



## **Application for Naming a Park Facility or Park**

Please follow the instructions below when applying for the naming or renaming a facility or property.

1. Complete the application by providing detailed information about the park facility or park to be named or renamed. Please include any supplemental information such as articles, letters of support and signature list with the application. The application must contain documentation of public support for the proposed name. Public support materials must be provided to the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. Please provide payment of the Application Fee, \$365.00 in the form of a cashier's check. Checks should be made out to City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and submitted with the application.
3. A Sign Fabrication Fee in the amount of \$940.00 will apply, should City Council approve the application. A cashier's check should be made out to City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department.
4. Send all submittals to:  
Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD), Attn: Christine Chute Canul,  
919 W 28th 1/2 St. Austin, TX 78705
5. Questions may be directed to Christine Chute Canul via email:  
[christine.canul@austintexas.gov](mailto:christine.canul@austintexas.gov) or by phone: (512) 974-9515

---

Current Name of Park Facility or Park:

Pan Am Neighborhood Park

Nominated Name for the Park Facility or Park:

Tony Castillo Pan Am Neighborhood Park

Identify Type of Park Facility to be named or renamed:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pool Complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Significant Building

If other is selected, please specify:

--

If renaming a Park Facility, it must be initiated by the City Council, City Manager, PARD Director, or Community member(s) / group(s). Please provide documentation stating such initiation and indicate who initiated the renaming:

City Council (Name):

City Manager (Name):

PARD Director (Name):

Community Member(s) / Group(s):

If nominating the name of an individual, include a biographical description of nominee (if the nomination is not an individual's name, justification for the suggested name):

Describe how the individual has provided a valuable contribution and creditable service to the park system and the city (include the person's involvement, and connection, if any, to the Park Facility or to the activity for which the park facility will or is being used):

If the basis of the nomination is a culturally significant contribution, provide a description of the cultural, geographic, or historic significance to the surrounding area or community in which the facility exists:

Is the individual or entity deeding the land to the City for a park facility? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Is the individual or entity contributing the estimated cost of at least 50% of the development of the Park Facility and providing an endowment for the estimated 20-year maintenance costs of the Park Facility as estimated by the PARD director? ☐ Yes ☒ No

---

Name of requester:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

# Augustine “Tony” Castillo



65 years of service to  
Pan Am and East Austin



## A Life of Service and Dedication

There's no doubt about it. Tony Castillo grew up at Pan Am. From an early age, he participated in youth sports programs and spent most of his summers on Pan Am's fields and playgrounds. The park and Zavala Elementary, next door, was not just his "home away from home," it WAS his home. The park's programs were a refuge for Tony. As one of 11 children, it was often easier to live at the park where there was supervision, games, fun and sometimes food! He was there all the time! As proof, when Pan Am celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1971, the Pan Am Advisory Board awarded Tony with the "Outstanding Male Participant" Award.

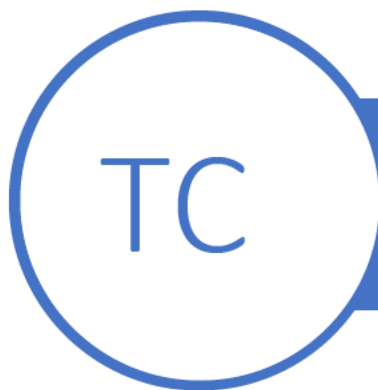
As an adult, Tony gave back to Pan Am in numerous ways. He organized and directed a Christmas toy drive for the underprivileged of East Austin, he coached in youth leagues, and he umpired hundreds of games. He also served on the Pan Am Recreation Center Advisory Board for seven years with four of those years as president. In addition, he served on the Austin Parks and Recreation Department Advisory Board in the mid 1970s. Through all his efforts, Tony's goal was to advocate for the children and residents of East Austin. He wanted to make sure the families in his neighborhood were afforded the same or better recreational opportunities than himself.

