

Austin, Buda, Del Valle, Kyle, New Braunfels, San Marcos, Seguin, Schertz



Volume 7 Number 7
A Bilingual Publication
July, 2012

La Voz

Free
Gratis

www.lavoznewspapers.com

(512) 944-4123

In this issue

People in
the News

*La Raza Unida
Party Reunion
in July*

Travis County
Voter
Participation
Overview

How Do You
Pronounce
Menchaca?

Southwest Key
Presents Its
Graduating
Class of 2012



An Interview with
Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias

People in the News



Montserrat Garibay Vice President of Education Austin

Montserrat Garibay, was a Pre-K teacher at **Lucy Read Elementary School** in the **Austin Independent School District** from 2007 until this year when she was elected Vice-President for Certified Employees for **Education Austin**.

Garibay, who is originally from **Mexico City**, is a National Board Certified Teacher and was elected "Teacher of the Year" at her school in 2007-2008. She is also active with the **University Leadership Initiative** at **The University of Texas at Austin**, of which she is a co-founder and has also been active with **LULAC**.

Garibay graduated from **The University of Texas at Austin** in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in Bilingual Education and Spanish Language Teaching. She also holds a Masters degree from **The University of Texas at Austin**. When she is not too busy she finds time to mentor students at the university. Look for **Montserrat**, as she is expected to play a very high profile role within **Education Austin**.



Lori Rodriguez Passes Away in Houston, Texas

Lorenza "Lori" Rodriguez, a **Texas** journalist who in 1971 became the first Hispanic editor of the **University of Texas** newspaper **Daily Texan** and later a longtime reporter and columnist for the **Houston Chronicle**, was found dead this month at her **Houston** home. She was 62.

*"Lori was a star in the Latino community," said **Marcario Ramirez**, a **Houston** Hispanic activist and businessman. "Because of her writing about our culture and tradition, she was admired. She put our community on the roadmap - in a positive way, for the most part. Our hearts weep for her."*

Rodriguez was born to migrant farm workers in **Ludington, Mich.**, but spent most of her youth in **Mission, Texas**. She attended **Our Lady of the Lake University** on scholarship and later transferred to **The University of Texas at Austin**. She joined the **Houston Chronicle** in June 1976, remaining at the paper until January 2008.



Judy Canales Tapped for USDA Position in D.C.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced the appointment of **Judith Canales** as **Acting Deputy Under Secretary for USDA Rural Development**.

Most recently, **Canales** served Administrator for the **Rural Business-Cooperative Service** at **USDA Rural Development**. Before that, she served as the Executive Director of the **Maverick County Development Corporation** in **Eagle Pass, Texas**.

In 1996, Former President **Bill Clinton** appointed **Canales** as Deputy State Director for **Texas Rural Development**. She also served as the Executive Director of the **International Hispanic Network**, a national membership organization of Hispanic city managers.

Canales holds an M.P.A. from **Harvard University** John F. Kennedy School of Government, a Masters degree from **Trinity University**, and a Bachelor of Journalism degree from **The University of Texas at Austin**.



Mary Gonzalez Wins Democratic Primary in El Paso

Mary Gonzalez told them she was the best candidate to represent them and **El Paso** voters agreed, but along the way, the 28-year-old doctoral student at **The University of Texas at Austin** broke her share of barriers.

*"It's an honor to have broken so many glass ceilings – as not only being openly gay but also the first woman to get this position in my district," says **Gonzalez**, who won the state Democratic primary race to fill House district 75 and will win the seat because she has no Republican opponent.*

Gonzalez' election night results were:

Hector Enriquez	2,190	36.04%
Mary E. Gonzalez	3,164	52.07%
"Tony" Roman	722	11.88%

Gonzalez — whose district is 89 percent Latino — ran on the issues of education, infrastructure and economic development, saying that she personally knocked on 3,000 doors and her campaign knocked on 11,000 doors.



Veronica Gonzales Takes Job at UT Pan American

State Rep. Veronica Gonzales resigned from the **Texas House of Representatives** start her new job at the **UT-Pan American** as **Vice President for University Advancement**.

Gonzales, who has served in the **Texas Legislature** since 2004, said that after pursuing a law career for 20 years she "took a chance" eight years ago and won election to the Texas House. She said serving as a public official has been incredibly rewarding. "It has allowed me to give back to my community," she said.

After deciding to retire from the Texas House late last year, **Gonzales** said she went back to her law practice but realized it was not challenging enough. "I was kind of bored doing it," she said.

Gonzales, who grew up in **San Marcos, Texas** graduated from **Southwest Texas State University** in 1986 and then earned her law degree from **UT School of Law** in **Austin** in 1991.

PRODUCTION

Editor & Publisher
Alfredo Santos c/s

Associate Editor
Open

Managing Editor
Yleana Santos

Marketing
Tom Herrera

Contributing Writers
Monica Peña

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

La Voz Newspapers is a monthly publication covering Comal, Guadalupe, Hays and Travis Counties. The editorial and business address is P.O. Box 19457 Austin, Texas 78760. The telephone number is (512) 944-4123. The use, reproduction or distribution of any or part of this publication is strongly encouraged. But do call and let us know what you are using. Letters to the editor are most welcome.

Por cualquier
pregunta,
llámanos:

944-4123

795-2818

Pensamientos

In this month's issue of *La Voz de Austin* you will find a number of very interesting stories, articles, and an interview with **Reverend Dr. Jayme Mathias**.

Our People in the New page features women who have excelled in their respective fields and each of their stories should serve as inspiration for what one can do when they apply themselves.

On page 4 you will find a story on the efforts of **Judge Bob Perkins** to get **Manchaca Road** change to **Menchaca Road**. It is the judge's position that to continue to misspell the name of a **Texas Army** hero in the **Battle of San Jacinto** is both unbecoming of us as citizens and an affront to those who know the real story behind the street.

Page 7 contains the general announcement of the upcoming **Raza Unida Party Reunion** which will take place in Austin, Texas on July

6th & 7th, 2012 at **Mexitas Mexican Restaurant** located at 1109 North IH 35 in **Austin, Texas**. People who plan on attending should pre-register to avoid having to wait in line. Registration is \$20 and includes lunch. Over 300 people are coming from all over **Texas, Washington State** and **California**. For more information visit the website at www.larazaunidapartyreunion.org.

On pages 8 and 9 is a story on **La Raza Unida Party in Texas** and what are some of the things it accomplished during its hey day from 1970 to 1981. What the article doesn't state is that the **Raza Unida Party Collection** (papers) from this movement are deposited at **The University of Texas** in the **Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection**.

On pages 10, 11, 14, and 15 is an exclusive interview with the **Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias** which was done by **Santo "Buddy" Ruiz**. In this interview **Father Mathias**

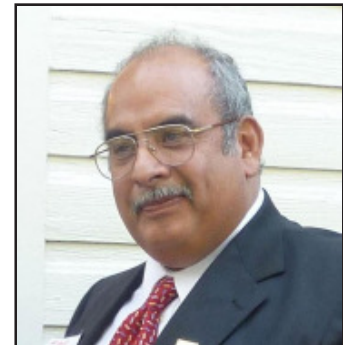
discusses his background and accomplishments in **Austin, Texas**. He also shares his thoughts about running for school board in **Austin, Texas**. This is a very interesting read and we encourage everyone to take the time to read it.

Pages 18 thru 21 showcase the 8th grade graduating class of **Southwest Key's Charter School**. A total of 89 students are now moving onto the 9th grade. These students in the near future are going to be the first graduates of **Southwest Keys High School Charter School**.

Last but not least, I want to call to your attention the **Voter Participation Project** on pages 12 and 13. As you will see from the data, we have examined the number of Hispanic registered voters in **Travis County** and it comes out around 89,000.

How many do you think voted on May 29th or voted early? It turns out that only

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

6,740 Spanish surnamed voters bothered to cast their ballots. And out of this number 5,211 voted **Democrat** while 1,529 voted **Republican**.

As you examine the data on pages 12 and 13, you will discover what is wrong with these numbers. Not only are they pitiful low, they are embarrassing! Here we have people out in the community fighting to get single member districts and there are people who won't even come out to vote.

From our analysis, there were 56 Spanish surnames where not a single one of them cast a single ballot.

EL SOL Y LA LUNA

Fresh Mexican Cuisine ★ Full Bar ★ Live Music ★ Cultural Arts



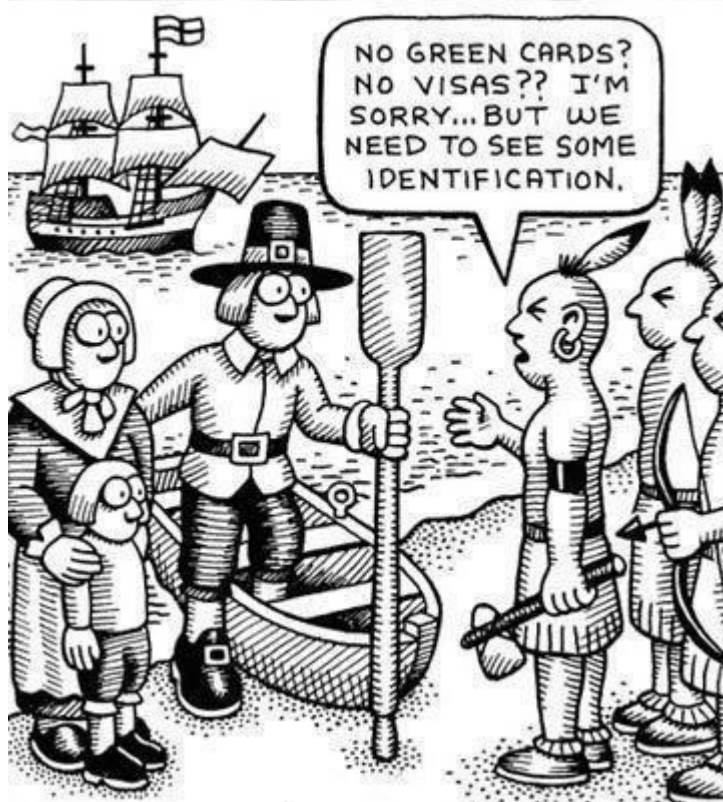
Workers Defense Project

Proyecto Defensa Laboral

E-mail: info@workersdefense.org
Phone: (512) 391-2305
Fax: (512) 391-2306

Mailing Address:
Workers Defense Project
5604 Manor RD
Austin, TX 78723

THE FIRST ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS



Holy Family Catholic Church *An inclusive & compassionate CATHOLIC community*

Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias
M.A., M.B.A., M.Div., M.S., Ph.D.
Senior Pastor



9:00 a.m. Dialogue on Scripture & Spirituality
10:00 a.m. English Mariachi Mass
10:45 a.m. Breakfast & Mariachi
12:00 p.m. Spanish Mariachi Mass

8613 Lava Hill Road, 78744
From Highway 183 South, turn right on the first road after
FM 812. Look for the sign "Mass."

For more information: (512) 826-0280
Welcome Home!

