



THE CASA GRANDE TIMES

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A GAUCHO

April, 2016

VISION IN ACTION

Message from the Principal

Read all about it! The Gazette Goes Digital

THE GAUCHO *Gazette*
CASA GRANDE NEWSPAPER

NEWS EDITORIAL WORLD VIEW FEATURES FOOD OPINION REVIEWS SPORTS VOICE

Love Deconstructed
Holly Keaton and Emma Pearce
April 1, 2016

Love, as the saying goes, is more than just a four-letter word, and it is the theme of this semester's play. "Love Deconstructed" is a series of one-act plays that delve into the universal concept of love, whether it be platonic, familial, or romantic. Each of the seven plays were written and di... [READ MORE »»](#)

Casa's award-winning and nationally recognized student newspaper has been launched digitally. This exciting news was presented by students from the *Gauchogazette* at this week's Principal's Advisory Committee Leadership meeting. The new digital platform will allow student journalists new flexibility in news reporting, which can now include video, blogging, social media, as well as day-to-day updates. The *Gazette* will continue to publish monthly in print form. The *Gazette* website is student-created and is an excellent example of the initiative, sophistication and tech savvy of Casa's incredible students. <http://gauchogazette.com/>

I strongly encourage Casa parents and community supporters to read the *Gazette*

regularly. The newspaper is a great source of information about important news and events happening on and off campus. It also provides an insightful window into the lives of Casa students and campus culture. --Eric

A message to parents from the *Gazette* staff:

We look forward to digitally reaching out to the community and having an interactive relationship with not only students but also community members of the greater Petaluma area. This new addition to the *Gauche Gazette* will allow our newspaper staff to learn the new continuously-advancing art of digital media; they will become better prepared and able to work in our highly digitized world. It is our hope that, with the addition of an online tabloid, we will be able to publish articles on a more frequent and updated basis, along with our up-and-coming broadcast reporting section of our journalism class that will begin during the 2016-2017 school year. We look forward to further connecting with our eclectic little community, and we hereby formally invite you to check us out -- online! --Kate Hoover and Michaela Western

What's Going On?

Stay Informed and Get Involved

April 13,14,15 AP Test Bubbling Sessions-OMU during office Hours

April 14 Open House 6-8:30pm

April 18-22 Cheerleading Tryouts-OMU 3-8pm

April 28 Eastside Band Festival-GYM 7-9pm

May 2-12 AP Testing

May 3 Boosters Awards Celebration-NMU 6:30-9pm

May 9 Boosters Meeting-Staff Lounge 7-8:30pm

May 14 Senior Prom at the Academy of Science 7pm

May 18 PTSA Meeting-Staff Lounge 6:30-8pm

May 19 Casa Grande Band Awards Concert-NMU 7-9pm

On Saturday, April 23, Casa will host another work day to support the development of the new Library Garden Space. The work day will be from 9:00-12:00. Meet behind the Library. Bring water and gloves if you have them.

Mark your calendars! Only three meetings left for the 2015/2016 school year

April 11th, May 9th and May 31st. Hope to see you there.

Every year the Booster Club sells fireworks to raise funds for our students. We are always in need of volunteers to help staff the booth. Sales begin around June 30th and run through July 4th. For more information please contact casaboosters@yahoo.com

Project Grad

Seniors: If you have are in need of an extra copy of Project Grad reservation form or guidelines, you can find them on our website at www.cghsprojectgrad.com (<http://www.cghsprojectgrad.com/grad-night-info.html>)

and remember to sell those raffle tickets! It's a win, win!!! Sell 50 and get half off your ticket price. Sell 100 and get your ticket to Project Grad free!

Unfortunately the "**Drive for your School**" fundraiser, that was scheduled for this weekend, has been **cancelled** due to a glitch with scheduling.

Hello Seniors! Prom is approaching and for all of you Seniors in need of a tux - Louis Thomas on Kentucky Street is your source for a great deal. In fact, for every rental made Louis Thomas will donate \$5 to CASA Projec Grad! Plus, you will get \$40 off - [Click here to download coupon.](#)

It's that time again for Project Grad to start planning for the biggest party of the year! As many of you know, this is the last night that all graduating Seniors get to spend together having fun, winning prizes and MOST importantly - staying sober. Every year it takes a whole team to pull this off for the kids. We have many opportunities available for those that want to help make this a night to remember.

Sonoma County Project Graduation is a 100% volunteer organization.

So please take a moment to see if there is a way you and your family or friends can lend a hand and be part of this valuable project and email Vicki Olivas Navarro at mom4dlon@sbcglobal.net) with your interests and any questions. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in volunteering to be part of this nearly 30 year community tradition, so that we can give our graduating seniors a **safe** celebration that they will remember always. You can find the volunteer form on the Project Grad web site (<http://www.cghsprojectgrad.com/contact-us.html>)

Committee Chairs needed for 2016-17. We have a number of parents on the Committee Board who have seniors this year that are winding down. We need many parents to make Project Grad work and encourage those with underclassmen to get involved now! This is a chance to make a difference not only for your own child but for all of the kids at Casa. Please contact Beth at princesssparkles24@yahoo.com

iPads

THE end is coming

Parents and Students,

We will be collecting iPADS from students in mid May. We will be expecting to collect the iPad in working order with its case, and both parts of the Apple manufactured charger (cord and brick). Students may be billed for missing or damaged equipment.