In 1961, Tony helped establish the Jokers Athletic Club and their home field was Pan Am. The Jokers would play fastpitch softball at Pan Am. Through many decades, the team would host tournaments featuring fastpitch teams from around the country. Often, Tony would recruit local celebrities to hand out trophies to the winning teams. On several occasions, he brought in Heisman Trophy winner, Earl Campbell and former Texas football coach Darrell Royal to deliver the awards. Seeing these two icons at Pan Am was a treat for the local fans. The tournaments were well attended with hundreds in the bleachers, especially for the championship games.

Perhaps, Tony's greatest contribution to East Austin was his 33 years of teaching and coaching at Johnston High School. His roots there go almost as deep as they do at Pan Am. Johnston was Tony's alma mater and he served as the school's very first senior class president. Later, as an educator, he taught history and government and helped to ignite civic pride and duty in his students. As a coach, he taught young men and women the value of teamwork, perseverance, and hard work. The highlight of his coaching career came in 1986, when his varsity basketball team advanced to the State Semifinals at a sold-out Erwin Center.

Tony was also on the ground floor of desegregation in Austin schools. Tony welcomed kids from affluent neighborhoods to Johnston and helped them assimilate. The thousands of Johnston graduates during that time will tell you, Coach Castillo or "TC," was a popular teacher who knew how to bring kids of all races and different economic backgrounds together.

**We believe that this "paints a picture" of Tony's dedication to Pan Am and to East Austin. We strongly believe that because of his decades of community service and his life-long commitment to athletics and recreation, the Pan Am softball field and/or the Pan Am Park/Complex should be renamed in his honor.**



## TONY CASTILLO

EDUCATOR. COACH. COMMUNITY LEADER.

### SUMMARY

**A teacher, coach, mentor and community leader, Tony Castillo, is worthy of recognition for his many decades of service to East Austin and to the Pan Am Recreation Center. We recommend the Pan Am softball field and/or complex be re-named in his honor.**

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

ORGANIZER, DIRECTOR – ANNUAL VIEJITOS (OLD-TIMERS) FASTPITCH SOFTBALL GAMES – PAN AM SOFTBALL FIELD – 2017-PRESENT

FOUNDER, DIRECTOR – PAN AM FASTPITCH SOFTBALL HALL OF HONOR – 2017-PRESENT

CO-FOUNDER, PARTICIPANT – PVC GOLF GROUP – 2013-PRESENT

FOUNDER, ORGANIZER – EAST SIDE MEN'S FASTPITCH LEAGUE – PAN AM SOFTBALL FIELD – 2017-PRESENT

COACH – EAST AUSTIN YOUTH LEAGUE – 2003-2006

COACH – SOUTH AUSTIN LIONS LITTLE LEAGUE – 1990

COMMITTEE – GORDON A. BAILEY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE – 1996-1998

COMMITTEE – DARRELL ROYAL AND WILLIE NELSON "FRIENDS OF EAST AUSTIN" – 1993-1994

- SECURED \$12K FOR EAST AUSTIN YOUTH ASSOCIATION

YOUTH BASKETBALL COACH – YMCA AUSTIN – 1980

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR – PAN AMERICAN NATIONAL YOUTH GOLF CLASSIC – 1985-1986

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN – COORS EDUCATION ASSISTANT GRANT – 1980-1986

- GRANTED SCHOLARSHIP MONEY TO EAST AUSTIN STUDENTS

BOARD MEMBER - PAN AMERICAN RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD –  
1974-1981

- SERVED AS PRESIDENT – 1977-1981

BOARD MEMBER – AUSTIN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
ADVISORY BOARD – 1977

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINIC- PAN AM  
RECREATION CENTER – 1979-1981

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC – PAN AM  
RECREATION CENTER – 1979-1982

- RAISED FUNDS TO TAKE PARTICIPANTS TO ASTROS GAME IN  
HOUSTON

UMPIRE – GOVALLE PONY YOUTH BASEBALL – 1965-1969

CHARTER MEMBER – EAST AUSTIN OPTIMIST CLUB – 1967-1968

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB BASKETBALL ANNUAL TOURNAMENT  
– PAN AM RECREATION CENTER – 1968-1983

