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Revelers ring in the new year after heavy downpour saturates Lamorinda

By Jennifer Wake



Award-winning bartender Cynthia Songco, right, keeps thirsty revelers' glasses filled at Casa Orinda on New Year's Eve. Photos Jeff Heyman

Lamorinda residents of all ages gathered at various watering holes and restaurants to celebrate the end of 2022 and usher in a hopeful and happy new year, to be filled with many more opportunities for fellowship and fun.

The day's deluge had the chance of derailing party plans. Sandbags were being offered through the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District for Lafayette residents, and the Moraga-Orinda Fire District had several locations set up for sand bag filling in Moraga and Orinda. Roads were closed at different locations throughout Lamorinda on Dec. 31, with Nixle alerts from local police departments pinging on phones reminding folks to be careful when driving on slick surfaces, and ride apps like Uber sent out notices that rides could not be guaranteed after 5 p.m. on New Year's Eve due to high demand. But the rains didn't dampen any spirits and the heavy New Year's Eve downpour didn't keep revelers away, who despite the inclement weather, 'poured' into local

establishments to ring in the New Year, donning festive and sometimes silly attire amid sparkling decor at Casa Orinda, the Moraga Country Club, Canyon Club Brewery in Moraga, as well as Postino and the Roundup Saloon in Lafayette (see more photos on Page A8).

Slick roads and swollen creeks aside, the joy on the faces of folks was evident - a wonderful respite after so many months of lockdowns and COVID restrictions.



Two sisters seemingly can't wait for 2023 to arrive at the Canyon Club Brewery in Moraga. Photos Jeff Heyman



New Year's Eve dinner guests enjoy a bountiful meal at Postino in Lafayette. Photos Jeff Heyman



A festive party was thrown by the Moraga Country Club for its members to ring in 2023. Photos Jeff Heyman



The Roundup Saloon in Lafayette saw no shortage of merriment on New Year's Eve. Photos Jeff Heyman

Reach the reporter at: jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com

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