What's in a Name?

by Alfredo R. Santos c/s

When I moved to **Austin, Texas** eight years ago I quickly noticed how people would refer to **Guadalupe Street** as "Gwadalooop." I also heard the neighborhood **Del Valle** called "Del Valley."

But the real killer for me was the TV commercials by the body and fender shop **Elis and Salazar**. The announcer would pronounce "Salazar," as "Salaaaazar." What?? Then I realized that some people in **Central Texas** were either trying to "blend in" or "fade away."



The other name in **Austin, Texas** that bothered me was the street "Manchaca." I said to myself, I have never heard of **Manchaca**. I have heard of **Menchaca**, but not **Manchaca**. One day former **Mayor Gus Garcia** told me that when he was on the school board, the district decided to build an elementary school at **FM 1626** and **Manchaca Road** in deep **South Austin**. During the discussions and deliberations, he insisted that the school be named **Menchaca Elementary School**, and in the end that is what happened.

Well, now comes retired judge **Bob Perkins** who was raised on the border around **Eagle Pass**. **Judge Perkins** must have also been bothered by the way some of the Spanish names in **Austin** have taken a verbal beating because he is now spearheading a campaign to get the street name of **Manchaca** changed to **Menchaca**.

The judge argues that the continued assault on the name **Menchaca** amounts to a disservice to the **Texas Army** hero in

the **Battle of Jacinto** after whose name the street is supposedly named after.

Of course there are those who are going to come out and oppose the judge's desire to change the name of **Manchaca Road** for a whole host of reasons. Among the reasons will be the cost, the tradition and the inconvenience. But there will be those who

see this effort as yet another attempt for Latinos to capture and retake the Southwest.

Some will invoke the American argument that this great

nation was founded by Anglos and that English is the language of the land and should reign supreme.

Who will win out? How long will this battle of **Menchaca** last? Only time will tell. What we do know is that over the years there have been similar battles to change street names that have stirred much resentment. I am thinking of course of those streets that are now named after **Cesar Chavez**.

Austin, Texas changed First Street to **Cesar Chavez Street** many years ago. But in **San Antonio, Texas**, a city with a large Latino population, the struggle to get a street named after the legendary labor leader went on for years. It was only recently that the new signs have gone up identifying **Cesar Chavez Street** in **San Antonio, Texas**.

For those who are interested in helping **Judge Perkins** with his campaign to change **Manchaca** to **Menchaca**, contact him through **La Voz de Austin** at (512) 944-4123.

Cementerio Mexicano de María de la Luz celebrates 100 years

The historic **Cementerio Mexicano de María de la Luz** celebrated 100 years this past Memorial Day weekend, and the non-profit **María de la Luz Association**, with support from the **Circle S Ridge Neighborhood Association**, commemorated the occasion on Sunday May 27, 2012.

The ceremony started at 3:00 PM with **Judge Bob Perkins** reading a proclamation from **Sen. Kirk Watson**, followed by a few words from **U.S. Congressman Lloyd Doggett**. Flags sent from **Arlington National Cemetery** were formally presented to the families of war veterans buried at **María de la Luz**. Light refreshments and music performances were enjoyed by the almost 200 people who attended the event. Donations to replace the historic marker, which was destroyed by a falling tree, were collected.

The small cemetery, tucked away in the **Circle S Ridge** neighborhood in **South Austin**, was founded by Mexican immigrants in 1912 and designated as a **Historic Texas Cemetery** in 2004. Tradition holds that a Mexican family passing through the area in 1912 buried a child, **María de la Luz**, at this site. In August of that year, **A. Donley, A.C. Rodriguez** and **S. Galvan** bought the land for use as a Mexican cemetery.

In the 1940s, a fire was set to eliminate tall grass at the site burned many of the wooden markers and crosses denoting gravesites, and more markers were lost during adjacent development in the 1970s. Today, the once rural property is surrounded by homes and businesses, but its permanence offers a link to the history of the Mexican-American community in the area.

The **Cementerio Mexicano de María de la Luz** is located at 7200 Circle S. Road, **Austin TX, 78745**. For more information and to request interviews, please contact: **Claudia Alarcón, Circle S Ridge Neighborhood Association**, claudia.alarcon@sbcglobal.net



ABOVE: Bruce Elfant, Judge Bob Perkins and Precinct 4 Constable, Maria Canchola participated in the celebration at María de la Luz Cemetery.



ABOVE: The Hernandez brothers Joe, Victor and Henry also participated in the celebration on Memorial Day at María de la Luz Cemetery.

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR

OUR DOCTOR

Dr. Michael Chavez received a Doctorate degree from the University of Houston College of Optometry. He is licensed by the Texas Optometry Board as an optometric glaucoma specialist, the highest level of optometric licensing in Texas.

Dr. Chavez is an active member of the American Optometric Association (AOA), the Texas Optometric Association (TOA), and the Central Texas Optometric Association (CTOS).

Dr. Chavez loves his work, and takes great pride in being able to care for his patients' visual and ocular health needs.

OUR STAFF

- Caring, friendly, and passionate about eye care
- Professional, knowledgeable, respectful



OUR PATIENTS

Your comprehensive exam at Eye Capitol includes:

- A complete medical history to help in uncovering seemingly unrelated health problems or medications that may affect your eyes
- Specialized pretesting to check neurological function, eye muscle function, visual fields, and risk for eye pressure problems (like glaucoma)
- A thorough refraction to determine the prescription to achieve your sharpest vision
- Evaluation of the eye for redness, irritation, or abnormality
- Careful inspection of the nerves and blood vessels in the back of the eye to check eye health
- Professional recommendations and treatments tailored to your individual needs
- An opportunity to have all your eye questions answered
- Consultation with family members, parents, and your primary care physicians or other medical specialists as needed

WE SPECIALIZE IN

- Comprehensive Eye Health Exams
- Treatment of Eye Diseases and Injuries
- Eye Exams for Children
- Soft, Rigid, and Specialty Contact Lenses
- Diagnosis & Management of Glaucoma
- Emergency Eye Care
- Dry Eye Evaluations
- Allergy, Infections, and Red Eyes
- Computer Vision Difficulties
- Lasik Consultations
- Cataracts Evaluation
- Physician Recommended Diabetic Eye Exams



design by Two Cities Advertising



EYE CAPITOL

Dr. Michael A. Chavez,
Optometrist
Optometric Glaucoma Specialist
Hablamos Español
1144 Airport Blvd Ste 235
Mon - Fri: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sat: By Appointment only
(512) 928-5808

La Raza Unida Party Reunion in Austin, Texas

**¿Que? Reunion de los Activistas
del Partido de la Raza Unida**

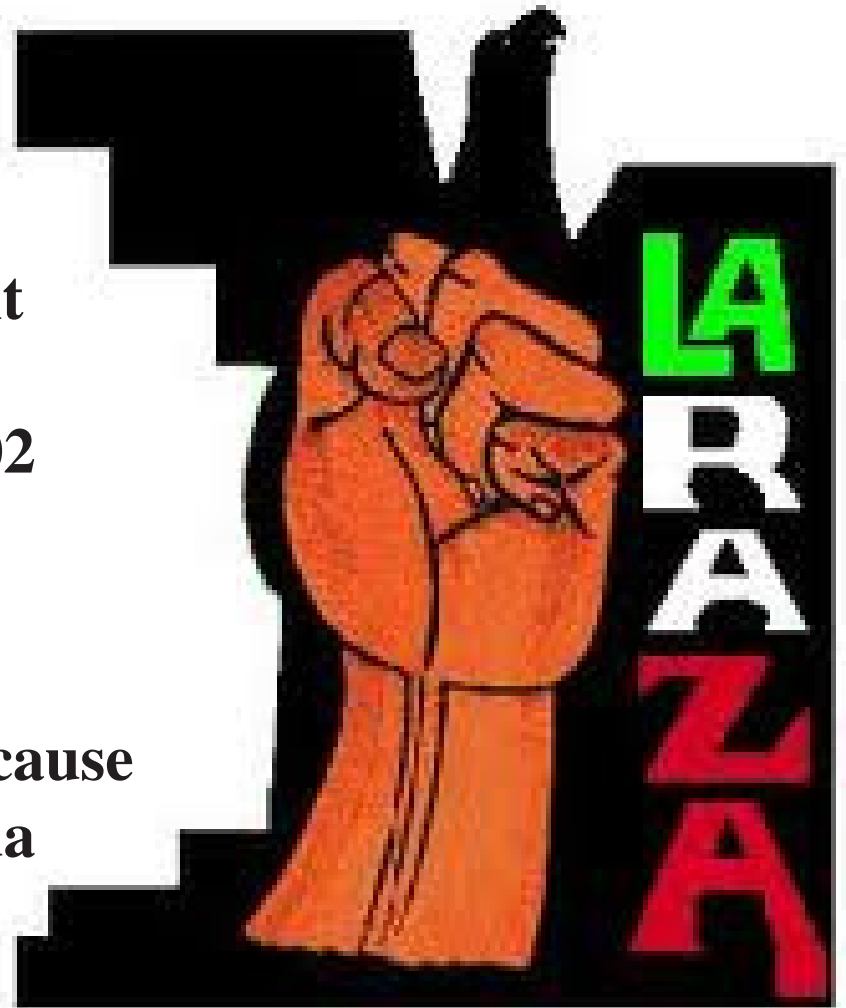
**¿Donde? Mexitas Mexican Restaurant
and Lucky Lady Bingo Hall
1109 North IH - 35 Austin, Texas 78702**