Replacement cords and bricks are available now in the main office for a fee of \$22 per piece.

Open your home to an exchange student and open your world!

Looking for amazing & caring Casa Grande families that would like to host a foreign exchange student for this upcoming 16/17 school year. Coming to Casa in the fall are the following students:

Andrea- 17 year old Italian boy who loves basketball, pets, hanging with friends and interacting with family. He would love to share his culture with his new host family.

Elena- 17 year old Italian girl who loves swimming and having a positive attitude. She loves making jokes and having fun with family and friends.

Morten- 17 year old Norwegian boy who loves to play soccer and wants to try out for football. He loves being involved in family activities and spending time with friends. He is excited to come to Petaluma.

Fiona- 17 year old girl from the Netherlands. She loves children, cooking, playing sports like field hockey, and would like to travel and help others.

Camilla- 17 year old Norwegian girl who loves cooking, hiking and exercise. She would like to join our cross country team. She would like to experience time with, and become part of an American family.

EF High School Exchange has many other students ready to experience a year abroad and to have an American family experience. If you are interested, the host family is responsible for room and board. The student has spending money for all other expenses. It is truly an amazing experience that will change your life!

Contact kelly.rankin@efexchangeyear.org for more information. There will be a \$200 donation made to the school for each family that decides to host. This also helps Casa with numbers as we are experiencing a drop in enrollment and brings a broader cultural awareness to our school.



We are PPAD- Petaluma Parents Against Drugs, born out of concern for our students. PPAD is a grass roots organization that has started a partnership with our school, city, board of education, community and law enforcement to bring continuing drug education to our students creating a safer and smarter school experience that will allow students to focus on their student success.

We are Kathleen Stafford, mother of 3 and local businesswoman and Heather Elliott-Hudson, mother of 3 and local businesswoman. Our eyes as parents have been ripped open to the fact that there is a huge health crisis among our teens. Prescription drugs run rampant among our Petaluma schools. Something that many parents may not know or even know to look for. We would like to thank Mr. Backman, Mr. Owens, and Mr. Rose for taking a very active approach with partnering with us, Casa Grande supports our organization and they are going above and beyond to keep their students on the right path. We consider ourselves lucky to have our children at Casa under the direction of these great administrators. Please take the time to go to our [Facebook page](#) and join our circle and let's all "Start Talking."

PPAD invites your concerns, success stories, and challenges.

Thank you,

Kathleen Stafford and Heather Elliott-Hudson, Co-founders Petaluma Parents Against Drugs

Casa In The News

During SpringBreak, Casa Grande had an incredible week in the press. The stories covered Casa's AcDec victories at the state championships, a record-setting relay on the new track, Greg Raiewski's international television debut on the *Talking Dead*, and, finally, student feminists who are working for equal rights for all. Casa's students and teachers are making their mark in the Petaluma community and beyond. What an incredible school!

What a Team!

Casa Grande Athletic Decathlon team shines against the state's best



(1 of 3) Casa Grande's Academic Decathlon team in Sacramento for the state championship competition. Casa finished 17th in the state and won a multitude of individual awards.

ARGUS-COURIER STAFF
ARGUS-COURIER STAFF | March 23, 2016, 11:06AM



Equal Rights For All

Casa Grande 'Eyes Open' club promotes unity, empowerment



Members (NAMES HERE!) of Casa Grande High School's Eyes Open club at the mural the group painted at The Phoenix Theatre.

ELLA BAN



Raiewski Talks Zombies and Shakespeare

Casa Grande High School teacher Greg Raiewski named ultimate 'The Walking Dead' fan



(1 of 2) Greg Raiewski (far right) is shown with (left to right) "The Walking Dead" actor Josh McDermitt ("Eugene"), "Talking Dead" host Chris Hardwick and "The Walking Dead" actress Christian Serratos ("Rosita"). (AMC)

CHRIS SMITH
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT | March 22, 2016, 2:49PM



Casa Runners Set New School Record

From shack to mansion for Casa Grande track team



(1 of 3) RICH LANGDON/FOR THE ARGUS-COURIER Hannah Barlow, part of Casa Grande's school record-setting relay team, is off and running on Casa's new track in the first Gaucho home track meet in seven years.

JOHN JACKSON
ARGUS-COURIER SPORTS EDITOR | March 23, 2016, 8:16AM



Achievement



Casa's top ten ranked seniors were honored this week at the Harold and Connie Mahoney Community Achievement Awards Ceremony, along with other students from Petaluma High School and St. Vincent. The event included members of the PCS school board, the superintendent, business and community leaders, and hundreds of others. Casa juniors and sophomores who are the top ten of their respective classes were also honored at the event. Casa's top ten seniors for 2016 are the following: Reilly Cannon, Karina Castillo, Yin Mei Chan, Ram Goli, Lauren Gonzales, Claire Killian, Harry Koos, Alyssa Pearson, Kiana Shibata, Navi Sidhu, David Yee, Anzi Zhu.

Watch this video!



On the morning of their departure to the Disneyland music competition, Casa's choir, directed by Sean Millard, made a guest appearance in the main office. The performance brought a tear to many an eye. Check out the youtube video at [Main Office Mini Concert with Casa's Choir](#). Go Gauchos!

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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