



# THE CASA GRANDE TIMES

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IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A GAUCHO

May, 2016

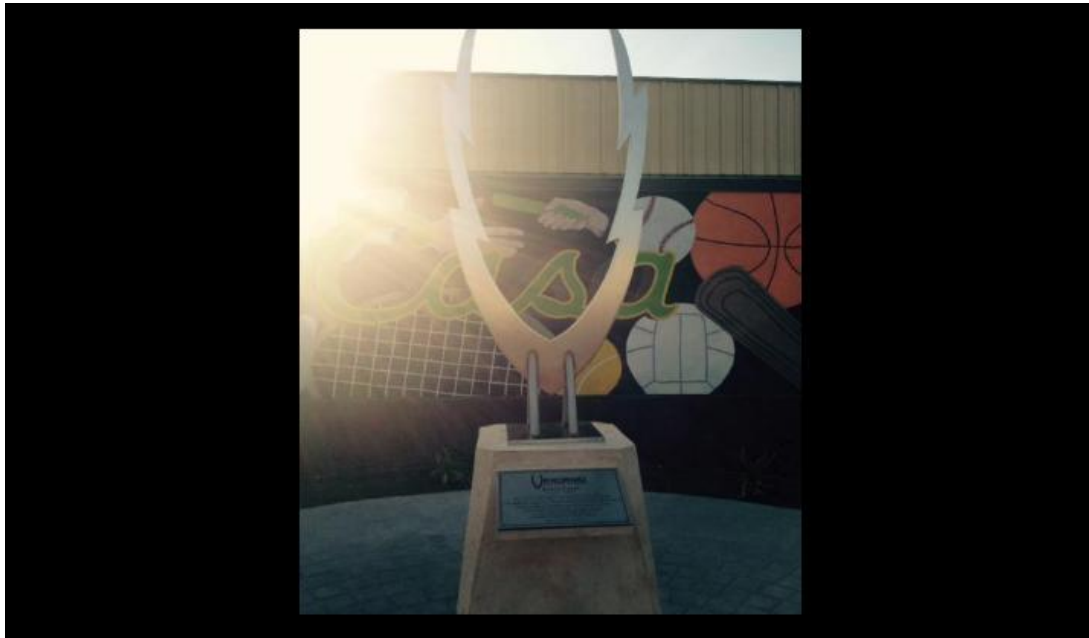
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## VISION IN ACTION

Message from the Principal

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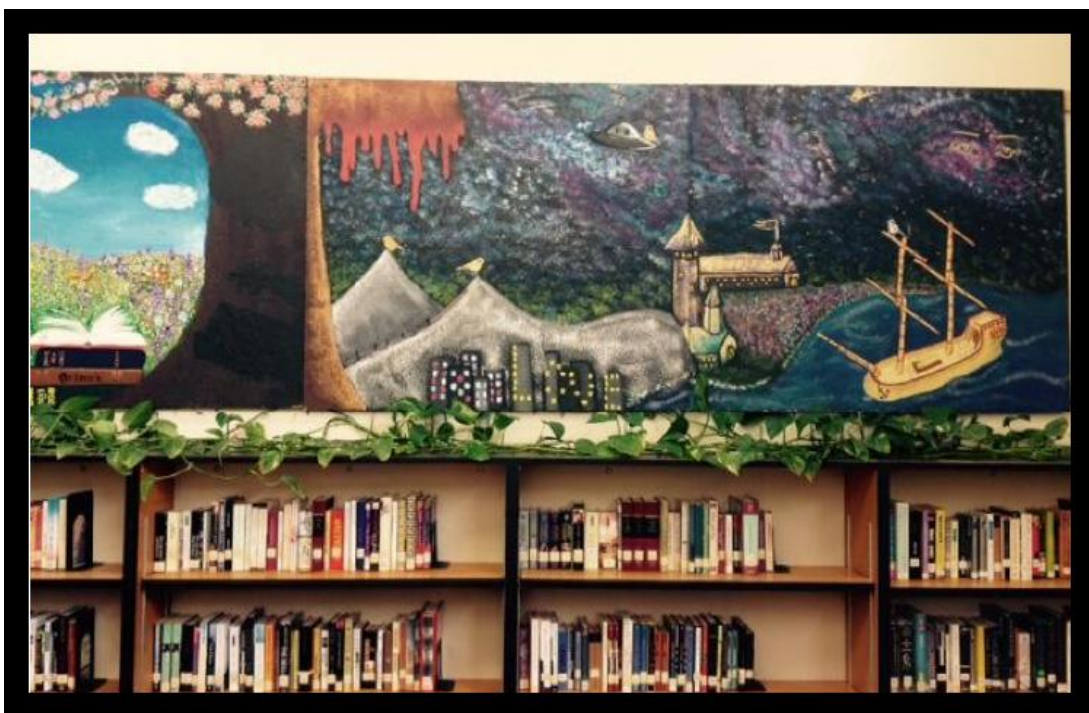
On Monday, May 9, the Casa community came together for an evening of very special events to celebrate the achievement of a group of seniors and their incredible senior projects, which have been completed to honor James Forni. The Vincero Walkway was officially opened and was dedicated with a red ribbon cutting by Mary Forni herself. Community members then walked the new memorial pathway together and joined in the gym to watch a screening of an incredible documentary film, "[The Will to Win](#)," about Mr. Forni and the impact he had on others. "The Will to Win" was filmed and edited by Casa seniors Matthew Cotter and Anthony Newman. You can view it [here](#).



