

**Hon. Abner J. Mikva**

**EXPERIENCE COUNTS!**

**MARK #70 ON YOUR BALLOT**

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STATE'S ATTORNEY

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**Candidate for Cook County State's Attorney**

**[www.SuffredinForStatesAttorney.org](http://www.SuffredinForStatesAttorney.org)**

**Endorsed by the Chicago Sun Times Punch 59!**

**RE-ELECT**

**Kenneth H. Hollander**

**50th Ward Republican Committeeman**

**To all my 50th Ward Neighbors, Friends and Supporters.**

**For those of you who plan to vote Republican on Feb. 5th**

**Please go to the very end of the ballot**

**and vote for me in the contest for Republican Committeeman**

**There are many important functions a Republican Committeeman performs**

**and I have an established record of working on behalf of our community.**

**Your continued support for my re-election is most sincerely appreciated.**

**Kenneth H. Hollander**

**Mark Ballot #79 at the very end of the Ballot**

The Sun-Times continues later in the same article:

“Obama, now a U.S. senator running for president, has come under fire over his friendship with Rezko, who was charged last fall with demanding kickbacks on state business deals under Gov. Blagojevich.

“Much of the criticism has centered on two real estate deals involving Obama’s South Side mansion. In the first, Obama paid \$300,000 less than the asking price for a doctor’s home, while Rezko’s wife paid the doctor full price for the vacant lot next door. Then -- a few months before Rezko was indicted -- Obama bought part of that lot from Rezko’s wife.



“But Obama’s ties with Rezko go beyond those two real estate sales and the political support, the Sun-Times found. Obama was an attorney with a small Chicago law firm -- Davis Miner Barnhill & Galland -- that helped Rezko get more than \$43 million in government funding to rehab 15 of their 30 apartment buildings for the poor.”

(If you go to our website - <http://avyworld.com/>, you can click directly on any live web link in this publication and a secondary window will open directly to that link. There is much more in that Sun-Times story.)

As for Sen. Clinton, according to Alan Greenspan, the economic czar under numerous presidents, was rating various past presidents and national figures during a recent 60 minutes interview. Greenspan, a staunch Republican stated that Clinton was extremely astute and has what it takes to be a really effective president.

While many Jews are inclined to vote Republican and Giuliani among others, has many Jewish supporters, the vast majority of Jewish voters and Israel allies who will be voting Democratic, are clearly in favor of Hillary.

Obama is very charismatic, and is an inspirational speaker, but with no real record of accomplishment and absolutely no evidence of support for Israel or the Jewish community, there is absolutely no reason any Jewish person should be voting for Obama, none!

Voting Democrat? **Jewish Chicago clearly endorses Hillary Rodham Clinton for the Democratic nomination for President.**

### The Republican Candidates

The Republican side of the ballot still has many active viable presidential candidates and things keep changing. There are 9 candidates running in Illinois. A recent New York Times/CBS News poll had **Sen. John McCain** at 33%, former Arkansas **Gov. Mike Huckabee** in second at 18% with former Massachusetts **Gov. Mitt Romney** in third and former NYC **Mayor Rudy Giuliani** at 10%. McCain won New Hampshire following Huckabee’s Iowa win and Romney captured Michigan. Giuliani will not be actively participating in a primary until Florida on January 29th, the week before “Super Tuesday” when Illinois will be one of 24 states going to the polls.



Former Sen. **Fred Thompson** was near the top of polls last year and **Congressman Ron Paul** has created a clear niche with strong support mostly through the internet with a certain brand of voter, has raised a good chunk of change, but is just not popular enough to win anything.

Senator John McCain has been a consistent supporter of Israel and the Jewish community. He is 71, very level headed and is at the minute this is being written, the surprising front runner in the Republican presidential derby after almost disappearing from the scene. We could do a lot worse than him in having a true friend in the White House.

Mike Huckabee spent a significant part of his life as a Baptist pastor and was president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Here is what he says on his website about Israel:

“I am a steadfast supporter of Israel, our staunch ally in the War on Terror, the only fully-functioning democracy in the Middle East, and our greatest friend in that region.



**JUDGE MICHAEL B.  
HYMAN**  
★ COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE ★

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**Ballot #100**



*“He works hard at projects that benefit the bar and the public.”*  
**Chicago Daily Law Bulletin**

**VOTE DEMOCRAT FEBRUARY 5, 2008**

**VOTE**  
**BERNARD L. STONE**  
**DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEEMAN**  
**50<sup>TH</sup> WARD**



*Keep the 50<sup>th</sup> Ward Moving Forward*

**VOTE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 • BALLOT #120**

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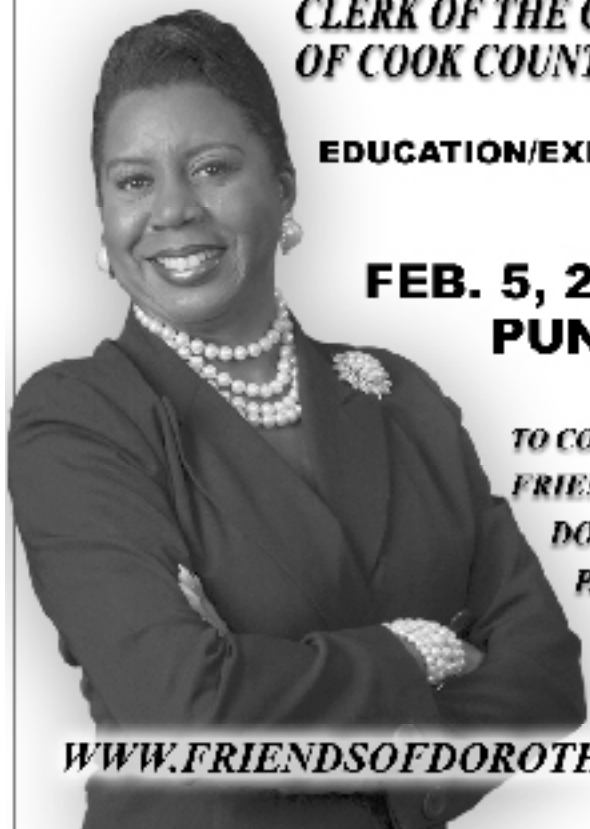
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**FEB. 5, 2008  
PUNCH 62**

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SHAPIRO**



**President, Decalogue  
Society of Lawyers**



**"Judge Shapiro is well regarded for his integrity and  
fine judicial temperament." Chicago Bar Association, 2007**

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<b>Hon. Abner J. Mikva</b>	<b>Chicago Federation of Labor</b>
<b>Sen. Arthur L. Berman (ret.)</b>	<b>IVIPO</b>
<b>Rep. Julie Hamos</b>	<b>Jewish Political Alliance</b>

**Vote for Independence & Integrity**

**Vote Democratic  
Tuesday, February 5, 2008**

**8th Subcircuit  
Punch #108**

**Paid for by Committee to Elect Judge Shapiro**

**www.judgeshapiro.org**



"The United States must remain true to its long-standing commitment to the Israeli people. As President, I will always ensure that Israel has access to the state-of-the-art weapons and technology she needs to defend herself from those who seek her annihilation."

