

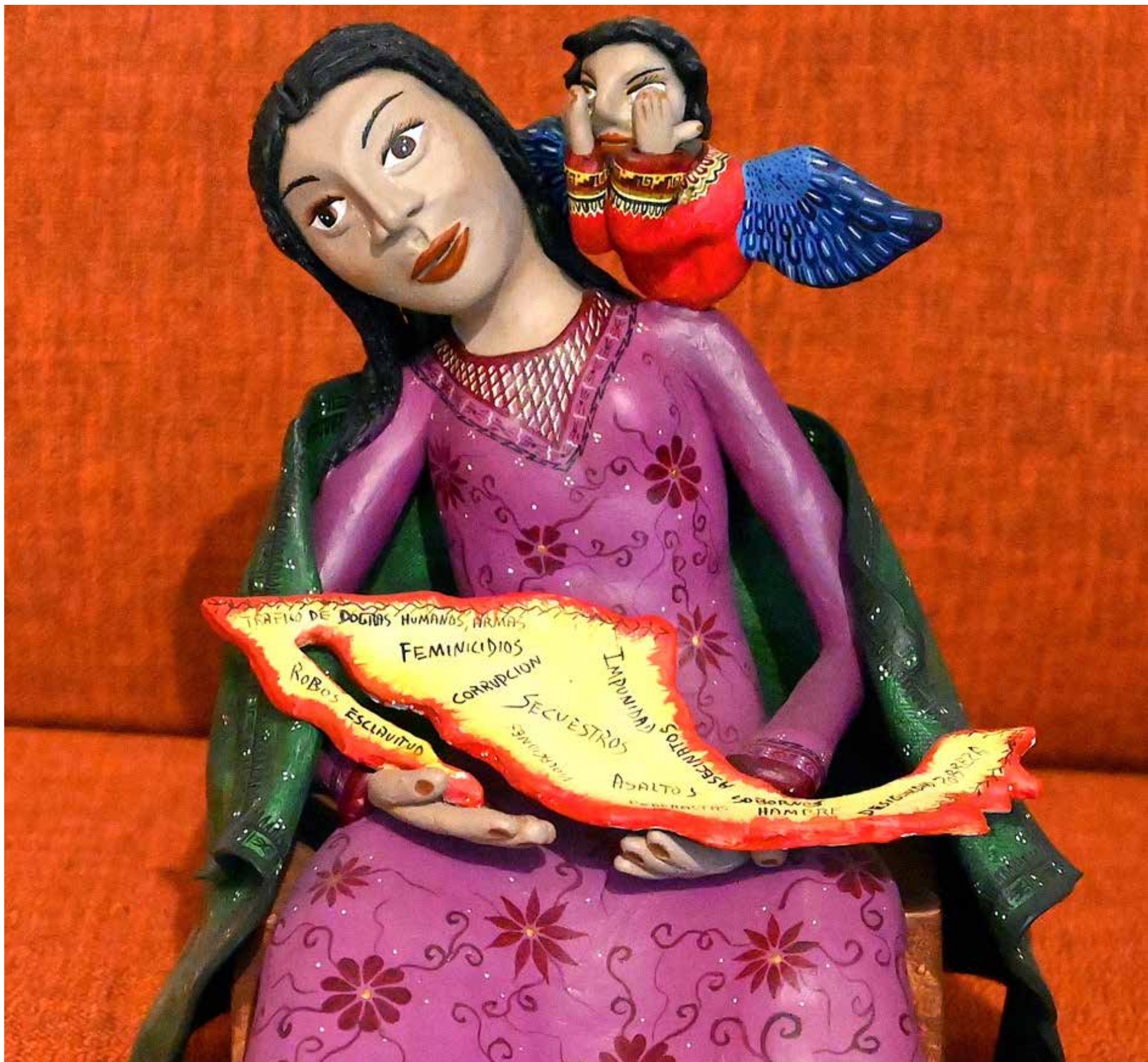
La Prensa Texas

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La Prensa Texas

This grass roots publication is the life source for a community that is not easily afforded viable access to diverse and accessible media. San Antonio and the surrounding counties have become accustomed to relevant news brought to them in both English and Spanish since 1913.

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Let's Talk About It Was Selena's New Release a Good Idea?

By Yvette Tello

The new Selena single, "Como te quiero yo a ti," and album, MOONCHILD MIXES was released this week. Do you think it is distasteful for them to continue to produce music with her voice? Or do you think this is a way to keep her alive for themselves and her fans? Let's talk about it..

Jose Rosario: "After all is said and done, any new creation featuring her voice will always be beautiful and serve to keep her memory alive, because these productions are made with love by the Quintanilla family. Love and respect."

Néstor Meléndez Soler: "Me encantó. Que buena vibra haber trabajado para la Reina. God blessed her indeed."

Jeff Young: "Jose, great quote from you. From someone who worked with her, it's great that some new, quality music of Selena was released. She was one of a kind and a beautiful gift to us from GOD."

