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Candidates list campaign contributions

By **SONYA KLOPFENSTEIN**

of the Journal Star

PEORIA — Though unopposed, Councilman Patrick Nichting raised twice as much in his recent campaign to retain his 5th District seat than Gary Sandberg did in his unsuccessful bid for mayor.

Nichting raised \$10,962 and spent \$508 from January to July, according to the latest campaign finance reports, compared to the \$4,875 Sandberg collected.

For Nichting, big contributors were developers Michael Landwirth, Russell Waldschmidt and Lester Cohen, who each gave \$1,000; as well as property management firm owner Tim Shea.

Fourth District Councilman Bill Spears raised \$16,155 since January, including \$1,000 contributions from Peoria Firefighters Local 544; Plumbers Local Union 63 Political Action Committee; and developer Les Cohen. He spent \$12,826.

Spears' opponent, Jim Montelongo, did not file a financial report since the election, as required. Based on earlier reports, he'd raised \$12,410 and estimated spending \$10,000.

In the 3rd District, Councilwoman Gale Thetford raised \$15,402 during her campaign, including \$1,000 from both Cohen Development and developer David Joseph. She spent \$12,472. Her opponent, Monica Jones, raised \$7,426 between January and July and spent \$3,937.

Second District Councilwoman Marcella Teplitz spent \$11,948 of the \$14,142 she raised. Her opponent, Gary L. Morris, never filed campaign finance reports, suggesting he did not hit the \$3,000 fund-raising minimum.

In the 1st District, Councilman Clyde Gulley Jr. raised \$2,728 and spent \$3,883. His opponent, Debra Doyle, also never filed a report.