He wears his religion on his sleeve, his policies always stay true to his Christian beliefs. His religions believes that their Messiah won't come until Israel is peacefully settled by the Jews and that is their only source of friendship to Jews or Israel.

Mitt Romney, winner of the Michigan primary, is an extremely successful businessman, son of former Michigan Governor George Romney, served as the governor in Massachusetts. He is an active role model to many, and seems like a decent human being.

**Dr. Michael Menis** who heads the Republican Jewish Coalition in Chicagoland is running as a Mitt Romney Delegate in the North Suburban 10th Congressional District where **Cong. Mark Kirk** so ably serves. Menis urged me to examine Romney's position on Israel. He feels Romney is a true friend and supporter. Another Jewish Romney Delegate is 42nd ward Republican Committeeman **Eloise Gerson** in the 7th congressional district where Danny Davis serves as Congressman.



There is no visible enthusiastic Ron Paul Israel stance that I have seen, so I'll take a pass.

Fred Thompson sees Israel as a key strategic partner and ally of the U.S. He condemns Iran, Syria, Hizballah and Hamas role in creating, supporting and spreading terror. Thompson has a very good record of supporting Israel. It would appear he has already peaked, but the Republican race is still very competitive.

Rudy Giuliani is a true friend of Israel and the Jewish people and it's sad to say that he is a bigger fan of the aforementioned than Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. As Mayor of New York, he championed the local Jewish population and his actions during and concerning 9/11 are those of a champion. He has been in a most important executive position as Mayor of our nation's largest city and served during a crisis of extreme proportion and came through like a real champion. I've actually heard more bad about him from New Yorkers than the Chicagoland Jewish population. Mostly I've heard complaints about how he managed New York outside of 9/11, but New York, unlike Chicago has a long history of being ungovernable and disjointed.

Giuliani is betting on Florida and is mounting his first major offensive for the January 29th primary there. He is largely ignoring the earlier primaries, choosing to put his resources where he will gain the most delegates.



If I were to vote Republican and this time I won't because of local races in my own backyard, I would clearly vote for Rudy Giuliani. He has the stuff it takes and Israel and the Jewish community couldn't ask for a better friend.

We have a lot more good friends on the Republican side of the presidential ballot this year than the other party.

Jewish Chicago thanks Rudy Giuliani for his consistently strong support of the Jewish Community and the people of Israel. **Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Rudy Giuliani for President of the United States on the Republican side of the**

**ballot.**

**Illinois Congressional Races**

The seat of senior, 2 term Illinois **Senator Dick Durbin** is up for election this year. Durbin, a resident of Springfield, won his first national election defeating the incumbent champion of Arab causes, Cong. Paul Findlay (R) via strong Jewish support in a district that has very few Arabs or Jews.

I am neither a Liberal or Conservative, Republican or Democrat. I have come to believe in practical, real solutions to the problems of this nation. Durbin on a number of issues, is way too liberal for my taste. He remains a consistent ally of Israel and his door, his mind and heart have always been open to the Jewish community. Durbin is extremely intelligent, sharp as a tack and has risen to the rank of Democratic Whip in the U.S. Senate, which bodes well for his ability to aid the development of major projects in the State of Illinois. Though he is running unopposed, be sure to **mark ballot #8 to show Jewish support for Sen. Richard Durbin.**



In the house, 5th District **Cong. Rahm Emanuel** has himself risen to great heights in only two terms in Congress. He is solid on Israel, is huge on the Democratic national scene. He is in a position to be of major help to his fellow Jews. **Jewish Chicago endorses Cong. Rahm Emanuel in the 5th congressional district of Illinois.**

In the 8th district, North and Northwest suburbs including portions of Lake, McHenry and Cook counties where Democratic **Cong. Melissa Bean** is the incumbent, **Jewish Chicago encourages Republican voters to cast their ballot for Steve Greenberg.**

In the 9th congressional district, the most liberal in Illinois, I have always said we are fortunate to have someone who at least votes for Israel in **Cong. Jan Schakowsky**, though she is by no means a champion for Israel.

She has spent most of her spare time successfully becoming a big time political boss in the 9th district. She controls the political organizations on Chicago's north end of the lake front, in Evanston, Skokie, Niles, plus more. The only part of her district she doesn't control is the 50th ward, West Rogers Park and Peterson Park. The land of **Ald. Berny Stone**. She has made many efforts in the past to get him to ditch his ally, Chicago **Mayor Richard M. Daley** for her crew. For years, Stone has always her invitation.

I interviewed Schakowsky for my television show about once a year. I interviewed her in August for a full uncut 29 minutes at her office on Broadway, just south of Bryn Mawr. Not going to lie to you, I like Schakowsky, I have always really liked her, though our politics are often very different. We spoke longer off camera than on camera. Leslie Combs, her chief aide is absolutely terrific and the staff is extremely nice, polite and helpful. Still, her role as a political boss is often not in the best interests of the Jewish community. I've had more than one person I know and trust tell me she has looked them in the eye, pledged her support, and backed their opponent.

She was clear on air during our interview that she is supporting Sen. Ira Silverstein for 50th ward committeeman versus Berny Stone and that another of her allies that she thinks very highly of, Naisy Dolar is also strongly supporting Silverstein. Schakowsky praised Silverstein for their shared progressive, liberal agenda.

Sorry Jan, not going to support you this time. You'll clobber your nondescript opponent in the primary with ease, but you not acting in the best interests of the Jewish community. You are using Silverstein to weaken Stone and will dump Ira in a heartbeat.

The tenth congressional district features my favorite Illinois champion of Israel, incumbent Republican **Cong. Mark Steven Kirk**. His stances on Israel and his consistent support of Jewish causes within his north suburban district is admirable. **Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Mark Steven Kirk in the tenth Congressional District.**

On the Democratic side, **Dan Seals**, a very liberal Democrat ran a serious campaign against Kirk and almost won in 06. He has opposition from Skokie born, Buffalo Grove native **Jay K. Footlik** who is Jewish and highly preferable to Seals who is not our friend.

