

# THE TIGER PEN

YOUR NUESTROS NEWS AUTHORITY

**In School, On Time, On Track #EveryDayMatters**

Volume 1 | Issue 3 | October 2016



## History of Halloween and Traditions

by Jasmine Casillas

There are many stories about the origin of Halloween, but the most common one is about the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). It is said that over 2,000 years ago the Celtic farmers believed that November 1st was the day the season of life would meet the season of death. This was believed because November 1st was their "New Year" as in New Year of harvest, the time of the year that most died. They celebrated Samhain on the night of October 31st. This was the only night that ghosts and grieving spirits would be able to return to earth and make contact with the living thus giving everyone the reason to wear a mask when they leave their house to blend in with the ghosts. To ward off ghost the people would gather and build a "sacred" bonfire and sacrifice their crops and animals to a Celtic god to protect them. In America during this time (cont. on page 7)

### Balloon Fiesta 2016

by: Luis Angel

The balloon fiesta started in 1972. There were only 13 hot air balloons. Nowadays, there's hundreds of hot air balloons. The balloon fiesta is one of ten events in New Mexico. Many people from around the world come to see the balloon fiesta.

My experience being there was astonishing. Many people from different states and countries decided to come to the balloon fiesta. The shops are filled with people in the morning. There is usually a lot of merchandise and souvenirs to choose from in the small shops. Later, a row of (continues on page 5)



### #BlackLivesMatter

by Alicia Mandujano

Is it black lives that matter, or is it all lives that matter? So far in 2016, many people believe that law enforcement is targeting African Americans.

The movement started in July 13, 2013 because of the death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin. From there, anytime an African American was killed by police, the media would focus on if they were "targeted." Although, Trayvon's killer, George Zimmerman, was not a member of law enforcement, many believed that because of his skin color, he was targeted by the legal system. Which favors everyone except African Americans.

Ever since Trayvon's death, there have been 1,495 protests. The most recent one happened in Dallas, Texas. Two African American men were shot by police in Louisiana and Minnesota. This violent protest lead to the death of 5 police officers.

(continues on page 2)

# #BlackLivesMatter

(continued from page 1)

Who started Black Lives Matter? Three sisters Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi.

When they found out that Zimmerman was not held accountable for the crime that he committed, the first movement was led and designed by Patrisse Cullors and Danielle L. Moore. This took place after 18-year-old Mike Brown was killed by a Ferguson Police Officer.

To be continued in the November edition...



**Black Lives Matter:** Ways in which African Americans are being deprived of their basic human rights and dignity.

## Conspiracy Corner

by Perla Casillas

### Black Cats

Often used as symbols of bad luck, black cats were bad reputation, dating back to the dark ages when witch hunts were common-place. Elderly, solitary woman were often accused of witchcraft and their pet cats were said to be their “familiars”, or demonic animals that had been given to them by the devil. Another myth told that Satan turned himself into a cat when socializing with witches.

### Warding off Spirits

On Halloween night, you should walk around your home three times backwards and counterclockwise before sunset to ward off evil, demonic spirits.

### Salt

Salt is considered good luck by many cultures in the world. In order to get rid of many forms of bad luck, you can take a pinch of salt and throw it over your LEFT shoulder. Throwing it over your right shoulder equals more bad luck.

### Footsteps

If you hear footsteps on Halloween night, do NOT look behind you it might be the dead following you. Looking back could mean you will soon join them.

## St. Xavier Fair

by Jackque

During the first day of the two day fair to raise money for St. Xavier church, I along with two other students had to prepare Indian tacos. After we were done with our shifts we got about half an hour to go around and play games. When we were done with the games we looked around to see what they had to eat. The first thing I wanted to try was one of the best homemade tamales then one of the students wanted a snow cone. Finally, we got to sit down and watch the flamenco dancers until the sun went down.

Josslyn wanted to get her face painted, but she didn't want to get it done by herself so she made me get my face painted to. After the artist was done with the alright design of joker, we had to get back to work and make the customers happy. We stayed at the Indian taco stand for about another 30 minute's until they had to clean up the trash and junk.

The next day the tables, chairs and even the canopies were still in the same place as the first day. Other volunteers cut and chop up lettuce, tomatoes, and onions for the toppings for the indian tacos. During that



time we got our booth ready to sell Indian tacos again, but we struggled against the wind

to get it ready. We got everything ready for the tacos but after all that only a handful of people bought the tacos. I think it was because of one of the best burgers was set up right next to us so we had a challenge with them. After all it was an awesome experience to go and volunteer at a place I've never been to.