Al Calvo Jr.: "Exactly what Jose Rosario said. I don't understand why people criticize the family for remaking their own music. Music that the real fans love and remember. Critics call them greedy and money hungry, but that's how they make a living, then and now. AB remastered the old songs, some people never heard before, and shared them with the world so we can hear her voice again in a new way."

Carmen Perez: "Jose Rosario Gonzalez, Keep on being our voice! You always bring exactly the right perspective! The Quintanilla family has done the right thing in refreshing the memory of Selena."

Dawn B: "I think that she would want her music to continue. It is as beautiful as she was, and you do not have to be Latino to appreciate a true artist. Great work from her brother and sister. She will always be alive in people's hearts. Before anyone else gets so negative, her father lost a daughter, her siblings lost her. They also have a foundation for children in crisis. I am sure some income from this music will go to that charity. Chris Perez remarried, had 2 children, divorced, won a grammy, has a hot pepper sauce company, and worked out differences with Selena's family. I am sure he would be pleased that she again comes to life through her music. As a musician, I think he would understand more than most."

Michelle Dillon-Nieves: "She's a wonderful entertainer, but her family is making so much money off of her."

Ramon Chapa Jr.: "They should let her rest in peace! Obviously, her dad just wants to keep making money from her since his other kids don't have any talent."

Christina Li: "I love that she lives on. I know a lot of people say crap about "her family needs to let her rest". Selena NEEDS to live on. Her memory, her music. And we

all want to keep enjoying her, having merch with her, etc. Honestly, look at it this way: I'd rather see her FAMILY benefit from making money off of her name and music than just her record company, who only care about the money. She would have felt the same. Her family cares about her legacy left behind."

Raquel Duron Donaghy: "Why do they refer to her as Selena Quintanilla? She was Selena Quintanilla Perez, she was married to Chris Perez. That's disrespectful."

Jody Gierke: "Her beautiful voice and music deserves to continue. I think she would approve because that means we haven't forgotten her and still love her music."

Frank Burton: "Her dad has always used her as a cash cow. It's sad he's still doing it. She deserves to rest in peace and let her memory live on. If it's a remix, then I'm ok with it because it was her original work and not one that wasn't of her actual work."

Tamara Smith: "Thank you so much. I love Selena. I can't wait to hear her new music. She was such a beautiful spirit."

Ashley Ann Westerfield: "Where's the rest of her name? You can tell this is a story that her father, sister and brother are responsible for. I guess he lived off of his kids when they were little, what is the difference now right? It gives me some Jackson 5 vibes."

April Herrera: "Yes it's her voice but she's not actually singing. Let her Rest In Peace."

Jen Kimble-Bohannon: "I will forever love Selena. However, I have lost all respect for her family. I will NOT visit their memorial shop and I won't listen to her new album or support them in any way. I support Selena, I do not support her greedy money hungry family. It's sad they made money off her before she died and they are still cashing in on her. Pathetic."

Mariann Farhat: "You can't even take her sister Suzette seriously, she literally makes a living off of keeping Selena's legacy alive. If they didn't keep coming up with new ideas to make money off of her name and legacy, they'd all be broke."

Anne R U Ok: "If I was famous and died I wouldn't mind if my family made money after. I'm dead. Foreals, go for it and give momma everything we couldn't give her."

Terri Lee Reeves: "It was a horrible day in Corpus Christi when she died!"

Adriana Harwood: "Yes!!! More Selena vibes and less Beyoncé in my feed. Selena went way too soon. My childhood favorite. Great example for women. Descansa en Paz! "

Alma Roberts: "Her brother and sister are being money hungry. Y'all need to get regular jobs and let her Rest In Peace."

Alexandra Mora: "She was great and her death was tragic... but her parents/family have milked her passing for millions. Let her rest in peace!"

Alejandra Adriana: "I love Selena so much but her family needs to let her Rest In Peace and stop financially benefiting from her. I wonder how Chris feels about this..."

Margie Bryant: "Family, honor her by stating her married name as well. Selena Quintanilla Perez. Let's not forget Chris was the love of her life."

Janet Cruz: "I bet she's so proud wherever she is. Her family has carried her legacy."

Paulina J Vargas: "Her family is doing exactly what she would've wanted and that is to continue inspiring people with her music. Everyone loves Selena. The fact that her legacy is still so big after all these years is amazing. She's not forgotten and her family made sure of that.. whether they get money or not they are doing something amazing in my eyes. I love Selena and I was four years old when she died."

Betty Jean Bell Harvey: "My son who is 12 years old has her t-shirts and loves her. We have 3 copies of the movie and everytime he watches it, he cries. She was an inspiration to so many people and her life should be remembered. I thank God that her family is releasing this cd. I will definitely be buying it for my son. Selena would be so proud of her brother and sister for keeping her music and her legacy alive. God bless you for sharing her music with us."

Ty Smith: "This is beautiful, how she is still everywhere. Her legacy is living on through her family and her fans. I can't wait to hear this new music"

Noemi Dreyer: "She already has amazing music out, we don't need anything more. Please let her Rest In Peace."