If you are voting Democratic in the 10th Congressional District, mark your ballot for Jay K. Footlik. **Jewish Chicago endorses Jay K. Footlik.**

### To watch the Schakowsky interview or any other on the web

Go to <http://ntnm.org/> to watch the entire televised interview which like all my shows is totally uncut and raw at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tda68rgBWbg&eurl=http://ntnm.org/listings/tvb393-97-i.htm>. If you go to <http://avyworld.com/> and go to this very issue on the web site, you can just click on that link or the link of any other live web site on the shows and a secondary window will open directly to that web site. TV show wise, you can watch almost any show I have done in the last year on Youtube through our web site. An extra special thanks to Sonny Hersh who is 100% responsible for all things technical on this 3 time nationally award winning show. (Best News Show, Making a Difference in the Community, Alliance for Community Media)



### Cook County Races

#### Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Three of the nine seats for Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago are up for election every two years. Most people are really unfamiliar with the MWRD as they are not in the news anywhere near as much as they were in the 90's when the MWRD was rocked by major scandals, it's President ousted in disgrace. MWRD also made the news every time they had to release untreated storm water runoff and effluent into Lake Michigan which was a disturbingly frequent scenario.

## Eugene 'Gene' Moore

*is a committed public servant  
for the citizens of Cook County.*



**On Tuesday, February 5, 2008**

**Punch 63 and Re-Elect**

## Eugene 'Gene' Moore

### Cook County Recorder of Deeds

ELECT

## DEBRA B. WALKER

DEMOCRAT FOR JUDGE



**Ballot #91**

**Ballot #91**

**COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**

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- Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
- Chicago Fire Fighters Union
- Cook County Commissioner Mike Quigley

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★ Illinois Super Lawyer 2007 ★

★ Past President—Women's Bar Association of Illinois ★

★ Found Qualified, Recommended or Highly Recommended  
by all bar associations ★

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*Re-Elect*

# Cynthia M. Santos

**Commissioner of the  
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District**



**Mark #49  
for**

**Lower Taxes and Cleaner Water**

**A VOTE FOR REAL COURTROOM EXPERIENCE**

# Thomas J. BYRNE

**DEMOCRAT for  
Judge of the Circuit Court  
"Ballot 90"**

For more than eighteen years as a prosecutor and leader in the law enforcement community, Thomas J. Byrne has made tough decisions, guided by his sworn duty to follow the law and do what is right...



**ENDORSED BY:**

- Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
- Cook County Democratic Party
- Fraternal Order of Police
- The Illinois Committee for Honest Government IVI-IFO
- Jewish Political Alliance of Illinois
- Local 399 Operating Engineer's Union
- Italian American Police Association
- And many others ...

**"HIGHLY RECOMMENDED"**

- Northwest Suburban Bar Association
- Women's Bar Association
- Hispanic Bar Association of Illinois
- Derogogue Society of Lawyers

"Tom Byrne has had a distinguished career in the State's Attorney's Office. His legal background and extensive trial experience have prepared him well for a judgeship."

**Cook County State's Attorney Richard Devine**

Forced to clean up their act, the remaining commissioners turned to West Rogers Park native Terry O'Brien, to right their sinking ship and so he did. I cannot emphasize strongly enough how much good O'Brien has done for Jewish schools, organizations and individuals. The people that run the MWRD have created a model of efficiency and intelligent leadership. They are the 3rd largest land owner in Illinois. The land on both sides of the Chicago River, Chicago Sanitary Ship Canal and North Shore Channel is largely theirs. They have a policy against selling any real estate in Chicago. They lease it out, some leases are as long as 99 years with a strict set of criteria that eliminates the possibility of the kind of political deals at public expense.



The MWRD owns the land where the Lincoln Village Shopping Center sits, the Joan Dachs Bais Yaakov Girls Elementary School, Thillens Stadium, the path ways along McCormick Blvd. The District generates so much lease income that in many years they actually lower their portion of the Cook County real estate tax. The MWRD tax rate rarely rises.

They have AAA bond ratings, the very highest, from Moodys, Fitch and Standard and Poors, the only three recognized bond rating agencies. MWRD built 109 miles of tunnel, approximately 300 feet under the ground for a mere fraction of what it cost the British and the French to build three 33 mile tunnels under the English Channel. In the fact the British and French came here to study our Deep Tunnel project and used it as a model for their successful project.

The now completed deep tunnel portion of the project is used to send excess storm water, runoff and effluent (wasteful discharge) to three huge quarries that are in various stages of construction. When finished, they will have the capacity to hold 18 billion gallons of storm water. This system has resulted in easing flooding throughout Cook County. The amount of money that has already been saved by home owners and businesses is greater than the final cost of the entire project.

Once upon a time, whoever got the nod from the Cook County Democratic Party was a sure winner. That is no longer true. Interestingly, seven of the nine MWRD Commissioners are women. This year, there are eight candidates vying for three slots.

Incumbent **Commissioner Cynthia B. Santos** chairs the MWRD's financial committee and has worked diligently and intelligently to assure the ongoing stream of income that is crucial to keeping tax rates low as well as those AAA bond ratings. Her husband is **State Rep. Richard Bradley** who is running for the State Senate in the northwest side's 20th district.

She has worked closely with O'Brien and the other Commissioners over the past 12 years to form the most efficient government entity in the State of Illinois. **Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Commissioner Cynthia B. Santos, ballot #49 for reelection to the MWRD.**

**Commissioner Kathleen Therese Meany**, vice president of the MWRD, is a frequent traveler to the nations capital to lobby for the federal dollars necessary to complete the reservoir portion of MWRD's Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP). She is hard working and conscientious. She initiated the MWRD's household hazardous waste collection days where people can bring their old paints, waste oils and any other hazardous substances they may have around their house for proper environmental disposal. Call 312-751-5700 for information. Meany has distinguished herself in office and helps create the strong bond that fuels this uniquely successful government agency. **Jewish Chicago heartily endorses Kathleen Therese Meany, ballot #46 for reelection to the MWRD.**

Since you get to vote for three, lets pick one new Commissioner who has a long history of constructive civic involvement on many levels and is extremely familiar with the functions of the MWRD, **Dean T. Maragos**. Maragos is another who thinks highly of President O'Brien and his real estate and legal expertise make him a good addition to the agency.

**Jewish Chicago endorses Dean T. Maragos, ballot #48 for election as Commissioner of the MWRD.**

There is also a most interesting sub plot going on in a potential attempt to wrest control of the Presidency of the MWRD from Terry O'Brien. Schakowsky offered to back one of the candidates on the ballot in return for contributing to and endorsing Sen. Ira Silverstein for 50th Ward Committeeman as well as voting for Schakowsky favorite Commissioner Debra Shore for President of the MWRD. Stay tuned.