# Do you have an opinion about something we've written in the Tiger Pen?

Let us know how we're doing!  
Drop us a line in the "Mr. T Box"

Read this out loud:

this is this cat.  
this is is cat.  
this is how cat.  
this is to cat.  
this is keep cat.  
this is an cat.  
this is idiot cat.  
this is busy cat.  
this is for cat.  
this is forty cat.  
this is seconds cat.

Now go back and read the third word only in each line above from the start

I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEART.COM

## Book of the Month

by Elizabeth Monarrez

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephan Chbosky is about a high school freshman named Charlie. He is a misfit, is awkward, but smart. Meeting three seniors changed his life. They went on many adventures. Charlie had started to find his confidence, perks of friendship, new music etc. but when his senior friends started to prepare for college everything that Charlie had found within himself started to crumble little by little.

Every book has its fans and its haters, some people found it relatable such as *What Aria Loves*, she said, "...has to be one of the books that I could relate to. It was very insightful and poignant that in most part of this book I feel like it was me writing those letters." Other people did not find it as relatable such as MizzSandie of goodreaders.com she said, "i find it a bit concerning, that Chbosky write a book with such serious issues like suicide, death, rape, social exclusion/inclusion, relationship violence, abortion, drugs, homosexual adventures, child molestation/incest, parties [and] fights without really dealing with any of them in depth." There are no right or wrong answers, but I disagree with MizzSandie because she had mentioned that she has a background in psychology so i think that she is looking too much in depth of what the characters are feeling and how they are dealing with their issues. She said that Chbosky should be more specific of what Charlie is feeling and how he personally is dealing with it, but she has forgotten that Charlie is just a freshman in high school and the story is being told in his perspective.

Like every movie based on a book many scenes are cut out and some are changed. I have both read the book and seen the movie and some of my favorite scenes were cut out and/or changed. Sometimes books do not give you as much visuals as you would like, but most movies based on books will not come close to being better than the book.







## Ask T

by Mr. T

**Question: Hey T, This girl constantly stares at me and it's bugging me. What do I do?**

There is a very important lesson here and it is simple:

**We are not in charge of other people's actions or feelings.**

So what can you do? Absolutely nothing. Allow them to be angry and sulk. Act towards them like you would any child who's in a bad mood and not talking. Don't force a response and don't allow their actions to influence your mood or actions.

Essentially what you're saying to that person is, "You may be very angry right now, but I'm not. You can be in a bad mood and I will continue to be in my good mood."

The other important message you're sending is the following: "I'm not mad at you for not feeling and behaving the way I would like you to. And I don't love you any less because of it."

Everyone has a bad day. Not all people get along. Some support. Some try to destroy. Who are you? What do you do? What kind of person are you? Stop worrying so much about other people because it takes A LOT of work just to be yourself.

**You are all beautiful people,  
T**

## Child Abuse in New Mexico

By Lexi Chavira

In the state of New Mexico, child abuse is a big issue. From

2000-2016, a lot of children between 3 months to 10 years and older have been killed by parents, relatives and friends. One in four children in New Mexico are abused. In the city of Albuquerque, CYFD has not been on top of their game and there have been many cases. Is it because they are understaffed or is it because they get phone calls non stop? Mr. Ver Ploegh, one of the teachers at the school, sat down and talked about what he thought about child abuse. He said it is "sickening" that many children have died from child abuse in New Mexico. When asked if CYFD was to blame for the many children's death and if he wished New Mexico made change to the laws Mr. Ver Ploegh responded, "No I believe they do the best job they can with what they have. However they are understaffed and do not have the resources they need to check on every child that is referred to them in a timely matter." Mr. Ver Ploegh does believe in discipline and defined the difference between discipline and abuse as "one causing harm as opposed to having rules that you expect someone to obey. Child abuse is reckless where as discipline your child has a clear reason and goal behind it, that your child understands." I was lucky to have interviewed CYFD about the current issues. CYFD was founded in 1992 to protect families and children and to provide leadership to other agencies that serve children, youth, and families to ensure a coordinated and integrated system of care and services for children, youth and families. CYFD confirmed that child abuse is a complicated issue they have and since they are short on staff they still have to provide service "even during times of economic downturn such as this, recruiting and retaining protective services workers is a key



**"I want to hire employees who arrive late"**

**Said no boss ever.**

## Balloon Fiesta (cont)

balloons are inflated. There is usually 2 count downs so all balloons lite up at the same time. Then there is a yellow balloon which is known as the spirit of the fiesta 2 and which they sing the national anthem as it goes up into the sky and takes flight. After that, all of the other balloons begin to inflate and take off. Many colorful balloons in special shapes and regular balloons take off to the skies. It is very fun to collect balloon cards. If you don't have any of them I recommend you to start collecting them! The balloon fiesta is from what I hear the most the most photographed event in the world. There is lots of good pictures to take but it's just the matter that the event is to short and does not take a long time for you to enjoy it.



