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FOR AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL, PLACE 5





RNEST COLLECTOR

ROBERT CONSTRAINT CONSTRAIN

FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CONSTABLE PCT 4



Cultivating Texas Grassroots
Fidel 'ACE' Acevedo
For Texas Democratic Party Chair



EFRAIN

DEMOCRAT FOR DISTRICT JUDGE





Dolores Huerta To Receive Presidential Medal

President Barack Obama named Dolores Huerta as one of the thirteen new recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Medal of Freedom is the nation's highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

Dolores Huerta is a civil rights. workers', and women's advocate. With Cesar Chavez, she cofounded the National Farmworkers Association in 1962, which later became the United Farm Workers of America. Huerta has served as a community activist and a political organizer, and was influential in securing the passage of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, and disability insurance farmworkers in California.

In 2002, she founded the Dolores Huerta Foundation, an organization dedicated to developing community organizers and national leaders. In 1998, President Clinton awarded her the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights.

People in the News



Edna Ramon Butts Named to Top Position in AISD

The Austin Independent School District has named Edna Ramon Butts as the new Director of Intergovernmental Relations and Policy Oversight.

Butts has served as General Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor for Sen. Kirk Watson for more than five years, monitoring and developing policy in the areas of public and higher education, as well as immigration, housing and jurisprudence.

"Edna Butts brings rich and varied experience in state government to her new role," Superintendent Meria Carstarphen said. "She will be an asset to the district in her efforts to expand relationships and activities with local, state and federal entities in support of public education." Butts will officially start on Monday, May 21.

"I look forward to working with the district's General Counsel and others at AISD to help fulfill the district's mission as a public education institution," Butts said. She earned both her bachelors and law degree from The University of Texas at Austin.



Dr. Enrique Solis Tapped to be ACC Interim Provost

The Austin Community College has announced the appointment of Dr. Enrique Solis as the college's interim provost, effective mid-May. This fall, ACC will begin the process of filling this academic leadership role on a permanent basis.

Dr. Solis is currently a visiting professor and interim chair of occupational education at **Texas State University in San Marcos**. Previously he was a visiting professor at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi from 2002 to 2009.

Dr. Solis holds bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry and a Ph.D. in education management and development with an emphasis in research methods from New Mexico State University. He has been a member and officer of numerous local, state, and national organizations, including the College Board and the National Community College Hispanic Council. He is a senior fellow of the Mexico-America Solidarity Foundation.



Acosta Wins Two Awards at Los Angeles Festival

Austin based writer Belinda
Acosta won two awards at the Los
Angeles Festival of Books on April
21st, 2012. Her books. <u>Damas</u>,
<u>Dramas</u>, <u>and Ana Ruiz</u> and
<u>Sisters</u>, <u>Strangers</u>, <u>and Starting</u>
<u>Over</u> were first place winners at
this year's Latino Books into
Movies Competition.

The awards were handed out April 21, at the LA Festival of Books. Acosta use to write for the Austin Chronicle and is a 1997 graduate of The University of Texas at Austin.



Villafaña Expands Her Media Moves Operation

If you like to keep who with who is entering and who is leaving the media job market across the United States, **Veronica Villafañe** is the one to keep your eye on.

An award winning journalist who has worked as an on the air reporter in Spanish and English language television, she knows the industry. Her website, Mediamoves.com, provides a daily update of what is going on in the print, radio and television industry.

Recently she added a free weekly newsletter. Media Moves Wrap will provide readers with a summary of the week's top stories about Latinos working in the media, as well as issues that affect our industry. The newsletter will be sent out on Friday morning, starting April 27.

Villafañe served as the President of the National Hispanic Journalist Association from 2004 to 2006. She founded Media Moves in June of 2007. She earned her bachelors degree in Journalism from the Universidad del Salvador. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

For those wishing to appear in this People in the News section, contact the editor via email. Don't be shy about letting people know what you are doing. If you won't tell your own story, who will?



PRODUCTION

Editor & Publisher Alfredo Santos c/s

Associate Editor

Dr. Ana María González

Managing Editor **Yleana Santos**

Marketing
Tom Herrera
Rosemary Zuniga
Jo Ann Sutherland

Contributing Writers

Monica Peña

Franco Martinez

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

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Pensamientos

Este mes de mayo esta lleno de actividades. Pues como ya saben todos, volvemos a celebrar el cinco de mayo. This celebration which seems to be more popular in the United States than in Mexico, has been going on since the 1800s. Some of the earliest known celebrations include reference in the minutes of the Tucson school district where mention is made that the schools will be closed on May 5th and 6th for the Mexican celebration of Cinco de Mayo. This was in 1910.

Our Cinco de Mayo story this year comes in the form of a guest piece submitted by the California based writer Raul Lowery-Contreras. Mr. Lowery-Contreras offers a fast paced account of the dynamics between the U.S and Mexico and President Linclons's point man during the unfolding of the events surrounding the French invasion of Mexico.

Cambiando de tema

Also on tap this month is a recognition event to honor former Austin Mayor Gus Garcia for his pioneering efforts to help bring Mexicanos into the mainstream of la politica. **Mr. Garcia** has been and continues to be an influencial member of the community whose wise counsel of sought out by many.

The US Hispanic Contractors Association, Brisa Communications and Hermanos De East Austin are proud to host this luncheon on Wed., May 9th, 11:30am-1pm at the Emma S. Barrientos **Mexican American Cultural** Center. This month marks the 40th anniversary that Gus Garcia became the first Latino elected to the Austin **Independent School District** (AISD) Board of Trustees.

On pages 6 and 7, you will find commentary from Gus Garcia, Gilbert Martinez and Buddy Ruiz, who were activists during that time. Their comments help to provide a flavor of what the thinking was more than forty years ago and they all worked to bring the Mexicano forward.

Cambiando de tema

Other celebrations taking place this year include the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Farm Workers

Union out in California. Cesar Chavez visited Austin, Texas many times and the union enjoyed strong support during the days of the grape and Gallo Wine boycotts. For more information on this event visit the UFW website on the internet.