**Cook County State's Attorney**

For the past 12 years, Chicago has been fortunate to have **Dick Devine** as its State's Attorney. He brought a special brand of integrity and professionalism to the office. He has decided to enter private practice as his long years of public service have not allowed someone of his capabilities to set aside a proper nest egg for his family. We wish him well.



# VOTE DEMOCRATIC

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Friends and Neighbors:

I am asking you for your support by voting for two of my friends and colleagues who are running for re-election as Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

**Kathleen Therese Meany**

**Ballot #46**

**Cynthia Santos**

**Ballot #49**



**Terrence J. O'Brien**

**President/Commissioner**

**Metropolitan Water Reclamation District  
of Greater Chicago**

**VOTE DEMOCRATIC**

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

**QUALIFIED.  
COMMITTED.  
HARD WORKING.**

Maureen Ward Kirby is "highly regarded by her peers for her work ethic and legal ability."

-Chicago Bar Association

Judge Ward Kirby "is considered to have good legal ability with an excellent demeanor. She is praised for her courtroom management skills."

-Chicago Council of Lawyers

**Mark #84**

*Elect Judge Maureen*  
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Field for the Committee to Elect Judge Maureen Ward Kirby

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**Paula M. LINGO**



**Vote #95**

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Endorsed by:  
Democratic Party of Cook County  
Chicago Federation of Labor  
Independent Voters of Illinois (IVI-IPO)  
Chicago Firefighters Union Local #2

Field for Citizens to Elect Paula M. Lingo

Six candidates have entered the Democratic primary while Cook County Board Commissioner Tony Peraica stands alone on the Republican side of the ballot. **Ald. Howard Brookins** and **Tommy Brewer** are the two black candidates. Brewer has run for public office on more than one occasion in the past and has no real voter base. Brookins has garnered a lot of support in the black community. He is from the far South side and is in his second term. He has also been hit with his second recent law suit for non payment of rent. Not the sort of thing that would tempt me to vote for him. Scratch Brookins.

Then you have the #2 and #3 people in the States Attorney's office, **Robert Milan** and **Anita Alvarez**. Devine has chosen to endorse his #2 aide Milan as his choice over #3 Alvarez. While the Chicago Sun-Times said nice things about both, they felt that Milan was more of a soldier than a general. As for Alvarez, they felt "she focused more on domestic violence and community-based offices than dealing with what we think are more pressing issues."

There are two other choices for State's Attorney. Northwest side **Alderman Tom Allen** is an interesting individual but he has never really distinguished himself in the field of law and this is after all a contest for the leadership of an office that employs more lawyers than the largest Chicago law firm. Only Los Angeles has a larger court system than Cook County.

Cook County **Commissioner Larry Suffredin** has distinguished himself as a lawyer. He is a partner in the prestigious firm of Shesky & Froelich Ltd. Lloyd Shesky championed the local chapter of the American Israel Chamber of Commerce for over a quarter century. Suffredin has worked in the States Attorney's office and has tried cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Comm. Suffredin has spent a good part of his career as a lobbyist. The 13th District contains large chunks of West Rogers Park and Rogers Park, all of Evanston, Skokie, Lincolnwood and the Northern suburbs all the way up to the Lake - Cook Border. Suffredin has been an important part of the new and needed reform group in the Cook County Board and is endorsed by **Commissioner Forrest Claypool** and **Commissioner Mike Quigley**. He made bringing an affordable health care facility to his district a major priority and he has succeeded in landing a new federally qualified health center.

"Heartland health center services will include prenatal and primary care, pediatrics, some psychiatry, and other services. The clinic will be fully renovated and located at Touhy and Bell Avenues in a currently vacant medical facility." Word is a second facility is on the way.

Despite the presence of two black candidates in the race, **Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.** as well as distinguished Illinois **Secretary of State Jesse White** have endorsed Larry Suffredin. Both Alderman Berny Stone and Senator Ira Silverstein who are engaged in a heated battle for the 50th Ward Democratic Committeeman's slot are both endorsing Suffredin. In their endorsement of Suffredin, the Chicago Sun-Times wrote "as county commissioner, he understands how government works and that you must craft coalitions with political and community leaders to get the job done."

If Suffredin has a fault, it's that he tries to make everyone happy, oddly he often succeeds. Suffredin is a quality individual and has always made himself available to the needs of the Jewish Community.

**Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Commissioner Larry Suffredin for State's Attorney, mark #59 on the Democratic Ballot.**

**Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County**

The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County has 2,200 employees servicing court rooms from Markham to Rolling Meadows with many points in between. The system that two term incumbent Dorothy Brown inherited needed some major modernization. Brown has a very unique set of qualifications, a JD, CPA and MBA and is highly skilled in computer sciences.

Clerk Brown has not only modernized the office of the Clerk, she has been in the forefront of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information System, designed to properly share information between law enforcement and governmental agencies throughout the state. How often has someone been pulled over by the police in one locale and the police did not know he is wanted for a serious crime in another jurisdiction. She has championed putting these different agencies on the same wavelength while being careful to protect the rights of the individual.

Brown is running unopposed but is highly deserving of your vote. **Mark Ballot #62 for Dorothy A. Brown for Clerk of the Circuit Court.**

**Recorder of Deeds of Cook County**

**Alderman Ed Smith** (28th), a 24 year veteran of the Chicago City Council is a very likeable individual. A former peace corps member who served in India, he made news this year in leading the charge in City Council against Police brutality and his staunch opposition of the mayor's budget. Shockingly, **Mayor Richard M. Daley** has actually endorsed his nemesis for Recorder of Deeds. Many think that is because Smith is such a thorn in Daley's side, he wants him out of the City Council.





Incumbent Recorder Eugene "Gene" Moore, a Maywood native, was allied with former Cook County Board President John Stroger. Moore is also likeable, but he and Smith are very different individuals. Smith is considered a progressive, I'm still not sure what that really means. Smith is more an idea person, a thinker, a legislative type. Moore, is old school, a doer. I talked to a number of elected officials about the two candidates and the responses I received surprised me.

One important official I spoke with told me that Smith's ward organization accomplishes less than any other in Chicago. They said Gene Moore has a record of accomplishment and gets things done. One Jewish leader who deals with both said Smith is bad news and he loves working with Gene Moore. He called

him a winner and a true friend of labor.

**Jewish Chicago endorses Eugene Moore, ballot #63 for Recorder of Deeds of Cook County.**

### Illinois State Senate

There are no contested races of any importance in the primary but there are four races worth noting. In the 7th District, Rogers Park and Edgewater, incumbent Jewish Senator and Blagojevich ally, **Carol Ronen** has resigned and there is an election to fill the unexpired 2 years of the term. **Heather Steans** who is Jewish, is Ronen's hand picked candidate to be her successor, no recommendation in my book. She has the support of the Schakowsky political organization. Suzanne Elder opposes her for the Democratic nod. **Jewish Chicago** has no recommendation here.

