



THE CASA GRANDE TIMES

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A GAUCHO

March 2016

VISION IN ACTION

Message from the Principal

We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own. --Cesar Chavez

The Casa Community Shines Bright

The month of March has been an exciting time at Casa Grande High School, as a series of long-anticipated, community-supported projects are nearing completion or just getting started.

Currently, there are four exciting projects that exemplify our school community's generous support for Casa students and the educational programs, facilities and educators that support their development and growth. This month we have seen the final completion of Casa's new all-weather track and field. We have also witnessed a group of seniors who, along with local contractors and volunteers, are making the dream of a memorial for James Forni come to life. The Casa community has broken ground on the east quarter of campus to create a common garden space that joins the library, music, drama, science and counseling buildings. Finally, the Big House Library is in the final phase of completing an exciting renovation of its learning lab space, which utilizes state-of-the-art technology along with movable furniture.

On your mark, get ready, get set...GO!



Elizabeth Martin, Annie Gallo, Destiny Williams and Hannah Barlow won the 4 x 100 relay on Wednesday, March 9th, during Casa's first track meet in eight years. The new track and field, which is among the first of many projects to be completed in the district, has been funded, thanks to local voters, through passage of the Petaluma Joint Union High School District Bond Measure.

Project Vincero



Located in front of the gymnasium, a new walkway, garden and sitting area is being installed that will showcase a sculpture of the Vincero "V". The project is the brainchild of a number of our seniors who have designed the space and raised funds as part of their senior project to commemorate the inspiration of James Forni, Casa's beloved coach, teacher and friend. Parent and community volunteers from Oak

Grove Construction and OhanaConstruction are donating both labor and materials to complete the project. Seniors involved with the project include: Nic Petri, JJ Anderson, Jimmy Burggraf, Dylan Roberts, Shane Ghiringhelli, Stephen Proctor, Connor Hanley and Kaleo Garrigan.

The Library Garden Project



On Saturday, Feb. 27, some thirty students, teachers and community members participated in the volunteer workday to begin clearing the space behind the library

for landscaping and beautification. The area, which has been designed by Casa students and Two Crows Ecological Design, will include shade trees, walking paths, bench seating, water reclamation tanks, a rain garden, and native plants and grasses.

Library Lab Renovation



Thanks to a very generous donation from a Casa family, who wishes to remain anonymous, we have been able to completely renovate the Big House Library Lab. Complete with mobile furniture, whiteboards and high powered iMac computers, the flexible space can accommodate the needs of any group that uses it. Here is an English class engaged in a Socratic Seminar discussion.

To all of our supporters, parents and families, and community members who have contributed to these and other projects, thank you! We could not provide the high quality of education and support that we do without your ongoing and visionary support. --Eric

What's Going On?

Stay Informed and Get Involved

Wednesday, March 16 Spring Band Concert 7pm in the NMU

Friday, March 18 NO SCHOOL (Staff Development Day)

Monday, March 21 through Friday, March 25 Spring Break

Tuesday, April 5 Petaluma Police Department Town Hall Meeting 6pm in the NMU

Monday, April 11 Casa Grande Boosters Meeting in the Staff Lounge 7pm

Thursday, April 14 END of Grading Period

Thursday, April 14 Early Dismissal at 2pm

Thursday, April 14 OPEN HOUSE 6:30pm

Jazz Dinner Dance

Come to the Casa Grande Jazz Dinner Dance, **Friday, April 1, 2016, 6:30 to 9 pm**, in the NMU. Lombardi's Pasta dinner, plus dancing and great music by our very own JV Jazz Band and Varsity Jazz Band. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased from Ms. Burney in the Band Room. Due to the smaller facility this year, seating is limited so order your tickets now!

Booster Club

Academic and athletic scholarships are awarded to students annually.

* Applications are available in the Links area of the Boosters page on the Casa Grande website and at the Casa Grande counseling office.

* [Booster Academic Scholarship](#) applications due: April 4, 2016

* [Booster Athletic Bob Leslie Scholarship](#) applications due: April 4, 2016

Scholarship amounts are \$500

We want to thank all of our Teachers and Staff for donating wine to the Lagunitas fundraising event in February, as well as Parents for their support.

Boosters raised \$12,500 at that event. Thank you!!

Boosters Night Success



Thanks to all who attended the recent Booster Night at Lagunitas. The event was very well attended and a big fundraising success for Casa Boosters, yet another organization working to support Casa students and teachers.

