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## Moraga's Holiday Tree Lighting event just missed the rain

By Vera Kochan



Holiday Tree lighting at last year's much drier event. Photo Vera Kochan

The unofficial creed of the United States Postal Service, "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night, stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds," could almost have been applied to Santa and his elves during the Dec. 1 Holiday Tree Lighting in the Moraga Commons Park.

Touted as a "rain or shine" event, the day began with a goodly amount of rain. Clearly Santa was not to be deterred, because the weather cleared, albeit leaving somewhat freezing temperatures in its wake.

Parks and Recreation Department's Recreation Supervisor Jasmine Bateson estimated that 400 people attended the tree lighting and partook of cookies and hot cocoa handed out by the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee while listening to carols sung by Performing Ensemble from the Performing Academy. While Santa's sleigh is undergoing a rigorous final tune-up check, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District provided his transportation to the event.

Don't forget to have your little ones drop off their letters to Santa at the North Pole Mailbox located near the Holiday Tree. Deadline is Dec. 14 by 5 p.m. for Santa to have enough time to respond. Make sure that the letters are in an envelope and include a name and return address.

There's still time to make a donation to the Buy-A-Bulb Fundraiser and help defray the cost of lighting the tree. Donations can be made online at: [moragarec.com](http://moragarec.com) or by sending a check to: Town of Moraga, ATTN Buy-A-Bulb, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556.

Reach the reporter at: [vera@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:vera@lamorindaweekly.com)

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