In the 8th district, 10 year veteran **Senator Ira Silverstein** is running for a 4th term. Silverstein is the go to guy for the Jewish community in Springfield. No one takes better care of Jewish needs, from religious needs to holocaust legislation than Silverstein. For that alone he is worth a vote, uncontested race or not.

Silverstein is a member in good standing in the Schakowsky political organization giving her a virtual clean sweep of legislators in her congressional district. Schakowsky heaps praise on Silverstein for his progressive legislative agenda.

Silverstein introduced a large number of bills this year, many for the shelter care industry, not unusual. Two bills I found particularly disturbing were Sen. Bill 219 which removes the ability of the bankruptcy court (coincidentally, Judge Michael B. Hyman in Cook County at this moment) to use discretion in certain areas to relieve the indebtedness of individuals who owe money to corporate interests. The other prohibited the shipment of smaller amounts of wine by anyone other than liquor wholesalers and distributors like the Wirtz family. That removes the ability of an individual to order directly from a smaller craft vintner. It also means that legally, a vineyard can't even ship wine to themselves at a second location without going through a liquor wholesaler. I haven't checked Silverstein's D-2's to see where the money came from, but bills like that are not people friendly, certainly not part of Schakowsky's "progressive" agenda and I was frankly surprised that Silverstein, who I have known for close to 30 years, introduced and pushed a bill like that.

I was also unpleasantly surprised to see Silverstein challenge Stone for Democratic Ward Committeeman, but we will save that for the Committeeman's section.

I am disappointed to see Silverstein pushing bills like that, not that almost all the others in Springfield don't, maybe they are getting to him. Still, the good he does for the Jewish community makes him a crystal clear choice, even if he had a serious opponent in the Senate race. **Jewish Chicago clearly urges you to mark ballot #35 for Senator Ira Silverstein.**



In the 9th District, Evanston and the nearby northern suburbs, **Sen. Jeff Schoenberg**, another member of the Schakowsky organization, is running for reelection to the Senate. Prior to the Senate, Schoenberg at one time headed the House financial committee and is considered a true "wiz" in that arena. He has the respect of many of Chicago's Jewish leaders, is the Democratic Committeeman of Evanston. He may be the leading candidate to replace Schakowsky some day. Schoenberg is running unopposed and that is fine with me. **Jewish Chicago endorses Jeff Schoenberg for re-election to the State Senate.**

**Senator Dan Kotowski** of the 33rd District, Park Ridge, Des Plaines and the surrounding area is a West Rogers park native whose father is Cas Kotowski, a criminal justice professor and his mother "Jinx" is the recently retired long time Secretary of State's Attorney Dick Devine. Kotowski is the first Democrat in a century to win in that highly Republican District. Keeping guns off the street has long been his raison d'être. He is running unopposed, but if you live that way, **mark ballot #35 for Dan Kotowski.**

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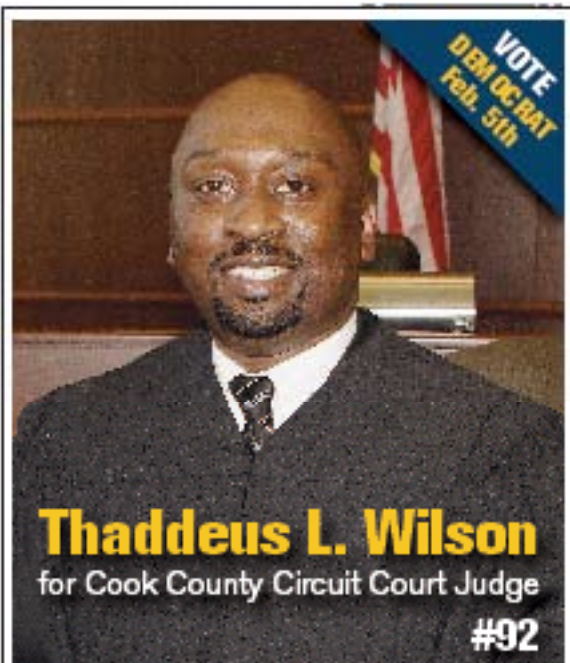
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**Thaddeus L. Wilson**  
for Cook County Circuit Court Judge  
#92

### PERSONAL

- Married to Tiffany, with two daughters: Christina, 2 and Gabrielle, 1.
- Member of the Apostolic Church of God
- Bachelor's Degree from the University of Notre Dame.
- Law Degree from Northern Illinois University College of Law.

### PROFESSIONAL

- Appointed by Illinois Supreme Court to fill vacancy created by the retirement of the Hon. Anthony S. Montelione.
- Received favorable ratings from all 11 bar associations participating in the judicial evaluation process.
- 13 years of courtroom experience in the areas of criminal, civil rights, financial services, bankruptcy, and personal injury law.
- Former managing director of downtown Chicago law firm.

**ONE OF US**



Committee to Elect Thaddeus L. Wilson  
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## Illinois State House

Anyone following the horror story that has been going on in Springfield, knows that in the Senate, House and Governor's office, there is one bad guy after another. There is no defending the mess that **Governor Rod Blagojevich, Senate President Emil Jones and House Speaker Michael Madigan** have made. While Blagojevich is undergoing a serious criminal investigation, the actions Jones took to make sure our electric bills rose, while his family and his political campaign chest were enriched through Exxelon and Commonwealth Edison. Madigan makes his living outside the legislature by representing businesses appealing their real estate tax bills. He made sure homeowners pay more so that business owners would pay less and that is legal.

In the 13th district, **Sara Feigenholtz** has introduced bills for the Jewish community when needed and is a consistent ally. **Mark ballot #38 for Sara Feigenholtz.**

In the 15th District, feel free to vote for **Representative John D'Amico**, a nephew of **Alderman Marge Laurino** who is a true friend of the Jewish Community in Albany Park, Hollywood Park, etc. **Mark ballot #38 for John D'Amico.**

In the 16th District, **Representative Lou Lang** is the incumbent. My mother used to tell me that is you have nothing good to say, don't say anything at all.

The 18th district features the shining light of the Jewish delegation in Springfield, **Rep. Julie Hamos**. Her husband is **Justice Alan Greiman** who is chief judge of the Illinois Appellate Court. Hamos, a Hungarian refugee who came here as a child, is the go to legislator to cure the transit mess in Springfield. She showed great patience and wisdom while dealing with an impossible Governor and an inept legislature. She was thought by many insiders to be the Legislator of the Year in 07 and in my book she was.

