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Burbank council seat up for grabs Optometrist, ex-mayor top money list

By Jason Kandel, Staff Writer

BURBANK - A local optometrist and a former Burbank mayor raised the most money in next Tuesday's City Council election, according to campaign finance statements filed Friday.

David Gordon has raised nearly \$26,000, followed by businessman Bill Wiggins, who's raised \$18,557. Attorney Vahe Hovanesian brought in almost \$4,200.

The two other candidates, attorney Amy Lawrence and former air traffic controller Michael Dontanville, filed papers saying they wouldn't raise any campaign cash.

The open seat was vacated by Councilwoman Stacey Murphy, who resigned Aug. 30 after being charged with drug possession and child endangerment in a case connected to the Vineland Boys gang. She pleaded guilty in December.

Gordon, an optometrist, said he plans to hit the streets this weekend in a final push for the Tuesday's all-mail-in election to fill the seat.

"I'm very encouraged," said Gordon, whose contributions include a \$13,000 loan to himself. "I look forward to what the people's vote is, and to the opportunity to serve the community."

Wiggins, the former mayor who currently sits on the Bob Hope Airport commission, said he will spend the weekend helping his 23-year son, who just graduated from college, move into his first apartment in Santa Monica.

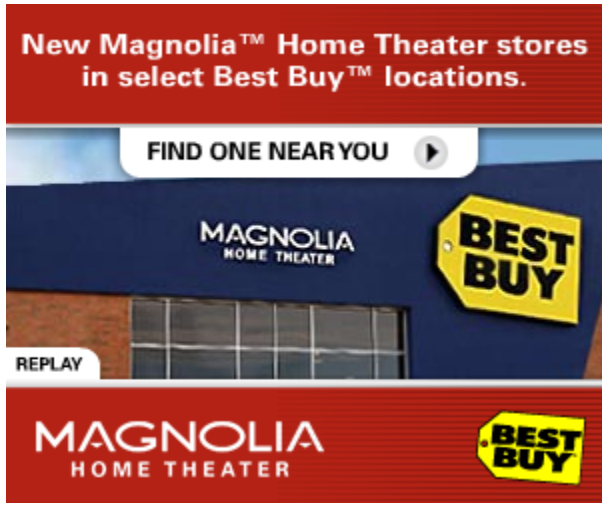
"I've done what I've done in the past and run what I thought was a positive campaign," said Wiggins, the third-generation owner of a Glendale metal finishing company whose campaign money came from Burbank residents and business owners. "I've done what I feel needed to be done, and we'll see how the voters feel on Tuesday."

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Burbank City Clerk Margarita Campos said her office

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mailed ballots for the special election to about 49,000 registered voters. As of Friday morning, her office had received 8,000 ballots.

The clerk's office will begin counting ballots after 7 p.m. Tuesday, and expects to announce the results by 10 p.m.

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WHERE TO VOTE

Burbank voters can drop off their ballots from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. today and 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday at the Clerk's Office, 275 E. Olive Ave.; Buena Vista Branch Library, 300 N. Buena Vista St.; Joslyn Adult Center, 1301 W. Olive Ave.; McCambridge Recreation Center, 1515 N. Glenoaks Blvd.; and Tuttle Adult Center, 1731 N. Ontario St. Ballots can

also be dropped off at the City Clerk's Office from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday. For more information, call (818) 238-5851 or see www.ci.burbank.ca.us/cityclerk.

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