Cambiando de tema

And last but not least with regard to celebrations is the coming together for the last time of the activists and candidates who ran under the banner of *La Raza Unida Party*. Many of the candidates who are still alive are now in their 70s and 80s. This event will take place at **Mexitas Restaurant** located at 12th and IH-35 in **Austin, Texas** on July 6th and 7th, 2012. More information about the program and events is forthcoming.

Cambiando de tema

On page 15 of this issue of La Voz, you will find a candidate overview of those Hispanics who are running in the May 29th, 2012 primary. According to our count, there are 19 who will appear on the ballot. The big question is whether

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s Editor & Publisher

Congressman Lloyd Doggett can beat back challenges from two Latinas. With the majority of the voting precincts located in Bexar County, (100 out of 177), some are saying that Doggett has his work cut out for himself. But the fact that two Spanish surname women are competing against each other and Doggett in the same race could be the factor that gives him an edge.

On the Cover

As is our practice during the election season, we have put together a collage of candidate's artwork on the cover in the hopes of getting people to realize that it's time to take the opportunity and go vote.

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



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Proyecto Defensa Laboral

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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

The largest wave of immigration in history from a single country to the **United States** has come to a standstill. After four decades that brought 12 million current immigrants— —more than half of whom came illegally—the net migration

illegally—the net migration flow from Mexico to the United States has stopped—and may have reversed, according to a new analysis by the Pew Hispanic Center of multiple government data sets from both countries.

Net Migration from Mexico Falls to

Zero—and Perhaps Less

The standstill appears to be the result of many factors, including the weakened U.S. job and housing construction markets, heightened border enforcement, a rise in deportations, the growing dangers associated with illegal border crossings, the long-term decline in **Mexico's** birth rates and changing economic conditions in **Mexico**.

"We don't know whether the wave will resume, but we do know that the current standstill is more than just a temporary pause," said Paul Taylor,

director of the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center. "Net migration from Mexico has been at zero—and perhaps less—since 2007." "Heightened enforcement of immigration laws has made it more difficult, expensive and dangerous for Mexicans to try to enter the U.S. illegally," said Jeffrey Passel, senior demographer at the Pew Hispanic Center. "In addition, the sluggish U.S. economy has weakened the jobs magnet, and changing demographics in Mexico have reduced the pool of potential"

miarants."

The report is based on the Center's analysis of data from five different Mexican government sources and four U.S. government sources. The Mexican data come from the Mexican Decennial Censuses (Censos de Población y Vivienda), the Mexican Population Counts (Conteos de Población y Vivienda), the National Survey of Demographic Dynamics (Encuesta Nacional de la Dinámica Demográfica or ENADID), the National Survey of Occupation and Employment (Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo or ENOE), and the Survey on Migration at the Northern Border of Mexico (Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México or EMIF-Norte).



"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community."— César Chávez

On Cinco de Mayo in 1862, against all odds the outnumberd Mexican Army defeated the mighty French military on the battlefield.

On this Doce de Mayo (Election Day), with this same spirit and determination, we can reshape Austin City Hall and end the grip of powerful special interests at the ballot box. Join me as we lead the charge! iSu voto es su voz!



Dominic "Dom" Chavez for Austin City Council

Early Voting ends on Tuesday, May 8. Election Day is May 12. www.domchavez4austin.com www.facebook.com/dom4austin

Paid Pol. Adv. by the Dominic Chavez Campaign. P.O. Box 15471, Austin, TX 78761. Ed Wendler, Jr., Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Ordinance.

Albert Gonzales for Travis County Commissioner Pct. 3

Hi Friends and Supporters.

I need your support and help to unseat the current so called Democrat Precinct 3 Commissioner.

Since she took office our traffic problems have tripled due to her indecisiveness to making the tough decisions. She is also unwilling to compromise – sound familiar, it's what Republicans are doing in Washington. We need to keep in mind Karen Huber was a <u>Lifelong Republican</u> who changed clothing to a Democrat in 2008 knowing it was going to be an Obama Democrat year, even Republican Gerald Daugherty agrees, whom she supported before.

Traffic is still upsetting drivers at the "Y" and now also at a neighborhood street which has become a thoroughfare upsetting my neighbors and me who live on or off Brodie Lane. The county has spent millions of dollars for the right of way for SW 45 and she just abandoned, backing off on her commitment to the Brodie Lane area neighborhoods to relieve the congestion. She's been labeled a "TOLLER" because of her anti-citizen stances on the CAMPO Board. She's also isn't opposing the upcoming tolling of the future managed lanes of MoPac, leading to millions of dollars in profits to private companies leading to a double taxation to the residents of Travis County. MoPac has been "PAID FOR" by the taxpayers and they do not approve of being taxed again with toll fees. Has she fought against it? No she hasn't!

She has ignore our priority issue the "TRAFFIC CONGESTION" which she promised to solve and hasn't. Now she's jump to "WATER ISSUES" as her priority issue of the day. Water issues need addressing but we have major leaks which need plugging in traffic right now! We'll get to the water issues in the near future when we plug the current leaks – TRAFFIC CONGESTION!

Also not to mention all the taxpayers dollars abatements giveaways she's approved to multi-billion dollar companies recently to Apple and The Formula Race Track with no job creations guarantees for Travis County residents. She has also approved spending \$21,000,000 for a new county building lot which will cost an additional \$400,000,000 to build. We have traffic congestion priorities which need to be resolved first, let take care of our current high priorities needs FIRST!

I am asking for your help and support to getting elected and truly represent the residents of Travis County. Helping me raise \$10,000 -\$15,000 will be enough to inform the residents to vote for me as their true "Pro-Citizen Commissioner and the undeniable True Blue Democrat." If we can meet the goal we can win this election.

Thank You Very Much and feel free to call me anytime......Albert





Cultivating Texas Grassroots

Fidel 'ACE' Acevedo For Texas Democratic Party Chair

512-775-7276

www.fidelacevedo.com fidelace2020@gmail.com

Pol. Adv. Fidel Acevedo Committee ### 55



EARLY VOTE APRIL 30 - MAY 8

ELECTION DAY MAY 12



With your support I can help bring single member districts and November elections to the Austin City Council. Both initiatives will help increase voter participation and representation of Austin's diverse community. I ask for your vote on May 12th.

