

IVI-IPO

December 2006

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Action Bulletin

CONGRESSWOMAN SCHAKOWSKY TO SPEAK TO IVI-IPO

The IVI-IPO Board is pleased to host Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-9 and liberal hero) at our holiday meeting, Wednesday, December 20. She will discuss issues confronting Congress in the upcoming session and how grassroots activists can help impact the national agenda. There will be time for questions and all IVI-IPO members are welcome to attend.

The meeting will be at Exchequer Pub, 226 South Wabash, in the side room. We'll have pizza and pop starting at 6pm, followed by the Congresswoman's presentation and our regular Board meeting. There is no fee for members, but please contact the office at iviipo@yahoo.com or 312-939-5105 to let us know you are attending.

Meet The Candidates

with the Independent Voters of Illinois-
Independent Precinct Organization

* Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar *

Excalibur

632 North Dearborn, Chicago

Thursday, January 11, 2007

6:00-8:00pm

\$ 50 Ticket (candidates & non-members)

\$100 Silver Sponsor

2 tickets & listing in program & website

\$250 Gold Sponsor

2 tickets, listing in program & website & 1 minute statement at event

IVI-IPO members (non-candidates) come for FREE!

Call 312-939-5105 to reserve your free ticket

Buy Tickets & Sponsorships at www.iviipo.org

COMMUNITY ACTION/MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS REPORT

by Herb Ziegeldorf, IVI-IPO Community Action/Municipal Affairs Chair

Success, relatively speaking, for the Inclusionary Zoning/Set-aside campaign which has been long supported by IVI-IPO! For over two years, Alderwoman Toni Preckwinkle's proposed ordinance has stagnated with 23 alderman committed to supporting it. Recently, progress has been made in garnering the support of additional aldermen, and, less than two weeks ago, the 26th alderman, Ariel Reboyras (30th ward), signed on! Although it would appear that a majority has finally been found to pass the ordinance, the lesson of the living wage/big box campaign remains: without at least 34 votes, the Mayor can and will veto it.

Several weeks ago, Mayor Daley proposed a tepid 10% counter-offer, with only incentives and no palpable mandates requiring developers either to build affordable housing or pay into the City's Low-Income Housing Trust Fund. Daley's version only applies to developers receiving Federal or City benefits. As a result, this 10% "mandate" is illusory because such developers are only agreeing to do what they were already obligated to do, owing to the nature of their funding sources.!

On other Chicago issues, the City Council approved Mayor Daley's new LaSalle Street TIF, a proposal estimated to cost the Chicago Public Schools \$630 million in lost tax revenues. (see "Who Pays in TIFs?" at www.ncbg.org/tifs/tif_pays.htm) IVI-IPO will continue to monitor TIF proposals in the Council and challenge candidates in the February election to solve the problem of replacing property tax revenue lost to TIF development.

Concerned that the intent of the Lakefront Protection Ordinance is being endangered by recently proposed projects, the Community Action Committee has begun consideration of several diverse proposals. Following the committee's recommendation, the IVI-IPO state board voted to support the construction of a new Children's Museum, but opposed siting it in Grant Park. Other concerns about the utilization and preservation of park green space along and near the north and south lakefronts were referred to the Far North and South chapters, respectively.

To be part of our discussions of Chicago and Cook County issues, come to the Community Action/Municipal Affairs Committee meetings, the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the IVI-IPO office.

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SHAKMAN LAWSUIT UPDATE *by James A. Shapiro, State Chair*

Not too long ago, IVI-IPO joined a new lawsuit as a party plaintiff against Cook County, complaining of well-known and still-rampant patronage hiring in county government. That lawsuit mirrors the still-pending case against the City of Chicago involving the same patronage issues.

Recently, our attorney, Michael Shakman (yes, THE Michael Shakman) was able to settle our suit against the County on very favorable terms for us. Among many other things too detailed to mention here, the settlement requires a hiring overseer, who will be highly regarded retired Cook County Judge Julia Nowicki. It affects approximately 26,000 County jobs, most of which have been filled with patronage hires. IVI-IPO owes a great debt of gratitude to Michael Shakman for bringing this lawsuit on our behalf, and for settling it on such favorable terms.

WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT PATRONAGE ANYWAY?

by Aviva Miriam Patt, IVI-IPO Executive Director

For the nearly 63 years of our existence, IVI-IPO has championed many issues and fought against government corruption in various forms, ultimately succeeding in most of our efforts. But one pernicious practice has been with us since the days of our founding, embraced and protected by machine and even some independent elected officials, and until recently, pretty much ignored or tolerated by the public and the press.

Patronage is the loathsome, self-serving conversion of public resources into private enrichment and political power, through government hiring and contracts. Yet most elected officials practice it, and a good number openly defend it. IVI-IPO's questionnaires for every office ask "do you support patronage?" and a surprising number of candidates answer "Yes." Their reasons for supporting it vary from "I want to pick people I know can do the job," and "that's the way it's done in the private sector" to "all that matters is that they're qualified." But none of these or other rationales (some of which are false) justify use of public funds to pay family, friends and political cronies of those in power.

To dispel one myth, hiring based on who you know is not the way it's done in the private sector, at least not in well-run businesses. Best practices demand an open job search so applicants' respective merits can be weighed against one another. This is true even if some applicants are "in house" or referred by colleagues or business contacts. Under patronage, most jobs are never even publicly offered, and applicants are not objectively and competitively assessed. When job seekers come with referrals, the references are more likely political in nature than related to work experience and performance. An official may "want to pick people I know can do the job" but how often do they really know anything about the applicants' actual work skills and experience? The ability to carry a precinct or sell a bunch of tickets to a fundraiser does not automatically translate into the ability to drive a truck or balance a ledger or perform any other government job.

So what's wrong with political hiring of "qualified" applicants? Let's assume for a moment that they are genuinely qualified and the application process hasn't been rigged. Big assumption in light of the Sorich case and other stories leaking out of City Hall and the County Building. Let's further assume that these employees will refrain from political work while they're on the job, they won't exercise

any political favoritism in service delivery to the public or in supervising and evaluating other employees and they won't attempt, even on their own time, to influence subordinates to work for or contribute to political campaigns or organizations. Also pretty big assumptions. We're still left with a basic policy question - why should public employment be at all connected with private political activity?

Patronage apologists complain that it would be unfair to "discriminate against" applicants with political ties. This is disingenuous. All that is required for fair hiring is that job openings be publicly posted and those with political connections compete equally with everyone else, based on ability and performance unrelated to political work. Under patronage, it is the vast majority of people who *lack* political ties that are discriminated against.

Last year, one of Chicago's top political consultants took to TV and newspaper to portray patronage as some sort of public service. While claiming that deal-making and influence-trading were necessary tools of government, he also stated that having a patronage army protects elected officials from the wrath of their constituents if they make unpopular decisions, allowing them to act in the public interest without regard to the possible political fallout. Of course, it works the other way as well, allowing officials to act *against* the public interest, confident of reelection because opponents can't possibly muster a volunteer operation to match the incumbent's army of government paid workers.

Because of the recent scandals in Chicago, the press and the public are finally beginning to scrutinize patronage. Unfortunately the question is usually focused on what is wrong with how patronage operates rather than whether it should exist at all. Government should work in the public interest. Patronage benefits private interests, not the public, and it should be eliminated.

There is no reason that every resident of Chicago should not have the same chance for a city job as any other resident of Chicago. Who you know, who you're related to, or who you supported in the last election should be irrelevant. In the end, the issue of patronage is a question of justice and equity. Public jobs do not belong to any particular party or office holder. Public jobs belong to the public.

2007 SCHEDULE OF ENDORSEMENT SESSIONS

A postcard notice, with additional information, will be mailed the first week of January.

Saturday, January 13, 2007
Far North Chapter
Wards 39, 40, 48, 49 & 50
No Exit Café, 6950 N Glenwood, Chicago

Saturday, January 13, 2007
Mid North Chapter
Wards 46 & 47
Truman College, 1145 W Wilson, Chicago

Sunday, January 14, 2007
South Chapter
Wards 4 & 5
1st Unitarian Church, 57th & Woodlawn, Chicago

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
Downtown Chapter
Wards 2, 27 & 42
SGI International, 1455 S Wabash, Chicago

Saturday, January 20, 2007
Chicago Mayor, Clerk & Treasurer
Chicago UMC Temple, 77 W Washington, Chicago

Sunday, January 21, 2007
South Chapter
Wards 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 15, 16 & 20
Home of Lois & Alan Dobry, 5529 S. Hyde Park #1, Chicago

Sunday, January 21, 2007
Northwest Chapter
Wards 1, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33 & 35
Nazareth United Church of Christ, 2500 N Talman, Chicago

Monday, January 22, 2007
Downtown Chapter
43rd Ward - Location TBA

Other wards will be scheduled in the IVI-IPO office, 1325 S Wabash #105, Chicago, on various dates from January 13-23.

