

Picazo Recognition Project

(Mexican Cemetery)

July, 2020

Presented by

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Picazo Recognition Project

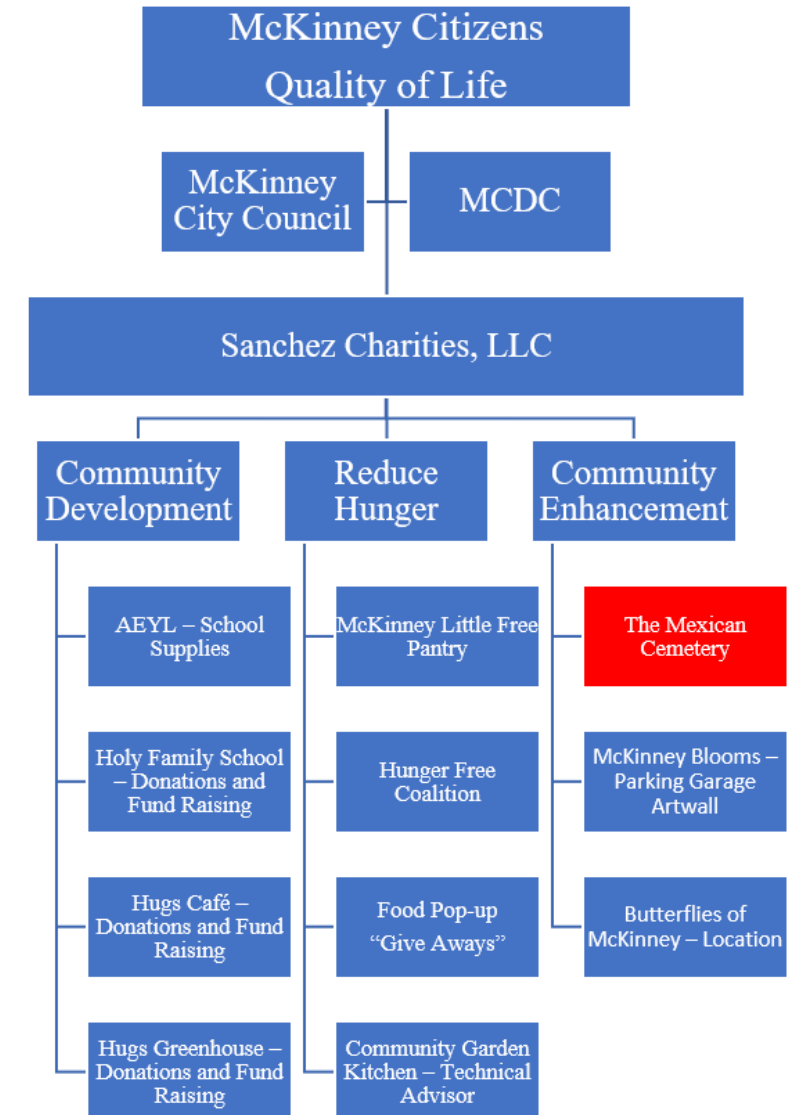
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Sanchez Charities, LLC

A part of the Sanchez Group of Companies, Sanchez Charities, LLC is:

- A recognized not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 organization
- Strives to leverage the business relationships that have been developed over twenty years and concentrate the resources of those relationships to improve the lives of Texas residents

- ✓ Community Development
- ✓ Reduce Hunger
- ✓ Community Enhancement



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Sanchez Charities, LLC

- Ensure application/project eligibility for MCDC consideration under Sections 501 to 505 of the Texas Local Government Code.
- Meet citizen needs for quality of life improvements, business development and sustainable economic growth for residents in the City of McKinney.
- Provide support for cultural, sports, fitness, entertainment, community projects and events that attract resident and visitor participation and contribute to quality of life, business development and increased McKinney sales tax revenue.
- Highlight and promote McKinney as a unique destination for residents and visitors alike.
- Demonstrate informed financial planning – addressing long-term costs, budget consequences and sustainability of projects for which funding is requested.
- Educate the community about the impact that local dining and shopping has on investment in quality of life improvements in McKinney.

