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SKY HIGH 40TH: No question about it -- Neal Zucker's 40th birthday bash was one of the best parties this town has seen in quite awhile. The popular CEO of Corporate Cleaning Services played off his role as Our Town's "Top Window Washer" and threw himself the first private party ever held in the observatory atop the John Hancock Center. "Most Jewish mothers brag about their sons going to Harvard or Yale, becoming doctors and lawyers. Well, Neal's none of that -- though he did go to Michigan," quipped proud mom Shelley Zucker Saturday night.

"But I will brag about one thing: Just look and see how clean the windows are here!" Among the 300 of Chicago's Who's Who toasting civic and charity mainstay Zucker were Mayor and Maggie Daley, Melody Hobson, John Rogers, his daughter Victoria, Valerie Jarrett, Nate Berkus, Elizabeth and Jeff Louis, Julie and Fred Latsko, Terry Newman, Nora and Sean Conroy, Carrie Lannon, Steve Traxler, Dori Wilson, Les Coney, Grace Barry, Trish Rooney and Chris Alden, Jamee Field, Leslie Hindman, Brad and Trish Thor, Shawnelle Richie and Lyle Logan, Welz Kauffman, Courtney Thompson, Tim Garvey, Sugar Rautbord, Ken Norgan, Jackie Harris Hochberg, Estelle Walgreen, Burt Natarus, Maria Bechily and Scott Hodes, Tom Gorman, Desiree Rogers, Robin and Lewis Berger, Martin Gapshis, Marko Iglendza, Elizabeth Berger, Bill Bartholomay Jr., Sue Leonis, Maria Pinto, Shawn Donnelley, Emmanuel Nony, Kathy Bell, Freeman Braswell and Kaley LaRue.

From the ecumenical invocation by Msgr. Ken Velo to the beautiful a cappella serenade by the Salem Baptist Church choir, it was truly a night to remember.

DALEY DITTY: Despite all the speculation about whether hizzoner will seek a sixth term next year, when I caught up with him at the Zucker party, Mayor Daley sure sounded like he's not planning on vacating City Hall anytime soon. "I really do still love my job -- can't imagine doing anything else," Daley said, adding,

"I don't get it when people tell me they hate their jobs. I tell them, just quit! Find something you love. Life's too short." bzwecker@suntimes.com

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