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Election Filing Period Opens Soon

Ever attended a city council meeting and thought to yourself, "If I was sitting in one of those seats I'd ___ (fill in the blank)?" Has a friend suggested that you should be on the school board? Your window of opportunity is about to open.

Lamorinda's heroic elected officials work many hours each month and receive no pay. Some serve to give back to their communities, others want to make a difference - it can be a very rewarding experience. But these jobs also require something of a thick skin because, to twist a phrase, you will never please all of the people even some of the time.

The general rules for candidates are that you must be 18 years old by the next election, a citizen of the U.S., a registered voter in the district or city you wish to run for, and you must have not been convicted of designated crimes as specified in the state constitution and laws.

The candidate filing period opens July 14 and closes Aug. 8. If one, or more, incumbent does not file nomination papers, the filing period is extended to Aug. 13. Candidates must file in person at the cognizant office.

If you are running for a special district or a school district, the County Elections Office is your filing office. Candidates for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District board or one of the four school boards should file at 555 Escobar Street, Martinez. For information, call (925) 335-7874 or go to www.cocovote.us. If you are seeking public office in a city or town, the city clerk is your filing office and appointments are recommended.

Lafayette: City Clerk Joanne Robbins, 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., (925) 299-3210, jrobbins@lovelafayette.org.

Moraga: Town Clerk Marty McInturf, 329 Rheem Blvd., (925) 888-7022, mmcinturf@moraga.ca.us.

Orinda: City Clerk Michele Olsen, 22 Orinda Way, (925) 253-4221, molsen@cityoforinda.org.

The term of service is four years except where noted. The following seats will be up for election Nov. 4:

Acalanes Union High School District Governing Board

Three seats; the incumbents are Susan Epstein, Tom Mulvaney and Richard Whitmore.

Lafayette City Council

Two seats; the incumbents are Brandt Andersson and Don Tatzin.

Lafayette School District Governing Board

Three seats; the incumbents are Teresa Gerringer, David Gerson and Art Kapoor.

Orinda City Council

Three seats; the incumbents are Dean Orr, Sue Severson and Amy Worth.

Orinda Union School District Governing Board

Three seats; the incumbents are Julie Rossiter, Christopher Severson and Tyson Krumholtz.

Moraga Town Council

Two seats; the incumbents are Ken Chew and Dave Trotter.

Moraga School District Governing Board

Four seats (one seat has a two-year term); the incumbents are Kathy Ranstrom, Kym Leserman, Charles McNulty and Parker Colvin.

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors

Three seats; the incumbents are Steve Anderson (Division 3, parts of Moraga and Orinda), Kathleen Famulener (Division 1, Moraga) and John Wyro (Division 4, Orinda).

Collected and compiled by Lamorinda Weekly staff writers.

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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