



Published November 24th, 2021

## Celebrate the season at these special holiday events

By Jennifer Wake

Opportunities abound to gather with friends and community members over the upcoming holidays. Here are a few offerings in the Lamorinda area on Thanksgiving Day and beyond:

Looking for a way to work up an appetite on Thanksgiving Day? Join the Fourth Annual Turkey Trot at Moraga Country Club on Thanksgiving Day. The 5K run/walk starts at 8:15 a.m. with the 1.5-mile run/walk beginning at 8:30 a.m. Proceeds from the event fees will benefit the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. For information, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Moraga/MoragaTurkeyTrot>

Searching for a more musical experience? "I Sing Because ." will feature the prize-winning Saint Mary's College choirs, joined by the Baroque Chamber Ensemble "Magnificat," during this free performance of two choral-orchestral selections by J.S. Bach as well as many holiday favorites and a carol sing-along at 8 p.m. Dec. 2 and 4 at the SMC Chapel. Proof of vaccination or negative COVID PCR test and wearing of masks is required. For information, visit <https://www.stmarys-ca.edu/choir-concert-FA21>

Rather sing your own songs? Join local community members for hot cocoa, cookies and caroling at the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2 at Moraga Commons Park. Santa is scheduled to make an appearance at 7 p.m.

And the holidays wouldn't be the same without George Bailey - and Town Hall Theatre's Main Stage! THT will be featuring "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" where five actors will bring Bedford Falls to life as they tell the story of George Bailey and his fateful Christmas. The play runs from Dec. 2 to Dec. 19. For information, visit <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36010/production/1086217>

Want more Wonderful? The free annual "It's a Wonderful Life in Lafayette" holiday event returns this year from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 will include a tree lighting, food, drinks, music and entertainment, children's activities and Santa in downtown Lafayette at Plaza Park. Presented by the Lafayette Chamber, and sponsored by local Lafayette Realtor?The Dana Green Team?and?Branagh Development, the festivities will begin at 4 p.m. with Santa parading along Golden Gate Way starting at the Lafayette Historical Society and arriving at Lafayette Plaza Park (corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Moraga Road) at 4:30 p.m. A must-not-miss for the little ones!

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