Cuando? July 6th & 7th, 2012

**¿Por Qué? Porque si se puede and because
it was 40 years ago that La Raza Unida
ran its first candidates statewide**

**Tengo que Registrarme? Seria mejor.
Register on line at: www.larazaunidapartyreunion.org**

¿Costo? \$20 dollars and this includes lunch on Saturday



Para más información comunicase con Alfredo Santos c/s (512) 944-4123

by Teresa Palomo Acosta

The **Raza Unida Party** was established on January 17, 1970, at a meeting of 300 Mexican Americans at **Campestre Hall** in **Crystal City, Texas**. **José Ángel Gutiérrez** and **Mario Compean**, who had helped found **MAYO** (the Mexican American Youth Organization) in 1967, were two of its principal organizers.

In December 1969, at the first and only national **MAYO** meeting, Chicano activists had endorsed the formation of a third party, an idea that **Gutiérrez** had proposed in establishing **MAYO**. After **RUP** filed for party status in **Zavala, La Salle**, and **Dimmit** counties in January 1970, it began its eight-year quest to bring greater economic, social, and political self-determination to Mexican Americans in the state, especially in South Texas, where they held little or no power in many local or county jurisdictions although they were often in the majority.

Membership in the party was open to anyone who was committed to **RUP's** goals. The party fielded candidates for nonpartisan city council and school board races the following April in **Crystal City, Cotulla**, and **Carrizo Springs** and won a total of fifteen seats, including two city council majorities, two school board majorities, and two mayoralities.

In October 1971, **RUP** held its state convention in **San Antonio** and voted to organize at the state level over the objections of **Gutiérrez**, who believed that the party should strengthen its rural

standing rather than expend its energy on a state party. **Compean** rallied enough support for a state organization on the grounds that it would give a boost to the Chicano movement in **Texas** and repeat the success it had attained in **Crystal City** throughout **Texas**.

RUP sought a candidate for the 1972 gubernatorial election, first calling upon such well-known Democrats as

With the state party apparatus in place, **RUP** sought a candidate for the 1972 gubernatorial election, first calling upon such well-known Democrats as state senator **Carlos Truán**, **Hector García** (founder of the American G.I. Forum[®]), and state senator **Joe Bernal**. All refused to run for the position. The party finally found a candidate in **Ramsey Muñiz**, a lawyer and administrator with the **Waco Model Cities Program**. **Alma Canales** of **Edinburg**, who had been a farmworker and journalism student at **Pan American University**, became the **RUP** candidate for lieutenant governor, although at twenty-four she was too young to take the office constitutionally.

Her presence on the **RUP** slate was considered a sign that women had a crucial role in the party. Although they seemed an unusual match, the two resembled many of the **RUP** rank

and file, who were young and university educated. Like others in the party, they had also been members of **MAYO**. Besides **Muñiz** and **Canales**, **RUP** ran candidates for nine other state offices, including member of the **Railroad Commission**, state treasurer, and member of the **State Board of Education**. **RUP** candidates also ran for local posts in **Hidalgo, Starr, Victoria, McLennan**, and other counties.

The party held its first national conference in El Paso on September 1–4, 1972.

The party, which had spread to many other states, held its first national conference in **El Paso** on September 1–4, 1972. About half of the estimated 1,500 participants were women, and a large number of elderly people also attended. The delegates formed the **Congreso de Aztlán** to run the national party and elected **Gutiérrez** as **RUP**

El Partido de



ABOVE: Jose Angel Guterrez speaking in Lubbock, Texas.

national chairman. Despite his standing as the party's chief political candidate, **Muñiz** was not much heeded. As a result, he left the gathering early to campaign in the governor's race.

The **RUP** platform that **Muñiz** put before voters, while emphasizing Mexican-American community control, bilingual education, and women's and workers' rights, bore similarity to the values espoused by the liberal faction of the state **Democratic** party, which supported **Frances (Sissy) Farenthold** for the party's gubernatorial nomination.

In spite of this, **Muñiz** did not receive strong support from

liberals. Ultimately, even **Farenthold** endorsed **Dolph Briscoe**, to whom she had lost the nomination, although she had once referred to him as "a bowl of pablum." **Muñiz** won 6 percent (214,149) of the votes in the November election, thus reducing **Briscoe's** margin of victory so that the race was the first in the twentieth century in which a **Texas** governor was elected with less than a majority.

Muñiz won heavily in some **South Texas** counties and had a decent turnout in large cities. Over the next two years **RUP** solidified its **South Texas** rural base and racked up more nonpartisan victories in the **Winter Garden**

La Raza Unida

Region. It also achieved political successes in **Kyle** and **Lockhart**. Its urban support, though quite strong among university activists and barrio youth and politicians, remained small. This ultimately hurt the party's future, since many Hispanics lived in the state's major urban areas and their support of **RUP** was necessary for the party to have a larger political impact.

In 1974, **RUP** was ready for another try at the governor's race, with **Muñiz** once again its candidate. The party also ran a slate of fourteen men and two women for state representative from **Lubbock, Houston, San Antonio, Austin, Falfurrias, Crystal City**, and other cities. As in the 1972 election, the **RUP** campaign literature emphasized the party's Chicano foundation; but it also asserted a desire to "ensure democracy for [the] many, not the few" and the need to preserve "human and natural

resources." In addition, it called for the prosecution of industrial polluters.

Muñiz sought to maximize the party's appeal to a broader spectrum of the state's

In his announcement for the governor's race on January 16, 1974, **Muñiz** sought to maximize the party's appeal to a broader spectrum of the state's voters, stressing **RUP's** ideas for new modes of transportation, improved funding of public education, better medical care, and solutions to urban problems.

But **RUP** did not fare well in the 1974 general election. **Muñiz** got only 190,000 votes and posed no real threat to **Briscoe's** reelection. In addition, none of the sixteen candidates for the state House garnered enough support to win. The party's sole real victories were in **Crystal City**, where cofounder **Gutiérrez** was elected

as **Zavala** county judge and the party successfully defended its dominance of other county offices. Nonetheless, by its numerous victories in **South Texas**, **RUP** had

achieved Mexican-American political dominance in some cities and altered the state's political life.

Several Mexican-American women were significant participants at the state and national level. **Evey Chapa**, for instance, ensured that **RUP's** state executive committee provide for a female member; **Virginia Múzquiz** headed the **RUP** nationally from 1972 to 1974; and **María Elena Martínez** served as the last head of the party in **Texas** from 1976 to 1978. Likewise, **Evey Chapa, Ino Álvarez**, and **Martha Cotera** have been credited with organizing **Mujeres Por La Raza**, the women's caucus within **RUP**.

In the four years after the 1974 election, **RUP's** fortunes diminished, with activism slowing except in some enclaves in **South Texas**. Even in **Crystal City**, its bedrock, **RUP** lost control in 1977. The party also suffered losses in its membership, and some of its original leaders, including **Willie Velásquez**, allied themselves with new political initiatives, such as the **Mexican American**

Democrats. Perhaps two of the biggest blows to party morale were the arrests in July and November 1976 of former **RUP** gubernatorial candidate **Ramsey Muñiz** on drug charges. He pled guilty to one count and was sentenced to fifteen years. The party was considerably

historians have stated that **RUP**, with its various successes and failures, came at the right moment in Mexican-American history in the state. Writing in 1978 in **The Tejano Yearbook: 1519–1978**, **Philip Ortega y Gasca** and **Arnoldo De León** noted that the establishment of **RUP** in the 1930s would have been "premature" because violence was still a common response to **Texas** Mexicans' political



ABOVE: Mario Compean speaking at a house meeting in Uvalde, Texas in 1978

weakened as it entered the final and fatal 1978 election, when **RUP** gubernatorial candidate **Mario Compean** won only 15,000 votes.

At the election-day fiasco in 1978, **RUP** lost state funds for its primary and was effectively eliminated as a party. Some historians have stated that **RUP**,

ambitions. Nevertheless, the authors also argue that **RUP** was neither a new phenomenon nor a "radical" one but a continuation of Tejano political initiatives. Nineteenth-century Tejanos had formed various movements, such as **Botas and Guaraches** and **RUP** was intended to do the same for Mexican Americans in the 1970s.



An Interview with

This interview was conducted by **Santo “Buddy” Ruiz** who was born in East Austin (Santa Rita Courts), graduated from **Johnston High School** and **The University of Texas at Austin**. As a community activist for more than 40 years, **Ruiz** worked as an organizer with the **Economy Furniture Strike**, has been a member of **South Austin Democrats**, candidate for **Austin City Council** and **Texas State Representative**, and served as a past Trustee for the **Austin Travis County Integral Care** (MHMR).

Over the past several weeks, **Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias** has been discerning the possibility of serving the families of **East Austin** and **Dove Springs** as a member of the Board of Trustees of the **Austin Independent School District**. His reflections follow.

