

Boss Royko Mike

BossBook Review IndexBorder BossThe BossesAmerican DemocracyThe Great Lakes ReviewChallenging the Growth MachineLocal PoliticsThe Merit System and Municipal Civil ServiceAmerican Labor History and Comparative Labor MovementsThe Progressives and the PoliceEthnic Political LeadershipCCSSQUrban Affairs BibliographyAB Bookman's WeeklyFrank RizzoCity LightsThe New LeaderOrganized CrimeChicago Portraits *Mike Royko* J. Gilberto Quezada Alfred Steinberg Robert Kenneth Carr Barbara Ferman Terry Christensen Francis Gottfried James C. McBrearty Joseph Gerald Woods George Edward Martin Bernard H. Ross S. A. Paolantonio E. Barbara Phillips Howard Abadinsky June Skinner Sawyers

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the best book ever written about an american city by the best journalist of his time jimmy breslin in the turbulent world of chicago politics boss dives deep into the captivating life and legacy of richard j daley the influential politician and mastermind behind the city s democratic party machine mike royko s scathing and meticulously researched account follows richard j daley s rise to power from his inauspicious youth on chicago s south side through his rapid climb to the seat of power as the city s mayor this engrossing biography brings to life the most powerful political figure of his time with witty insight and unwavering honesty royko unveils daley s controversial tactics his laissez faire policy toward

corruption and his unprecedented influence as a kingmaker from milestone achievements to cardinal sins this eye opening biography paints a vivid portrait of daley making boss a must read for history buffs political enthusiasts and anyone fascinated by the inner workings of power uncover the secrets and the undeniable legacy of the last of the backroom caesars in this compelling portrait of politics and power this new edition includes an introduction in which the author reflects on daley s death and the future of chicago

every 3rd issue is a quarterly cumulation

on january 1 1937 manuel b bravo was sworn in as county judge of zapata county a post he would hold for twenty years in border boss manuel b bravo and zapata county j gilberto quezada delineates bravo s political career in the democratic party and examines his role in some of the important issues of his day especially falcon dam during bravo s years in office he worked and corresponded with many texas and national politicians including james allred lloyd bentsen kika de la garza ralph yarborough and most prominently lyndon johnson the association between bravo and johnson began with the special senate election of 1941 and is reflected in the more than fifty letters between the two in bravo s personal papers in johnson s 1948 senate runoff against coke stevenson voting irregularities were alleged in zapata county when the election returns from precinct no 3 were reported missing quezada analyzes the bravo papers for any evidence that bravo and johnson had arranged the disappearance and offers possible alternative explanations from the 1930s to the 1950s zapata county was one of six south texas counties where the tejano majority dominated local politics and held most public offices bravo became known as one of the mexican bosses of south texas but quezada draws a more nuanced picture of bossism than has been presented previously analyzing the role of influential leading families but looking as well at the degree of economic integration into the state and nation as factors in how bossism developed those interested in mexican american studies and politics and bossism in south texas will appreciate the window onto south texas politics and tejano culture this biography gives

economic development and urban growth are the contested grounds of urban politics business elites and politicians tend to forge pro growth coalitions centered around downtown development while progressive and neighborhood activists counter with a more balanced approach that features a strong neighborhood component urban politics is often shaped by this conflict which has intellectual as well as practical dimensions in some cities neighborhood interests have

triumphed in others the pro growth agenda has prevailed in this illuminating comparative study barbara ferman demonstrates why neighborhood challenges to pro growth politics were much more successful in pittsburgh than they were in chicago operating largely in the civic arena pittsburgh s neighborhood groups encountered a political culture and institutional structure conducive to empowering neighborhood progressivism in housing and economic development policymaking in contrast the pro growth agenda in chicago was challenged in the electoral arena which was dominated by machine ward based politicians who regarded any independent neighborhood organizing as a threat consequently neighborhood demands for policymaking input were usually thwarted besides revealing why the development policies of two important american cities diverged ferman s unique comparative approach to this issue significantly expands the scope of urban analysis among other things it provides the first serious study to incorporate the civic sector neighborhood politics as an important component of urban regimes ferman also emphasizes institutional and cultural factors often ignored or relegated to residual roles in other studies and expounds on their influence in shaping local politics and policy to add an analytical and normative dimension to urban analysis she focuses on the non elite actors not just the economic and political elites who compose governing coalitions ultimately ferman takes a more holistic and balanced view of large cities than is typical for urban studies as she argues that neighborhoods are an important integral part of what cities are and can be for that reason especially her work will have a profound impact upon our understanding of urban politics

