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Chicago Tribune

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CHICAGO

100TH YEAR — NO. 46 © CHICAGO TRIBUNE

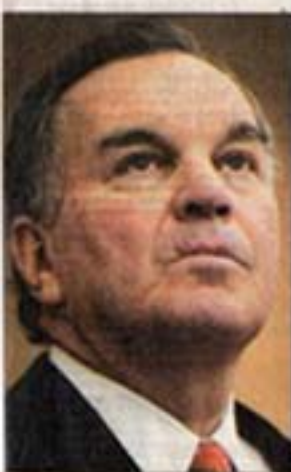
A TRIBUNE/WGN-TV POLL OF CHICAGO VOTERS FOUND . . .

70%

Don't believe that
Daley was unaware
of city contracting,
hiring problems

56%

Think Daley
is doing
a good job
as mayor



By Gary Washburn
and Rick Pearson
Tribune staff reporters

Seven out of 10 Chicago voters don't believe Mayor Richard Daley's assertions that he was unaware of wrongdoing in city contracting and hiring, but more than half of voters still ap-

prove of the job he is doing, a new Tribune/WGN-TV poll shows.

A majority of the survey's participants have concluded that Daley is responsible for personnel and contract decisions and aren't satisfied with his past efforts to eliminate fraud and corruption in those

areas. Still, the poll found that when it comes time to vote, most voters will view the scandals that have rocked City Hall as less important than what Daley has done to improve the city.

With one year before the next city mayoral balloting, the poll found that if Daley ran for reelection today against U.S. Rep.

Jesse Jackson Jr., the race would be up for grabs. In a three-way contest that also included U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, the poll showed Daley could be forced into a runoff.

When voters were asked about the job Daley is doing, 56 percent approved while 33 percent disapproved. Those results

are nearly identical to a similar poll conducted last May, despite revelations of more corruption at City Hall and a parade of indictments that seems to have no end.

One of the survey participants, Madeline Baldwin, 67, a

PLEASE SEE SURVEY, BACK PAGE

Tribune photo by Zbigniew Bodak
Most voters polled see Daley's achievements as more important than recent city scandals.



Affixed to a building on North Milwaukee Avenue is this whimsical sign for a dentist's office.

GIVE THIS MAN A **PLAQUE**



WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE to calculate the numbers of signs across the city? Surely not. And why bother? Most of them are of a dull, self-explanatory type: car wash, hot dogs, Starbucks.

The best sign we've seen in some time is actually more like a sculpture. Affixed to a building at 2831 N. Milwaukee Ave., it consists of a tooth fairy who seems to be floating in air, a large toothbrush, a man and a row of very big teeth.

Osgood spotted it first, quite a feat considering this stretch of Milwaukee Avenue is awash in pleasantly chaotic signage.

"Look at that," he said. At first we thought it might be a sign for an art gallery. It did not immediately occur to us that this might be a sign for a dentist, for one does not always associate dentists with such playfulness.

Osgood snapped some shots and then went inside the offices of Theodore M. Siegel, DDS. There we met him and his assistants and associates, Sandra Moreno, Norma Pacheco, Margie Morales, Damaris Rivera, Brenda Collazo and Dr. Adri Moyano.

"The tooth fairy went up first a couple of years ago and we've just added the other elements," Siegel said. "It's not really a sales tool. It's just a wacky idea. I think a person's office should reflect the person's personality."

It helps, of course, to have a wife who is a graphic artist. Caron Siegel helped shape her husband's artistic vision, which is echoed in his business cards.

Siegel started his practice in this neighborhood in 1984, in a space across the street. Later he bought the building that houses his offices and some rental apartments.

"I love the neighborhood and have always loved the people here," he says.

The whimsical sign, then, might be seen as a gift to the community. "People stop and stare at it. They take pictures," says Siegel. "It's a curiosity but it also brightens the neighborhood where I've chosen to spend my professional life."

Better be careful.

With that kind of attitude, Siegel's going a long way toward giving all dentists a good name. ■