DIRECTOR – JOKERS ATHLETIC CLUB MEN’S FASTPITCH NATIONAL &  
STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS – 1967-1986

DIRECTOR – STATE YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT – PAN AM  
RECREATION CENTER – 1963-1968

DIRECTOR – CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE – EAST AUSTIN (PAN AM RECREATION  
CENTER) – 1964-1967

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

---

PAN AMERICAN CENTER ADVISORY BOARD OUTSTANDING MALE  
PARTICIPANT – 1948-1971

NATIONAL LATIN AMERICAN SOFTBALL HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEE –  
1999

TEXAS FASTPITCH “FATHER OF THE YEAR” – 1991

JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR – 1982

ALL-CENTRAL TEXAS BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR, 3 YEARS

AISD BOYS BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR, 4 YEARS

TEXAS BOYS COACH OF THE YEAR NOMINEE, 1986

## EXPERIENCE

---

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER - JOHNSTON & AKINS HIGH SCHOOL - 1960-2004

HEAD COACH, VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL – JOHNSTON HS – 1973-1998

HEAD COACH, VARSITY SOFTBALL – JOHNSTON HS – 1998-2002

- STATE SEMIFINALIST, 1996

ATHLETIC COORDINATOR – JOHNSTON HS – 1994-1995

HEAD COACH , GIRLS BASKETBALL – AKINS HS – 2002-2004

HEAD COACH, SOFTBALL – AKINS HS – 2002-2004

ATHLETIC COORDINATOR – PAN AM RECREATION CENTER – 1964-1967

PLAYGROUND DIRECTOR – METZ, COMAL, GOVALLE, PALM PARKS –  
(VARIOUS YEARS, MID 1960S)

## EDUCATION

---

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE • 1969 • UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

**Major: Health and Physical Education**

**Minor: History**

**Completed 24 hours towards Master of Education degree**

## Through the Years



Tony and Louis Murillo coaching youth sports programs at Pan Am in the 1960s.





Top left: Christmas Toy Drive, early 1960s

Bottom left: Pan Am Outstanding Male Participant Award, 1971

Top right: Receiving tournament championship trophy from US Congressman, J.J. "Jake" Pickle, 1960s

