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Outdoor summer entertainment opens in Lamorinda

By Sora O'Doherty



Residents of Lamorinda won't have to venture far from home to enjoy entertainment options this summer. Orinda will be offering a series of concerts, including the annual Opera in the Park, as well as five family-friendly movies. The Orinda concerts, at which food trucks will also be available, will be on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., while the movies will be shown on Thursdays, to coordinate with the regular Food Truck event held in front of the Orinda Community Center on the same night.

Moraga's concert series, which includes a dinner snack bar run by Moraga Park Foundation volunteers, will be on Tuesday evenings at Moraga Commons, and Lafayette will continue its Rock the Plaza concerts on Fridays. All these options give Lamorinda residents the potential to hear a local concert three nights a week!

The Fog City Swampers opened the Concert at the Park series at Lafayette Plaza Park on June 7. Photo Pippa Fisher

The summer movies at Orinda Community Park begin at dusk. This year, families can enjoy the following films:

June 20 - "Mary Poppins Returns"; July 11 - "Lego Movie 2"; July 18 - "A Dog's Way Home"; July 25 - "Incredibles 2"; and Aug. 1 - "How to Train Your Dragon: Hidden World."

The concert schedule for each location is as follows:

Orinda Concerts in the Park, with food trucks, will be held on the following Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.: June 18, Jet Blacq; June 25, West Grand Blvd; July 9, Flashback; July 16, Lamorinda Idol; July 23, Dirty Cello; July 30, Vintage Jukebox; Aug. 6, Site 6 Bank; and Aug. 13, Floorshakers.

Lafayette: Concerts at the downtown Lafayette Plaza Park are offered from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday evenings during the month of June, featuring Zebop! on June 14, Purple Haze on June 21 and the Keep on Trucking Band on June 28. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a picnic supper and a blanket to sit on.

Moraga: Concerts in the Moraga Commons Park run every Thursday evening in the summer, including on the Fourth of July, with concerts start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. The 2019 Schedule is: June 13, Retroactive Dance party; June 20, 3 Day Weekend Classic rock; June 27, Beatles Flashback, Beatles tribute band; July 4, House Rockers, rock and soul 11 performers (7 p.m. concert); July 11, Apple Z, smoking hot rock and roll; July 18, Foreverland, electrifying tribute to Michael Jackson; July 25, Mixed Nuts, hits from the '40s to present; Aug. 1, Moonalice Bay Area '60s psychedelic rock; and Aug. 8, Bell Brothers, Country to American Rock. MPF volunteers will offer food in the Snack Bar, which opens at 6 p.m.

On Sunday, July 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Orinda Community Park, Solo Opera teams up again with the Orinda Rotary Club to present the club's 11th annual Opera in the Park. Sponsored by the Orinda Rotary, the free performance, which usually attracts at least 1,000 people, is an opportunity to hear professional opera singers perform favorite arias, duets, and ensembles, which organizers say will thrill even non-opera lovers. This year there will also be a few musical theater pieces added to the mix!



At last year's Moraga concert Photo Wendy Scheck

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