- ## "Su Voto Es Su Voz"

LeffingwellForMayor.com 512-524-0193 Facebook.com/ReElectLeeLeffingwell

Pol. adv. paid by Lee Leffingwell for Mayor Campaign. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Ordinance. Accordingly, no public funding will be utilized. P.O. Box 300787 Austin, TX 78703. Kitty Clark Treasurer.

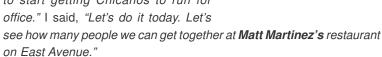
Remembering When the Chicano Movement Started in Austin, Texas

Buddy Ruiz Recalls:

Gilbert Martinez Recalls: In 1960, before the John F.

Andy Ramirez and I hung out together. We were East Austin boys and we became good friends. He is the one who actually prompted me to run for city council. At the time I was chairman of the Political Association of Spanish Speaking Organizations (PASSO). So Andy

calls me and asks, "When are we going to start doing something about defining our own destiny? When are we going to start getting Chicanos to run for office." I said, "Let's do it today. Let's



So what Andy and I did was call the business people that we knew. That included, Mr. Martinez, Roy Velasquez, and Mr. Mendez from the pharmacy.

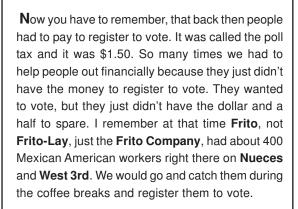
So we had a meeting there at Mr. Martinez' place on a Thursday night. The pitch we made to these businessmen was, "When are we going to start identifying leaders that can run and represent East Austin, where we were from?" Their response was pretty much that they didn't want to run for fear of a backlash from the Gringo banks and the Gringo politicians. Then they said, "Instead of getting us to run, why don't you run?" They were looking at me. I said, "because I am just a 25 year old college student at the UT with no real world credentials other than I am a homie from the neighborhood."

I briefly spoke to Andy and said "O.K., look, for now, because the deadline is approaching I will file for city council. But what I want everyone here to think about is not just one Chicano filing but another one. I will be more than happy to give up my position to somebody who has more experience, is more well known and has a great reputation as a businessman." Nobody wanted to move forward. They were all scared. And the rest of it is history. But they did help me financially when I ran in 1968.

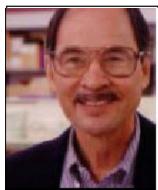
Kennedy campaign, I along with Gus Garcia, Roy Velasquez and several other folks organized voter registration drives. We did it because there were very few Mexican Americans who were registered to vote, and during the election, very few of them even

showed up to vote. In our most successful year we registered about 5,000 people. We would register people on Saturdays, Sundays after

mass at the Catholic Churches and even at the dances that were held around town.



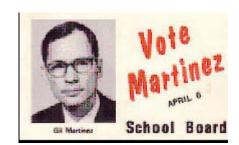
In 1968 there was still a group of us who were active in the community and there was a school board election coming up. One of those in our group was **Paul Tovar**. Somehow we had decided he was going to run for school board. We used to have the meetings over at the Matamoros Restaurant. About two nights before the filing deadline, Paul calls me. He says, "I don't' think I live in the district. I live on Riverside Farms Drive. I saw a Del Valle school bus pass by my house." I



said, "Oh my God, we better check this!" So the next day we checked and sure enough he lives on the wrong side of the road. He lives in the Del Valle School District. He's not qualified to run. What in the hell are we going to do? So we held a meeting that night. We looked for somebody else to run and nobody wanted to step forward. So the group put pressure on me. And I said let me call me boss.

Now at that time, I was 28 years old and I worked nights at the post office. So I called my boss and told him I was thinking of running for the school board and would there be any problem with my job? He said no, to go ahead and run but just understand that if the job at the school board comes in conflict with your job here at the post office, your job comes first. I said, "I understand." And that is how I ran for the school board here in Austin, Texas.

When I was running for the school board back in 1968, Dr. George Sanchez, a Professor from The University of Texas invited me to his house and gave me some good ideas about education. He was the first one who told me that all of the streets in Austin that run North and South are named after the rivers of the state. He also gave me some insight into how things worked here in Austin. I ran for school board and I came in second place. That was my first run for public office.



Interview on November 28, 2008 in Austin, Texas

Interview on November 28, 2008 in Austin, Texas

Both of these interviews appear in the Austin Hispanic Almanac: www.austinhispanicalmanac.com

Recordando Cuando Empezo El Movimiento en Austin

Gus Garcia Recalls

The Economy Furniture was kind of like a watershed, a water mark item in Austin. It galvanized the Austin community. Richard Moya came out of that experience, you know. Richard, is one of the best politicians, if not the best politician in this city. You can disagree with him. You can do whatever you want, but you can't deny the fact that he's a very good politician.

Out of that experience also came the Human Opportunities Corporation which was the War on Poverty agency. Gonzalo Barrientos, John Trevino, Buddy Ruiz, Richard Moya, Paul Tovar, Jesse Torres, Mike Guerrero, and James Ramirez were all part

of that movement. And, nobody was looking at the school district except **Gilbert Martinez**. And so **Gilbert** came... he was the first Hispanic to make a serious race in this county ever. He ran for the school board in '68, at a time when in order to win a seat for the school board, you only had to win a plurality.

So, four people ran. **Gilbert** came in second. The guy who came in first, didn't get a majority, but he won. The other two said, "If we had known that, we would have, we would've gotten out so that Gilbert would have gotten in." Because they wanted to have a Hispanic on there. They were



Gus Garcia, 1974

embarrassed about the fact that no Hispanic was on anything.

Along came 1970, and, Edna Canino, who is a lawyer in Dallas now, was married to a Puerto Rican guy by the name of Robert Canino, active in LULAC and

other things, she ran, and she lost. Richard Moya also ran in 1970. He along with Paul Tovar, and the guy who was the incumbent, ran for County Commissioner. Moya won that race. (There) is a long history about that particular race. But, anyway, the long and the short is that Richard won. And, he was the first Hispanic ever elected to anything in Austin or Travis County.

In 1971 there had been some discussion about, you know, representation of Blacks, African-Americans and Hispanics on the city council. And, they had asked for single member districts. Well, they didn't get single member districts. What they got was this thing called the Gentleman's Agreement.

