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

Photo Pippa Fisher

# 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 Thursday 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 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."

... continued on Page A10

Advertising



Letters to the Editor	A11
Not to be missed	B6-B7
Community Service	B4
How to contact us	B7
Classified	C2
Love Lafayette	B8



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# Private drone operator impedes MOFD firefighting efforts



Photo courtesy MOFD

By Nick Marnell



Crews from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, Cal Fire and the East Bay Regional Park District extinguished a 1-acre vegetation fire June 7 on a steep hillside off of Canyon Road, about 200 yards east of the temporary bridge linking Canyon and Moraga. Aerial firefighting efforts were hampered because a privately owned drone flew over the incident site, preventing a helicopter from dropping water onto the burning vegetation.

"We searched the area, but we were not able to locate the owner of the drone," according to Moraga Chief of Police Jon King. The chief said that people who fly drones are probably not trying to interfere with an incident, but they can cause major damage or injuries. In this case, had the drone flown into the windshield of the helicopter, a tragedy could have resulted.

"We were fortunate that the firefighters on the ground were able to get the fire under control," King said.

The blaze occurred the day the National Weather Service issued its first Red Flag Warning, an alert signifying that the temperatures, winds and low humidity conspire to create the potential for significant wildfires. "Had this incident been later in the season, it could have been disastrous," said MOFD spokesman Dennis Rein, who confirmed that there were no injuries and no homes were ever in danger. The fire remains under investigation.

"If you fly, we can't," Rein warned drone operators.

<b>Civic News</b> A1-A14	<b>Life in Lamorinda</b> B1-B8	<b>Sports</b> C1-C4	<b>Our Homes</b> D1-D16
Nonprofit momentum for Park Theater builds - Page A3 <b>Fire Districts</b> A8 Wildfire Evacuation Brochure info - Page A8	Pristine Petanque courts ready for community - Page B1 	Star Lamorinda athlete profiles - page C1 	Soak in the aromas of favorite wines in the garden - page D1 