BeccaLynn McCormick: "When will they let her rest in peace and move on with their own lives and do new things? Instead, they are making money off her for 27 years. She has been gone longer than she was alive. And the only thing Chris, her husband did was write a book about their time together which her father was very much against him doing. Also Chris has been excluded from many things which isn't right since he was her husband and they were together when she passed."

Ariel Esler: "My Abuela, God rest her soul, would be so happy about this."

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About the Cover Artist: Veronica Castillo



Provided by Dr. Ricardo Romo

Veronica Castillo, a fourth-generation clay artist, grew up in Izúcar de Matamoros in Puebla, Mexico. She acknowledges having been an artist all of her life—indeed at least working with clay since the age of five when she began helping her parents, both master clay artisans, in their work. At sixteen she was already assisting her family in completing complex Trees of Life.

Verónica Castillo's parents, Alonso and Soledad Marta Hernández Castillo determined early in their marriage to teach all their children to work with clay. The Castillo siblings learned from among the best in Mexico. Her father Don Alonso was known as a "Maestro de Maestros," a master among the master craftsmen.

Although the Castillo family's fame centered on their creations of "Arbol de la Vida," Tree of Life sculptures, Veronica ven-

tured into different topics and spaces. She also ventured into working with the black clay of the Oaxaca region. She favored feminist themes such as a "tree of life" dedicated to women mariachis and singers.

Castillo is a gifted artist and an excellent communicator; thus it did not take her long to make good friends with fellow artists and scholars in San Antonio, notably UTSA professor Josie Méndez Negrete and Norma Cantú of Trinity University. Thanks

to the diligence of Professor Norma E. Cantú, who nominated Castillo for the National Endowment of the Arts Heritage Fellow, Castillo won the prestigious NEA award in 2013. A NEA newsletter noted that traditionally the Tree of Life clay sculptures depict religious scenes, but "Castillo also uses her work to address social and contemporary issues such as violence against women and violence on the border."

Castillo has reserved a special place in her studio for the artistic works of her family—all true masters of clay sculptures. The Castillo family has exhibited extensively throughout Mexico and abroad. Veronica Castillo's bio noted that the family's works of art are part of valuable collections in the United States, Munich, and London and have been shown in museums in Chicano, Brazil, and the Spanish Royal Palace of King Juan Carlos I.

Read more about the artist on page 10.

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We Need to change American History Textbooks in Texas

By **Brian Wells**

Current textbooks fail to adequately cover Colonial America and the American Revolutionary War.

They fail to show the hardships and deprivation of our founding fathers who were deemed traitors by England. Through their efforts we obtained the greatest constitution in the world, and the Bill of Rights which affect us every day.

Importantly, they fail to mention that without the assistance of Spain, we would still be flying the British flag. Shouldn't they be taught about General Bernardo de Galvez, for whom our early state capital, Galveston, was named? The Texas Connection to the American Revolution, when we provided cattle to Galvez' army in New Orleans so they could fight the English at the Battles of

Manchac, Baton Rouge, Mobile and Pensacola? Shouldn't they know that Galvez was one of seven people ever to be named an "Honorary U.S. Citizen?"

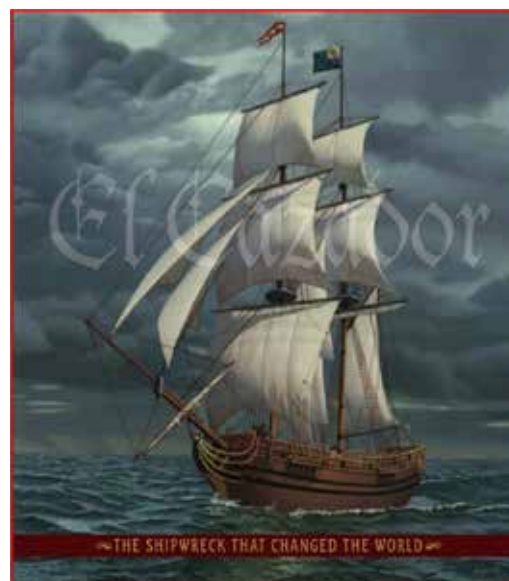
Why don't we inform our Black students that the SAR has identified over 20,000 Black patriots who fought in the American Revolution? Some were slaves seeking their freedom, but many were free men. Shouldn't they learn that one of the largest slave owners in America was a Black man? Or that many Black slaves were enslaved by Black natives from other African villages or Muslim slave traders?

Wouldn't such knowledge by our students instill pride and make them better feel a part in our community? Wouldn't it make them better citizens?

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to hear Judge Ed Butler's Presentation about

El Cazador, the Spanish treasure ship that changed the destiny of the world.