Ruiz: **Rev. Dr. Mathias**, you speak of your interest in serving the **Austin** community? How exactly have you served the **Austin** community?

Rev. Mathias: For more than twelve years, I have served the Hispanic community of **East Austin** and **Dove Springs**. For six years (2000-2006), I ministered as **Parochial Vicar** of **Cristo Rey Catholic Church** in **East Austin**. After two years of teaching at **San Juan Diego Catholic High School** (2003-2005), I served as **President** of that school community for four years (2005-2009). Upon the

tragic murder of my predecessor in **Mexico**, I was named **Pastor** of **Cristo Rey Catholic Church** in 2009.

Even during this past year of sabbatical rest, I continue to serve the Hispanic community of **Austin**: leading celebrations, visiting the ill, and volunteering my time at an adult learning center. I am well-known within the Hispanic community of **Austin**, and people know that my life here has been one of service. I am an experienced and trusted leader in our community.

For more than twelve years, then, I have walked with the Hispanic community.

When the **City of Austin** needed a mediator between the police department and the grieving community of **Dove Springs**, they called me. When administrators at **Austin High School** were attempting to console students upon receiving news of the suicide of a student, they called me. For more than twelve years, then, I have walked with the Hispanic community of **East Austin** and **Dove Springs**.

Ruiz: Walking with people is one thing. Why would you consider representing them as a member of the Board of Trustees of the **Austin Independent School District**?

Rev. Mathias: In the course of

any given day, I speak with several people. I hear their stories. I know their challenges, and I hear their discontent. I also see the data: that 51% of our Hispanic girls are pregnant before age eighteen, that 66% of Hispanic children in our community live in poverty, that nearly 40% of our Hispanic students are dropping out of school, and that a large achievement gap continues to plague our schools.

When I listen to community members, I sometimes hear cynicism in their voices. Many wonder if their current elected officials hear their voices and represent their interests. If it would give them an increased voice within our community, then I would consider the possibility of running for office. If it would help to draw attention to the issues with which they struggle on a daily basis, then I would consider the possibility.

Ruiz: Are you qualified to serve on the **AISD Board of Trustees**?

Rev. Mathias: The same question could be asked of any candidate, indeed of any incumbent. The first thirteen years of my formal education took place in public schools. I graduated as valedictorian of my high school class, from a public school. I believe in the value of

public education, and I have long been passionate about education. I possess two undergraduate degrees and four graduate degrees, including a Master of Business Administration, an M.S. in Organizational Leadership and Ethics, and an M.A. in Philanthropy and Development.

More recently, I earned my Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership Studies with a 540-page dissertation on the self-reported leadership behaviors of Spanish-speaking adults in **Central Texas**.

Ruiz: Stop there for a moment. I can see how an M.B.A. or a degree in leadership might assist a school board member. You also mention a Master's degree in philanthropy and development. What is that, and why even mention it?

I was recently quite dismayed to hear the disappointment of one local businessman.

Rev. Mathias: Philanthropy and development is the study of summoning good will for causes worthy of support. It's an essential topic in educational and non-profit circles, where it is absolutely necessary to get

the “buy-in” of community stakeholders who together help to champion a cause. I was recently quite dismayed to hear the disappointment of one local businessman who lamented our current **AISD** trustee's inability to raise \$6,000 for a robotics program at **Eastside Memorial High School**. When I served as **President** of **San Juan Diego Catholic High School**, I was responsible for fundraising \$1.2M per year, to meet the “gap” in the cost-to-educate for our students.

More recently, two years after I had left **San Juan Diego**, I heard senior students lament how they would be the school's first class to graduate without the traditional silver rings that we



“I have walked with the Hispanic community.”

Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias

were accustomed to buying for all our graduates as a symbol of their accomplishments. With three phone calls, I raised the necessary \$11,250 for those students to enjoy senior class rings.

That's why philanthropy and development are important. Imagine the impact that a trustee could make if he or she were able to help summon the good will of our community around the students in whom we all need to be investing!

Ruiz: What other qualifications do you have for this position?

Rev. Mathias: I know the Hispanic community of **Austin**. During these twelve years, I've

helped to open three adult learning centers to serve their needs. In 2001, I formed **La FUENTE Learning Center**, a non-profit in **East Austin**. In addition to its English as a Second Language classes and its Spanish-language GED program, **La FUENTE** has the pride of being the only facility outside of an **AISD** school to host the **DELTA program**, an online course of instruction through which the young people in our community can complete their secondary studies and earn a diploma from their home school.

In 2009, I was the co-founder of **Sí Se Puede Learning Center** at **Cristo Rey Catholic Church**. There, we partnered with the **Austin Independent School District** and **Austin Community College** to provide

a pre-K program for children, while their parents attended ESL classes. **Sí Se Puede** recently celebrated its third graduating class of pre-K students and their parents.

More recently, when I began a year of sabbatical last summer, I founded the *Centro de Superación Sí Se Puede*, a unique collaboration between the **Roman Catholic** and **Baptist** communities of **East Austin**. During the past academic year, that center provided ESL classes to more than 270 adults.

For two years, I taught at the high school level. I know the pressures that teachers face.

I've also been in the trenches: For two years, I taught at the high school level. I know the pressures that teachers face.

I have also worked in educational administration. For four years, I served as **President** of **San Juan Diego Catholic High School**, a \$2.5M operation where my direct reports included the principal and the directors of various departments, including the school's innovative Corporate Work/Study Program which placed students in the corporate world. When I was later named **Pastor** of **Cristo Rey Catholic Church**, we grew

Sunday service attendance from 2,300 people to over 5,000 people each weekend.

I'm quite aware of the heights toward which we might orient our students. I dare say I'm extremely qualified to serve on the AISD Board of Trustees.

More recently, I've taught at the university level, particularly at the graduate and doctoral level, so I'm quite aware of the heights toward which we might orient our students. I dare say I'm extremely qualified to serve on the **AISD Board of Trustees**.

Ruiz: You speak of "the heights toward which we might orient our students." Is it realistic to believe that all students might achieve such heights?

Rev. Mathias: Our role as adults is to encourage, support, champion and assist the students of our community. Local philanthropist **Joe Long** once shared with me a bit of wisdom. He said, "*When your toilet breaks, you don't call a Ph.D.*" Truer words were never spoken. So our focus is not that students reach the highest possible academic heights, but that they graduate from our public school system with the necessary skills and knowledge for them to be deemed college- and career-ready. I well recall from my days at **San Juan**

Diego how students would come to us, seeking admission into the ninth grade, but with the reading skills of third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students. It was an extremely difficult task to prepare them for college in a mere four years. Did we succeed in every instance? That depends on your definition of success.

We did succeed insofar as we assisted each student in greatly advancing in his/her education and insofar as we equipped all students with skills that make them much more valuable contributors to our local, state and national economies.

Ruiz: As we both know, running for elective office brings out all kinds of characters and mudslinging. Doesn't this and the possible diminishment of your name and/or your reputation cause you some hesitation to run for elected office?

Rev. Mathias: Not in the least. I've always said that a person's words reveal more about him or her than they do about the objective situation. In logic, mudslinging has another name: the *ad hominem* argument. It is an attempt to attack the character of a person rather than the substance of his or her arguments. Regardless of whether others want to speak of the pressing issues that lie before us, I am accustomed to challenging others and to being challenged.

Continued on page 12



"Our role as adults is to encourage, support, . . ."



"I've always said that a person's words reveal . . ."

Hispanic Voter Participation Overview for Travis County

Primary Election on May 29, 2012

The data below is from the May 29th, 2012 Primary Election in **Travis County**. The columns titled **“VR”** shows the number of registered voters with Hispanic surnames. (For example, there were 61 **Acevedos** registered to vote.) The column titled **“TO”** is the number of people with that surname who did in fact turn out to vote. In the case of **Acevedo**, 15 people with that surname turned out to vote in the May 29th, 2012 Primary.

There were 595,319 Registered Voters in **Travis County** on on May 29th. Spanish surname voters accounted for 89,006 or 14.9%. For the May 29th Primary, 6,740 people with Spanish surnames turned out to vote. A total of 5,211 voted in the Democratic Primary. A total of 1,529 voted in the Republican Primary