**Suburban members:
if you would like to request an endorsement for your municipal elections,
please contact the IVI-IPO office by January 2.**

Register Now! One Day Only!

Everything you need to know about campaigns...from A-Z

Who should attend IVI-IPO's renowned A-Z campaign workshop?
CANDIDATES - CAMPAIGN STAFF - VOLUNTEERS

who want to get the most comprehensive election training anywhere. Learn the basics of creating a field operation and effective strategies for voter registration. Learn about campaign finance disclosure requirements, developing a realistic budget and fund raising plan, and setting up your campaign office and file systems. Learn how to conduct the door-to-door campaign, use press to get out your message, and Election Day scheduling and training

Cost: \$60 per person (includes box lunch & manual)

Saturday, January 6, 2007

8:30am-4:30pm

DePaul Egan Urban Center
1 E. Jackson, Room C100, Chicago

Register online at www.iviipo.org

Campaign Clinic with Prof. Dick Simpson
author of "Winning Elections"
Over lunch, Prof. Simpson will answer your questions and advise you on problems specific to your campaign.

ENDORSEMENT RULES

WHO MAY VOTE & WHO MAY SPEAK

Members who have joined IVI-IPO at least 60 days prior to the session, and whose dues are paid (not more than 30 days delinquent) may vote in political districts of the address on file with IVI-IPO. This is usually the home address. Any questions regarding eligibility to vote, including which district a member is eligible to vote in, will be decided by the Membership Chair or her designee.

An IVI-IPO Board Member who has an economic interest in a campaign or candidate may participate in debate and voting, providing her/his interest is disclosed to the body.

Any member eligible to vote may make motions or speak to motions. People who are not eligible to vote on a race may only address an interview session if the Chair and/or a majority of those present and voting agree to hear that person and no eligible voting member is seeking recognition. In order to be eligible to vote, each IVI-IPO member must have signed in and received a voting card, and must have heard at least part of each candidate's presentation. Therefore, no member who arrives after the first candidate has finished her/his presentation may vote on endorsements in that contest. Members seek recognition by raising their voting cards.

AFTER CANDIDATES' PRESENTATIONS:

The meeting Chair fills out a Candidate Report Sheet for each candidate. Members will vote on whether a candidate's campaign is viable. Viability is a subjective assessment each member makes individually and the question is not debatable. The Chair will also ask the members to identify which issues the candidates had a disagreement with IVI-IPO's position. Candidates may not be present during their opponents' presentations, the filling out of the Evaluation Sheets or during discussion of motions.

MOTIONS:

1. Motions may be entertained to endorse one candidate or to make no recommendation in the race. A motion for a straw poll is in order if there is no other motion on the floor. IVI-IPO rules no longer allow endorsements of more candidates than can be elected.

2. Motions must be seconded to proceed to debate and vote.

3. Motions may not be amended, substituted or tabled.

4. Motions to reconsider a vote are not in order, unless all motions offered have failed and no one is seeking the floor to make a new motion. Only then may a person who voted on the prevailing side (no on a failed motion) ask to reconsider.

5. The first motion which receives a majority is the motion that is referred to the Board. There will be no chance to vote yes or no on each candidate.

6. The maker of the motion may speak first or defer to another eligible voting member to speak in her/his stead.

7. Debate on a motion may not be closed until two speakers pro and con have been heard, for a maximum of two minutes each, unless there is no one wishing to speak in opposition, or no one seeking the floor at all. Any eligible member may move to extend the time limit; such motion requires a majority vote and is non-debatable. After two speakers pro and con, any eligible member may move to call the question (close debate). A motion to close debate requires a 2/3 vote and is non-debatable. Alternatively, after sufficient debate, the Chair may ask if there is any unreadiness to vote. If no one objects, the vote may be taken without calling the question.

8. As used in the endorsement rules, the number of those "present and voting" includes those voting yes and no but not those abstaining from voting.

9. **For aldermanic endorsements**, if a quorum of members (15) has signed in and a motion carries with a 3/5 vote of those present and voting, such action is a Membership Endorsement, and is not subject to review by the State Board. If a quorum has not signed in or the action is taken by fewer than 3/5 of those present and voting, the action goes to the State Board, which may either accept the action or return it to the members to reconsider at another meeting.

