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Free live concerts return to parks in Lamorinda this summer

By Sora O'Doherty



The band The Real Thing performs June 2 as part of the free summer concert series offered at Orinda Community Park. Photo Sora O'Doherty

Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda will enjoy a bounty of live concerts this summer. The 2022 summer concert season in Orinda kicked off on June 2, with the band The Real Thing performing in Orinda Community Park. The Orinda concerts, held from 6 to 8 p.m., are sponsored by the Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation and supported by the Orinda Community Foundation, Rotary Club of Orinda, and City of Orinda. This year, the concerts will be held on Thursday evenings to accompany the Thursday Night Food Truck event with Taste of the World Market.

The following additional groups will be performing: June 16, Opera in the Park; June 23, EP Sax; July 14, Lamorinda Idol; July 28, Juke Joint; Aug. 4, West Grand Blvd.; Aug. 25, Grateful Bluegrass Band; and concluding the season on Sept. 8, 925 Band. This year marks the 12th year that Orinda Rotary has sponsored "Opera in the Park." The free event features Festival Opera singing and Broadway music.

Concerts are free and open to the community. The Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation will be on hand collecting donations to help fund the community park renovation project. Families are encouraged to bring their blankets and lawn chairs. Dinner options include the food truck event, or any of the local restaurants.

Moraga Commons will also host a series of concerts, from early June to early August.

Moraga Park Foundation presents the Summer 2022 Concert Series from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings, with the exception of July 4, which falls on a Monday. The site is Moraga Commons Bandshell and food will be available for purchase from on-site food trucks and vendors. Picnics are welcome. Please bring your own lawn chair and blanket. The Moraga concerts are sponsored by The Bruzzoni Family, Republic Services, Kiwanis, 5A Rent-a-Space, Moraga Junior Women's Club and Moraga Parks and Recreation.

The schedule in Moraga is: June 9, Midnight Flyer Eagles Tribute; June 16, Juke Joint, Classic Soul and R&B; June 23, Beatles Flashback, Beatles Tribute; June 30, 3 Day Weekend, classic rock and MoTown; July 4, House Rockers Rock & Soul (7 p.m. concert); July 14, Mixed Nuts, Hits from the '40s to present; July 21, Moonalice, Bay Area '60s Psychedelic Rock; July 28, Retroactive, Dance Party; and Aug. 4 Aja Vu, Steely Dan and Chicago Tribute.

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce will host the Rock the Plaza concert series from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday evenings at Plaza Park in downtown Lafayette during the month of June. The series opened with the 925 Band on June 3, and will continue on June 10 with Juke Joint, A Tribute to Classic Soul and R&B; followed by June 17 Keep on Truckin, Rock, Blues, R&B; and June 24 Lamorinda Idol.

To find out which food trucks will be present at the concerts in Orinda or for more information visit <https://www.tasteoftheworldmarket.com/#calendar>.

Orinda's Summer Movies in the Park are back!

The Orinda Parks and Recreation Department is happy to bring back Movies in the Park after a two-year hiatus. The movies, which are presented by the Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation with support from the Orinda Community Foundation, will now be held on Friday evenings at the Orinda Community Center Park located at 28 Orinda Way.

The first movie of 2022 was "Luca" and the remaining five movies will all begin at dusk:

July 8: "Coco" (PG)

July 15: "Raya & the Last Dragon" (PG)

Aug. 19: "Jungle Cruise" (PG-13)

Aug. 26: "Bolt" (PG)

Oct. 7: "E.T." (PG)

This event is free and open to the community. Families are encouraged to bring their blankets, lawn chairs, and don't forget the popcorn!

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