Judge Butler's presentation will be on Wednesday September 21, 2022 after the 11:30 a.m. luncheon of the San Antonio chapter, Sons of the American Revolution at the San Antonio Petroleum Club, 8620 N New Braunfels Ave, Ste 700, San Antonio, TX 78217. **Non members are invited.** Cost of the buffet luncheon is \$30.00 per person. For reservations contact txsarch4reservations@gmail.com.

Judge Butler is the award winning author of *Galvez*, which Amazon.com designated as "One of the Best History Books of 2018"; a member of the Texas Genealogical Hall of Fame; The recipient of the DAR's highest award, The "DAR Medal of Honor"; SAR President General, 2009-2010; and a cruise ship enhancement speaker.

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REGRESO A CLASES. A checar los pendientes médicos

**M.Antonieta
Gonzalez, M.D.**

Hoy quisiera hablar de algunos elementos importantes en la lista de pendientes antes de entrar a la escuela.

1) CARTILLA DE VACUNACION (VACCINE RECORD)

Esto es muy importante, principalmente para quienes empiezan pre-escolar, o es su primer año de escuela, o están cambiando a una escuela diferente.

La cartilla de vacunación o la copia de las vacunas recibidas, si aún no la tiene, es importante solicitarla con tiempo. En estas fechas, muchos de los consultorios, se encuentran saturados y aunque a veces la oficina médica, tiene una copia al corriente. En algunos casos, se requiere consolidar la información entre las diferentes instituciones que aplicaron las vacunas, o se tiene que investigar con el Departamento de Salud. Recordemos también que el esquema de vacunas debe estar al corriente. Pues algunas escuelas, requieren tener esta información documentada.

2) CHEQUEO ANUAL DE NIÑO SANO (WELL CHILD CHECK)

Esto es muy importante, no únicamente

porque muchas escuelas lo requieren al principio del año escolar. Pero porque tanto a los padres como a los médicos, nos permite, revisar el estado de salud de los chicos. Revisar problemas médicos del pasado que puedan afectarlos, e incluso revisar algunas de las dudas que la familia puede tener, y que pudieran en una forma o en otra, impactar no únicamente su salud, pero también su desarrollo escolar.

3) PLAN DE MANEJO DE ASMA (ASTHMA PLAN)

Este es un documento muy importante, tanto para aquellos que tienen una bien documentada historia de asma, y aún para quienes fueron diagnosticados en el pasado. Quienes recientemente no hayan tenido problemas, su profesional de la salud, tendrá que evaluar su manejo en los 3 niveles del plan de asma. (cuando no hay síntomas; cuando hay síntomas; y cuando hay síntomas graves).

4) AUTORIZACION DE USO DE MEDICAMENTOS.

Casi siempre es necesario, en el caso de asma, el que la escuela tenga uno de los inhaladores de rescate. También hay que tener cuidado de que el medicamento

en la escuela no haya caducado, en cuyo caso se necesitara una nueva prescripción. Pero para otros medicamentos que tienen que ser dados en la escuela, sea en forma rutinaria o en forma ocasional como por ejemplo en caso de fiebre, o alergias. Es también necesario proveer con este documento a la escuela.

5) AUTORIZACION PARA PARTICIPAR EN DEPORTES (SPORT PHYSICAL)

Éste es un examen que conlleva un cuestionario detallado del estado físico del estudiante. E incluso, los participantes en la Banda Escolar, y en los(trials) en que se escogen jugadores, para los equipos lo requieren

Los entrenadores suelen ser particularmente estrictos. Y aun a la estrella del equipo, puede no jugar, si no tiene este documento

5) ACTITUD (ATTITUDE)
En la escuela así como en cualquier otro grupo humano es frecuente encontrar al acosador/a (Bully). Pero la escuela también es donde podemos encontrar a quienes pueden llegar a ser nuestros mejores amigos, así como los maestros y enseñanzas más importantes en nuestra vida.

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Astros Campeón Masters 50+

Por Franco

El club Astros dirigidos por el manager y jugador Pedro Espinoza, en el campo 2 del complejo deportivo Potranco BaseballField, logró consolidar su excelente récord de temporada regular en Liga Potranco categoría Masters 50+ de campaña 2022, con marca de 14 victorias y 1 derrota durante quince domingos que comprendió el rol regular, coronándose campeón siendo reconocido por el scout Frank Torres quien ostenta el cargo de

compilador y comentarista oficial.

Astros, en posttemporada representada por El Jaral Mexican Restaurant ubicado cerca del estadio Potranco, siguió adelante eliminando a Yankees SA en dos de tres partidos. Pará después disputarle la final del playoff a Tuzos de Jesús González "La Coyo" y el timonel Pichón Alarcón, que se clasificó en segundo lugar con marca de 9 triunfos, 5 derrotas y 1 empate. Tuzos llegó a la final tras eliminar a Dodgers de Ma-

cario Rosas y el coach Tomás Muñoz.

El segundo partido se decidió con trabajo en la ofensiva y defensiva de Astros. Lo cual también ejecutó Tuzos pero sin mejor suerte ya que tuvieron que remar contra la corriente finalizando con pizarra de 8 carreras para Astros por 6 de ellos que dejaron corredores en bases a lo largo del partido.