frances gottfried offers a thorough going critique of municipal civil service systems and the principles of meritocracy that underlie them focusing especially on the social inequities and entrenchment of power that continue to bedevil the public sector beginning with an examination of the principles and history of the merit system the author challenges the assumption that a real meritocracy does in fact exist she looks at current practices and procedures in civil service with particular attention to the decision making process she explores the role of the rigid credentialling system in maintaining a powerful elite within civil service and in creating barriers to career opportunities for minorities and women in the next three chapters gottfried considers attempts that have been made to reform the merit system through affirmative action litigation aimed at eliminating inequities and public employment programs from the new deal years through the early 1970s concluding that the rigidly structured municipal civil service system is neither efficient nor equitable she contends that it effectively widens the gulf between municipal employees and the communities it is their

responsibility to serve

here at last is the first full scale biography of frank l rizzo one of the most beloved and feared public figures in urban american history sweeping and finely detailed this is a work of scholarship that reads like a novel it is packed with colorful new details and revealing new stories about a man whose life demonstrated how the force of personality can affect history this biography is the entertaining saga of an immigrant family that begins in the arid apennine hills of southern italy it is the story of a man who defied his own father and the irish controlled philadelphia police department to become one of the toughest cops in america it is also a portrait of rizzo s rise to unlikely political prominence of how he became obsessed with power betrayed his supporters and spent more than a decade fighting for redemption rizzo was loved he was hated and there was no one else like him as cop police commissioner mayor and consummate campaigner rizzo was the last of the big men who patrolled the urban landscape and he became a symbol for the racial tensions that inflamed america s cities he was center stage during the bloody struggles over civil rights the war at home over vietnam and the expansion of political empowerment in the 1960s and 1970s at a time when the rodney king beating and the los angeles riots have sparked a reexamination of police tactics and the nation s urban policies it is vitally important to study the life of a man who had vast influence on both this book is filled with hidden treasures which will delight historians students political junkies and the fans of frank rizzo and his critics read the newly discovered archival material that revealsthe inside story of how richard nixon made frank rizzo the centerpiece of his 1972 reelection campaign and nixon s personal thoughts on their friendship learn of rizzo s implicit understanding with angelo bruno the docile don of the south philly mob and read about how the men who ousted bruno considered whacking rizzo in a dispute over his son in law the bookie for the first time hear from the man who gave frank rizzo a very famous lie detector test also revealed in this book are the private meetings and secret deals of rizzo s five campaigns for mayor including his pact with sam katz to beat ron castille in the 1991 republican primary in philadelphia and the real story of how rizzo planned to beat ed rendell and return to power for the first time too frank rizzo s wife carmella and his family have agreed to cooperate fully providing access to family records and photographs in many ways this book is like a home movie of philadelphia s most famous family which had carefully guarded its privacy for five decades but these pages contain much much more than one man s story for the first time anywhere this biography delivers more than 100 years of riveting philadelphia history including the media wars the government corruption and the personal struggles for

political power from boies penrose to john street it is filled with the men and women who make the frank rizzo story so compelling there is richard nixon ronald reagan george bush jimmy carter angelo bruno nicky scarfo walter annenberg richardson dilworth jim tate pete camiel cecil moore charles bowser lucien blackwell wilson goode bill gray bill green billy meehan ed rendell arlen specter roncastille lynne abraham and sam katz the life of frank rizzo is a uniquely american tale the story of an american city in the american century never before has it been told with such delicacy insight and perspective

skillfully blending perspectives from the social sciences with insights from the visual arts and humanities this lively and imaginative text provides a comprehensive introduction cities and how they work focusing on the u s city it covers the major traditional topics as well as cultural pluralism the impact of the communications revolution and architecture as symbolic politics

historical sketches of prominent figures from chicago s past either born and bred there or born and raised elsewhere but associated with the city a sampling just from last names beginning with the letter a yields jane addams george ade nelson algren saul alinsky john peter altgeld sherwood anderson louie armstrong and jacob arvey annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

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