They expanded the council from five to seven. Place 5 became the Hispanic seat. Place 6 became the African-American seat. And, they decided to elect the mayor by direct vote because before that the mayor was, was selected by the council. That's when **Roy Butler** got elected mayor. He jumped from the school board to the city council.

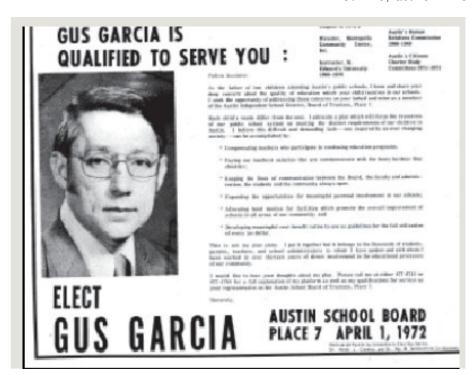
John Treviño then ran for office again in'73, but he lost. The African-Americans, the business community got together and selected this IBM executive by the name of **Roy Hancock**. They put him to run in Place 6. So, they had

a person on the city council before we did. And, what happened to us was we did not want anybody anointing anybody. We didn't want anybody, especially the Anglo community, the powerful community, to tell us, "This is the guy that is going to serve." So in '73 we tried and lost. But in '75. Johnny Treviño finally won.

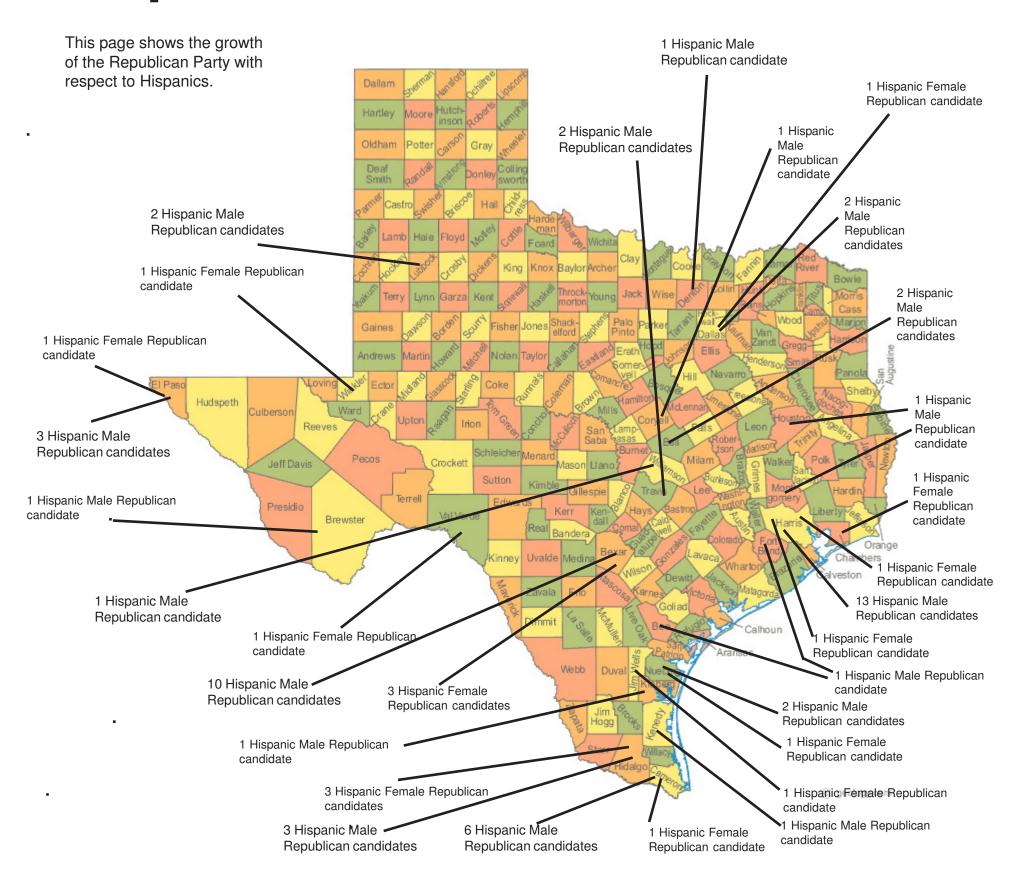
In the interim between '71 and '75, in '72, Gonzalo and I ran. Gonzalo ran for the legislature. At that time it was a countywide district with four reps and Gonzalo ran at large in Travis County and lost. I won my race for the school board because I had put together a coalition of students and liberals and Hispanics and African-Americans.

I ran and won. I beat an incumbent. I'll never forget. I called my brother to tell him that I was going to run and he said, "Who are you running against?" I said, "I am running against Desmond Kidd." "Desmond Kidd?" he asked Desmond Kidd was the star sprinter for the University of Texas. I said, "Paco, we are not running a hundred yard dash." I said, "We are running for the school board." And, I beat him. Very popular incumbent. Very nice guy.

Source: Interview by Jose Angel Gutierrez for the Tejano Voices Project at the University of Texas at Arlington on June 20, 1998 in Austin, Texas.



Republican Candidate Overview



Statewide Candidate Profile

Table # 1 2012 Primary Candidates by Party and Spanish Surname

	Democrat	Republican	
Spanish Surname	729	87	816
Non-Spanish Surname	1,038	1,113	2,151
TOTAL	1,767	1,200	2,967

Note: Some of the smaller, rural counties did not submit their lists electronically and may not be in this count.

Table # 3
Democratic 2012 Primary Candidates
by Spanish Surname and Gender

	Spanish Surname	Non - Spanish Surname	
Female	138	184	322
Male	591	854	1,445
TOTAL	729	1,038	1,767

Note: Some of the smaller, rural counties did not submit their lists electronically and may not be in this count.

Table # 5
Democratic Hispanic Candidates
Running in 2012 by Incumbency and Gender

	Incumbent	Non Incumbent	<u> </u>
Male	235	356	591
Female	70	68	138
TOTAL	305	424	729

Note: Some of the smaller, rural counties did not submit their lists electronically and may not be in this count.

Table # 1 shows that a total of 2,967 candidates are on the ballot for the Texas primaries on May 29th, 2012. 1,767 are running as Democrats and 1,200 are running as Republicans. With regard to Spanish surname, the Democrats have 729 candidates with Spanish surnames while the Republicans count 87.