10. **For citywide endorsements**, if a quorum of members (100) has signed in and a motion carries with a 2/3 vote of those present and voting, such action is a Membership Endorsement, and is not subject to review by the State Board. If a quorum has not signed in or the action is taken by fewer than 2/3 of those present and voting, the action goes to the State Board, which may either accept the action or overturn it and make any endorsement it chooses.

11. **There is no proxy voting allowed**, other than a candidate (who is an eligible member) who shall leave her/his written proxy with the Chair or, in writing, designate another qualified member to vote on his/her behalf.

12. Voting will be by show of voting cards. On the motion of any five members, the votes will be by secret ballot. The motion for secret ballot may be made when the question is called or anytime previously. The procedure is for one member to make the motion, followed by the Chair asking if there are four additional members joining the request. If voting is to be by secret ballot, members write the votes on their voting cards and turn them into the Chair. Each member is given a new card of a different color in exchange, in case the motion fails and further votes are needed. This procedure is followed for each vote.

13. After the yes votes are counted, the Chair shall announce the number of yes votes. If any member disputes the count, s/he may call for a recount of yes votes at that time only. The same procedure will be repeated for no votes. After the yes and no votes have been announced, no motion for recount or reconsideration is in order, except as allowed under rule #4, above. The Chair shall record all motions and the exact numbers voting on each motion on the Candidate Report Sheet.

DON'T LET HISTORY PASS YOU BY

by Dan Raichel, *IVI-IPO History Project Intern*

Twenty four years ago, then Congressman Harold Washington became mayor of the city of Chicago – the first black mayor in the city's history, and the first reform mayor since before The Great War. Even by the estimates of some of the most disillusioned independents, this was a major victory for the Reform movement in Chicago. The May 1983 edition of the Action Bulletin printed, in enthusiastic ALL CAPS, "We are elated that after many years of struggle our efforts to elect a reform mayor, who would institute open government and fairness for all the people of Chicago, have finally resulted in success."

Unfortunately, the Election Day success of reform candidates does not always translate into long-term success for reform. Immediately after Mayor Washington took office, a battle broke out in city government, later to be known as the "Council Wars." The fight pitted Mayor Washington's politics of reform against the old fashioned machine politics Alderman "Fast Eddie" Vrdolyak and his army of twenty-nine. The "Vrdolyak 29" were so hostile to the Mayor that they not only blocked his proposals for the city but also his appointments. Many departments were plagued by vacancies, and city government was brought nearly to a standstill. On the fourth of this month, in 1985, IVI-IPO responded to the conflict by holding a "Free the Hostages" cocktail party at Crosscurrents, the guest of honor at which was, hostage for 798 days, Mayor Washington himself.

The "Free the Hostages" party was typical of IVI-IPO's support for Mayor Washington during this period, but picking sides in the "Council Wars" left IVI-IPO open to criticism – not just from machine hacks, but fellow independent thinkers as well. While decrying the high-rise boom on the near north side, Political Editor for the Sun Times, Basil Talbott, Jr. wrote that the IVI-IPO was a "shill for Washington. It grew out of the anti-war activism of the '60s, and is now ideologically irrelevant." Talbott thought IVI-IPO had overstepped its bounds with its support of Washington – "Once a public official is elected, IVI-IPO should be a watchdog that keeps pressure on the elected officials even if you supported them" (Action Bulletin, March 1985).

Talbott was, in some ways, right and, in some ways, wrong. To start, IVI did not grow out of "the anti-war activism of the '60s." By the time the Vietnam War started IVI, born out of the anti-machine unrest of the '40s, was already in its late teens. But on the larger issue, of what role IVI-IPO should play with respect to successful endorsed candidates, Talbott was not completely off base. At the time, Mayor Washington was not supporting IVI-IPO policy. So the question was posed: how should the IVI-IPO act when its endorsed candidates don't fight for, or perhaps even oppose, reform policies – when Election Day success does not translate into success for independent voters?

State Chair James Chapman's answer was that IVI-IPO needed to continue its support of reform candidates after elections because the old Democratic machine in Illinois was so entrenched – "The struggle for reform is titanic and lengthy... we need more IVI-IPO's, not more watchdogs, to participate in the struggle to reach ultimate victory." (Ibid) Mayor Washington needed the support of groups like IVI-IPO to achieve his reform agenda. Vrdolyak and the Machine would not back off because they had lost one election. Of course, if IVI-IPO never played watchdog, one would wonder what this "ultimate victory" would look like.