Project Grad for Seniors

Dear Seniors and Parents of graduating Seniors,

This past Monday and Tuesday members from CG Project Grad visited all Senior Econ and Government classes to discuss and handout important information regarding this event. Project grad is a clean and sober event held the evening of Graduation, June 3rd from 9pm-4am, run entirely by volunteers. Project Grad has been held in Sonoma County since 1987 and we are proud to tell you that there have been no traffic fatalities since then, involving graduates on graduation night.

We encourage ALL graduates to attend this fun evening that is just for them. In your student's packets are reservation forms, information regarding the evening and benefit raffle tickets to help fundraise for this event. All monies benefit CGHS Grad night. Students can earn a FREE reservation to Project Grad if he/she sells 100 benefit raffle tickets, OR sell 50 benefit raffle tickets and receive half off the reservation ticket price. It's a win win for all. Please make sure you ask your student to share this information. Parents and students are also welcome to call or text the Reservations Chair Kelly O'Shea at 707-292-2621 or email kellyrda@att.net

Reservations are \$50.

**Early bird special: if students turn in contracts by April 1, reservations are \$40.

For more information about [Project Grad, visit us](#)

A huge thank you to everyone who participated with this year's Host Lion's Food Festival. We couldn't do without you!

Coming up! "[Drive for your School" fundraiser - April 16, 2016](#) from 10am-2pm. Must be 18 with a valid ca driver's license. \$20 will be donated to Project Grad for every test drive. For more information, click on the link!

ProjGrad is in immediate need for "Volunteer Coordinator" someone who is comfortable doing emails and work behind the scenes organizing our volunteers for the weekend of the event. Please contact giodzn@comcast.net or princesssparkles24@yahoo.com.

PTSA

PTSA is looking for volunteers for next year's board and volunteers for event chairpersons (staff appreciation, senior breakfast, publicity). Please contact Lisa Allen @ joe3lisa3@comcast.net for more information and if you are interested in helping out. Our next PTSA meeting is May 18th at 7pm in the staff lounge.

The 2015-16 PTSA Scholarship application is available in the counseling office, online at the counseling scholarships link, and through the following link listed here:

<https://bit.ly/cghsptsascholars>

All applicants must be PTSA members as of November 1, 2015, and must be eligible to graduate with the current Casa Grande High School Class. This scholarship is open to Casa Grande High School graduates who plan to attend a vocational/community or four-year college/university. Applications must be completed and turned into the career center by April 1, 2016. PTSA will be awarding five \$200 scholarships on May 26, 2016.

Project SERVE - An Opportunity to Participate!

Casa's seniors are diligently working to complete their capstone projects. These represent many hours of research and mentored community service, which will culminate in presentations to panels of community judges on **Tuesday and Wednesday, May 24 and 25, 2016**. If you'd like to be part of this tradition and serve on a panel, please email Brenda Bellinger at bellinger@petk12.org. She will be happy to add you to our list.

Achievement

Casa Grande's Drama Department does it again! Under the guidance and instruction of

John Rustan, Casa's talented youngactors and writers have produced their own one-act plays that have earned muchlocal acclaim.

The Casa Grande Drama Performs a Series of One-Acts:

Love Deconstructed



Studentplaywrights and Directors Allie Rones, Nayana Reaves, Emma Parks, CaitlinGurtner, Heather Hines, BrittanyKruljac and Ryan Shatkin are on the set of Love Deconstructed, a series ofstudent-written and directed ten-minute one-act plays. Read all about it in this great [Argus article](#).

Casa Grande High School creators shine with original one-acts



LJ Cladwell and Margot Lubliner in "The Star and the Satellite" by Caitlin Gurtner during dress rehearsal at Casa Grande High School on Monday, February 29, 2016. (SCOTT MANCHESTER/ARGUS-COURIER STAFF)

Get on the Bus

Teachers open the doors to the future

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK MAY 2-6, 2016

Nathan Libecap,
Casa Grande High School
and Leona Redwell,
Santa Rosa Middle School

Mr. Libecap, Region 1 Teacher of the Year Nominee, will appear on Sonoma County Public Transit buses during Teacher Appreciation Week in May.

Casa Grande High School • 333 Casa Grande Road • Petaluma • CA [Website](#)

The Casa Grande Times is published monthly to inform parents of important news and updates related to our school community, and to unify our parents and community stakeholders in support of Casa students, teachers and staff.

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