Table # 2 shows the distribution of candidates by party and gender. Out of the 510 females running in the primaries, 322 are running under the Democratic Party.

Table # 3 shows the breakdown by Spanish surname and gender. What is particularly noteworthy is the number of Spanish surnamed females to non-Spanish surname females.

In Table # 4, the distribution by Spanish surname and gender provides another perspective of the candidates running for public office in 2012.

Table # 5, provides a partial look at the Democratic candidates with respect to incumbency. More challengers are running against sitting incumbents.

Table # 6, was limited in that the data on incumbency from the Republican Party was not readily available. But as can be seen, challengers out number incumbents in 2012.

Table # 2 2012 Primary Candidates by Party and Gender

	Democrat	Democrat Republican		
Female	322	188	510	
Male	1,445	1,012	2,457	
TOTAL	1,767	1,200	2,967	

Note: Some of the smaller, rural counties did not submit their lists electronically and may not be in this count.

Table # 4
Republican 2012 Primary Candidates
by Spanish Surname and Gender

	Spanish Surname	Non - Spanish Surname	
Female	20	168	188
Male	67	945	1,012
TOTAL	87	1,113	1,200

Note: Some of the smaller, rural counties did not submit their lists electronically and may not be in this count.

Table # 6
2012 Primary Candidates
by Incumbency and Party

	Incumbent	Non - Incumbent
Democrat	813	954
Republican	N/A	N/A
TOTAL		

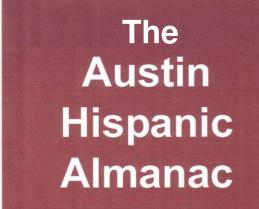
Note: Some of the smaller, rural counties did not submit their lists electronically and may not be in this count.







BELOW: The Austin Hispanic Almanac will be updated this summer. This is the most complete statistical portrait of the Hispanic community in Austin, Texas to date and draws upon not only Census data, but also a vast array of state and local databases. Visit the website for more information: www.austinhispanicalmanac.com



A Statistical Portrait of the Community



Alfredo Rodriguez Santos c/s

Demographics

History

Immigration

Education

Employment

Economics

Business

Language

Politics & Elections

Governance

The Judicial System

Arts/Cultura

Entertainment

Media

Community Organizations

Second Edition RIGHT: U.S Congressman Lloyd Doggett with Mr. and Mrs. Richard Moya. Mr. Moya was the first Hispanic in Austin to ever be elected to public office.





ALVARADO SUS CONGRESS - TX CD-35



SAVE MADE DATE

When the successful election of the first Latino Gus Garcia to the Austin ISD Board of Trustees.

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER • 11:30 a - 1:00 p

More info: BRISA COMMUNICATIONS 512/394-6193 • info@brisacommunications.com

by Raul Lowery-Contreras

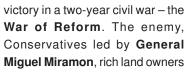
The 5th of May sounds boring as just any other date a few weeks before official summer begins. However, Mexicans have given it - Cinco de Mayo - a flashy reason to make it a holiday celebrated by Mexicans and Americans alike.

No, it is not Mexican Independence Day. That is September 15-16. It is, rooted in war, however. The 5th of May was the day 4,000 poorly armed Mexicans defeated Europe's best army in the mountains a hundred miles east of Mexico City. A year later the French returned to Puebla and won the second battle of Puebla. From there they went on to occupy much of Mexico until they were chased out of Mexico in 1867.

Cinco de Mayo deserves to be celebrated in the USA for reasons outlined in this piece. Mexico and the United States of America experienced a drastic new paradigm in 1860 that cost both countries a million dead.

Republican Abraham Lincoln

elected President of the United States in November. Earlier that year **Mexican** Supreme Court Justice Benito Juarez, a fullblooded Zapotec Indian, had the assumed Mexican Presidency and led his Liberals to



CINCO DE MAYO:

and the Catholic Church which owned much of Mexico.

70,000 Mexicans died in the two-vear civil war. Mexico was in ruins and broke. Lincoln was elected in the USA, ending a decade of Mexican apprehension of American motives. Many Americans desired more Mexican lands a dozen years after taking half of Mexican territory as spoils of winning the Mexican War in 1848.

That takeaway included what is now California, Arizona, New Mexico, parts of Oklahoma and Kansas, Colorado, Utah and Nevada. Southern slave states hungrily eyed all of Northern Mexico in which to expand their slave holdings. Juarez and the Liberals breathed relief in gulps when Lincoln was elected for the new Republicans certainly didn't want to expand slave territory into Mexico.

> The election of Lincoln distracted Southern slavers from Northern Mexico. They started a war against the Union not Mexico. Brilliant politician that he was Juarez saw the Mexican

opportunity with a new President who had made his political reputation in Congress roasting a Democrat President that invaded Mexico to steal territory for the White Man's Manifest Destiny.

Juarez recruited a new lawyer 23-year-old Matias Romero as his personal representative and sent him to meet Lincoln in January of 1861, two months before **Lincoln** was to be sworn in as President. Here is a note President-elect Lincoln wrote to the young man after they met:

live to 1898 serving his country as Ambassador to the U.S., as an army Colonel, as a builder of railroads, as an author and

Lincoln would face his gigantic crisis - civil war - within days of his inauguration as Southern slave states would rebel and secede from the Union. Juarez faced a foreign invasion of Spanish, British

> and French troops sent to collect millions in foreign debt canceled by Juarez. Thev landed December. 1861 and in January, 1862.

AImost 600,000 Americans died in the next four years or war; 300.000 Mexicans

would die in the next five years of war with France. 1862 was unkind to both men and their armies. Lincoln's soldiers were defeated over and over in 1862. The Mexicans split the year into triumph and defeat, both at Puebla about 100 miles east of Mexico City.

After the British and Spanish left, the French landed thousands more troops at the port of Vera Cruz and publicly declared their intention to bring "order" to the chaos of Mexico. French "Emperor" Napoleon III thought he was his uncle the real Napoleon. He wasn't despite having probably the best army in Europe.

