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Three council member seats to fill in Moraga; four candidates running

By Vera Kochan

With just over two months until the Nov. 8 elections, the town of Moraga will need to fill three council member positions: one two-year term (continuing the seat prematurely vacated by former member David Stromberg) and two new four-year terms.

Two of the eligible incumbents did not file papers, so the nomination period was extended from Aug. 12 until 5 p.m. Aug. 17.

In no particular order, Moraga's candidates looking to fill the single two-year term seat are David Shapiro (attorney) and Kendall Langan (self-employed businessman). Also in no particular order, the candidates running to fill the two four-year term seats are Kerry Hillis (government relations/business owner) and Steve Woehleke (town council member).

According to Shapiro's Candidate Statement, he has been a Moraga resident for 26 years. He has been a practicing lawyer for over 40 years with a background in government service and private practice with experience in running the United States Attorney's Office in San Francisco and the Oakland office of a major national litigation firm.

Kendall Langan's Candidate Statement notes that he has lived in Orinda and Moraga since 1953; was an original member of the Town of Moraga Incorporation Committee of 1974; and served 14 years as president of the Lafayette Moraga Youth Association. He currently runs a food industry business and owns/operates commercial real estate in town.

The Candidate Statement for Kerry Hillis reports that he has been a Moraga resident for nearly six years and is currently chair of the town's Planning Commission. Hillis has also served as a vice president of the Moraga Community Foundation. Professionally, he is a transportation policy administrator, currently working as a government relations manager with BART; and a co-owner/Chief Strategy Officer of an E-commerce business.

Steve Woehleke's Candidate Statement lists him as a town council incumbent with 20 years of previous experience on the Design Review Board, Planning Commission, and Hacienda Foundation Board of Directors. He has over 30 years of technical and project management experience as a Licensed Professional Engineer (retired); and former Certified Project Management Professional, with training in the practice of Quality Decision Making.

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