

# Celebrating Dia de los Muertos

## > Karina Cazares Reporter

Pumpkins and witch hats will be put aside this October 31 in exchange for sugar skulls and marigolds by those celebrating the Day of the Dead.

Also known as Día de Los Muertos, this Mexican holiday is meant to honor family members who have passed away. This is done

with prayers, parades, making alters known as ofrendas, the making of a loved one's favorite food, and more.

To decorate, the ofrendas are surrounded by marigolds and wreaths known as Coronas are put on graves. Calaveras or sugar skulls are also used as decorations. They are edible or decorative skulls that can be placed on ofrendas or used as gifts for children on this day.

Since the dead are said to visit the living on this day, marigolds are used to lead them with their vibrant colors and pungent scent.

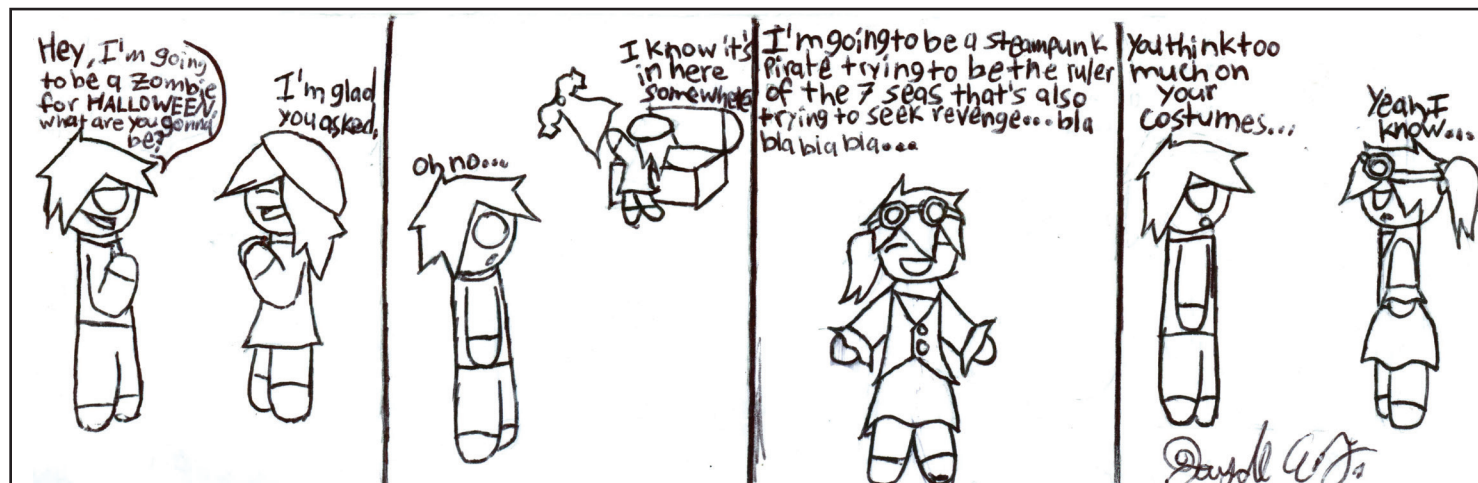
Senior Brianna Cazares starts celebrating Dia de Los Muertos at midnight by praying with her family. Shrines are made of her deceased family members and are surrounded by candles and small portions of food.

The holiday ends on Nov. 2.

"On the last day," said Cazares, "we make a full plate of their favorite food and thank our family members before telling them to return to rest."

More widespread celebrations are located in Mexico with parades full of people in colorful clothes, masks made to symbolize the dead, and faces being painted into skulls.

## Comic by Jayde Tomblason



## I've Got Game



Kenneth Barrett, sophomore

## Red Dead Rises Again

Here is a situation to imagine: a person is a cowboy in the Wild West, hunting down a gang while also trying to escape his past.

Well that is in a video game known as Red Dead Redemption. Red Dead Redemption is an action-adventure survival game with the story following a man by the name of John Marston, an outlaw who's wife and son were taken hostage for ransom by the government.

So now John has to go take down his former gang and give justice. In the recently released Red Dead Redemption 2, players find themselves living the events prior to the family being taken and they still live life within the gang.

Red Dead Redemption was one of the most highly acclaimed console games of 2010, selling over 15 million copies with its stunning graphics and amazing soundtrack.

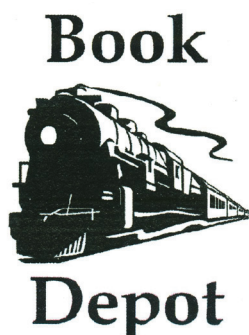
Five months after the release of Red Dead Redemption on May 18, 2010, Red Dead Redemption: Undead Nightmare was released as a stand-alone game. Originally a DLC, the game puts players in the Wild West but with zombies which was also very successful and sold 14 million copies.

With six hours or more of side story, this game should keep players engaged long enough to procrastinate on their math homework that is due tomorrow.

Even though I haven't played either game myself, I would recommend both of these games to anyone who enjoys random events, an open world environment, and a story that hooks you and keeps you from stopping.

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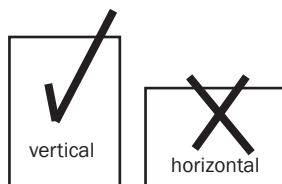
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## Senior portraits are due December 13.

Please submit a photo to Mrs. Forney by Dec. 13. Students can email it to leigh.forney@lamarschools.org, bring it in to Room 2 on a flashdrive, or deliver a hardcopy to be scanned. Please only submit vertical photos.

**No photograher?  
No problem.**  
Contact Mrs. Forney and we'll take a series of photos of you for free.



Please see Mrs. Forney with any questions.



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