Cocky French officers marched their 8,000 mostly French with some African and Arab troops along the same route taken by Cortez' Spanish conquerers in 1519 and the U.S. Army in 1846. They came upon the city of Puebla on hills above a valley with two old Spanish forts on each side, Forts Loreto and Guadalupe, where Mexican General Texas-born Ignacio Zaragoza had ensconced his army. Mexican soldiers, Indian volunteers armed with rifles last used in the Battle of Waterloo almost 50 years before shivered in cold wet fighting holes all night waiting to die.

Zeroed-in Mexican cannon made from church bells slaughtered the French infantry mired in mud from a storm the night before. Indian volunteers ran herds of cattle through the French then attacked helpless French soldiers with machetes. Future President Porfirio Diaz led his cavalry, the finest light cavalry in the 1862-world, repeatedly in bloody attacks on the French flanks wiping out French cavalry.

At the end of the day, almost half of the French army was either dead or wounded; cavalry men were dead or horseless The Mexicans had won a gigantic

"Mr. Matias Romero.

My dear Sir: Jan. 21. 1861

Allow me to thank you for your polite call, as Charge d'Affaires of Mexico. While, as yet I can do no official act on behalf of the United States, as one of it's citizens, I tender the expression of my sincere wishes for the happiness, prosperity, and liberty of ourself, your government, and its people.

Your Obt. Servt

A. LINCOLN" Springfield, Ills.

The destinies of these three men

and their countries were

completely intertwined from the

moment Romero shook Lincoln's

hand onward through wars in both

countries that would almost merge

Lincoln would be the first to die

by assassination in 1865, Juarez

would die of natural causes in

1872 and Matias Romero would

in 1865.

An American Holiday

victory against the most powerful army in Europe.

Mexico was saved for another year. Mexicans would lose the second Battle of Puebla a year later, nonetheless, the French would fail to accomplish Napoleon's desire to conquer Mexico and turn it into a supply line for the Confederate States of America. Napoleon desperately wanted to derail the United States of America, a democracy he hated.

Mexican morale spiked when news of the Mexican victory at Puebla spread. The French were demoralized and Paris was shocked. It sent thousands more troops to Mexico. It even sent the vaunted French Foreign Legion to Mexico to serve in the "tierra caliente" (hot land) of the malarial Mexican jungles between the port of Vera Cruz and the mountains of Mexico and Mexico City.

Here, again, the French met disaster at the hands of Mexican horse soldiers and guerilla irregulars that controlled every inch of Mexico where French soldiers weren't standing. Near a town named "Cameron" a French Foreign Legion company of 62 Legionnaires accompanying a mule train carrying \$3,000,000 dollars worth of gold to pay French troops was ambushed by Mexicans. The Legionnaires retired to a local hacienda with only one way in, one way out.

The Mexicans ferociously attacked the Legionnaires who

fought back as hard as humanly possible. Their commander, **Capt Danjou** lost his hand in the firefight and the wooden prosthetic developed for him is memorialized at Legion headquarters even today in honor of his and his men's heroism. Only five were standing when the fight was over. April 30, the day the Legionnaires were annihilated at **Cameron** is celebrated as a national holiday in **France.** Leave it to the French to honor a defeat.

The French slowly conquered and occupied much of Mexico up to the border with Texas. Unfortunately for the Southern Confederate states that wanted French munitions, cannon and other war material, the Battle of Puebla on the 5th of May - Cinco de Mayo - had delayed the French-Confederate plan to flood the South with everything it would need to win the war with the Union. Coincidently, whenever the French approached the border, French soldiers and Legionnaires would desert and dash to the land Napoleon III hated so much.

By the time the French secured the border with Texas and could start supplying the Confederacy two events occurred that buried Napoleon's dream to incapacitate the democratic United States of America. The battle for Vicksburg on the Mississippi River, through which supplies moved between Texas east to the rest of the Confederacy, ended after many weeks of siege by General U.S. Grant's troops, cutting the

Confederacy in two on July 4, 1863.

The other event was the Battle of Gettysburg that commenced on July 1, 1863 and lasted three days; the first two – advantage Confederates. The third day was won when the Union troops stopped the famous Picket's Charge, a frontal assault the Confederates lost. It cost them the war. The reason for the loss: Many posit the Confederates did

surrendered and the American Civil War ended. The final surrender of Confederate troops occurred in Texas in June, 1865.

General U.S. Grant immediately dispatched 50,000 battle-hardened Union troops, including George Custer, to Texas to form the Army of Observation commanded by brilliant cavalryman General Philip Sheridan. Its job, watch the French and spank them if they

for American soldiers who were charged \$6.00 for their rifles and "kits" if they crossed the **Rio Grande** and joined the Mexican Army for \$10 a month, the same as the American Army paid. Estimates are that 3,000 Americans joined the Mexican Army; and were formed into the **American Legion of Honor**.

They rode in the victory parade in **Mexico City** in 1867 when the Mexicans chased **Napoleon's** French back to Europe where he lost his "throne" and the French went on to lose to the **Prussian/Germans** in Franco-Prussian War of 1870.

Let's consider, then, what the Battle of Puebla of May 5, 1862, Cinco de Mayo, means not only to Mexicans but to the United States. The French could not supply the Confederacy with sufficient cannon to win because the Mexicans kept them out of most of Mexico by defeating them at Puebla long enough for the Union to win at Vicksburg and Gettysburg.

Abraham Lincoln and Benito Juarez led their nations to victory with a 23-year-old lawyer working between them to forge a new world from the new paradigm. The United States of America and the Republic of Mexico and the more than 400-million free men, women and children of both countries are living monuments to those wet, cold 4,000 Mexican soldiers and irregulars that defeated Europe's best army in a valley of French death outside Puebla, Mexico, the 5th of May, 1862...Cinco de Mayo.



not have enough cannon and cannon balls to overwhelm the **Union** troops with a monstrous heavy cannon assault.

While the French-favored Confederates started their string of losses that would lead to surrender, the French continued chasing the Mexican government of Benito Juarez who stayed a step ahead of them in the deserts of Chihuahua. He outran them for another year. Then Robert E. Lee

tried to cross the border in hot pursuit of Mexicans of the **Juarez** persuasion.

Sheridan promptly "condemned" captured Confederate rifles, cannon and supplies and left them unguarded on the Texas side of the Rio Grande. Mexican "bandits" crossed the river every night and "stole" the materiel.