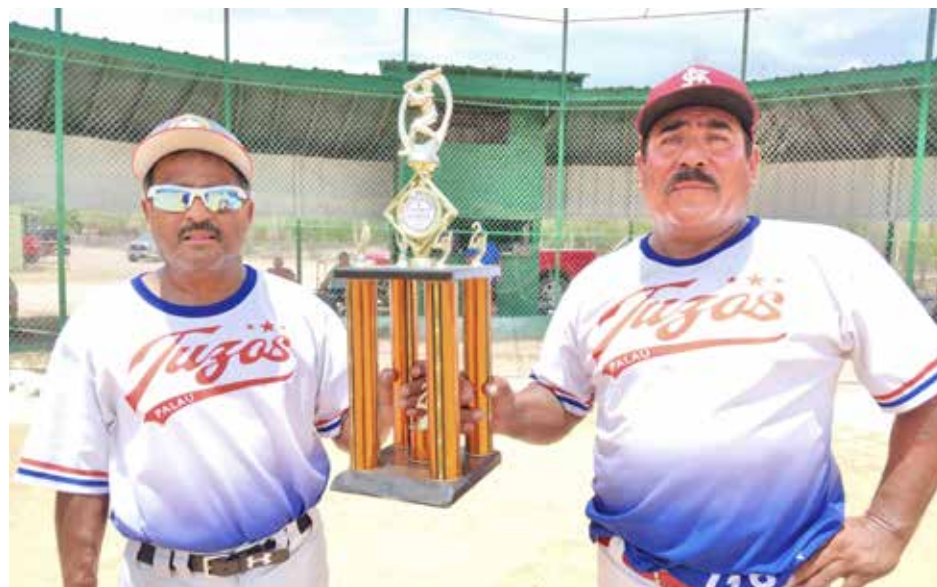
Jaime Guerrero (7-0) se adjudicó la victoria con salvamento de Israel González. Por Tuzos perdió Chorejas

Velázquez con relevó de El-eazar Bocanegra. Al final del partido el padrino Catarino Obregón, con respaldo de Frank Torres y del presidente Simón Sánchez, presentaron los trofeos al campeón Astros y El subcampeón Tuzos. Así como individuales a los jugadores Leno Martínez de Rangers SA y Vicente Silva de Tuzos por haber dado un jonrón en la temporada regular. Jaime Guerrero por su marca de 7-0 en la lomita por Astros. Víctor Guerrero de Astros Campeón bateador

con promedio de .436. Y al receptor de Astros, Catarino Obregón por su trayectoria beisbolera y apoyó a equipos.

Astros tuvo otro récord tras alinear a los hermanos Montes: Manuel, Erick, Óscar y Tony, quienes aquí aparecen acompañados por su señor padre José Montes, quien desde su juventud se ha destacado como uno de los mejores jugadores de cuadro en el béisbol independiente internacional.

(Fotos de Franco).



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Battle of the Blizzards for Children's Miracle Network

By Ramon Chapa, Jr.

La Prensa Texas was honored to be at the 15th Annual Battle of the Blizzards Miracle Day Fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network! The event is held at the Landa Street Dairy Queen in New Braunfels and it is a fundraiser competition between the Coaching Staff of the New Braunfels Unicorns and the Canyon Cougars. The winner: the NB UNICORNS! Congratulations to Theresa Lopez & her Staff on another great event for a great cause!



Verónica Castillo: Award-Winning Artist and Clay Sculptor

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

A Smithsonian Museum gallery dedicated to the Latino experience opened on June 18, 2022, at the Washington, D.C. Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Verónica Castillo, a Southtown San Antonio resident, is one of the selected artists featured in the 4,500-square-foot Molina Family Latino Gallery. On opening day, Castillo's "Tree of Life," a "candelabra" clay structure, was one of the most popular exhibits, according to Eduardo Díaz, Deputy Director, National Museum of the American Latino. Officially, the Smithsonian Latino Center has now merged with the National Museum of the American Latino.

¡Presente! A Latino History of the United States is the Smithsonian's first gallery exhibition dedicated to the Latino experience and Latino contributions to the United States. Díaz kindly gave me and my wife Harriett a tour of the exhibit a month before its official opening. Although the exhibition at that point was a work in progress,

Castillo's beautiful "Tree of Life" had been installed near the final section of the exhibit.

Castillo, a fourth-generation clay artist, grew up in Izúcar de Matamoros in Puebla, Mexico. She acknowledges having been an artist all of her life—indeed at least working with clay since the age of five when she began helping her parents, both master clay artisans, in their work. In her pre-teen years, she was assigned to create more difficult small objects. By age twelve she began creating her own designs, producing small but intricate pieces of clay art. At sixteen she was already assisting her family in completing complex Trees of Life.