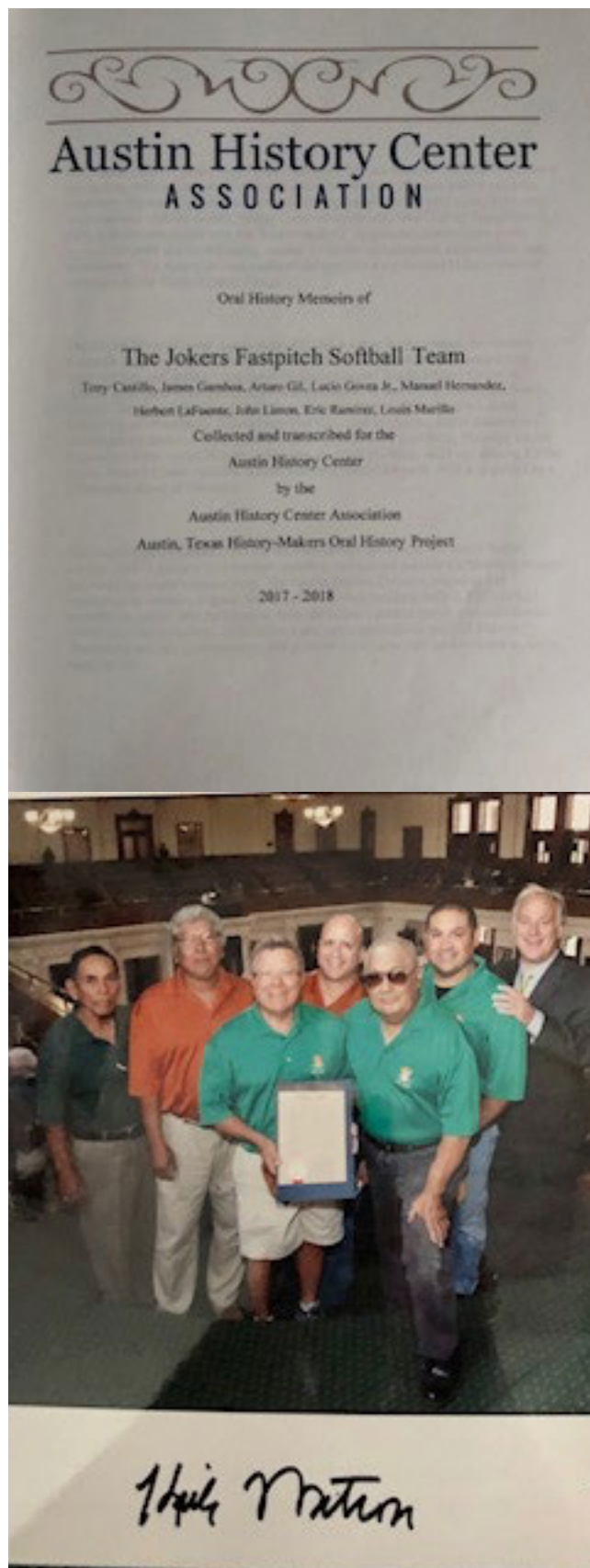


Top left: With Coach Darrell Royal handing out awards after basketball tournament at Pan Am, mid 1970s

Top right: baseball clinic in East Austin, early 1980s. Participants ended the week with a trip to see the Astros in Houston.

Left: Earl Campbell is greeted by fans prior to handing out tournament trophies, late 1970s

Left: Baseball clinic participants honored on scoreboard at the Houston Astrodome.



Top: Recognition for Jokers fastpitch softball team by the Austin, Texas History-Making Oral History Project, 2018

Bottom: Tony and Jokers recognized at the Texas State Capitol with State Representative, Kirk Watson





Induction of players to the Pan Am Fastpitch Softball Hall of Honor, 2021. Many inductees were honored posthumously and were represented by their families.



## Supporters (Partial List)

\*Fidel Acevedo, President, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), (Austin chapter), [REDACTED]

\*Honorable Elisabeth Earle, Travis County Judge, [REDACTED]

Bill Koen, Owner, Joe Koen & Son Jewelers, [REDACTED]

\*Gil Rodriguez, State Executive, American GI Forum of Texas, [REDACTED]

Art Ramirez, Owner, A Vision General Contractors, [REDACTED]

Ernest Nieto, President & Founder, National Hispanic Institute, [REDACTED]

Robert Amaya, Owner, Amaya's Taco Village [REDACTED]

Herb Martinez, Owner, Real Estate Executives of Austin, [REDACTED]

David Negrete, Partner, Negrete & Kolar Architects, [REDACTED]

Diane Negrete, Educator/school administrator

Ruben Ruiz, Owner, Ruiz CPA & Associates, [REDACTED]

Roy Nieto, CEO, SureScore, [REDACTED]

Joey Acuna, Owner, CEVA Logistics, [REDACTED]

Greg Mendoza, Global Employee Relations, Dell, [REDACTED]

Rev. Florencio Rodriguez, Pastor, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, [REDACTED]

Roy Marroquin, Owner, Inspectorroy.com, [REDACTED]

Edward Martinez, [REDACTED]

Herbert Torres, [REDACTED]

Louis Cuevas, [REDACTED]

Rob Abeita, [REDACTED]

Ray Saldana, [REDACTED]

Eric Ramirez, [REDACTED]

Jimmy Limon, [REDACTED]

Juan Garza, [REDACTED]

Joe Carlin, [REDACTED]

David Varela, [REDACTED]

Augustine Garza, [REDACTED]

Jesse Martinez, [REDACTED]

\*Letters of recommendation in progress from these individuals





September 12, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Naming a park, school, or other public facility that honors or memorializes the work and contributing services of civic-conscious individuals is always an important means of acknowledging extended community service. It becomes even more relevant when individuals selected for these honors also reflect the history and culture of the community involved. East Austin has its own unique relevance and presence in Austin community life. It also has a strong sense of knowing individuals from the community who through time have influenced and changed the lives of others.