	VR	TO		VR	TO		VR	TO		VR	TO		VR	TO
ACEVEDO	61	15	CARBAJAL	51	2	GRANADO	38	0	NUNCIO	33	6	SANTOS	155	18
ACOSTA	271	26	CARDENAS	226	25	GRANADOS	40	2	NUNEZ	196	13	SAUCEDA	27	0
ACUNA	66	12	CARDONA	40	0	GUAJARDO	106	16	OCHOA	156	9	SAUCEDO	135	13
ADAME	43	3	CARMONA	70	7	GUERRA	358	39	OJEDA	141	10	SEDILLO	27	5
ADAMS	23	2	CARO	25	3	GUERRERO	506	62	OLGUIN	31	2	SEGOVIA	55	0
AGUERO	37	0	CARRASCO	61	2	GUEVARA	84	4	OLIVARES	55	2	SEGURA	147	10
AGUILAR	283	14	CARREON	26	0	GUILLEN	38	3	OLIVAREZ	37	2	SELVERA	23	0
AGUILERA	28	2	CARRILLO	113	6	GUTIERREZ	569	63	OLIVAS	40	0	SEPEDA	44	2
AGUIRRE	165	18	CARRIZALES	41	12	GUZMAN	285	21	OLIVO	25	0	SEPULVEDA	37	5
ALANIS	29	0	CASAREZ	86	11	HERNANDEZ	1928	184	OLVERA	59	13	SERNA	58	13
ALANIZ	69	12	CASAS	46	2	HERRERA	560	60	ONTIVEROS	39	2	SERRANO	112	5
ALARCON	30	3	CASILLAS	34	3	HIDALGO	23	2	ORNELAS	64	9	SERRATO	28	0
ALBA	65	4	CASTANEDA	114	13	HINOJOSA	182	20	ORONA	23	2	SIERRA	50	0
ALCALA	45	2	CASTANO	22	4	HUERTA	116	12	OROSCO	27	2	SIFUENTES	60	5
ALCANTAR	25	0	CASTELAN	25	0	HURTADO	37	3	OROZCO	45	2	SILGUERO	26	0
ALEJANDRO	32	2	CASTELLANOS	37	4	IBARRA	97	6	ORTA	42	6	SILVA	165	18
ALEJO	26	0	CASTILLEJA	46	7	JAIME	35	5	ORTEGA	121	9	SMITH	87	19
ALEMAN	157	31	CASTILLO	721	61	JAIMES	190	2	ORTIZ	466	46	SOLIS	220	16
ALFARO	42	8	CASTRO	405	31	JARAMILLO	95	13	OSORIO	32	2	SOLIZ	69	3
ALMAGUER	38	2	CAVAZOS	148	20	JASSO	28	2	OVALLE	27	2	SORIANO	58	2
ALMANZA	54	9	CAZARES	31	8	JIMENEZ	270	17	PACHECO	59	7	SOSA	134	15
ALMARAZ	23	0	CERDA	55	7	JOHNSON	49	9	PADILLA	124	19	SOTELO	28	0
ALONZO	90	23	CERVANTES	138	12	JONES	39	10	PADRON	28	0	SOTO	243	25
ALVARADO	384	48	CHACON	26	0	JUAREZ	188	14	PALACIOS	105	9	SUAREZ	98	11
ALVAREZ	427	44	CHAPA	139	25	JURADO	25	4	PALOMO	29	2	SUNIGA	40	3
AMADOR	54	6	CHAVARRIA	41	4	LAFUENTE	26	3	PANTOJA	30	0	SUSTAITA	61	8
AMARO	63	5	CHAVEZ	354	27	LANDEROS	23	4	PARDO	54	5	TAMAYO	51	7
AMAYA	39	4	CHAVIRA	27	6	LARA	179	16	PAREDES	60	2	TAMEZ	59	5
ANCIRA	46	12	CISNEROS	128	9	LEAL	142	18	PARRA	47	2	TAPIA	56	5
ANDRADE	73	6	COLUNGA	32	3	LEDESMA	123	7	PATINO	39	2	TAYLOR	32	10
ANGUIANO	59	15	CONTRERAS	242	8	LEIJA	33	4	PAZ	44	0	TELLEZ	38	2
ARANDA	38	7	CORDOVA	76	5	LEON	67	5	PEDRAZA	36	4	TELLO	55	4
ARCE	44	2	CORONA	52	4	LEOS	34	10	PENA	366	33	TERRAZAS	42	4
ARELLANO	180	21	CORONADO	97	6	LERMA	31	7	PERALES	85	12	TIJERINA	99	9
AREVALO	58	5	CORREA	39	3	LEYVA	35	2	PERALEZ	29	4	TORRES	796	64
ARGUELLO	29	4	CORTES	39	2	LIMON	133	46	PEREZ	1250	107	TORREZ	74	10
ARIAS	48	0	CORTEZ	249	44	LIRA	45	3	PINA	60	5	TOVAR	146	22
ARISPE	30	2	CORTINAS	46	2	LOERA	101	13	PINEDA	89	6	TREJO	104	16
ARMENDARIZ	49	6	COSTILLA	29	2	LONGORIA	138	17	POLANCO	35	9	TREVINO	489	52
ARROCHA	37	2	CRUZ	457	41	LOPEZ	1392	118	PONCE	75	4	TRISTAN	34	4
ARREDONDO	106	4	CUELLAR	105	11	LOREDO	45	8	PORRAS	45	3	TRUJILLO	77	8
ARREOLA	30	5	CUEVAS	43	11	LOZANO	178	26	PORTILLO	51	4	URBINA	23	0
ARRIAGA	96	13	DAVILA	190	16	LUCERO	43	4	PRADO	48	3	URIAS	47	4
ARRIOLA	23	5	DEANDA	25	0	LUCIO	59	7	PRIETO	28	2	URIBE	40	5
ARROYO	73	13	DEGOLLADO	33	2	LUGO	79	7	PRUNEDA	23	0	VALADEZ	66	8
ARTEAGA	33	6	DEJESUS	27	2	LUJAN	54	6	PUENTE	56	4	VALDES	29	4

AVALOS	39	3	DELA FUENTE	27	4	MACHADO	160	2	QUINONES	50	3	VALENCIA	51	6
AVILA	141	11	DELAGARZA	61	14	MACIAS	111	6	QUINONEZ	35	3	VALENZUELA	62	8
AVILES	42	0	DELAROSA	131	10	MADRID	24	0	QUINTANA	31	0	VALLE	34	0
AYALA	107	8	DELATORRE	22	2	MADRIGAL	29	4	QUINTANILLA	82	8	VALLEJO	95	8
BACA	41	6	DELEON	288	36	MALDONADO	324	36	QUINTERO	67	9	VALLES	32	0
BAEZ	23	4	DELGADO	239	35	MARIN	40	0	QUIROZ	89	10	VARA	24	0
BALDERAS	73	4	DELOSSANTOS	48	3	MARQUEZ	135	6	RAMIREZ	1143	106	VARELA	70	18
BANDA	91	16	DELUNA	42	2	MARRERO	42	4	RAMON	64	5	VARGAS	249	27
BARAJAS	35	3	DIAZ	407	35	MARROQUIN	56	2	RAMOS	384	42	VASQUEZ	597	55
BARBA	31	0	DOMINGUEZ	247	17	MARTIN	72	13	RANGEL	254	27	VAZQUEZ	111	0
BARBOSA	28	0	DUARTE	42	9	MARTINEZ	2400	246	REGALADO	49	5	VEGA	165	17
BARRERA	196	28	DURAN	203	25	MATA	166	18	RENDON	162	10	VELA	167	19
BARRIENTES	25	2	DURON	23	2	MEDEL	27	2	RENTERIA	83	11	VELASCO	29	0
BARRIENTOS	54	7	ELIZONDO	91	7	MEDINA	300	23	RESENDEZ	62	8	VELASQUEZ	155	23
BARRIOS	38	5	ENRIQUEZ	74	7	MEDRANO	141	14	REYES	592	63	VELAZQUEZ	42	0
BARRON	94	17	ESCALANTE	52	0	MEJIA	83	5	REYNA	223	21	VELEZ	41	2
BAUTISTA	36	0	ESCAMILLA	55	3	MELENDEZ	66	4	REYNOSO	24	0	VENEGAS	29	3
BAZAN	59	2	ESCOBAR	134	12	MENA	25	0	RICO	26	2	VERA	91	10
BECERRA	56	7	ESCOBEDO	109	11	MENCHACA	63	3	RINCON	34	4	VIDAL	23	4
BELTRAN	61	2	ESPARZA	140	23	MENDEZ	331	26	RIOJAS	112	14	VIDAURRI	25	7
BENAVIDES	177	24	ESPINOSA	121	11	MENDOZA	371	44	RIOS	306	21	VIGIL	29	4
BENAVIDEZ	55	3	ESPINOZA	174	11	MERCADO	143	18	RIVAS	131	5	VILLA	38	6
BENITES	22	2	ESQUIVEL	156	19	MEZA	56	9	RIVERA	608	71	VILLALOBOS	56	6
BENITEZ	87	9	ESTRADA	332	26	MILLER	28	9	ROBLEDO	85	13	VILLALPANDO	27	2
BERMUDEZ	35	2	FALCON	56	6	MIRANDA	97	9	ROBLES	120	18	VILLANUEVA	142	14
BERNAL	70	9	FARIAS	33	2	MIRELES	77	6	ROCHA	207	24	VILLARREAL	398	54
BETANCOURT	32	2	FERNANDEZ	211	28	MOJICA	51	2	RODELA	23	0	VILLEGAS	146	11
BLANCO	51	7	FIERRO	29	3	MOLINA	201	17	RODRIGUEZ	2472	239	VILLELA	36	0
BOCANEGRA	37	5	FIGUEROA	89	8	MONCADA	30	2	RODRIQUEZ	59	11	YANEZ	81	2
BONILLA	40	2	FLORES	1005	106	MONCIVAIS	28	4	ROJAS	126	7	YBARRA	199	18
BOTELLO	93	13	FONSECA	41	5	MONDRAGON	39	0	ROMAN	70	5	ZAMARRIPA	51	7
BRAVO	40	3	FRANCO	110	14	MONREAL	41	3	ROMERO	245	20	ZAMARRON	25	3
BRICENO	24	7	FRAUSTO	33	4	MONTALVO	55	7	ROMO	66	4	ZAMORA	159	9
BRIONES	77	10	FRIAS	26	3	MONTEMAYOR	56	5	ROQUE	33	5	ZAPATA	144	17
BRISENO	48	4	FUENTES	134	11	MONTES	37	2	ROSA	24	5	ZARATE	40	6
BROWN	48	13	GAITAN	31	2	MONTEZ	44	6	ROSALES	178	22	ZAVALA	112	16
BUENTELLO	32	0	GALARZA	23	0	MONTOYA	151	20	ROSAS	74	6	ZEPEDA	54	0
BUSTAMANTE	43	3	GALINDO	79	11	MOORE	29	6	RUBIO	81	9	ZUNIGA	172	12
BUSTOS	37	2	GALLARDO	57	3	MORA	79	3	RUEDAS	59	6	Quick Observations Largest number of Spanish surnames on the list goes to Rodriguez with 2,472, followed by Martinez , with 2,400. The Spanish surname with the largest relative turn out goes to the Limon family. They have 133 registered voters and 46 turned out to vote in the May 29th, 2012 primary. A total of 56 Spanish surnames did not cast a single vote on May 29th, 2012.		
CABALLERO	78	7	GALLEGOS	79	7	MORALES	417	54	RUIZ	608	61			
CABELLO	33	7	GALVAN	175	24	MORENO	559	78	SAAVEDRA	24	0			
CABRERA	73	4	GALVEZ	24	0	MOTA	24	5	SAENZ	190	27			
CADENA	56	2	GAMBOA	47	4	MOYA	51	8	SALAS	139	12			
CALDERON	139	23	GAMEZ	77	7	MUNGUIA	34	5	SALAZAR	465	41			
CALVILLO	22	3	GARCIA	2304	249	MUNIZ	82	9	SALDANA	175	27			
CALVO	27	4	GARZA	969	97	MUNOZ	349	39	SALDIVAR	61	4			
CAMACHO	120	11	GATICA	26	0	MURILLO	68	0	SALGADO	31	4			
CAMARILLO	74	6	GAYTAN	37	0	NAJERA	31	0	SALINAS	385	48			
CAMPOS	199	23	GIL	89	15	NAVA	54	10	SAMANIEGO	31	0			
CANALES	90	11	GOMEZ	554	53	NAVARRO	190	21	SANCHEZ	1009	93			
CANDELAS	26	6	GONZALES	1264	130	NEVAREZ	24	0	SANDOVAL	195	14			
CANO	121	10	GONZALEZ	1266	107	NIETO	70	5	SANTANA	29	3			
CANTU	461	45	GOVEA	68	9	NINO	36	5	SANTIAGO	57	4			