In the end, IVI-IPO found the solution that always works best – they had their cake and they ate it too. IVI-IPO continued their support for Harold Washington, and at the same time created their own "High Rise Task Force" to promote responsible development.

With municipal elections just around the corner, it is important to remember compromises like this one. In the years since Mayor Washington's death, it seems that the struggle for reform has become even more "titanic and lengthy," but candidates endorsed by IVI-IPO still win elections with regularity, so the issue of how to support these candidates after elections is still relevant. In the suggestion of one humble writer, we should support good candidates but not at the expense of issues that we care deeply about. To support independents and remain independent. What else would you possibly want?

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Indira Adusumilli	Carl Dixon	Lee & Bernadette Mangrum	Sameer Saini
Mildred Agnew	Danielle Dombrow	Nicole & Crystal Mangrum	Clarita Santos
Walter Akins	Donald Duncan	Brian Marshall	Carol & Steve Senderowitz
Jane Alexander	Brandon Dyer	Maggie Marystone	Will Seymour
Aquela Ali	Dahryl Dyer	Rhonda Mayes	Ifthekar Shariff
Regina Allen	Doxanna & Marvin Dyer	Beverly McClain	Brenda & Brendan Shiller
Jose Anthony Alvarez	Diane Dyer-Neely	Derek & Adrienne McClinton	Helen Shiller
Yashwant Amin	Charles Eastwood & Mena Swance	John G.W. McCord	Kevin Shine
Scott Anamizu	Bruce Embrey	Kathleen McDonnell	Cornelius Shogunle
Bruce Anderson	Henry English	Marjorie Michel	Geraldine Simmons
Diane Anderson	Lenora Ethredge	James Middleton	Cathy Sink
Robin Archia	Dora Ford	Peter & Margaret Miller	Anne Smith
Veronica Arreola	Carolyn Fortman	Judson & Linda Miner	Annie Smith
Dale Asis	Cynthia Fox	Danny Mitchell	Dr. Allen Smith
Jacqueline Atkins	Dr. Winifred French	Lernardo Mitchell	Flora Smith
Ruth & Fred Babbin	Dr. Ram Gajjella	Ed Mitchen	John Smith
Daniel Baldwin	Sandra Gartler	Dr. Hyder Mohammed	John Smith
Daniel Baldwin	Rica Ghannt	Tom & Kathy Moore	Michele Smith
Richard Bates	Loretta Goodman	Laura Morgan	Miguel Sotomayor
Norm & Shirley Baugher	Marilyn Gordon	Thomas Morris	Pamela Stauffer
Deborah Bauman	Bunniestein Gould	Ralph Mote	Anthony Stephens
Beth Beatty	Thomas Gradel	Karl Muth & Jennifer Andrade	Stephanie Stevens
Timothy Bellamy	Katie Green	Shante Needham	Betty Stevenson
Adalbert & Dolores Bielski	Kent Griffiths	Alice Neville	Carl Steward
Dennis Bilski	Elsie Guy	Yvonne Norris	Janice Stewart
Steven Bilski	Thomas Hall	Don Nowotny & Carl McDowell	Jalyne Strong
Jamie Binder	Robin Hallom	Justin Oberman	James Sullivan
Crystal Bishop	Karen Haring	Martin & Bonnie Oberman	John Sullivan
Frances & Lamar Bloodworth	Gregory Harris	Muyideen Odanike	Renee Sullivan
Harlan Boyd	Jamie Harris	Laurie Odell	Johnnie Swaine
Greg Brewer	Richard Harris & Patty O'Neil	Yvonne Odell & Joseph Bailey	Michael Takada
Baird Brown	Tom Hayes	Harry Osterman	Virginia Tatum
Melva Brownlee	William Helm	Marc Pacione & Sheila Hodges-Pacione	Avril Taylor
Martha Brummit	Eddie Mae Henderson	Juanita Passmore	Richard Taylor
Gloria Burr	Adam Hengels	Bahubhai Patel	John Thomas
Eric & Katrina Butler	Diane Henry	Kanti Patel	Cassandra Thornton
John Butts	Renae Henry	Naren Patel	Sam Toia
James & Nicola Byrne	Elaine Hierholzer	Neal Patel	Thomas & Merle Tresser
Wendy Camerone	Adrian Hinton	Pigush Patel	Betty Turner
Craig Carrington	Jocelyn Hirschman	Shailesh Patel	Rosalyn Turner
Diane Carrol	Sheryl Holloway	Suresha Patel	Jewel Von Hippel
Kenny Carrol	Aimee Horton	Bryant Payne	Kevin & Mary Waco
James Catrell	Michael Hughes	Nicki Pecori	Angela Wade
James Cave	Sydney Iglitzen	Lee Esther Peebles	Melissa Walker
Thomas Cheatham	Norman Jacobs	David & Rosi Perez-Caruvana	William Walls
Timothy Cheatham	David James	Rita & Kitty Picken	LaVerne Walridge
Beryl Clemens	David James	Deborah Porter	Allen Washington
Leslie Conforti	Olee Johnson	Althea Power	Annette Washington
Michael Conway	Darlene Jones	Barbara Pritchett	Beverly Washington & Robert Banks
Benton Cook III	Charese Jordan	Shareia Ramey	Sherlon Watkins
Deborah Cooke	Kelpesh Joshi	James Ratner	Flo Ella Watson
Charles Daas	Jane & Tom Justic	Leslie Recht	Lissa Weinstein
Vandana Dalal	John & Anne King	Ebony Reed	Carl West
Gwendolyn Daniels	Andrea Krauth	Henry Reed	Sandra White & JoAnn Burkhart
Joseph Daniels	Rosalind Larsen	June Reed	Frank Wilhelm
Richard & Stephanie Daniels	Patricia Leshuk	Gene Reeves	Clementine Wilkerson
Barbara Davis	Randall Leurquin	Margaret & Gerardo Reyes	Ruby Wilkerson
Denice Davis	Deborah Levi	Sonja Richardson	Joyce Willis
Derek Davis	Josh Levin	Travis Richardson	Craig Wimberly
John Davis	Paul Levin	Nada Riley	Evelyn Wimberly
Paul Davis	Julie & John Lohrmann	Elie Robinson	Terrance & Lori Wimberly
Earnise De Cuir	Colby Luckenbill	Judy Rogers	Bob Wisz
Pat Dearing	Ricardo Lugo	Carol Ronen	Barbara Wood
Ronald & Beth Deitch	Marsha Lumpkins	Alice Rooks	Stanley & Yvonne Yoslov
Evan Dimoutsikos & Kristine Neal	Jason Makar	Alan Rose	Paul Zalmezak

