

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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Bridal Fair
Lafayette Park Hotel
Sunday March 2nd
11am-4pm
Tickets: EastBayBridal.com



High Schools Prep for Stellar Spring Productions

By Clare Varellas

Photos Ohlen Alexander

For many of us, the word “musical” conjures up images from the most classic Broadway productions: Curly beaming while belting out “Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin’” in “Oklahoma” or Fantine executing a tear-jerking rendition of “I Dreamed a Dream” in “Les Mis.” So when you venture into the auditoriums of Acalanes, Miramonte, or Campolindo high

schools during one of their March musical performances, you might be surprised to find onstage an ogre singing in his swamp, or a man loudly expressing his opinion that people have the right to use the restroom without taxation.

Armed with deep talent pools and hard-working directors and musicians, Lamorinda high school musical casts have chosen

to perform some relatively new and groundbreaking productions this year, or to take new, interesting spins on old ones.

Acalanes High School cast members will be performing the well-known musical “Guys and Dolls” March 6-8 in the Acalanes Performing Arts Center.

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Quote of the Week:

“Technology is not the silver bullet. It doesn’t replace teaching and learning.” Read Technology and Education - page B6.

Advertising

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A Bridge to the Future: Improving Orinda’s Aging Infrastructure Piece by Piece

By Laurie Snyder

“Sometimes, if you stand on the bottom rail of a bridge and lean over to watch the river slipping slowly away beneath you, you will suddenly know everything there is to be known.” – Winnie the Pooh

It began with the removal of trees in January 2013, and ended with a rainy day ribbon cutting Feb. 10 that was brightened by smiles and feelings of civic pride and genuine relief. Along the way, blustery days were endured, creek waters were diverted and a one-lane bridge was installed temporarily to facilitate demolition of aging structure near an important East Bay Municipal Utility District water treatment plant in Orinda.

Built in 1937 over the San Pablo Creek, the Manzanita Bridge was seismically unsafe and increasingly at risk

from Mother Nature’s mutability. In its place now stands a concrete super-structure that is wider, longer and elevated 5 feet higher above the flood zone – engineered to improve water flow as well as public safety with structural, hydraulic and alignment deficiencies mitigated and a new sidewalk in place to separate pedestrians from cars.

Carolyn Elsberry, an Orindan who has been walking the Manzanita area for 69 years, was one among the crowd who witnessed the ribbon cutting. “It’s really a love story with the bridge ... For me, the bridge was a central part of my life and my social life,” she said of her time growing up nearby. “To me, it looked brand new when I came here as a child.”

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Big scissors for a big project. After years of planning and a fast-tracked year of construction work, the ribbon was officially cut Feb.10 on Orinda’s new, safer Manzanita Bridge. Shown here (from left): Orinda City Council member Amy Worth, Mayor Sue Severson, Carolyn Elsberry, former Orinda mayor Joyce Hawkins, city manager Janet Keeter. Photo Ohlen Alexander

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Family Feud?

“God of Carnage” comes to Town Hall Theatre - page B5.



Sports C1-C6

Soccer Semifinals Tonight

Two Campo squads and the Miramonte girls set their sights on the goal - pages C2, C3.



Our Homes D1-D12

Disaster Preparedness

Canyon hopes for the best and plans for the worst - page D1.