Jeff Smith
Opinion Analysts
opinionanalysts.com
(512) 472-9772



La Voz de Austin looks forward to repeating this voter analysis after the July 31st, 2012 Run Off Elections.

Continued

An Interview with

I have stood up against systems before, and I know how lonely it can be to stand up for that in which you believe. I also know that the higher you climb, the greater the possibility exists that others may be waiting to pull you down. This is a veritable risk for anyone in public office and/or in any leadership position.

Ruiz: So it wouldn't bother you if people said that your opponent would throw his/her own mother under the bus?

Rev. Mathais: I tend to believe that we need to give one another more credit. The tendency to demonize others—especially our enemies and opponents—is part of human nature, but it is not necessarily helpful in civil discourse. I, for my part, pledge to remain above such low tactics, and I prefer to give my opponents and “enemies” the benefit of the doubt in this respect. This would be my question: Why should a campaign have to turn from important conversations about pressing issues, to “personal, dirty and cut-throat” mud-slinging tactics?

Ruiz: Are you Hispanic? Didn't I recently see that your e-mail address is “DrJFuente”?

Rev. Mathias: Truthfully, I'm not Hispanic. Nor was the “ugly duckling” really a duck. When some people hear me speak Spanish, they are surprised to

learn that I am from the **United States**, or that my ancestors are principally from **Belgium** and the **Grand Duchy of Luxemburg**.

Even my family jokes that I may have been switched at birth! Though I studied Spanish at my public school in the middle of the corn fields of **Ohio**, I was first introduced to the Hispanic culture when I studied at a language school in **Cuernavaca, Mexico** at age 19.

After returning to the U.S., I have always ministered to the Hispanic community. After earning my undergraduate degrees, I came to **Austin** for the first time, and I served the Mexican and Mexican-American community of **Cristo Rey Catholic Church** in 1995-1996.

It was then that I first fell in love with this community and with this city. As for my e-mail address, “Doctor Jay” is the less-formal name given me by some of my doctoral students, and “**FUENTE**” is the acronym for the learning center that I helped bring to birth in 2001.

I have many fond memories of that organization, and even though it moved from **Cristo Rey** when I was at **San Juan Diego**, I continue to marvel at the great

work that it does for our community.

I'm not Hispanic, but . . . I have singing with this community for a long time.

So, I'm not Hispanic, but I'd be tempted to compare myself with the likes of **Judge Bob Perkins**, a man with a great love for the Hispanic community of **Austin**. I was recently at an event where **Judge Perkins** broke into song, accompanied by a mariachi. Those near to me, who know that I, too, can lead a few mariachi tunes, said, “*There's another White boy singing Mexican music!*” Yes, I've been singing with this community for a long time.

Ruiz: How do you respond to those who say that they will only support a Latino trustee for Place 2 of the **AISD Board**?

Rev. Mathias: If I were to hear that, I would naturally want to better understand the sentiments behind such words. Many people of the Mexican-American community of Austin admittedly feel disenfranchised by what they perceive to be the White power structure in our city. It's only natural that their vision on many issues will be skin-deep.



Fortunately, there are also many people who are “color-blind.” Last evening, I was celebrating a birthday with a Mexican family in **Dove Springs**. They joked that I am more Mexican than many of them, and that I have a better grasp of their language, history, geography and struggles than some of them do themselves. Three of them are employees at their local schools, and they were encouraging me to consider the possibility of running for the **AISD Board of Trustees**. Race is not an issue for them.

Ultimately, this is the question: Is it better to have a person in office because of his/her skin color, regardless of how effective (or ineffective) he or she is? Or, is it better to have a person in office who is effective, regardless of his or her skin color?

When I consulted one Mexican-American elected official about the possibility of running for the **AISD Board of Trustees**, the official's first insight was to point to various perceived weaknesses of the Board's present “minority-majority.” Fifty years ago, **Martin Luther King**,

Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias

Jr. dreamed of a world where the color of a person's skin might matter less than that which is inside him or her. Fifty years later, we continue to fight prejudice in this respect.

Ruiz: How would you respond to those who might advance that rather than support a White candidate, you, they prefer to empower young leaders within the Hispanic community of Austin?

Rev. Mathias: If I were to run for office, it would be an empowering moment for the young leaders within our Hispanic community. They need someone to draw them in and engage them in campaigns like this. They need someone to excite them about the possibilities of public service.

If I were to run for office, they would be engaged, and, at the end of the race, the question might legitimately be raised: Which candidate did more to mobilize and empower the young leaders of our Hispanic community? There is no doubt in my mind that, if I were to run, that person would be me. My life's work during these twelve years has been about empowering the young people of our Hispanic community.

Ruiz: You're a priest. In our nation, we esteem the separation of Church and State. Does the possibility of running for elected office pose any conflict in this respect?

**Like all of us,
I wear many "hats."
I fulfill many roles.
Yes, I am a priest.**

Rev. Mathias: Like all of us, I wear many "hats." I fulfill many roles. Yes, I am a priest. In recent years, I've also been a student, teacher, president, public speaker, researcher, writer, a member of several boards, and the founder of various learning centers.

Many people are surprised to know that a priest, **Father Robert Drinan**, served five terms as a **U.S. Congressman**. Perhaps because he was a priest, he brought many values and a deep sense of ethics to his role. He was the first member of Congress to call for the impeachment of **President Nixon**. Was it a conflict for him to serve our nation as an elected representative of the people? Absolutely not. They elected him to be their voice. Like all of us, he fulfilled various roles. I have always balanced several roles and duties. I don't foresee any conflict.

Ruiz: So you can be a priest and a politician?

Rev. Mathias: Not so fast: I'm not a politician. I am a trusted community leader. It's not unprecedented for community leaders to be engaged in educational issues. Remember that various African-American ministers were the change agents in various public schools here in **Austin**.

Further, in a recent book, **Stephen Denning** says that leaders can be elected, but that only politicians can be re-elected. If I am running for re-election in four years, then you can rightfully ask whether I am a politician.

Ruiz: If you were to run for elected office, would that bring any division to the parish community you lead?

Rev. Mathias: I fulfill various roles within the Austin community. When I lead people in prayer, I serve our community in one capacity. When I serve as the member of an audit or grievance committee for a local non-profit board, I serve our community in a very different capacity. When I speak with people about their needs and issues, and help to advocate for them and their families, I serve our community in a very different way.

I shared of my present discernment with the pastoral council of my parish, but I don't intend to ever mention the matter on Sunday mornings. For those who gather on Sunday mornings, I fulfill one role. For others, at other times, I fulfill other roles.

Ruiz: It seems there would be an advantage to declaring your candidacy early. Why have you still not declared your candidacy for the AISD Board of Trustees?

Admittedly, I'm still discerning the possibility. I'm looking at my future and at various possibilities.

Rev. Mathias: Admittedly, I'm still discerning the possibility. I'm looking at my future and at various possibilities, and I'm weighing how it is that such a run might fit with that future. I have long been a champion of the young people of our community. I have long been passionate about education. Regardless of whether I run in these elections, I will look forward to continuing my support of the educational endeavors of our young people.

Ruiz: I appreciate your time. Do you have any final words to share?

Rev. Mathias: I appreciate the opportunity to share of this process of discernment

concerning the possibility of representing the people of Place Two in the upcoming election for the **AISD Board of Trustees**. In the end, though, this election really is not about me. It's about a community and how they feel that they have been served—or not served.

We will likely see one of two possible outcomes in this election. First, the vote could be a referendum on an incumbent and how he is perceived within the community, as well as on the present state of affairs within the **Austin Independent School District**. In this case, it will tell us how well he's done in listening to the community, championing their interests, and meeting their needs.

Second, the vote could tell us that there exists a real desire for change on behalf of sufficient residents of Place Two. Regardless, I feel that I can't lose: If I run for office and win, we win, and if I lose, we win. If we are able to host a conversation on the issues that face the families of Place Two, and if we are able to listen to them, assist them in reflecting on the issues, and work with them in formulating a plan going forward, we will have emerged victorious despite the results of the election on November 6. That is my hope: that we foment a community conversation on the issues presently facing our families, including the extremely important issue of our children's education.

En la comunidad

Austinites for Geographic Representation



30,000 diverse **Austin** residents have joined forces and signed the **Austinites for Geographic Representation Citizen Petition** to place a Single Member Districts 10-1 Plan on the November 2012 City Charter Election Ballot.