**Jewish Chicago enthusiastically endorses State Rep. Julie Hamos in the 18th (Chai) legislative district.**

## Judicial Races

Jewish judges have historically not done well in Cook County, even those with brilliant credentials who should be serious candidates for the most prestigious courts in the land, do not do well. Judge Marv Leavitt and Judge Roger Fein are legendary among their peers, might have every important political endorsement and have the highest ratings from all the bar associations and they still lose. They didn't lose on merit, they lose due to their Jewish name. That is why it is so important to make sure you vote through the entire Judicial ballot. It is legal to bring a guide with you to the polling place. It is within your rights to take Jewish Chicago into the polling place and use it as your guide.

Here are the criteria we use for recommending who you should vote for in the Judicial races. Not being a lawyer, I do my best to not make the choices myself. I have been fortunate enough to befriend top legal minds and judges and receive their input and recommendations. Yes, I could go through the bar association recommendations myself and keep a running scorecard, but then the question arises are all bar associations equal?

I am told the Illinois State Bar Association used to spend thousands of dollars doing a thorough job of fairly evaluating candidates only to watch people ignore their findings. Other bar associations popped up to join the process and have a say in how people are rated. Some bar associations trade with others to get certain favorites recommended across the board. Of course there are some that take the rating process very seriously and do the job right. How many members are in these respective bar associations. Does the Puerto Rican Bar Association have as many members as the Decalogue Society of Lawyers? One man called me to tout a judge who had one the few highest ratings from what turned out to be the most liberal bar association in town.

I depend on people in the legal community who themselves have achieved sky high ratings. As for the TV show, I interviewed 10 different judges, an all time record and I initiated none of the contact, they had to be recommended by someone I trusted and/or respected.

Sonny Hersh who handles all things technical for the show is the chairman of the 24th District Chicago Police Advisory Committee and has chaired the court advocacy committee for well over a decade. He spends a lot of time in court and noted that he was impressed by the quality of the guests and how favorably they compared to many sitting judges.

There are not endorsements in every race and please do not just hope the name you see is Jewish, you could be in for an unpleasant surprise.

Judge of the Appellate court. This is a slam dunk. **Judge Alan J. Greiman** is the Chief Judge of the Illinois Appellate Court in this region and has the respect of every top legal mind I spoke with. He was a State Representative who has been on the bench for over a dozen years. He has the highest of marks from all the Bar Associations. He is married to State Rep. Julie Hamos.

**Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Justice Alan J. Greiman for the Illinois Appellate Court. Mark ballot #70.**

There are 9 circuit court races and I received recommendations from the legal community in eight of them.

I was very impressed while interviewing **Judge Laurretta Higgins Wolfson**, wife of Illinois Appellate Court Judge Warren Wolfson has been a lawyer for 19 years, taught law school for 14 years. She was advised to drop her married name and run under her maiden name, Higgins. It's obvious which path she chose. **Jewish Chicago endorses Judge Laurretta Higgins Wolfson. Mark ballot #77.**

**Judge Jesse Reyes, ballot #81** has been on the bench for 10 years and was recommended and appeared on air. I got a call this morning from someone who just discovered the show and sought to make a case for his brother who is running against Reyes and does have decent grades, but it's not my job to make these evaluations myself.

**Judge Maureen Ward Kirby** comes highly recommended. You can watch her and many of these other judicial candidates on our TV show website. **Mark ballot #84 for Judge Maureen Ward Kirby.**

**Thomas J. Byrne** is the chief prosecutor for the State's Attorney at the Rolling Meadows court house. He has tried many capital cases and is highly thought of by his colleagues. He has numerous highly recommended ratings which is the highest praise these associations pass out, **Mark ballot #90 for Thomas J. Byrne.**

**Judge Thaddeus L. Wilson ballot #92**, was interviewed and has multiple recommendations. However one of my most respected experts speaks strongly for **Debra L. Walker, ballot #91**. I would have interviewed her if I was approached in a timely



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<http://avyworld.com/>



fashion.

**Paula Lingo** is running for the vacancy of Michael J. Murphy. **Mark ballot #95 for Paula Lingo.**

While I very much liked everyone I interviewed for Circuit Court positions, my personal favorite was **Judge Michael Hyman**. He is a past President of the Chicago Bar Association and the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, the Jewish Bar Association. The court he presently presides over, bankruptcy and debts, is the busiest Circuit Court Room in the system. He has the respect of the entire Judicial and Legal Community. The reason I spend so much time on Judicial is for people like Judge Michael Hyman. **Jewish Chicago strongly urges you to mark ballot #100 for Justice Michael B. Hyman.**

**Mark ballot #104 for Judge Joan Powell.**

I only received a recommendation in one of the Subcircuit races. The president of the Decalogue Society of lawyers is **Judge James Shapiro**. Shapiro was recommended by numerous experts. **Jewish Chicago strongly recommends Judge James A. Shapiro. Mark ballot #108.**

I interviewed many of the candidates reviewed here and the entire uncut interview can be accessed through the TV show website <http://ntnm.org/> or by subscribing at no cost to sonnytv on youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/profile?user=sonnyhtv> where you will have easy access to over 100 uncut, unedited interviews.

### 50th Ward Committeeman's Races

The 50th ward of Chicago, most of West Rogers Park and part of Peterson Park is the last real Jewish bastion of political strength in Chicago. With the defeat of Ald. Burt Natarus last year, only Helen Schiller in 46 remains. While she is a quality individual, her main priorities as well as her ward are not that Jewish.

Are you voting for Giuliani, McCain or Romney? Incumbent 50th Ward Republican **Committeeman Ken Hollander** is an active member of the Jewish community. He was ordained at the Hebrew Theological College in Skokie. He works in conjunction with the powers that be to keep this neighborhood ticking and our community strong.

Hollander has been doing this for 20 years, knows the ropes and is a friend. If you are voting Republican he is the only choice. **Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Ken Hollander for re-election as the 50th ward Republican Committeeman.**

### 50th Ward Democratic Committeeman

On the Democratic side, there is a contest that should never have happened. **Senator Ira Silverstein** is challenging incumbent **Committeeman/Alderman Berny Stone** for 50th ward Democratic Committeeman. For those who don't know, this is an unpaid position within the Democratic party. This is not a government job. With the Shakman decree being fully enforced, the committeeman no longer has any meaningful patronage to dole out to political workers. If someone comes to a committeeman and asks for a summer job for their kid, the committeeman must legally file a report and is put in a position where he can't honor the request unless he wants trouble. Committeeman can not threaten people's jobs if they do not work a precinct and if they do, U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald will swoop down and charge you with high crimes and felonies, not misdemeanors.

On the national level, Stone is running as a delegate for **Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton** and Senator Ira Silverstein backs his former State Senate Colleague **Senator Barack Obama**.

