



Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 12, canceled

Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District

Thursday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m.

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium

1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga

www.moraga.k12.ca.us

See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org

Moraga Police Report



Sept 7 to 12

Medical assist 9/6/16

The Moraga Police Department was notified that someone was having a bad reaction to a controlled substance (i.e. illegal drug). Upon arrival, officers found two folks quite obviously under the influence. They had to be physically restrained before getting a lift from the MPD. That must have been quite a headache for everyone (aspirin, anyone?).

Drunkenness 9/7/16

Dude! Where's my Car? The subject couldn't find his car, but he wasn't drinking and driving; he was drinking and not thinking. Police found him wandering along Camino Pablo one afternoon, clueless about being publicly intoxicated or where he'd parked his car. The good news: he got a free ride from Moraga police. The bad news: the ride was to jail.

TGIF 9/9/16

Party? What party? Police investigating an anonymous noise tip observed a large collection of college-age students leaving an apartment complex, halos intact. The group was advised about the inadvisability of being unruly, even on a Friday.

Second verse...same as the first 9/9/16

Saturday's party in the same general neighborhood proved a bit more wild, as police caught 18 folks with alcoholic beverages in the act of being loud. The party was disbanded at police request; the residents were warned not to do this again.

Santa Barbara Rental Scam 9/10/16

Driving to Santa Barbara over Labor Day weekend is probably bad enough to begin with, but when the vacation property you think you rented from Craigslist turns out to be (legally) rented to someone else it's a real drag. Sadly, the victim's email request to return her \$965 has gone unanswered.

Signed, crashed, delivered 9/10/16

A Moraga resident thinks his mailbox was knocked over by a Fed Ex driver. Damage estimate was \$250. When it absolutely, positively has to get there — watch out for the truck!

Other calls:

• 8 police calls, two of which left police unable to fully inspect the

MSD Candidates Want to Keep Moraga Schools on Track

By Sophie Braccini

Four names will be listed on the ballots for the Moraga School District governing this November: one person, Jim Obsitnik, is running unopposed for the two-year term, while three are running for two four-year terms on the board: incumbent Richard Severy, David Harrison and Jim Obsitnik.



Jim Obsitnik

Jim Obsitnik says he was initially appointed for a two-year term back in 2014.

"Assuming I win (given that I'm unopposed), this would result in an effective total four-year term," he says to explain why he chose that option. He says he thinks it is good that board members continually reevaluate their commitment to improving children's education every four years, to make sure that the board is made of the right people.

For the past two years, Obsitnik says that he has focused on successful implementation of innovative curriculum programs that support the Common Core standards in English-language arts and mathematics, shepherd children's safety as a charter member of the Student Safety Committee, and ensured that the district is prudent in its fiscal management. He is especially proud that the board made the right decision regarding the start time at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, prioritizing sleep for that age group to improve educational outcomes.

The candidate says he is invested in the district's efforts to develop the "Whole Child" for lifelong learning, with curricula including music and arts, enabling students to be successful global citizens in the 21st Century.

"As a technology executive, I am excited about the strides the District has made to weave technology into our children's educational experiences and look forward to driving further innovation in this area," he says. He adds that if he is elected for a second term he will also empower teachers in their implementation efforts of the Common Core Standards, and support improving the facilities to create a 21st-Century learning environment for collaboration, innovation, and interactivity.

Obsitnik is the father of two girls currently in the MSD.



David Harrison

David Harrison has two children in Moraga elementary schools and feels his family is a direct beneficiary of the quality education the MSD provides.

"I wanted to give back, serve, and help improve the district as well," he says.

premises because of dogs in the yard.

- Outstanding warrant (9/11/16)
- \$900 damage to a 2011 Jeep; tires slashed, paint scratched. (9/12/16)
- \$1100 in goods stolen from a possibly unlocked 2014 Toyota. (9/12/16)
- Police asked a visiting family member to leave after he argued with a resident teen. (9/12/16)

Harrison, who says he is passionate about education, would want to support extra-curricular chances to volunteer and to compete in both academics and athletics. He believes this type of engagement is not only good for developing well-rounded citizens who have compelling stories to tell on college applications, but also helps ignite children's passion for intellectual engagement and life-long learning.

Harrison says he has worked closely with public sector entities as a private sector executive in both entrepreneurial start-ups and larger well-established companies, and that the board position would be his first role within the public sector. He believes that his background as a chief financial officer will help him assist with maintaining sound fiscal discipline without sacrificing programs that help children thrive.

"With strong budgeting, planning, financial analysis and negotiation we can get the most out of our limited resources," he says, adding that he is also very comfortable reviewing contracts and diving deeply into the details so potential concerns are proactively addressed while still staying focused on the big picture.

Harrison says he started being passionate about education when he discovered, while tutoring in college, different ways in which individuals learn. He says he even briefly started a company that sought to hire tutors who could not only teach tailored to individual learning styles, but who could also begin to aggregate these insights about different types of learners to help develop targeted products and services based on them. Since then, his involvement in education has primarily been through volunteer activities such as teaching the BizWorld program in elementary school classrooms, coaching youth sports and leading a Cub Scout Den. He says he regularly attends school board meetings, has provided input for achieving small class sizes while still achieving a sound

budget plan, and has advocated for the district to host programs like Math Kangaroo and other extra-curricular opportunities to increase student engagement. He supports measure V.



Joe Rosenbaum

Joe Rosenbaum says that he is running for the MSD position to assist administrators, teachers and staff to maintain the current high level of excellence of education in Moraga schools.

"The MSD schools are continually recognized among the best in the state, and this in turn benefits our community and home values," he says.

Rosenbaum is a longtime resident of Moraga who has been involved in community and youth sports activities for much of the last 20-plus years. His two sons attended and benefitted from the education received from the MSD. He believes that since he no longer has children in the MSD system, he will bring an objective viewpoint to the board.

Rosenbaum has been quite active supporting the community and youth activities including acting as chair of the ad hoc "Field of Dreams Committee," the joint committee of the Moraga Town Council and the Moraga School District that ultimately resulted in the renovation of the recreational fields at Camino Pablo Elementary.

"I have also served as President of Moraga Baseball Association, president of Moraga Sports Alliance, president of Campolindo Cougar Club, and board member of Lamorinda Rugby Football Club. I have also assisted with Moraga

Boy Scout Troop 212," he says.

Professionally, Rosenbaum has worked as a certified public accountant for over 30 years, with leadership positions at large international firms. He currently serves as the chair of the California Board of Accountancy's Enforcement Advisory Committee and on the California Society of CPA's Forensic Services Steering Committee.

"I would bring valuable accounting, financial and leadership skills to the board," he says. Rosenbaum supports Measure V.

"The recent Facilities Master Plan revealed numerous repairs that need to be made in our schools including leaky roofs, deteriorating plumbing, heating and ventilation systems, improvements for seismic safety and upgrades to the electrical systems," he says. He is confident that the monies raised by this bond will be locally controlled and would only benefit Moraga schools, and will also have oversight and audits.

"The MSD could also become eligible for state matching funds. All in all, it is an investment in our local schools and our local community," he says.

Besides providing valuable insight and support to the administrators, teachers and staff, and making sure the needed upgrades are financed, Rosenbaum wants to strengthen ties to the community at large, especially those without children in the MSD.



Richard Severy

Richard Severy is an incumbent who was appointed to the board at the beginning of the 2016 when Parker Colvin moved out of Moraga. ... continued on next page

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