To date, **Austin** remains the ONLY major city in **Texas** without Single-Member-Districts. Our city professes to be liberal and progressive, yet we continue to hide behind an antiquated, anointed elections system that enables four city zip codes and a political consultant or two to determine who will serve as OUR City Council representatives (i.e. Austin's version of polarized/bloc voting).

By now, most of us know that the majority of the **Austin City Council Members** are opting to IGNORE 30,000 Austinites and instead propose a self-serving version of an elections system to enable the status quo (aka four city zip codes and a political consultant or two).

If you cannot attend TODAY'S Council meeting to voice your support for the AGR Citizen Petition 10-1 SMD Plan, follow the attached link and email your support for the 10-1 plan!



ABOVE: Maricela Alaniz, manager of the **Plaza Guadalupe Shopping Outlets** in Leander, Texas participates in the ribbon cutting with the **Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** and the **Leander Chamber of Commerce**.



In the Community

Federal Help for Veterans – Coming to Austin!

This luncheon session is SPECIFICALLY FOR Austin and area veterans. It is jointly hosted by both the City of Austin's Small Business Development Program together with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). SBA's certification programs can be essential tools for eligible veteran-owned businesses interested in selling their products or services to the federal government. This session will cover the SBA's Veteran Program and registering as a Veteran Owned Small Business. Plus, brief eligibility criteria for the 8(m) Women Owned Small Business Program, and the HubZone will be addressed. Find out what these certifications are and how they can be beneficial to small business. PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO BRING YOUR LUNCH. This session will take place in Room 325, 3rd Floor, One Texas Center - 505 Barton Springs Road. Austin 78704

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Location: One Texas Center,

505 Barton Springs Rd.
3rd Floor

Fee: Free

For Information: 512-974-7800



FEDERAL HELP FOR VETERANS *Coming to Austin!*

This lunch time session is specifically for Austin area veterans. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) certification programs can be essential tools for eligible veteran-owned businesses interested in selling their products or services to the federal government. This session will cover the SBA's Veteran Program and registering as a Veteran-Owned Small Business. Plus, brief eligibility criteria for the 8(a) Business Development Program, the 8(m) Women-Owned Small Business Program, and the HubZone will be addressed. Find out what these certifications are and how they can be beneficial to small business.

July 19, 2012

12:00 - 1:30 PM

You are welcome to bring your lunch

**One Texas Center, Room 325
505 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704**

Fee: No-Cost

[Click here to register!](#)

Hosted jointly by Small Business Development Program and U.S. Small Business Administration

**small business
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**
CITY OF AUSTIN



East Austin College Prep Inaugural 8th Grade Graduates



East Austin College Prep celebrated the promotion of its inaugural 8th grade class at the end of the 2012 school year with a large public ceremony where each student had the opportunity to declare their future college and career before their families, teachers and the entire student body. Next month East Austin College Prep will open a second school campus for 7th, 8th, and 9th graders at its new 23-acre property on the north-west corner of MLK and 183, formerly known as the Rock Church. The school's current campus at Southwest Key's El Centro de Familia on Jain Lane will serve 5th and 6th graders, with enrollment for the both campuses doubling to almost 600 students. Congratulations to the pioneering Class of 2016 as they prepare to enter East Austin College Prep's first-ever high school as 9th graders in August!



Diana Aguirre
Texas State
Doctor



Jasmine Alcaraz
Texas State
Lawyer



Michael Alvarez
University of Texas



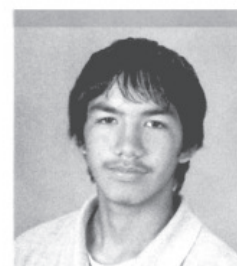
Luis Alvarez Banda
Baylor University
Lawyer



Isaiah Amaya
University of Texas



Macey Amaya
UTSA
Lawyer



Rafael Anguiano
University of Illinois
Doctor/Soccer Player



Hector Benitez
Baylor
Scientist



Destiny Botello
Stanford
Doctor



Paulina Cano
Texas A&M
Lawyer



David Cardenas
University of Texas
Lawyer



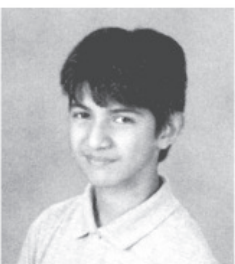
Liliana Carmona
University of Washington
Psychiatrist



Jacinto Noel Castro
University of Texas
Video Game Designer



Alexis Cedillo
University of Florida
Forensic Scientist



Hugo Cisneros Acevedo
Texas A&M
Architect



Irie Corpus
Harvard
Doctor



Maria Cruz
Harvard
Lawyer



Ernesto Del Toro
University of Illinois
Engineer



Jailene Delacerda-Cazares
TCU
Doctor



Francisco Diaz
University of Texas



Elder Duarte
Texas State
Doctor



Christopher Faz
U. of North Carolina
Businessman



Valerie Flores
Stanford
Doctor



Arlette Flores Sanchez
University of Texas
Writer



Yessica Garcia-Cano
University of Texas
Nurse



Alma Gavito
University of Texas
Lawyer



Alfredo Gomez
Baylor University



Christian Gomez
UCLA
Businessman/CEO



Ilse Gonzalez
UCLA
News Anchor



Jennifer Gonzalez
TCU
Author



Angelica Guerrero
University of San Antonio
Surgeon



Shawn Harris
University of Florida
Lawyer



Delaney Heredia
University of El Paso
Pediatrician



Monica Hernandez
University of Miami



Nephi Hernandez
University of Illinois
Doctor/Basketball Player



Maria Hernandez Mata
University of Florida
Detective



Dajasia Hitchcock
NYU
Orthopedic Surgeon



Victoria Jaimes-Haros
Baylor
Forensic Scientist



Tiffani James
UTSA
Lawyer



Melissa Jaramillo-Bailon
Stanford
Doctor



Juan Lopez
University of Texas
International Business



Athziry Loreda
NYU
Doctor



Rogelio Lucio
Baylor
Graphic Designer



Devin Madison
University of Texas
Football Player



Thelma Manzano
University of San Antonio
Engineer



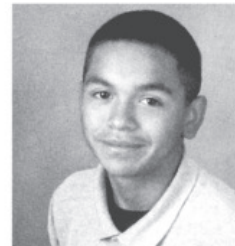
Areli Martinez
Texas A&M
Nurse



Jasmine Martinez
NYU



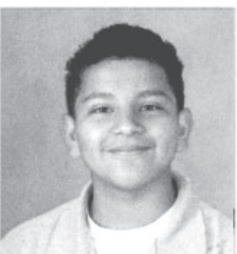
Javier Martinez
Baylor
Engineer



Ricky Martinez
University of Texas
Engineer



Luis Martinez Martinez
Texas A&M
Doctor



Sergio Martinez-Juarez
UCLA
Electrical Engineer



Ashley Medellin
Stanford
Writer



Hernan Montalvo
University of Texas
Lawyer



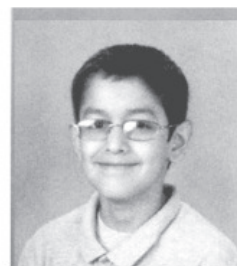
Francisco Orozco
Texas A&M
Architect



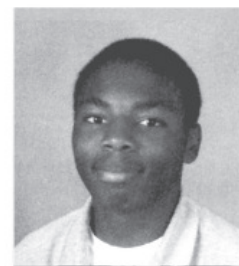
Ana Orozco-Martinez
Texas State
Meteorologist



Christopher Ortiz
Texas State
Doctor



Ezekiel Ortiz
Baylor
Musician



Harold Owens
University of Texas
Business



Alexis Perez-Aragon
UTSA
Engineer



Laura Plascencio
University of Miami
Cardiovascular Surgeon



Darian Reyna
Baylor
Psychiatrist



Ashley Rodriguez
University of Texas
Doctor



Jeremiah Rodriguez
USC
Doctor



Jonathan Rodriguez
Baylor
Engineer



Emily Roman
St. Edward's University
Teacher



Jatarius Rushing
University of Texas



Aleida Sanchez
Texas State
Nurse



Karina Sanchez
University of Texas
Coach



Cynthia Sanchez-Dimas
University of Texas
Business



David Santos
Baylor
Scientist



Janelle Styles
Texas A&M
Veterinarian



Erik Torres
Baylor
Lawyer



Steven Ugalde
Texas Tech
Criminal Justice



Sam Valdez
UCLA
Architect



Maely Valenzuela-Enriquez
University of Texas
Surgeon



Miguel Vanoye
University of Texas
Engineer/Pro Football



Diana Vargas
NYU
Detective



Isaac Vargas
University of Texas
Engineer



Arit Vasquez
Baylor
Musician



Josue Vega
Texas State
Businessman



Brian Velasquez
University of Texas



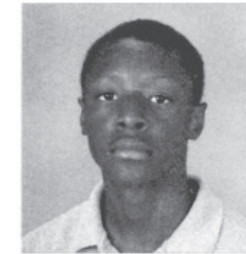
Arnold Villanueva
University of Texas
Architect



Beatriz Villegas
University of Texas
Nurse



Rubi Villegas
Texas State
Detective



Bobby Williams
University of Texas
Psychology/Football



Andrea Zarazua Servin
University of Texas



Frank Roe
Michigan State
Medical Examiner



Carlos Jett-Martinez
University of Nevada
US Marine

Not pictured:

Elias Cruz
University of Texas
Lawyer

Richard Jean-Baptiste
University of Miami
Sports Commentator

Robert Moreno-Salazar
Baylor
Engineer

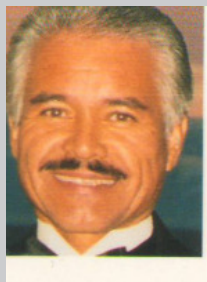


Town Hall Meeting

July 28th, 2012 at 10:00am
at LBJ High School
to discuss the single sex
middle school ideas for
Garcia and Pearce Middle
Schools

DareCo Realtors

Thinking of buying a house, then think of me. I have been in the real estate business for more than 20 years. I can help you realize your dream of owning your own home.



