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### Music at the Commons

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They gave two hours of satisfying justice to hits by Michael Jackson, The Police, Prince, KC and The Sunshine Band, Katy Perry, The Isley Brothers, and many more iconic songwriters.

Dennis Iwata sat with friends on the hillside. "My wife and I go dancing. We checked the playlist online, and saw everything we like, so we came out. This is a great venue — you should come enjoy the setting, and what MPF (the Moraga Parks Foundation) is doing for the community. Our kids grew up here, and we love this town. People are very friendly."

"I've been in Moraga for 24-and a half years," said Mike Condie, enjoying the concert with his wife and friends on the lawn overlooking the stage. "We moved from San Bruno, for the weather. We love the relaxed atmosphere. It's a great family town. Our kids grew up here. Lots of families connect through these events, and things like the local Boy Scouts."

The free Summer Concert Series is one of many events organized by The Moraga Park Foundation. The foundation, run by community volunteers, was created to strengthen community through cultural, recreational, and educational projects. Working with the Moraga Park and Recreation Department,

they raise funds for parks in Moraga — The Hacienda, Rancho Laguna, and Moraga Commons — both by encouraging donors to help the community at large, and by managing venue kitchens and vendors. Just this year, an enlargement of the bandshell, modernization of the kitchens, ADA access, an improved sound system, and new park grills were all completed. Donors were The Bruzzone Family, Republic Services, Moraga Kiwanis, the Moraga Junior Women's club, and 5-A Rent-A-Space.

"This is why we are here!" said Karen Mendonca, president of the Moraga Parks Foundation, gesturing at the crowd. "We love our Moraga community. I would invite all Moragans to come every Thursday throughout the summer — except for July 6, we're doing a Fourth of July show instead. The last show of the 2017 Summer Concert Series is Aug. 17. We serve hamburgers, sausages and hotdogs from the bandshell grills, and we have a few local vendors to round out food choices: Loard's Ice Cream and Kettle Pop, and on the other side we have excellent thin-crust pizza made in a wood-fired oven by Forno Di Sbarro."

Vincent Sbarro, owner of Forno Di Sbarro, said, "I was invited to serve pizza here five years ago.

It's been a great boost for us — all my business is word-of-mouth. Our mobile oven is built in California. It takes about an hour to build the heat with a wood fire, and then it uses latent heat in the shell to cook the pizzas. People have come to expect us to be here. There's not so much of a crowd today. Maybe people thought it would be too hot? But what a perfect night they're missing! You couldn't ask for better weather. So hard to predict — sometimes the entire hillside is packed shoulder-to-shoulder."

After the show Marcel Marchetti, trumpeter for The Floorshakers, talked about the band as they packed up. "We're for hire!" he quipped. More seriously, he added, "We played the Fourth of July show in Moraga last year. It was a very welcoming crowd. Music is a feel-good thing. The Floorshakers choose material that our vocalists enjoy, so they can put themselves completely into it, and music that makes people happy, that brings people together. We see complete strangers dancing together out there. We want people to have a good time!"

[Editor's Note: For a list of all the free summer concerts in Moraga and Orinda, see page B7]

# Thank you for Supporting LPIE

On Saturday, March 25, parents and supporters from all over the community came together to help "power" LPIE's fundraising efforts. Then on Sunday, June 4, we joined together again to celebrate LPIE's support for our schools. Because of businesses, parents, and community members, both events were overwhelming successes. Thank you to all who support LPIE.

**A BIG THANK YOU to our Power Party Event Sponsors**

Cobain Orthodontics  
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**A special thank you to the Power Party & Party in the Park donors who made these events possible**

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**Thank you to the following local businesses for donations that resulted in our record fundraising effort at the Power Party and the success of our celebration at the Party in the Park!**

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- California Canoe and Kayak
- California Pizza Kitchen
- CAMP EDMO
- Campo de Bocce
- Canvas and Cabernet
- Caroline's Salon
- Casa Orinda
- Cave and Mine Adventures
- CBS Sports
- Chabot Space & Science Center
- Cheesecake Factory
- Children's Fairyland
- Children's Creativity Museum
- Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose
- Choice Lunch
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- Going To Guides
- Golden Gate Fields
- Golden Skate
- Golden State Warriors
- Gordon Biersch
- Gott's Roadhouse
- Gourmet Burrito
- Growing Tree Preschool
- Gymboree Lafayette
- Halter Ranch Winery
- Happy Valley PTA
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- Pediatric Motor Playground
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- Pete's Brass Rail & Car Wash
- Petsport
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- Pizza Antica
- Population Salon
- Powell's Sweet Shoppe
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- Premier Kitchens
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- Rain Salon
- Rancho Cantina
- Renaissance Club Sport
- Renaissance Rialto
- Rick & Ann's Restaurant
- Roam Burgers
- Robin Nicole Beauty Bar
- Robin Williams Orthodontics
- Robin's Restaurant
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- Ross Stores
- Roughing It Day Camp
- Round Table Pizza
- Round Up
- Rustic Tavern
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- San Francisco Symphony
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