As consideration is given to renaming Pan American Park's softball field, Tony "TC" Castillo should rank among the top candidates for selection. A product of East Austin, his involvement in the community dates back to his teenage years as far back as the 1950's when he was among the founders of the Jokers softball team. He continued his efforts by also organizing a Jokers basketball team that also hosted league tournaments for younger age youth. In addition to sports, TC also played important roles in expanding the community's political voice. His membership in LUCHA was significant in the election of first-time Latino office holders from East Austin that included Richard Moya, John Trevino, and Gonzalo Barrientos.

In his approach of "leading by example," TC completed his studies at the University of Texas, taught in the classrooms of the AISD, and became head coach of the former Johnston High School Rams, leading the team to a historic "Final Four" state tournament appearance at the University of Texas in 1986.

In considering other candidates, there will certainly be those who were successful in business, the political scene or other worthy endeavors. There are few, on the other hand, who took the hand dealt to them in life and not only transformed themselves, but hundreds of others in the process. Re-naming the Pan American softball field and/or the Pan American Park/Complex in honor of Tony Castillo will be a living testimony to his East Austin roots and his life's work.

Sincerely,

Ernesto Nieto  
President & Founder

# JOE KOEN & SON JEWELERS

*Your Personal Jeweler Since 1883*

611 Congress Ave • 478-2595 • [www.joekoenjewelers.com](http://www.joekoenjewelers.com)

*Ask about our FREE Downtown Parking*

September 21, 2021

To Whom it may Concern,

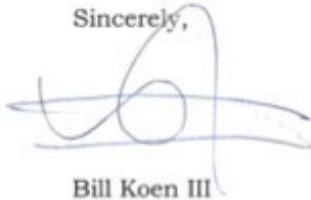
I am writing this letter of endorsement for the Pan American Sports and Recreation Complex to be re-named after Coach Tony Castillo.

I met Coach Castillo in 1980 when I was bussed to Johnston High School for my Junior year of school. Immediately, it was easy to see his love and devotion for East Austin, Johnston High, and all of the students (no matter their race) that crossed his path. It was also equally as easy to see the respect that ALL of the students, fellow educators and staff members had for him.

Prior to writing this letter, I wanted to do a little bit of research on Coach Castillo. I'm glad that I did. I am now even MORE IMPRESSED with all that he has done for the entire East Austin Community, to include the people, kids of all ages, the school and the Pan American Complex. Coach Castillo's roots to the Pan Am Complex and East Austin run more true and deep than anyone else that I know. SIXTY FIVE YEARS worth of dedication and devotion. I don't know how that can be topped!

Coach Castillo has touched the lives of countless children and families of East Austin and The Pan American Complex in such a positive and genuine way. He has spent an ENTIRE LIFETIME giving of himself to the Pan Am Complex and East Austin Community. I cannot imagine a better or more deserving person to receive this honor. And with all due respect to any other possible nominees, I cannot imagine the Pan Am Complex could be more honored or proud to have any name associated with it other than that of Tony Castillo.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Bill Koen III', with a large loop and a horizontal line extending to the left.

Bill Koen III

Bill Koen  
Joe Koen & Son Jewelers  
611 Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78701  
512-478-2595  
[www.JoeKoenJewelers.com](http://www.JoeKoenJewelers.com)

## Real Estate Executives of Austin, LLC

2800 South IH 35, Suite 150  
Austin, Texas 78704

September 13, 2021

TO: Austin Parks and Recreation Department – PARD

RE: Naming of Softball field and/or Pan Am Park/Complex

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

I, and on behalf of many of our Friends would like to provide our most enthusiastic support of the naming of the softball field and/or Pan Am Park/Complex in Honor of Augustine "Tony" Castillo, Jr.