An estimated 300 people came to the event, including the Forni family, Kimo Garrigan, Paul Petri, and Doug Hamilton, all community members who have given generously to support the walkway project. Project Vincero was completed by seniors Nic Petri, JJ Anderson, Kaleo Garrigan, Stephen Proctor, Jimmy Burgraff, Shane Ghiringhell, Connor Hanley and Dylan Roberts.

Casa seniors have also been busy finalizing some amazing mural paintings that are being installed around campus. This artwork showcases the incredible talent and imagination of many of our young artists.

On behalf of Casa's teachers and staff, I want to thank our seniors for all they have contributed this year to help improve our campus and the community. -- Eric



Ariana Schwalbenberg's and Avery Ayala's new mural hangs in the library. The painting depicts the power of literature to transport readers into strange and wonderful new worlds.



Yin Mei Chan and Jason VanTighen have nearly completed one of four panels for an art installation to be placed behind the library in the newly redesigned garden area.

### **The Vitruvian Gaucho**



Emily McClelland has nearly completed her masterpiece mural in the College and Career Center.

### **Senior Projects - 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 [bbellinger@petk12.org](mailto:bbellinger@petk12.org). She will be happy to add you to our list.



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# What's Going On?

Stay Informed and Get Involved

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May 18-CGHS PTSA meeting in the Staff Lounge, 6:30pm

May 19-Casa Grande Band Awards Concert in the NMU, 7pm

May 23-Yearbook Distribution in the NMU

May 24 and 25-Senior Project Presentations in the Staff Lounge

May 25-Choir Awards Concert in the NMU, 7pm

May 26-Counseling Presents Senior Awards Nights in the NMU, 7pm

May 27-Drama Awards Event in the NMU, 7pm

June 1,2,3-FINALS Student dismissal at 12:45pm

June 3-Graduation at the CGHS Athletic Complex, 4:30pm

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PROJECT GRAD is almost here...**Friday, June 3rd, 9pm-5am.**

**Project Grad time change!!** Please note, that our Project Grad party will run from 9pm-**5am**, not 4am as had previously been announced. We received a letter from the President of the Sonoma County Board of Safe and Sober Grad Night reminding us that ALL Grad Nights need to end at 5am, (in years past we've ended at 4am). This year we had planned to do the same, however the Sonoma County Board of Project Grad, who oversees all Project Grad events in Sonoma County wants to make sure the 5 am rule sticks.

While our registration forms say 4am, please make note of the new time.

The sole purpose of this party is to keep graduates safe ALL night long on grad night (June 3rd) so that they can see another day in their journey towards adulthood. We've had over 100,000 graduates stay safe over the past 25+ years because of our Sonoma county parties -- not one casualty on graduation night. We'd love to keep it this way and have all Casa Seniors in attendance.