Castillo learned her artistry from her father, Don Alonso Castillo Orta, and her father was taught by his father, Don Simón Uroza, and his mother, Catalina Uroza. Verónica Castillo's parents, Alonso and Soledad Marta Hernández Castillo determined early in their marriage to teach all their children to work with clay. The Castillo siblings learned from among the



Verónica Castillo in her studio with a commissioned work in progress, July 2022.

Photo by Ricardo Romo.

best in Mexico. Her father Don Alonso was known as a "Maestro de Maestros," a master among the master craftsmen.

Although the Castillo family's fame centered on their creations of "Arbol de la Vida," Tree of Life sculptures, Veronica ventured into different topics and spaces. At age sixteen she took an interest in "Day of the Dead" skulls and masks. She also ventured into working with the black clay of the Oaxaca region. She favored feminist themes such as a "tree of life" dedicated to women mariachis and singers.

Castillo excelled in her studies and mastered accounting in college. In 1992 Veronica traveled with her parents to an exhibit of the family's work at the Galeria de La Raza in San Francisco. By age 20 Castillo had completed her studies in accounting and resumed working with clay full time. She met several San Antonio women

who traveled to Puebla for the purpose of acquiring Mexican folk art. They brought clothing and exchanged the clothing for artworks. In 1995 Castillo met a board member of Esperanza, a San Antonio non-profit organization. Esperanza arranged for Castillo to take an internship at their Colectiva de Mujeres.

During her first year with Esperanza, Castillo taught women in the collective the art of making clay sculptures. Teaching left little time to create her own work. By the year 2000, she had returned to making her own clay pieces. Often described as "delicate, intricate, and brightly painted," her thematic clay sculptures gained fame among Latinos interested in the arts. The arts gave Castillo a voice on social issues.

In Mexico, "there is no justice for poor people," Castillo explained as she recounted her

participation in a

2003 women's conference at UCLA dealing with the hundreds of murders of young Mexican women in Juarez over a decade. The Chicano Studies Research Center at UCLA invited scholars, artists, and the mothers of slain women to discuss what they titled "The Maquiladora Murders, Or Who is Killing the Women of Juarez?" The murdered women had come to Juarez to work in the semi-skilled industries or maquiladoras of the border. The fact that at the time of the conference no one had been arrested for these horrific killings angered Castillo and compassionate people on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Castillo's commitment to social justice led her to accept an invitation from UCLA conference sponsors and faculty associated with the UCLA Research Center to design the conference poster

and a "Tree of Life." In her Tree of Life, Castillo placed the figures of small women and five skulls on the branches of her tree, a powerful statement of the horrific events in Juarez. Her work was purchased by UCLA and can be seen at the Fowler Museum on the UCLA Westwood campus.

Castillo is a gifted artist and an excellent communicator; thus it did not take her long to make good friends with fellow artists and scholars in San Antonio, notably UTSA professor Josie Méndez Negrete and Norma Cantú of Trinity University. Negrete introduced Castillo to many of her scholar friends and art collectors. Harriett and I met Castillo through Negrete and bought two of her small statues some ten years ago. (We wish we had bought more). Thanks to the diligence of Professor Norma E. Cantú, who nominated Castillo for the National Endowment of the Arts Heritage Fellow, Castillo won the prestigious NEA award in 2013. A NEA newsletter noted that traditionally the Tree of Life clay sculptures depict religious scenes, but "Castillo also uses her work to address social and contemporary issues such as violence against women and violence on the border."

Castillo has reserved a special place in her studio for the artistic works of her family—all true masters of clay sculptures. Several of the pieces are by her father Don Alonso Castillo Orta, a recipient of Mexico's prestigious El Premio Nacional de Ciencias y Artes (The National Prize of Sciences & Arts). The Castillo family has exhibited extensively throughout Mexico and abroad. Veronica Castillo's bio noted that the family's works of art are part of valuable collections in the United States, Munich, and London and have been shown in museums in Chicano, Brazil, and the Spanish Royal Palace of King Juan Carlos I.

Verónica Castillo is a true treasure of Texas. Her inclusion in the first Smithsonian Latino gallery exhibit will allow art lovers to see her brilliant work as well as give all viewers a greater understanding of the deep and ever-evolving roots of Mexican and Chicano art.



Castillo's "Raíces, Historia y Justicia Latina" in the Smithsonian Museum [Molina Latino Gallery: 4ft x 4ft.]. Courtesy of Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Washington, D.C. Special thanks to Eduardo Díaz.

Verónica Castillo in her San Antonio garden studio. Photo by Ricardo Romo, July, 2022.



Castillo, an image of work commissioned by UCLA for the 2003 conference. Permission of the artist.