TIME TO RENEW YOUR DUES

If the date above the name on your address label is 20051001, your membership is up for renewal now. Please return the form that was sent to you last month or go to the website and renew through PayPal. Your dues must be paid to date to vote in the endorsement sessions next month.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As we went to press, the Adequate Health Care Task Force was releasing its recommendations for achieving universal health care in Illinois. The plan calls for all residents to obtain health insurance through their employers, government programs or on their own. Like the recently adopted Massachusetts plan, there are penalties for non-compliance for both employers and individuals.

IVI-IPO's Legislative Action Committee will be discussing this plan at its next scheduled meeting, Monday, December 18, 6:00pm, at the IVI-IPO office. At that time, we will also talk about lobbying priorities for the coming session.

Do we have your email address?

Receive legislative updates, notices of upcoming events and more if you provide us with your email address. Send us a message at iviipo@yahoo.com and we will sign you up for electronic notices.

**Independent Voters of Illinois-
Independent Precinct Organization
1325 South Wabash - Suite 105
Chicago IL 60605**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Congratulations to long-time member Marilyn Jones

On October 25, Marilyn's company, Consolidated Printing, received the Governor's Pollution Prevention Award. Consolidated is the first printing company to be awarded with the pollution prevention award in Illinois.

Governor Rod Blagojevich stated "It gives me great pleasure to present you with the Governor's Pollution Prevention Award for 2006. I commend your company's exemplary efforts in reducing waste by directly targeting the source. Your accomplishments have truly benefited all citizens of this state by giving them a healthier and safer environment in which to live."

Consolidated has a long history of being an environmental leader. It was the first printer awarded the title of "Illinois Great Printer" by the Illinois EPA for the prevention of pollution and the overall health of our environment.

Consolidated is a WBE certified, union printer.

For more information: www.consoldidatedprinting.net