If students are sick or need to leave prior to 5 am we can, have and will assist in parents picking their student up. Students may leave on their own when the party ends at 5am. Please help us encourage these kids to come to this amazing one last party they can be together for all night lasting memories.

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**Project Grad is an all night party for Seniors. Cost is \$50 a person, \$60 at the door. If you cannot afford this, please email [Kelly O'Shea](#). We would love to have every single Senior at this party. There will be lots of fun things to do and many, many, many prizes to win!!! You can find more information, along with reservation forms (which you MUST get signed by a parent) at our [Project Grad website](#).**

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Attention Senior Parents: As Graduation nears that means Project Grad does too, and a lot of the students have asked "When are we supposed to turn raffles tickets and reservations forms in"?

Kelly O'Shea, our reservations chair, will take them up until the last day of school. However to make booking easier on everyone, we would prefer them by May 27. These facts and much more information can be found in your Project Grad packet they received In March. Keep in mind Project grad committee members will be on campus at senior breakfast, June 3rd.

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## PTSA

PTSA would like to thank all of our members for their generous support throughout the school year. We have had the opportunity to host parent education nights on such topics as talking to teens about sex, mentoring programs, and helping our students prepare for academic success at Casa Grande. We have funded grants for the math department, Ms. Holly's science class, the Journalism club, ASB's Human Trafficking Awareness Project, Ms. Moquete's and Ms. Cain's Human Interaction classes, Therapeutic Support Program classrooms, and the Robotics club. Our ability to fund these activities and grants would not be possible without the financial support of our membership. We have also hosted a handful of fun events for our faculty and staff members as well. We would also like to recognize our 2016 PTSA Senior Scholarship winners: Claire Killian, Harry Koos, Justin Allen, Navi Sidhu, and Bailey Tiu. Congratulations, everyone!



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## Casa Boosters

### Booster News

With the school year coming to a close, Boosters will be holding their last meeting.

As our Board members of up and coming graduating seniors will be leaving us, we are in need of a new President. Our board meets once per month and has an eager group of board members excited to start the new school year. If this sounds like a good fit for you, we would love for you to join our team.

Please join us as we vote in our new Board members. Our last meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31st @ 7 pm in the Staff Lounge located behind the cafeteria.

Our Boosters Board would like to thank you for all of your support this past year. With your generous donations, we were able to help the students of

Casa Grande by funding academics, art, music, athletics and technology. We are looking forward to another successful school year in 2016/2017.

Sincerely, The Casa Boosters

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Petaluma Parents Against Drugs would like to thank you for your support. We ask that you like our [Facebook page](#) and if you want to help support, please reach out to us. We'll be working hard through the Summer to bring drug/alcohol education into Casa and continue to fight for the return of our School Resource Officers. We need financial help and volunteer support!

Have a great summer folks!

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**Recommended reading for students (and their parents).**

**[18 Articles to Read Before You Turn 18](#)**

# 18 New York Times Articles You Should Read Before You Turn 18

By JAMIE GLEKLEN , JONATHAN LOOI , ALEX SCHWARTZ and COOPER VEIT MAY 5, 2016 1:50 PM 2



An image from "Letter of Recommendation: Looking Out the Window," one of the 18 pieces on our list. Noah Kallna for The New York Times

## The Force Wins



Jedi Rey and The Dark Lord had an epiclightsaber battle at the annual Eastside Band Festival as the Casa bandperformed John Williams' *Star Wars Theme*.



## Achievement

### High school journalists awarded for excellence by Press Democrat



[Casa's Gazette Wins Highest Honors](#) at the PressDemocrat Student Journalism Awards, 2016.

*US News and WorldReport* Ranks Casa in State's Top 10%



The US News and World Report has ranked CasaGrande #211 out of 2,399 high schools in California and #1,217 out of 21,000 nationwide. Rankings are based upon college readiness indicators. [click here](#)



## *Don Billing and Mavis Weir Announce Retirement*



*Don Billing and Mavis Weir share a few memories with Casa teachers during the last staff meeting of the year.*

Mr. Billing has taught Auto and Drafting at Casa since 1980. Ms. Weir has taught Social Studies at Casa since 1986. Together, these two exceptional educators have taught literally thousands of young people and have been mentors to numerous teachers. Both teachers are irreplaceable and will be dearly missed.

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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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