Castillo, [Mujer Con Mapa de Mexico]. Collection of Harriett and Ricardo Romo. Photo by Ricardo Romo

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Águilas ganó el primero a Maceteros

Por Sendero Deportivo

Ante una buena entrada en el estadio Potranco Baseball Field. Sé jugó con éxito el primer partido de la serie ha ganar 2 de 3 partidos del playoffs final categoría Abierta dominical Potranco 2022 (Presentada por El Jarral Mexican Restaurant ubicado cerca del estadio Potranco), entre los finalistas equipos Maceteros de Edwin Ortiz Jr, qué sé clasificó en primer lugar y en postemporada eliminaron a Charros Potosinos y Águilas del timonel Luis

Cerros eliminaron a Rieleiros. (Ambos en dos partidos, en los qué sus rivales opusieron resistencia en la defensiva y ofensiva).

El partido, fue decidido por Águilas tras férreo duelo de pitcheo entre Juan Serrano de Águilas y Adrián Bueno de Maceteros. Serrano aceptó 4 imparables y 1 carrera. Bueno, concluyó su labor monticular con 4 anotaciones en contra.

Luis Cerros dijo lo siguiente. "Fue un duelo de pitcheo muy bonito. Anotamos 2 carreras en

el primer episodio, con 2 más en el sexto, en el qué Henry Pichardo con doblete remolco a El Caminante e Iván Jacome, para tres carreras producidas. En el segundo partido éste domingo a las 11am vamos con todo. Maceteros un equipos con buen pitcheo y bateo muy parejo al nuestro. No hay nervios en Águilas".

Por su lado el joven timonel Edwin Ortiz Jr de Maceteros, indicó qué con 4 jits no sé logra salir adelante. "Conectando 4 jits Maceteros no puede ganar

un partido cuando nuestro promedio es de 12 imparables por juego. Serrano, hizo buen trabajo, nuestro bateo no respondió. Estaremos listos para el segundo partido ", enfatizó Ortiz Jr.

Águilas en las tribunas contaron con el apoyo de sus seguidores encabezados por su lanzador Noé Rivera, y Maceteros por su lanzadora Luz Agosto hermana de Edwin Ortiz Jr.

El presidente Simón Sánchez, sé dio tiempo para qué los asistentes disfrutarán de un partido

amistoso entre Bravos de Jesús Ramirez Sr., y Freddy García vs. Mets de Mike Tabahan., ambos equipos sé preparan a lograr reunir una alineación con la qué podrán competir en la temporada de Otoño 2022.

En las fotos aparecen Juan Serrano de Águilas. Adrián Bueno de Maceteros. Águilas celebró 1er victoria del playoffs vs. Maceteros. Porra de Águilas encabezada por el lanzador Noé Rivera "El Chiquilin". (Fotos de Franco).





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IT'S JUST A RABBIT

By Tina Boenig-Gilson,
President Alamo City
House Rabbits
www.AlamoCityHouseRabbits.org



Alamo City House Rabbits

The Easter Bunny. Jessica Rabbit. Bugs Bunny. Rabbits as pets, food and fur coats. No other domesticated animal has such a complicated and confusing story. Spain is the homeland for the ancestors of our domestic rabbits, where their two thousand year association with humans started as food animals kept by the Romans. Many of the 350 breeds of rabbits were created in 16th to 19th century Europe, and eventually brought to America. North and South America have their own unique species of wild rabbit relatives – the cottontails, jackrabbits and pikas. (In Aztec mythology, native cottontail or jackrabbit divinities called the Centzon Tōtōchtin (Nahuatl "four-hundred rabbits") were gods of drunkenness and protectors of pulque.)

In the modern era, domestic rabbits have become the third most common companion animal, and also the third most surrendered pet in shelters across the country. Thousands end up in shelters

but many more are dumped outside to go back to the wild where they cannot survive. Rabbits are bought from local pet stores and flea markets as 'starter' pets for children or an Easter present, then quickly abandoned when the child becomes bored, or their care and special needs become too difficult or expensive. The disillusioned or desperate owner says, "It's just a rabbit", and because they look like a wild animal, it's easy to turn them loose.

San Antonians love their companion animals, including rabbits, but let's try to do better by them. Learn about their care and needs before you bring a rabbit into your home. Make sure it's the right decision and adopt, don't shop. Alamo City House Rabbits is a San Antonio based non-profit rescue that is here to be that guide, and each month in La Prensa we will be bringing you more information about these beautiful creatures.

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com by August 20, 2022.

Commissioner Calvert Earns National Awards for Trash Collection & Urban Farm

**Provided by
Ramon Chapa, Jr.**

Congratulations to LPT Board Member Commissioner Tommy Calvert on his National Award!

Bexar County Commissioner Tommy Calvert will be awarded two of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards in Colorado for the July National Convention.

The National Achievement Awards were earned for Commissioner Calvert's work with the Camelot County Trash program and the Greenies Urban Farm. Calvert passed legislation in the Texas Legislature that gave Bexar County the ability to create a solid waste program. Commissioner Calvert's program made crime decrease by 53 percent, calls for stray animals decreased by 75 percent, and calls for illegal dumping decreased by 74 percent, saving taxpayers millions in the County's highest crime area. The day after Commissioner Calvert was elected he returned to begin work on the needs of the high crime, low income area, and earning the recognition of fellow county officials for improving the quality of life for residents is the highest honor for a county official in the United States. (See a video chronicling Calvert's Work in the Camelot Neighborhood: <https://youtu.be/VPqHPkcFbcQ>)

Camelot II has had il-



legal dumping issues since the late 1990s. With no mandated trash collection for the neighborhoods, Commissioner Calvert had to get the entire Texas House, Texas Senate, and the Governor to agree to give him and the County new powers for dealing with trash and illegal dumping. After the powers were granted Commissioner Calvert has grown the initial pilot program to the Glenn, Crownwood, and Candlewood subdivisions.

