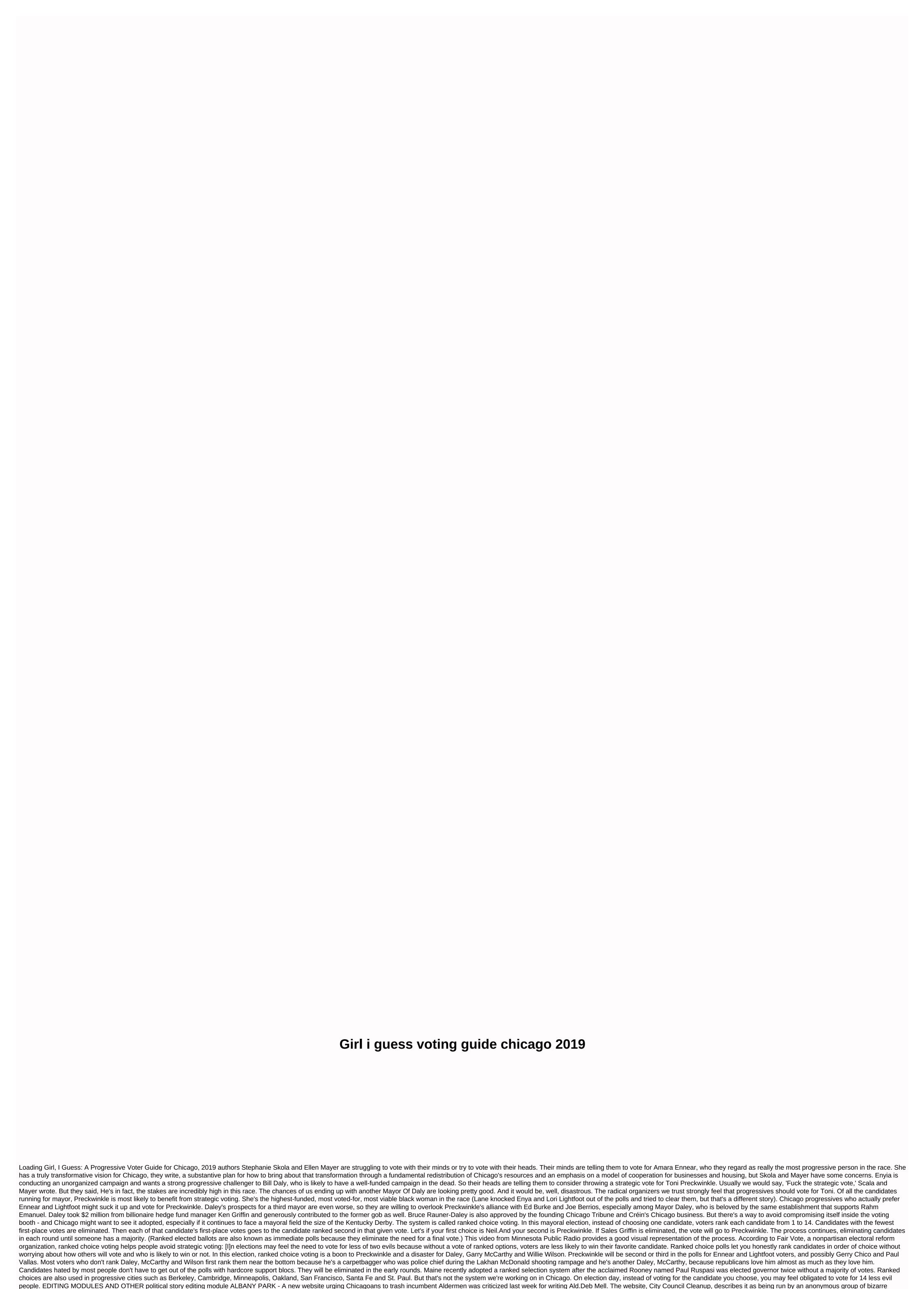


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Chicago organizers dissatisfied with aldermen who use force to further divest from the Black and Brown community, expand policing and crime, and dismantle community and crime In a statement Thursday evening, Ward 33 candidate Katie Sierraki was firstThe city council cleans up the entry as vitriolic and homophobic rhetoric but later softened her criticism. I may have differences in my policies with Alderman Mel, but this kind of hateful speech hinders our ability to govern and have real discussions about how best to move Chicago forward, Sierrachi said in an initial statement. But activists and supporters of the site, including self-proclaimed transdike Stephanie Scola, said the use of the word was not inherently gay. Scala, co-host of the Taco Bagel Podcast and associate executive director of the Brave Space Alliance, said the text used on the City Council cleanup site came from the Girl I Guess voting guide, which Skola produces with Southside Weekly editor Ellen Mayer. They didn't think the organizers would include being weird when they were standing up the site, Skora said. That word is a term within the community that gay people use to talk about other gay people. The website then edited Mel Entry to White Lesbians and updated the site's About Us page to explain the community organizers behind the city council cleanup. But for people outside [the LGBTQ+ community], I could see how it could be misunderstood, Skola said. The Autonomous Tenants Coalition, a group that works to end evictions and create more affordable housing, tweeted Mel a screenshot of the original entry in the city council cleanup on Thursday afternoon, but later deleted it. The first tweet released by the Autonomous Tenants Coalition on February 14 was 1:19 p.m. submitted The creators of this site are strange, said Jake Marshall, a spokesman for the Autonomous Tenants Coalition. As I'm sure you know, strange women mostly take the word back and often use it to refer to themselves. Even if the full context of the author's identity is not readily available, you can see that this word is jarring, but I took this for granted. In a statement, Mel said she was disappointed to read such bigoted rhetoric when she saw the original post. However, her campaign refused to comment further when the author of the entry explained that they too were strange. Related: All you need to vote for on February 26 is that once she found out its author was weird, she endorsed her criticism of the site, tweeting that she had called out vitriol based on the original information presented online. Chris Poulos, campaign manager for District 33 candidate Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez, stood at the city council's cleanup site and criticized the support of Mel's cop academy and its refusal to stand up to the big developers who drive out long-standing residents. Ward 33 covers Ravenswood Manor, Avondale, Albany Park and Irving Park. Mel was the first. He was re-elected to a city council seat in 2013 and re-elected in 2015. Related: Aldermanic Kraut's Danger was discussed at the 33rd District Forum, where three candidates cast her first ballot in 2008 for City Council seat Molly Gross - for Barack Obama. In 2016, she voted for Hillary Clinton. I've always had political ideas. I was your standard Democrat, says Gross, who lives in Wicker Park. But the 28-year-old makeup artist didn't pay much attention to local racing. She sat in the 2010 and 2014 midterm elections and skipped Chicago's mayoral race a year later. Gross, who i moved to Chicago from Minneapolis in late 2012, says, I still didn't feel like a true Chicago Board of Elections was 162,000 people in Chicago between the ages of 25 and 34 who voted in this year's midterm elections, with one in