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Mexican Cemetery Project What exactly is the “Mexican Cemetery Project”?

- Pecan Grove Cemetery was founded in 1870
- At the early times of its creation, and at least up until the 1960's, Pecan Grove Cemetery was separated into different sections.
 - Potter's Cemetery
 - Ross Cemetery (African-American Cemetery)
 - "Mexican Cemetery" (next to Potter's Cemetery)
- Death certificates and other documents show nearly every single one of the individuals buried in the Mexican Cemetery either migrated here from Mexico or from South Texas (or decedents of those migrants)
- Recall that McKinney, being older than Dallas, was the Agricultural and Economic center of the region
- The individuals buried at the “Mexican Cemetery” came to McKinney to work in the agricultural fields, build roads and railroads, work at the ranches - all vital to the foundation of McKinney and Collin County
- As part of a community-wide effort to restore the Mexican Cemetery as a place of respect, dignity and historical culture value, we are proposing to add a monument commemorating the area and those buried in the cemetery

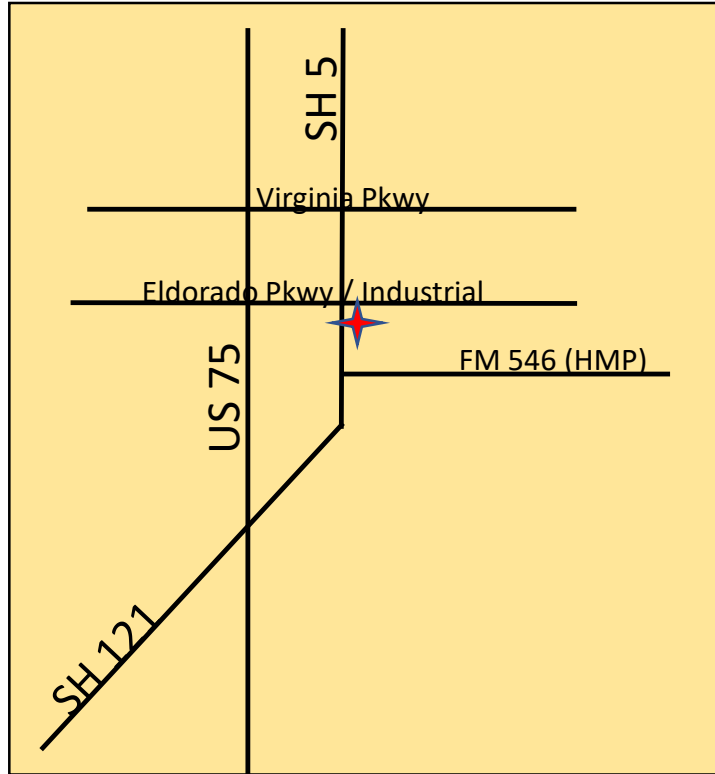


Mexican Cemetery Project

LOCATION OF THE MEXICAN CEMETERY AT PECAN GROVE

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Mexican Cemetery Project

Historic / Cultural Nature

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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	BORN	DIED	Library Records	Pecan Grove Records
Alvarado	Johnnie	1954 (3 weeks old)	1954	x	
Amador	Leonides	1885	1955	x	
An-----,	Jose B	196? -			x
Arenas	Lorenza G	1899	1966		x
Arenas	Bennett L.	1884	1973		x
Arriola	Catarino A	950	1966	x	x
Arriola	PedroT Sr.	1914	1979		x
Ayala	Bruno A	1888	1968	x	x
Bazan	Louis Modesto	1952	1966	x	x
Brown	Lucy				
Campos	Pedro G	886	1964	x	x
Carranza	Apolonio	1957	1957		x
Carpenter	Albert	1907	1972		
Contreras	Gumecndo/Gumeondo	1882	1965	x	
Coronado	Secundino	1883	1952	x	x

Quick Facts:

- 36 registered Mexican Cemeteries in Texas – this will be #37
- 161 Graves
- 62 Babies
- 58 No markers
- Oldest record is from 1866
- Caretaker has indicated the existence of over 300 bodies
- Due to lack of accurate mapping, cemetery cannot accept any more bodies



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Mexican Cemetery Project What has been done so far at the “Mexican Cemetery”?