"I would often say to CPS and SAWS that the results we received for

lowering crime, animal services, and illegal dumping were a national model. Now the National Association of Counties has said they agree," explained Commissioner Tommy Calvert.

During the pandemic Commissioner Calvert, expedited 2 million dollars of federal funds to ensure Bexar County residents did not have supply chains of food cut off. His leadership led to 25,000 lbs of super greens and fruits given to residents struggling to pay for groceries—putting Calvert ahead

of his time for the growing inflation worries at the top of polls for voters in America.

With the University Health System and CareLink, Calvert created the "Food is Medicine" initiative for some of the neediest CareLink customers where they provided nutritional information on the benefits of foods that customers were given for free. The program also included healthy recipes for the food. Commissioner Calvert had to fight Commissioner Kevin Wolff who said the program was

not needed. With long lines wrapped around the Alamodome for food distributions and thousands of citizens struggling to pay for groceries, the Greenies Urban Farm will receive a national award from the National Association of Counties in Adams County, a suburb of Denver.

The Greenies also was honored at Texas A&M in College Station for the top state award for "Superior Service" of emerging issues from the Agricultural Extension Service of the state of Texas. The Greenies

is under construction and \$14 million in additional funding will allow the 10 acres plot of land to house nearly 25 employees from the Bexar County Agricultural Extension Service and bring in revenue to Bexar County through the 300-person event center being constructed along Menger Creek in a once blighted eyesore known as "The Goonies." Commissioner Calvert has renamed the property "The Greenies." The Greenies has worked with over 200 nonprofits and supplies the San Antonio Food Bank with fresh produce grown and harvested in partnership with the San Antonio Master Gardeners for people countywide.

See video of the opening ceremony: https://youtu.be/Qy_TxGT3-GA

See video of the first harvest Ceremony: <https://youtu.be/120QT3s6BG4>



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Art by St. Jude patient Marzavien



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Beat a Cyberbully: Here's How Parents Can Help

By John Silva

While remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic lowered reported instances of bullying, parents fear that, for some students, going back to school will mean going back to being bullied.

“Bullying is something we worry about, especially with the beginning of each new school year,” said Zury Bourque of her family of four in Cypress, Texas.

Now, 15 years after the inception of National Bullying Prevention Month in October, technology’s ever greater presence in children’s lives has given bullying a new outlet. With just a click, cyberbullies can taunt, harass, and threaten relentlessly, even reaching into the home via cellphone or computer. As a result, victims report feeling hopeless, isolated, and even suicidal.

What can parents do to protect their kids? Taking an interest in their children’s online world can make a

difference, says the National Parent Teacher Association.

This interest does not necessarily require parents to become tech experts. Instead, the federal stopbullying.gov website advises parents to watch for subtle clues that something is wrong, such as their child becoming withdrawn, hiding their screen when others are nearby, or reacting emotionally to what’s happening on their device.

For Zury Bourque and her husband, Chris, that has meant being keenly aware of what “normal” looks like for their two boys, ages 12 and 10.

“Knowing my children’s moods is very important because I can then detect shifts or changes in their personalities that might signal something is going on,” said Chris.

Talking with kids openly — and often — helps too. “The more you talk to your children about bullying, the more comfortable they will be

telling you if they see or experience it,” UNICEF says in its online tips for parents.

As their two daughters enter their teens, Houston parents Thiago and Auboni Cordolino have found that talking less and listening more works best. “We try to focus on being approachable and listening actively without reaction,” said Thiago.

Beyond talking, listening, and observing, parents shouldn’t be afraid to make and enforce rules for their kids’ online activities, experts say.

The Cordolinos’ girls are allowed to play online games, but they’re expected to turn off the live chat feature to limit interactions with strangers. “We reassure the girls that we trust them and respect their privacy, but they have to stay within the boundaries we’ve set,” said Auboni.

The Bourques have taken a similar approach. “We aren’t constantly over the boys’ shoulders, watching their every move, but we use a family app



that lets us know how much time they’re spending on their tablets,” said Zury.

Both families cited the tips and reminders they’ve considered together with their kids, using free resources available on jw.org, the official website of Jehovah’s Witnesses.

One of the Bourques’ sons especially recommended one of the website’s short animated videos, “Beat a Bully Without Using Your Fists.”

“I learned that if you’re being bullied, you should call someone you can trust, like parents, principals, or counselors,” he said. “They can get in between the situation and make it stop.”



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