

County Clerk Loretta Bowman Seeks Sixth Term

Twenty years ago when Loretta Bowman, a deputy clerk, made her first try for office, filing as the Democratic candidate for County Clerk, Clark County was still doing things the frontier way and doing it pretty well considering the rapid growth of the county.

But Loretta Bowman had always brought to her job a desire to learn more and more about new technology and she was determined to bring the main office of the area's number one business, the business of government, into the 21st century.

Today Loretta Bowman is seeking her sixth term in office and offering her experience and leadership, a record of achievement to the voters. She brought new technology and executive knowhow to that office and believes it takes experience to keep up with the fast changing office technology of today and tomorrow.

Changing technology in the hands of experience can mean big savings of taxpayer dollars. That is what Bowman intends to keep on delivering.

The clerk's Office is no longer the simple repository for the sleepy history of a sleepy little town. It is the nerve center of a major metropolitan area comparable to the hub of any great corporation and it takes executive knowhow as well as superior office skills to manage it, and do the many varied jobs the Clerk is mandated by state law to do.

Bowman, who began her career as chief deputy to another long time county clerk, began in 1978 to add modern technology including a computerized tracking system that now handles 30,700 court cases a year. Under her executive leadership the Clerk's Office has grown to meet

the demands of 60,000 couples who want a marriage license each year, 7500 child support payments totaling in excess of \$7 million a year, and another 9000 couples a year who want to be married by a civil marriage commissioner.

Bowman says she believes the voters will want to retain the experience she brings to the office as chief of what many believe is the engine of all county government.

Under her leadership deputy clerks fan out daily across the county to serve as record keepers and transcribers of thousands of meetings each year, ranging from sessions of the Board of County Commissioners, to committee and staff sessions where minutes must be meticulously kept. The office now has a microfilm system that is considered state of the art. It not only preserves the record but provides private citizens, attorneys and other professionals access to all public documents in minutes.

Clerks transcribe the minutes of every publicly noted meeting, as well as thousands of committee and staff working sessions each year throughout the county departments. They also publish and post many hundreds of meeting notices each year in conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, and provides detailed minutes, summaries, and decisions on paper for any citizen to review, or copy them for a fee for any researcher requiring them.

Walk into the Clerk's Office in the County Courthouse any day at 4:30 when the time for last minute filing of documents draws near and you may think you have inadvertently discovered the ticket office for a grand sports event like the Super Bowl. Somehow, with good cheer, the highly trained staff manages to serve nearly everybody's needs before the doors are locked for the day.

"I believe my knowledge of that system and the many varied tasks of the Clerk's Office can save precious taxpayer dollars that would be lost if this office did not function smoothly to furnish the services so many of our residents depend upon," Bowman says. "Sometimes the average person is amazed to find out just how much more we do than just maintain court records."

Just maintaining court records, of course, is a challenge in a county that is one of the fastest growing in the nation. With population and economic growth, unfortunately, comes growth in the number of court cases, civil, criminal

probate, guardianship, juvenile.

Under Bowman's executive leadership the Clerk's Office added an automated case tracking system in 1978, and she has been working to complete and enhance the existing system. To give you an idea of how much business the Clerk's Office handles in just this one area, the fees handled by the Clerk's Office in connection with court cases filed each year is in excess of \$4.8 million each year.

One of the most important tasks of the Clerk's Office is to collect and disburse child support payments. The program is federally mandated. That means failure to do so in a manner that meets federal standards could result in penalties or loss of the return of local tax dollars from the federal government.

But more importantly, failure to do an adequate job, says Bowman, would reflect back to those other areas of government where dealing with the results of nonparental support of children is the primary job. Just think how many more tax dollars would be spent trying to deal with juvenile crime, family subsistence, family breakup, and all the other resulting social tragedy that would come without a strong, adequate system of collection of child support, Bowman says. She is striving to improve upon it with the state of the art microfilming and computer tracking system.

Currently the office processes 7500 checks per month, and handles in excess of \$7 million per year in child support payments.

The County Clerk's Office may appear to deal only in numbers, certificates and cold documents, but it is really in the people business, as much, if not more, than many other local government entities.

Want to get married? The Clerk's Office has the job of issuing licenses in this 24-hour town out of a 24-hour a day office that is open on weekends and holidays. For 60,000 couples a year the first day of the rest of their lives begins in the Clark County Nevada Clerk's Office and its marriage bureau when they obtain a marriage license.

The Clerk also maintains an office of Civil Marriage where commissioners work the same hours as the license bureau, and perform weddings. In 1985, they performed 9000 ceremonies.

In addition the Clerk's Office has the legal duty to qualify ministers to perform weddings in accordance with the Nevada State statutes.

The Clerk's Office is about people serving people, about a growing mountain of information that can keep government running smoothly, or derail the best made plans of an attorney, a defendant or plaintiff, a mother and child, or two people trying to make it to the church on time. It takes leadership, executive ability, and proven knowledge of the modern automated office to bring all that off with quiet, friendly efficiency. Loretta Bowman has been doing it for 20 years.

Temple Emami-El

Las Vegas, NV

- Serving the southwest part of the Valley.
- Membership now available
- Sisterhood
- Services every Friday nite 8 P.M. Conducted by Gary Golbart, Cantor.



CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATION

For more information call 382-7800

Paul Merchasin, President

There IS a way to Restore the American Dream! Vote for:

Paul Fisher
Paid for by Fisher for Congress

DRUGS • SOUVENIRS • GIFTS
U. S. POST OFFICE • NOTARY



PHONE 731-0041
LANDMARK PHARMACY
252 CONVENTION CENTER DR.
LAS VEGAS, NEV. 89109

KEN DANIELS, R. Ph.
—OWNER—

PHONE
(702) 731-0041



Former Judge
AL BECKER
LICENSED ATTORNEY
(Nevada & New York)
205 Bridger St. • 384-9991
(Day Night & Weekends)
CRIMINAL LAW-DRUNK DRIVING
Joint Petition for Divorce
NO COURT APPEARANCE
\$99.75 + FILING FEE

WHEN IT COMES TO GIFTS... SAY IT WITH TREES



FOR ALL OCCASIONS

PLANT TREES IN ISRAEL

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND
5039 N. 19th Ave., Ste. 5
Phoenix, AZ 85015

Let us know what organization/chapter/lodge you want us to credit for your tax deductible free gift.

Trees are \$5.00 each.



RAINBOW SATELLITE

Honesty
Integrity
Service
Competitive Prices

3417 So. Rainbow Blvd.
Rainbow at Spring Mountain
(In the K-Mart-Rainbow/Dunes Centre)
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102
(702) 871-5060

American Copy Centers

Complete Photocopy, Secretarial & Mail Service
Resume Experts • Notary • Printing
"Your Complete Business & Personal Service Center"
Mail Receiving & Forwarding
Message Service • License Hanging

Since 1976

421 East Carson Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

(702) 384-1949
(702) 382-4712

There IS a way to do more not less for our senior citizens!
Vote for:

Paul Fisher
Paid for by Fisher for Congress