Juarez troops "stole" 40,000 American Army rifles. As a bonus, special discharges were prepared

Romo Making Inroads In Battle For New 35th Congressional District

AUSTIN—With the May 29th Democratic Primary around the corner, many residents of Texas' new 35th Congressional District are now beginning to pay serious attention to the race to determine who will be their next member of Congress after months of delays and election date changes thanks to Redistricting.

Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector Sylvia Romo is facing longtime Congressman Lloyd Doggett for the open seat in a district that stretches to Bexar County (where most of the district's voters are) and is predominantly Latino.

Sitting down for an interview with Romo, one is reminded of the types of activists that were a dominant force in the Hispanic community in Central Texas for decades back in the 1960s and 1970s. She's a hard working, knowledgeable, aggressive campaigner who understands that changes do not come without hard work.

Romo has spent a life- | "We can really engage

time defending those who could not fight for themselves. From her efforts to protect her disabled cousin from neighborhood bullies as a child. to the present day where she helps homeowners in danger of foreclosure as Tax Assessor-Collector, Romo has spent most of her professional life ensuring that the less fortunate are protected. She says that is the core of her desire to serve the people of Texas in the US Congress.

"We have so much promise in this country that it's genuinely exciting to think about the possibilities," Romo says.

"But first, we have to stop the efforts of those who would destroy all we've gained. Social Security, Medicare and women are all under attack in ways we've never seen before," Romo continued.

Romo says Republicans are ready for the fight and it's time citizens realized that new leadership is needed.



Democratic Congressional Candidate Sylvia Romo of San Antonio is running in the Democratic Primary for the new Congressional District 35, a minority opportunity seat designed for Latinos to be able to elect a Latino to Congress

in this battle, not continue fighting petty personal wars against state officials in Texas. The people of District 35 need someone in Washington who'll put their ego aside and fight the battles that must be won," she continued.

A mother of four and proud grandmother of five, Romo knows the importance of family and of education. She worked hard to put herself though the University of Texas at San Antonio, earning a Bachelors degree in Business Administration. She went on to become

the first Latina in Bexar County to be licensed as a Certified Public Accountant. Shortly thereafter, she became a small business owner when she opened her own accounting firm.

She used her business savvy to become the first Latina chair of the Bexar County Democratic Party. She served as Chair in the early 1990s and, in 1992 she became a State Representative in the Texas House of Representatives where she worked on more than 100 pieces of legislation.

"I proved that you could

help your constituents and pass important legislation without seniority being an obstacle," Romo said.

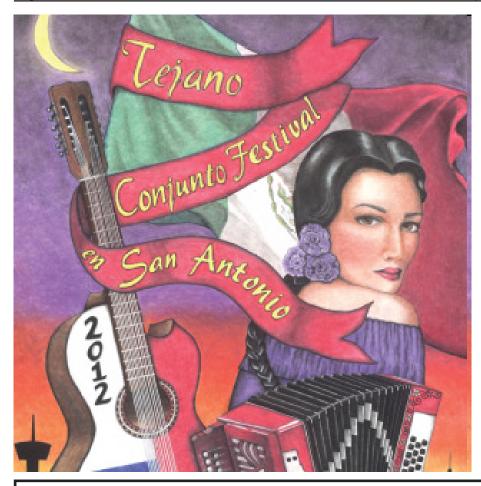
Among Romo's legislative achievements are passing a Constitutional Amendment to help minority- and womenowned businesses, passing very strong ATM safety measures, and helping pass stronger child labor laws for Texas.

Bexar County recognized Romo's hard work and elected her to be the first Latina—and the first woman—to serve as Bexar County Tax Assessor Collector, a position she's now held longer than anyone else in county history.

Romo feels her mix of business, legislative and executive experience is missing in Congress and will give voice to those who struggle and yearn for a better life and a better economy. She has lived 'Si, se puede' and is ready to work hard for the people of Texas.

Latinos on the Primary Ballot in Travis County

				veni			
	Candidate	Age	Office Seeking	Incumbent	Political Party	Education Year of Graduatio	Occupation n
1.	Fidel Acevedo	73	Chair, Democratic Party	No	Democrat	Military, 5 years active duty as a combat medic	Retired from IBM
2.	Maria Luisa Alvarado	56	U.S. Congress District 35	No	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas 1998 at San Antonio	Researcher
3.	Adan Ballesteros	55	County Constable Precinct # 2	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas 1978	Constable
4.	Carlos H. Barrera	54	Judge County Court at Law # 8	Yes	Democrat	B.S Georgetown University 1979 J.D. University of Texas 1983	Judge
5.	Maria Canchola	66	County Constable Precinct # 4	Yes	Democrat	Attended University of Texas	Constable Precinct # 4
6.	Jim Santiago Coronado	54	District Judge 427 Judicial District	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas 1975 J.D. University of Texas 1978	Judge
7.	Ted Cruz	42	U.S. Senate	No	Republican	B.A. Princeton University 1992 J.D. Harvard University 1995	Attorney at Law
8.	Efrain de la Fuente	44	District Judge 167th Judicial District	No	Democrat	B.A. St. Mary's University 1990 J.D. Drake University Law 1993	Assistant District Attorney Travis County
9.	David Escamilla	54	County Attorney Travis County	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas 1979 J.D. University of Texas 1982	County Attorney Travis County
10.	Albert Gonzales	64	Travis County Commissioner Pct 3	No	Democrat	San Jacinto High School 1968	Retired Commissioner Human Resources
11.	Victor Gonzales	63	Travis County Commissioner Pct 1	No	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas 1972	Sales
12.	Al Herrera	55	Travis County Constable Precinct # 2	No	Republican	Advanced Peace Officer Certification	Williamson County Constable's Office
13.	Carlos Lopez	52	Travis County Constable Precinct # 5	No	Democrat	Master Peace Officer License,	Chief Deputy Constable Precinct # 5
14.	David Medina	54	Supreme Court Justice Place # 4	Yes	Republican	B.A. Texas State University1980 J.D. South Texas College 1989	Supreme Court Justice
15.	Ernest Pedraza	58	Constable, Precinct 4	No	Democrat	A. A. Criminal Justice	Austin Police Officer
16.	Eddie Rodriguez	41	State Representative District # 51	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas 1995	State Representative
17.	Sylvia Romo	69	U. S Congress District 35	No	Democrat	B.B.A. Univ. of Texas San 1111	Bexar County Tax Assessor
18.	Gisela D. Triana	45	District Judge 200 Judicial District	Yes	Democrat	B.A. Univ. of Texas San An 1985 J.D. University of Texas 1988	Judge
19.	Mike Varela	41	County Constable Precinct # 3	No	Republican	Various Peace Officer Certifications	Lieutenant Precinct # 2



Conjunto Festival en San Antonio

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center presents the 31st Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival en San Antonio May 15 - 17, 2012 at the historic Guadalupe Theater (1301 Guadalupe St. @ S. Brazos) and May 18 - 20, 2012 at the nearby Rosedale Park (303 Dartmouth). Highlights of the festival include star-studded performances by Conjunto Music Hall of Fame legends as well as special presentations by national and international conjunto musicians.