Darth Vader and Yoda are two favorites at the Balloon Fiesta



Hundreds of balloons fill the sky of Albuquerque.

## Senior Year

by Jaleesa Canan

My senior year in high school is a wonderful time, with all students filled with a wide range of emotions, expectation, and plans. Senior year is a time spent reflecting back on all those years in the classroom while looking ahead to new adventures of work or college. Senior year is about making plans and decisions.

I remember my first year of high school. It was rough because I had to learn a new language. I took ESL classes in order to learn English. I did the best I could and my teachers were good and helpful. In that year I was an A,B,C student. I passed all my course's during freshmen year. When I became a sophomore, I became a slacker which I had never been before. I started ditching school. Ditching caused me to fail some courses like Geometry. I had eight courses and I only passed four of them. Too late I realized that I was off course and not making the the right choices. My G.P.A was too low to permit me to get to eleventh grade. I knew that I was going to get reclassified as a sophomore again, I started to cry. My parents were so upset with me, I did not have peace in the house because my parents were telling my sibilings not to be like me, a failure. This situation was too awkward for me to take. When I attended here at Nuestros Valores my objective was to get good grades and good attendance. My first semester here I was a sophomore then the second I became a

junior. I did my best to improve my grades because I did not want to graduate late.

**CLASS OF  
2017**

Now, here I am today as a senior waiting for graduation. It has always been my dream to graduate first in my family in the United States.

Graduating from high school will the biggest event that has ever happen in my entire life.

My heart is filled with a lot of joy and happiness, As a senior I have to take responsibility, confidence and be stronger. My strength comes from the confidence of my experience. I have failed before, but I know how to move on. I learn from each experience and is constantly growing and becoming a better person as a result. , i do not need reassurance from anyone and is completely confident in walking the path I have chosen.

# Rape Culture in Society

By Shasta Sandoval

Did you know that one in five women are raped/sexually assaulted during their freshman and sophomore year of college? 91% of all victims are women, 9% are men and 63% of all sexual assaults go unreported. Reporting an assault can be an embarrassing and stressful process for the victim.

Women around the world are being objectified in media including books, movies and commercials. A potential leader of our nation has been exposed for his degrading demeanor towards women. This example occurred during the second presidential debate when Donald Trump displayed inappropriate behavior by sexualizing women calling it "locker room talk".

It's crazy to believe that women have to worry about what they wear, how they walk or even speak in front of men and it's extremely unfair. Girls, from a young age are taught not to walk alone at night or to watch what they wear in public because 'boys will get the wrong impression of us.', but why do girls from a young age have to live in an environment that is suited for men? We aren't objects that men can just grab at whenever they feel like it. We're human and we deserve to be treated like it.

Although you may have heard these steps many times, here are a few ways to help prevent this:

**Always walk with a friend**

**Scream for help**

**DO NOT leave your drink unattended/or accept them from strangers**

**Fight as hard as you can**

For anyone who has been assaulted, you are not alone! You are stronger than you know and you CAN overcome this. Sexual assault is a traumatic experience and if you or anyone you know has been through it please call 1-800-656-4673.

## Announcements

**PSAT- Wednesday, October 19th**

**Flag Football**

**Monday 5:15**

**Tuesday 6:00**

**\*All games at Bullhead Park**

**Motivational Assembly October 28th during morning assembly**

**Movie Night- October 28th 7pm-9pm**

**Friday November 4th- half day school for conferences**

**School closed November 11th and 18th**

**Thanksgiving lunch November 16th**

# History of Halloween

(continued from page 1)

we had our simpler version. Because of the rigid Protestant beliefs our celebration was very limited and only really existed in Southern colonies. Customs consisted of public events to celebrate the harvest season,



where neighbors would tell stories of the dead because harvest season was most acquainted with human deaths. As well as telling each other their fortunes, singing and dancing. Some festivities we've always had but we didn't start dressing up until the Irish invasion of 1846. In the second half of the 19th century America was flooded with farming Irish immigrants and with themselves they also brought their Halloween traditions. Americans that lived in the same communities as them were invited to participate. So they all dressed up and asked for food or money from door to door because they were poor. This eventually became the best part of Halloween that we're all too old for now known as trick-or-treating and every year for Halloween Americans

spend \$600 billion on candy and we buy 6 million pounds of candy through-out the country. But this is just one of many stories on how Halloween became the Halloween we all love and celebrate today.



**ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW**

**GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...**

**ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**  
read well by the end of third grade

**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS**  
pass important courses

**HIGH SCHOOLERS**  
stay on track for graduation

**COLLEGE STUDENTS**  
earn their degrees

**WORKERS**  
succeed in their jobs

Too many absences—excused or unexcused—can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year—that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month—can knock students off track.

**Attendance Works**  
Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence  
[www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)

**Congratulations**  
**White Tiger Flag Football**  
**they are #1!!!!**



# Student Athletes: Hidden Gems of Nuestros

by Rick James

Now a junior, Nuestros Valores' academic and athletic star Alicia Mandujano has been playing varsity soccer at Rio Grande since her sophomore year. Often unnoticed, other than when wearing her jersey on gameday, Alicia has quietly become a standout at Nuestros Valores, being one of the few students to successfully attend NVCS and play a sport at another school. It may seem difficult to attend one school and play a sport at another, but Alicia has had no issues academically or athletically.

Academically, Alicia has maintained a near 4.0 GPA while playing at Rio and transferred from there mainly for the smaller classes and different



Alicia is seen here playing defense against Atrisco Heritage.

environment of the school. Alicia said she likes the smaller community feel of the school and has thus far enjoyed her experience at Nuestros. In past cases with students from Nuestros that played a sport at another school, there were some on-the-field issues with their team. With Alicia, this has not been the case. There is no disconnection between Alicia and her teammates. "I see them at practice everyday" and "we do team bonding on the weekend," said Alicia.

Alicia is the rare case of a student at Nuestros that is able to maintain a high academic standard and seamlessly mesh with teammates from another school. (continued on next page)

## FIND THE PICTURE



**Whoever can correctly identify where this picture was taken wins a prize!**

**If you think you know where this , write down your answer and bring it to Mr. T. First person to have written down the correct answer wins!**



## Student-Athletes (continued from previous page)

Alicia originally began playing soccer at Rio because her brother was the coach. As her brother continues to coach the team, Alicia has yet to have any issues with her brother, which can cause problems with other players. "There are no issues with my brother as the coach," said Alicia. Her brother treats her just the same as any other player, saying there definitely is no "favoritism" for her as the sister of the coach. Her brother and Alicia maintain the idea that she will not be treated differently and she must not act or expect different things. This is yet another attribute Alicia is able to display as a model student at Nuestros.

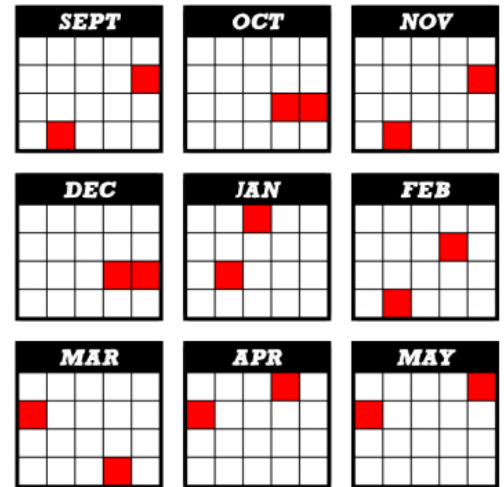
Alicia is not content with her current status, however. She has set high goals for herself for next season, which will be her last. She wants to become full time goalkeeper and wants to make all-district. This is definitely possible, not only due to Alicia's great athleticism, skill, and determination, but also because the Lady Raven's soccer team is a solid threat to compete for state, currently standing at 9-5-1.



Alicia needs to be recognized more for what she is doing. It takes a great deal of time, commitment, and energy to do what she has set out to do. Alicia has set a new standard for student-athletes at Nuestros and should be commended for it. If you are interested in

playing a sport at another school, talk to Alicia. She will be willing to, and always has been, talk to you and give you advice and how to do that.

**2 Absences Per Month  
x 9 Months of School  
= Less Likely to Graduate  
from High School**



# Missed a day of school?

**Every class you miss, you need to make up one hour of work outside of class!**

**Zeros are grade killers!**

**Every missed assignment is a missed learning opportunity!**

**Tutoring available 5 days a week!!! (3:30-4:30)**