Republican 50th ward Committeeman Ken Hollander joked about his contest saying "What's the worst thing that could happen to me? I win!" Hollander has things in proper perspective.

Last year, the Jewish community stood strong, rallied hard, united and fought tooth and nail to win the day for Alderman Bernard Stone over challenger **Naisy Dolar** in a vicious runoff election, winning by a grand total of 661 votes.

Very shortly after that glorious victory, word was out that Senator Ira Silverstein was challenging Alderman Berny Stone for the post of 50th ward Democratic

# Dean Maragos

Commissioner Metropolitan Water Reclamation District



Democrat

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**VOTE # 42**



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**Dean Maragos**

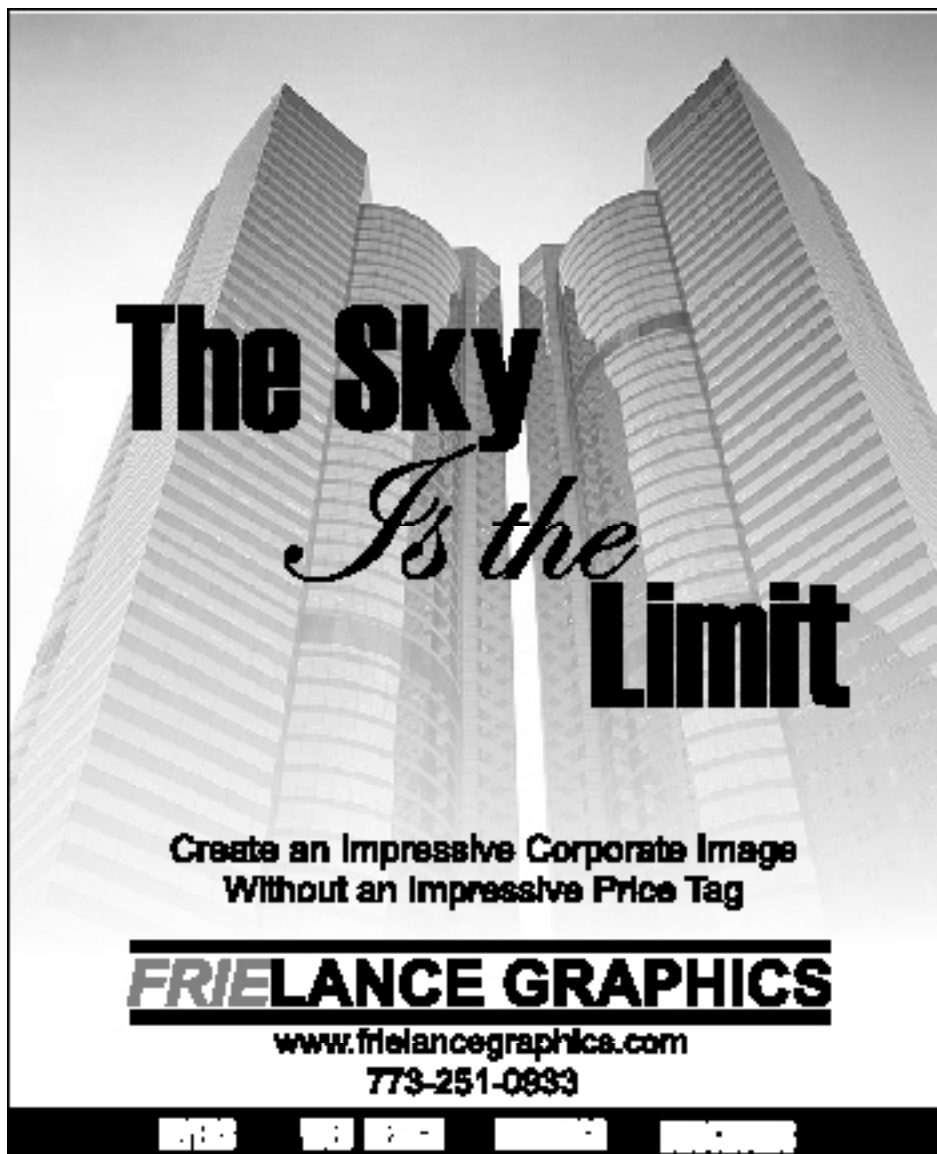
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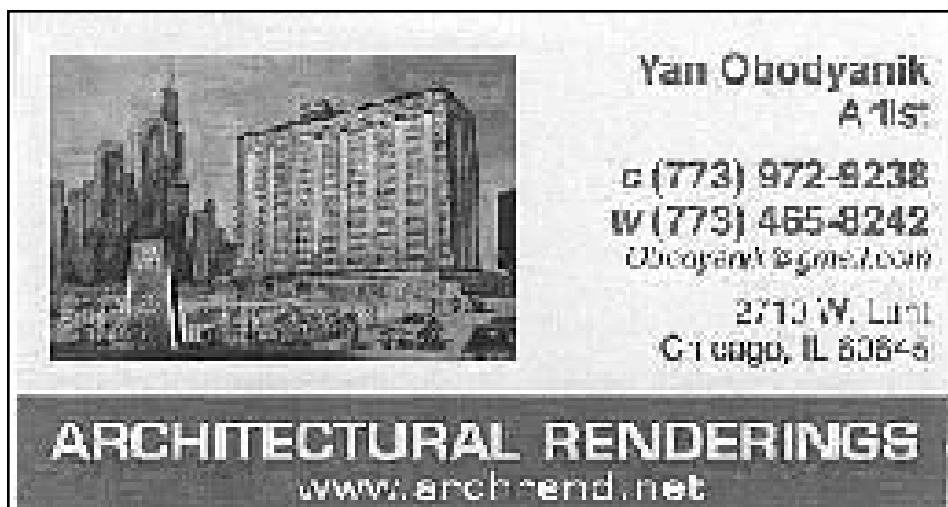
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Committeeman.

Jews and non Jews alike went to Silverstein to ask why he was dividing the community and talk him out of the challenge. In an area with a shrinking Jewish population, any non Jew who wanted to run against the two would win in a cake walk.

Silverstein had moved out of the 50th ward Democratic Headquarters to his Devon Avenue office about three years ago. He complained bitterly about Stone and his staff to many in the community, telling them, don't tell anybody, don't repeat this, keep it quiet, but ....

The Jewish population in the 50th ward is 25% and that number keeps dropping. Fortunately a higher percentage of Jewish people choose to vote than virtually any other group. Many people within the area, the single most culturally diverse neighborhood in the city, have not been in the country long enough to be citizens which means the Jewish community is going to represent 50% of the Democratic vote in this ward. Divide that 50% and you have trouble.