- Volunteer Connie Moore Hollis is doing research on individuals buried at the cemetery and locating records that might establish other previously non identified interred
- Two clean-up efforts resulted in 14 missing markers/stones being located
- 5 additional unknown burials have been discovered
- Facebook page has been created <https://www.facebook.com/The-Mexican-Cemetery-in-McKinney-Texas-102352671284751/>
- Nicholas Sy of Boy Scout Troop 44 is restoring a section of the cemetery
- Several stones have been repaired
- A “Genealogy” website is being developed by Tanya Fallis – the City’s GIS Coordinator (similar to the one she has developed for the history of the black residents of McKinney) <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/39887863693643b3ab758fc0172fa2b7>
- Find a Grave.com shows 36 Mexican Cemeteries in the state. This would be #37 once registered

Mexican Cemetery Project

What has been done so far at the “Mexican Cemetery”?

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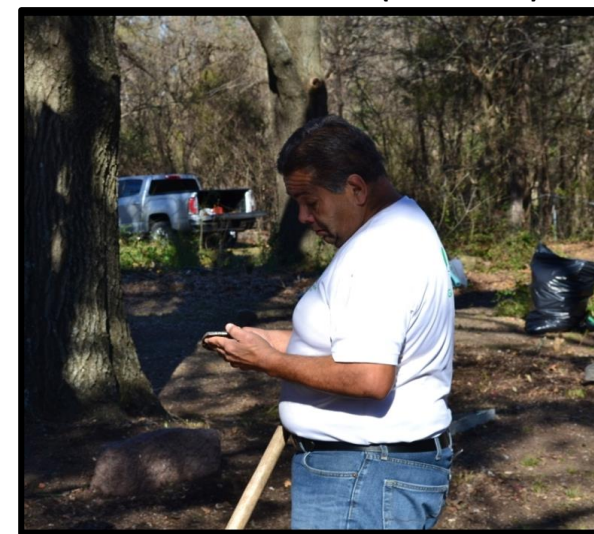
Volunteer finds missing marker of Apolonio Carranza (1957-1957)



Using a metal detector, children found 3 missing markers, including Manuela Castillo (1907-1972)



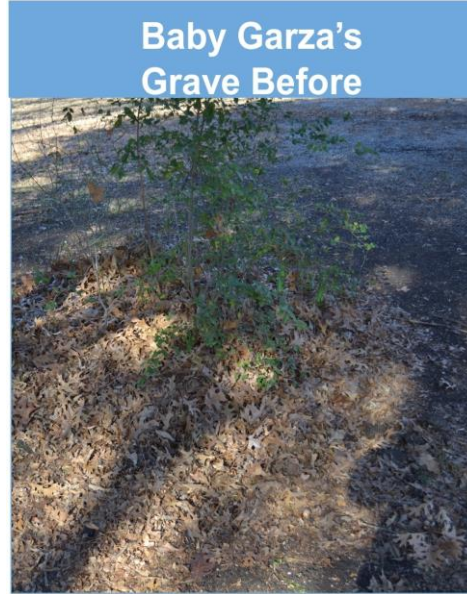
John Guerra finds missing marker of his brother Joe Guerra (1942-1981)



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Mexican Cemetery Project What has been done so far at the “Mexican Cemetery”?



Volunteers find two headstones completely buried nearly a foot below ground



McKinney resident hoping to find missing marker of baby sister buried in 1961 but instead finds 3 other missing markers, including baby Angela buried in 1959. She is still searching.



Mexican Cemetery Project

What is our ask?

\$50,000 for a commemorative monument at the Mexican Cemetery

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Examples:



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Questions and Answer