If I may, I would like to refer to him as "Tony", as he is affectionately and widely known. Tony grew up in East Austin, attended Allan Jr. High, and was in the first graduating Class of A.S. Johnston Hi School. Coincidentally, Tony attended Zavala Elementary School, which is located adjacent to Pan Am Recreation Center which adjoins the softball field we speak of, to name in his Honor. After his graduation from The University of Texas, Tony went back to his ole Alma Mater as a Teacher and Athletic coach.

I've known Tony almost my entire life. Most recently from our weekly group of golfers who've managed to continue playing. As is with most sports which have surrounded him, he's been instrumental in our group's formation.

One of the many reasons for the naming of the softball field in his name is a fact that he has never forgotten his East Austin roots. He has been instrumental in helping east Austin boys and girls mature into fine, respectable men and women, not only through sports but also by being a prime example of what it is to reach back into the community he grew up in, to help those who still look to him for help and guidance.

I can think of no other name or person, who is as well suited, and deserving of such an Honor. It is a fitting tribute to someone who cares enough to have done so much for our East Austin, especially our youth. We are so proud of Tony.

I strongly support the renaming of the Pan American softball field and/or the Pan American Park/Complex, in Honor of Tony Castillo.

Sincerely,

  
Herbert C. Martinez, Pres/CEO  
Real Estate Executives of Austin, LLC

#### AUGUSTINE ' TONY ' CASTILLO SOFTBALL FIELD COMPLEX

Having grown up in east Austin, I am reminded of the many opportunities that were afforded us in communities like the Pan American Center which allowed us to unite and participate in organized sports. The Pan American Center softball field was an integral part of the community. Many young men competed in fast pitch softball at this field. Most notably, one of the teams referred to as the Jokers Athletic Club was organized by Tony Castillo, a lifelong resident of east Austin and educator and successful head basketball coach of Johnston High School, and with his leadership it became a tremendous organization that produced generation after generation of young softball players. Tony Castillo was able to take the Joker team beyond Austin into many tournaments throughout the state where they were able to represent Austin and win many tournaments. He played for this team for 37 years. Tony epitomizes a young man's dream of using sports like softball, football and basketball to achieve success. He has given decades of service to this community of the Pan American Recreation center and as a teacher for 30 years at A.S. Johnston HS where he educated thousands of young students in achieving their educational goals. I strongly support the renaming of the Pan American softball field and/or the Pan American Park/complex in honor of Tony Castillo.





September 14, 2021

To P.A.R.D. Board Members and Staff

I am writing in support of naming the Pan American athletic field and/or the Pan Am Park/ Complex in the name of Tony Castillo.

Tony is a well respected long time leader, sponsor of softball and other sports at the Pan Am Center. Having been a witness over several decades of Tony's (affectionately called T. C. by his friends, softball players, and former students) participation and contributions to youth and adults in our community deems recognition.

Tony Castillo has contributed to Little League baseball, coaching high school basketball and girls high school softball. He is the co-founder, participant and coach of a men's softball team known as the Jokers. Tony played many a game at the field over the decades and sponsored many softball tournaments for teams from Austin and other cities in Texas. His reputation as a coach and player is known and recognized by many softball players in Austin and other Texas cities.

Tony should also be recognized for his other contributions to our community for the following:

- Being an AISD product and UT Austin graduate
- Head basketball coach for many years at A.S Johnston H.S. and later girls softball coach at Akins H.S. before retiring from AISD.
- Having served as staff (Activity Leader) at the Oswaldo Cantu Recreation Center and also on the Advisory Board of the center for several years with notables Teresa Long, Edith Royal and former Travis County Commissioner Richard Moya
- Supporter and holding baseball clinics for little league youth at the league fields in East Austin

He continues to support softball and other programs in the East Austin community.

These are but a few of Tony Castillo's contributions to our community that warrant your consideration for naming the softball field and/or Pam Am Park/complex in his name.

Also thank you for your citizenship contributions as board members and staff.

Sincerely,



Arturo R. Gil , Former teammate former PARD lifeguard and playground activity leader and former Pan Am Board member