five voters across the city and the largest share of the vote for any age group. Gross went for the famous Democrat at the top of the ticket. But she says she knew her vote was most important in down-ballot elections, especially for Cook County judges seeking retention. I was looking at the judges on the ballot and I didn't really care, she says. For the first time, I focused on judicial elections. I knew it would have the greatest direct impact on the lives of the people of Chicago, especially the brown and black people. She believes her awareness in the links she came across for the private Facebook group Brown and Black Babies Chicago's Girl I Guess: Steph & El's Progressive Voter Guide to Cook County General Election 2018. The guide, created by journalists Ellen Mayer and Stephanie Skola, organizers of the Trans Liberation Group and the Local Branch of Jewish Voices for Peace, is a deep 22-page dive into every Cook County race and referendum clear about its purpose: We are Jews, weird, geeky, dedicated to helping members of our community navigate confusing votes and identify the most progressive candidates. Girl I Guess, started by a young woman with the Twitter hashtag #GirllGuessImWithHer after Clinton won the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016, was frequently shared on social media platforms and received more than 100,000 views in a year when turnout reached 57% higher than in midterm elections since 1986 in Chicago. Gross says she voted against all eight Cook County Judge Girl I Guess, who took her cellphone to the voting booth to make sure the name was correct and urged her to vote in absentia. I kept messing up the names of the judges, so I demanded so many new votes that the pollsters got angry with me, she says. I wanted to get it right. One of its judges, Matthew Coghlan, could not get enough votes to retain the seat and was voted on —It happened in Cook County for the first time since 1990. Criminal justice activists routinely issued harsh sentences for black men convicted of marijuana possession and lenient sentences for police officers often convicted of violent crimes against Coghlan, who was the subject of a series of reports by Rogue Watch, a nonpartisan, nonprofit journalism organization. Coghlan, a former Cook County prosecutor, is sued by two men who spent 25 years in jail before being ousted, and Coghlan says he helped former Chicago Police Detective Reynaldo Guevara arrest them for murder. In a rare move, the Cook County Democratic Party also ended up campaigning against Coghlan. Alex Fryer, a 26-year-old chicana studying public policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, says Girl I Guess deserves some of the credit for putting the usual low-key race for judges on more people's radars. In the last class on Tuesday, I saw a group of Latinas in my class going around their phones, sharing guides and talking, before they were put out early to the polls, says Fryer. She took a screenshot of her guide and posted it on Instagram, urging others to vote. One of the screenshots was part judicial election, and Fryer says it was some of the guides I thought would be most helpful. As a woman of color, I'm interested in criminal justice reform, fryer said. Girl I speculation has made it easier for other young people of color to share similar concerns. She says she thanked dozens of people for sharing their voting guides. Scala says she was not surprised that the light tone of her voting guide worked. Ellen and I are friends, kind of goofy, and we're fed up with politicians taking themselves too seriously, she says. Carlos Ballesteros is a legion member of Report for America, a nonprofit journalism program aimed at bolstering Sun-Times coverage of issues affecting the south and west sides of Chicago. Side.

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