<u>Ticket prices</u> for the three-day musical showcase at Rosedale Park are \$15 on Friday and \$18 per day on Saturday and Sunday. Three-day Festival passes are \$35 for GCAC members, \$40 for non-GCAC members.

Other highlights of the 31st Tejano Conjunto Festival include a free Seniors Conjunto Dance, "New Directions" concert, and the Conjunto Music Hall of Fame Dinner & Baile. The festival features over 35 of the very best bands in conjunto music at Rosedale Park that includes conjunto jam sessions; plus food and beverage booths, accordion raffle, student recital and more.

For more information on the **Tejano Conjunto Festival**, call (210) 271-3151, or visit www.guadalupeculturalarts.org for the full schedule of performers.

Ahora, le toca a ustedes, los votantes



As we wind down this campaign season, many of you have come to know who is on the ballot, what their record of service entails and when the 2012 Primary Election will take place.

Now it is up to you to turn out and decide who do you want to elect. My name is Maria Canchola and I respectfully ask for your support and vote.

Gracias,

Paid political announcement by the candidate



Think your vote doesn't matter?

Carried Think your vote doesn't matter?

Your vote will make the difference for

343,129
Latinos in Travis County.

Latinos in Travis County aren't being treated fairly by our criminal justice system. (Austin American-Statesman, 3/23/12) Only a new District Attorney can make change — and non-discrimination — a reality.

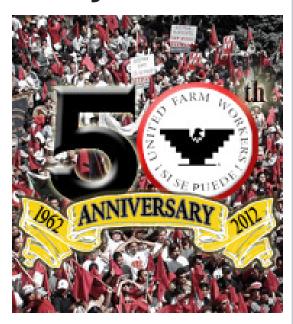
Vote — and get involved and help bring about positive change for Latinos, and everyone, in Travis County. Call 512.947.0598 to find out how you can make a differnce today, or visit Latinos.CharlieBaird.com to sign up.



United Farm Workers Union to Celebrate 50th Anniversary 2012

In 1962, Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, Gilbert Padilla and a few others launched what would become the first successful labor union for farm workers. Many had tried before, only to see it end failure after being attacked and crushed by those who did not want farm workers to ask questions much less make demands for wage increases.

Cesar is now gone having passed away in 1993 at the age of 66, the others are in their 80s, but the dream of union lives on. In celebrations of its 50th as a progressive organization, the **UFW** will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary throughout 2012.



On May 17-20, the UFW, will have its biennial convention in Bakersfield, California. On June 18th, Kris Kristofferson and friends will begin a concert series in a number of cities across California. Joining Kristofferson in donating their respective performances are: Los Lobos, Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano, Mariachi Divas, Nydia Rojas with Trio Ellas, and Los Tex-Maniacs featuring Mingo Saldivar. "We are honored to have such a distinguished group of individuals step up to support the organization, many of which have historically supported the UFW throughout the past 50 years," said UFW President Arturo Rodriguez. For more information visit: www.ufw.org



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.

Vote Votar

Voter Votante

Registered Registrado

Candidate Candidato

Campaign Campaña

Support Apoyo

Public Público

Election Day Día de elección

Precinct Precinto

Winner Ganador

Ballot by Mail Boleta por correo

Age Edad

Signature Firma

Last name Apellido

Polling Places Casillas de votación

La Raza Unida Party Reunion set forJuly 6 and 7

Some 40 years ago, Chicano activists in **Texas** made history when they ran slates of candidates under the banner of *La Raza Unida Party*. This third party effort produced a number of interesting results and scared the hell out of a lot of people. On July 6th and 7th, former candidates and supporters of *La Raza Unida Party* will meet in **Austin, Texas** for the last time. For more information contact **Alfredo R. Santos c/s** at (512) 944-4123.



RE-ELECT MIKE TINEZ Austin City Council

VOTE for MIKE Early Voting April 30 - May 8 Election Day Saturday, May 12



Proudly Endorsed By:

AFSCME Local 1624 * Austin American Statesman * Austin Board of Realtors * Austin Building Trades Council * Austin Chronicle * Austin EMS Employees Association * Austin Environmental Democrats * Austin Firefighters Association Local 975 * Austin Police Association * Austin Progressive Coalition * Austin Tejano Democrats * Asbestos Workers LU 87 * Black Austin Democrats * Burnt Orange Report * Capital Area Asian American Democrats * Capital Area Progressive Democrats * Capital City Young Democrats * Carpenters LU 1266 * Central Austin Democrats * Circle C Area Democrats * Clean Water Action * Construction and General Laborers #154 * IBEW 520 * Iron Workers LU 482 * IUPAT Glaziers 1778 * IUPAT Local 130 * League of Bicycling Voters * Network of Asian American Organizations of Austin (NAAO) * Stonewall Democrats * South Austin Democrats * Travis County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Association * University Democrats * West Austin Democrats*

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Washington is broken.

It's time for a new leader in Congress who understands OUR problems and will fight for US.

¡Su voto es su voz! Vote por Sylvia Romo

EARLY VOTING: May 14-25 ELECTION DAY: Tuesday, May 29



Scan with your Smart
Phone to find your polling
SylviaRomoForCongress.com

SYLVIA * FOR CONGRESS, DISTRICT 35

PAID FOR BY SYLVIA ROMO FOR CONGRES