(512) 826-7569



darellano@austin.rr.com



Quality Vision Eyewear

2 pairs of
Eyeglasses

\$89

Marco, lentes y
transición
para visión
sencilla

\$99



Eye Exam

\$35.

Hablamos Español

2800 S. (IH-35) salida en Oltorf
Mon - Fri 8:30am until 5:30pm
Saturday from 10am until 3:00pm

Su amigo el oftalmólogo
Valentino Luna,
con gusto lo atenderá

462-0001

Word Power

En las palabras hay poder

No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of *La Voz*.

Nadie puede averiguar en el nombre de la educación que es mejor saber menos que saber más. Siendo bilingüe o trilingüe es parte de ser educado en el siglo 21. Esperamos traer cada mes a nuestros lectores de *La Voz* una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

Immigrant

Inmigrante

Deportation

Deportación

Papers

Papeles

Decision

Decisión

Amnesty

Amnestía

Lawyer

Abogado

Supreme Court

Tribunal Supremo

Waiting

Esperar

Undocumented

Sin documentar

Law

Ley

Justice

Justicia

Court

Tribunal

Police

Policía

Arizona

Arizona

Judge

Juez

MALDEF Responds to Supreme Court Decision in Arizona Case

Resounding Defeat for Arizona and Brewer Still Leaves Dangerous Possibility of Racial Profiling

WASHINGTON, DC – The Supreme Court affirmed an injunction against three of the four core SB 1070 provisions (Sections 3, 5(C), and 6) before the Court, and narrowly limited the possible implementation of the notorious reasonable suspicion/racial profiling provision (Section 2(B)). While holding that it was premature to block Section 2(B), the Court’s ruling provides ample opportunity to seek to block the law once ambiguities in the law are resolved.

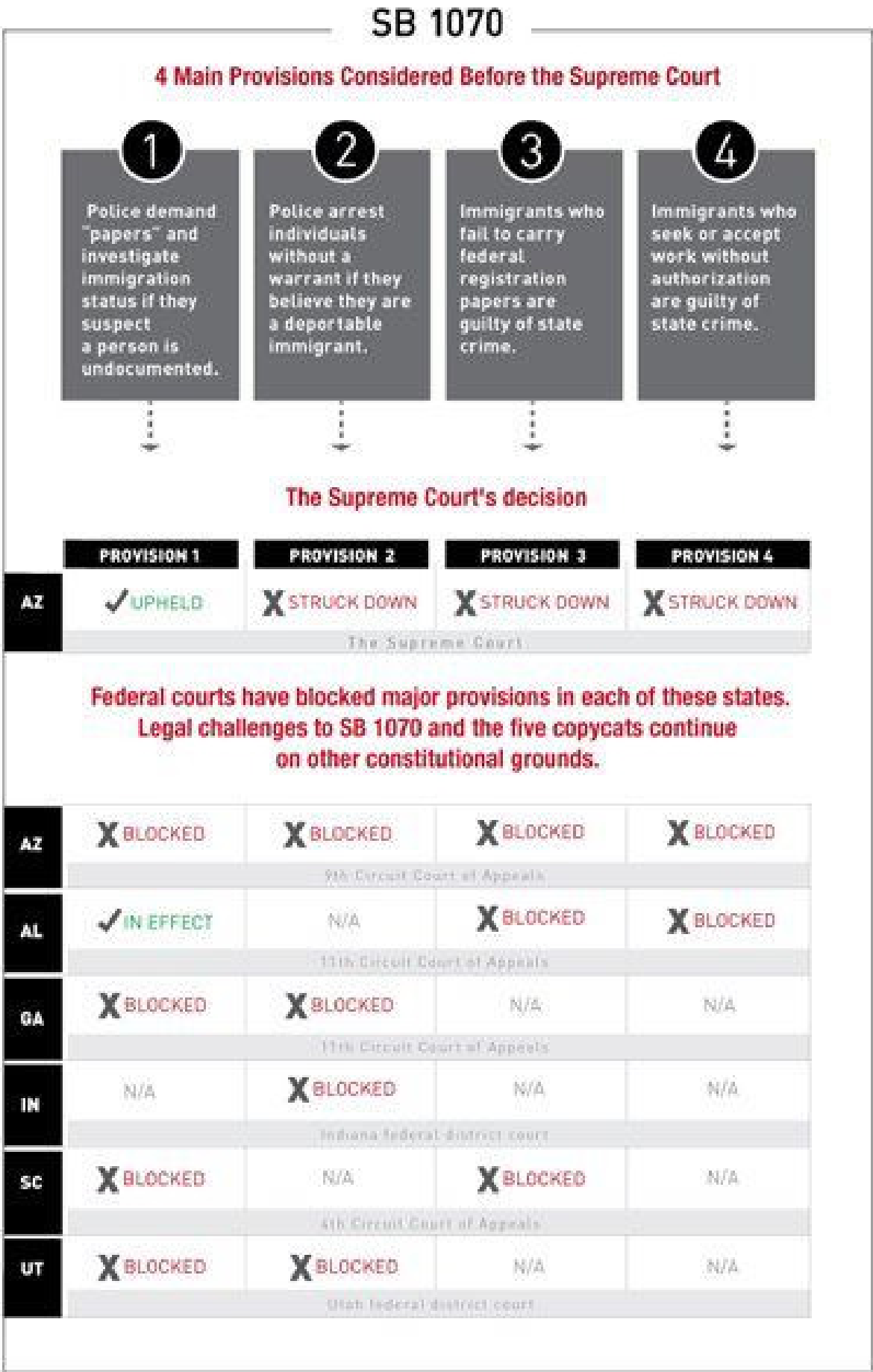
The Court’s decision reaffirms longstanding law on exclusive federal authority in the area of immigration regulation. The Supreme Court unequivocally states that “The Government of the United States has broad, undoubted power over the subject of immigration and the status of aliens.” The Court concluded that while Arizona may be frustrated by problems in its state, it cannot pursue policies that undermine federal law.

Below, find a statement from Thomas A. Saenz, President and General Counsel of MALDEF on the Supreme Court’s decision in *Arizona v. United States*, June 25, 2012

“The Supreme Court decision in *Arizona v. United States* today strikes down three sections of SB 1070 and opens the fourth section before the Court – section 2(B) — to further constitutional challenges and to further limiting interpretation. This outcome is a resounding victory for the Constitution as the Court majority affirms longstanding law on the breadth of exclusive federal authority in the area of immigration regulation. While the Court failed to appreciate the serious harms that come from allowing *any* implementation of section 2(B), which will necessarily lead to unconstitutional racial profiling, it has laid out a very difficult path for Arizona in trying to implement this provision.

“By striking down three of the four provisions before the Court, the decision sends a strong warning to any states or localities that have enacted or that may be considering enacting their own immigration regulation schemes. In short, the Court’s decision should bring to a grinding halt the machinery of intolerance and racism that has promoted these laws. Arizona, in particular, has paid a very high price for what amounts to a very limited, even Pyrrhic, victory today.

“At the moment and in the immediate future, there should be no implementation of section 2(B) in Arizona or of any similar provision elsewhere. The trial court will have to consider other constitutional claims in the civil rights groups’ separate case and may consider how to obtain an authoritative interpretation about the hopelessly ambiguous section 2(B). We must take all steps to prevent any racial profiling and unconstitutional arrests from this terrible Arizona state intrusion on federal immigration policy.”



Gina Hinojosa for AISD Board Member



We support **Gina Hinojosa** in her bid for a seat on the **Austin Independent School District** Board of Trustees.

Mariana Garcia

Hon. Margaret Gomez

Alfredo R. Santos c/s

Gilbert Martinez

Carmelo Macias

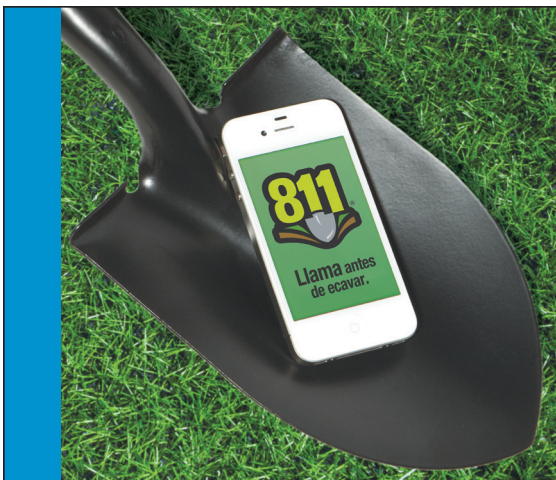
Hon. Gus Garcia

Vince Tovar

Perla Cavazos

Sylvia Acevedo

Political Announcement paid for by Mariana Garcia, Gilbert Martinez, Carmelo Macias and Alfredo Santos c/s



MANTENTE SEGURO. LLAMA ANTES DE EXCAVAR.

Si necesitas hacer un trabajo de excavación, llama al 811 con por lo menos 48 horas de anticipación.

Las tuberías de gas natural y otros servicios públicos tienen profundidades distintas. Al llamar al 811, un equipo de servicio puede marcar la ubicación de las tuberías subterráneas sin costo alguno. Las marcas se hacen con pintura y desaparecerán con el tiempo. El marcar la ubicación de las tuberías puede ayudar a prevenir que tu o un contratista accidentalmente dañen una tubería de gas natural.

Siempre llama antes de excavar. Es inteligente, es seguro y es la ley.

www.TexasGasService.com