Naisy Dolar has already stated she is running again in 2011. 3rd place finisher **Greg Brewer**, who produced a brochure comparing Stone to a battered Volkswagon bus, has maintained his angry web site after the loss and still wants to be a major player in 50th ward politics. Would someone new enter the fray?

Jewish Community leader **Michael C. Moses** posted the news about Silverstein's challenge on a West Rogers Park web forum. Greg Brewer and his campaign manager immediately saluted Silverstein's candidacy and pledged their support.

Many Jews and non-Jews alike sought to dissuade Silverstein. I tried more than once. When Silverstein was in my house for the television show, Chicago's leading election lawyer tried to dissuade him. He warned that the battle would make both weaker and that man is right.

This summer when I interviewed Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky at her office, she pledged her allegiance to Silverstein and added on air that Naisy Dolar, who Schakowsky supported against Stone, was supporting Silverstein.

Many of us have been friendly with both Stone and Silverstein for years. Stone and Silverstein were more than friends to each other. Stone hasn't practiced law in over a dozen years, probably longer. The Alderman's office has been his full time and overtime passion for a long time. He was referring the cases he used to handle to Silverstein. When Silverstein first ran for Senate against Michael Bender and Randy Barnette, Stone asked me if I was supporting his buddy Ira? I was shocked, I was sure Stone would be supporting then Committeeman Howie Carrolls' choice, Randy Barnette.

A committee of diverse Jewish leaders who were big supporters of both, met, debated and chose Stone as their choice for committeeman. This group included Silverstein's biggest supporter. They went to Silverstein and asked him to step down. Silverstein refused.

Other political people sought to broker a peace agreement. Stone asked Silverstein to move back into the Democratic headquarters, learn the job for two years and then he would step down. Those present assured Silverstein they would enforce the agreement. Silverstein refused.

The group worked on Stone, got him to lower the offer to one year. Stone wanted Silverstein who still maintained the role of district leader in the 50th ward Democratic organization, to be a real part of the organization and then he would relinquish the job. Silverstein said no and war was declared.

Let's revisit the original Aldermanic election in February. One vote more than 50% was needed to win. 5,245 was the magic number. Stone received 5,069. That means Stone was 176 votes short of winning out right the first time around. The vote total in the 50th ward was one of the highest in Chicago. Stone's 5,069 votes would have captured the vast majority of the city's wards and was more than the total amount of votes cast in some wards.



Mayor Daley sent one his top people, Tom Noonan to run Stones runoff campaign. In preparing for the April election, it was clear that one Stone stronghold came in with light vote totals on election day. The Northwest corner, approximately Touhy to Howard, Kedzie to California, the most heavily Jewish area in the ward that always votes strongly for Stone. The district leader for the area, Senator Ira Silverstein. Some of the precinct captains under his charge, came in light, and now have jumped ship to

join Ira's challenge to Stone a very short time later.

Noting the light general election turnout, and understanding there could be a problem. New troops were hired by Stone forces to work Silverstein's area for the April runoff. Witnesses report that Silverstein was livid about getting help. With the area worked properly, the runoff election day totals came in heavily for the winner, Berny Stone.

Silverstein wants to be Democratic Committeeman and he didn't get out the vote? Silverstein talks about the need to elect him to save the Democratic party in the 50th ward, how so few people are registered and the need to bring in all the diverse elements of this multi cultural ward. Since he was a district leader in the Democratic organization, why didn't he make the effort then to bring in new people? Why was the Aldermanic election vote total one the highest in the city? If you attend any Stone event, religious Jews, secular Jews, Indians, Pakistanis, Assyrians, Russians, Israelis are abundantly represented.

Now what is this business with Schakowsky and Naisy Dolar. The whole Jewish community puts out a massive effort to elect Stone and Schakowsky backs Dolar. Silverstein doesn't produce enough votes for Stone. Dolar remains an active player in civic events and is running for Alderman in 2011. Silverstein challenges Stone for committeeman. Silverstein tells the Jewish community he is the only hope of keeping this ward Jewish and stopping Dolar's aldermanic campaign. Aldermanic candidate Dolar personally get three full sheets of petitions signed for Ira Silverstein run for Committeeman. Dolar's chief aides are telling people that Silverstein will be backing Dolar for Alderman. Why didn't Dolar run herself against them, she would have won. Why is she backing the 47 year old guy who figures to be around a lot longer than the 80 year old Stone? Silverstein and Dolar both say there is no deal. Dolar is running for alderman. Why has Jan Schakowsky who has made



efforts to take over the 50th ward from Stone embracing both Silverstein and Dolar?

Shame on my long time friend Ira Silverstein. Let's keep him in the Senate for now, and hope he learns a hard lesson here, but we need to let him know that games like this are unacceptable. Why is he doing it? Maybe for his partner Lou Lang whose hatred for Stone knows no bounds. Maybe for power? Maybe for money? Whatever the reason, his behavior here is unacceptable. There is no good excuse to try and divide the Jewish community. I am very disappointed in Ira.

It's clear that Silverstein is depending on the Naisy Dolar voters and Schakowsky forces to win the election and that is a possibility.

**Jewish Chicago strongly endorses Alderman Bernard Stone, urging to start voting from the bottom of ballot by marking ballot #120.**

#### **Around Town** by *Simcha Magid*

The response to this issue has been so heartening that for the very first time, we have no room for Morrie Amitay's column as well as others we had planned included a piece by Justice Hyman explaining the difficulty of electing Jewish Judges county wide and how important it is for all of you to work your way through the entire ballot and vote for the best judges, at least three of who are Jewish.

#### **Justices Greiman, Hyman and Shapiro.**

Please visit our web site at <http://avyworld.com/> Shortly after the issue hits the stands we will start putting up more news and columns in an attempt to make the site an ongoing source of news. This issue will be available in its' entirety on the site.....

**Rabbi Bezion Allswang, PHD** who we featured in the 80's has a new book coming out soon, "The Anti-Jewish Phenomenon: A Historical-Torah Analysis...."

With the advent of Parshas Trumah in the Torah readings coming shortly, it is a very good time to acquire Sefer Melech haMishkan v'Kailov by Rabbi Dovid Meyers who Reb Chaim Kanefsky has said is the leading expert on the Mishkan. Check your local book store or contact Jewish Chicago Publisher Avy Meyers at 773-290-2677....

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If you click on any live link in the web version of Jewish Chicago, it will take you to that web site in a secondary window....

Special thanks to Phillip and Peter and Grainger Terry. It was a pleasure meeting and working with you.....

Look for our fall election issue sometime in October. Bye bye all.

## **The Law Office of James P. Nally, P.C.**

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***ELECT***

# **Ira Silverstein**

**Democratic Committeeman 50th Ward**

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**Re-elect**

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**Punch #35**

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