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Immigrant Health and American Society

A new study from **Rice University** has found that the health of Mexican immigrants declines as they become integrated into American culture.



Mexican-Americans who are most integrated into American culture, including those born in the United States, appear less healthy and more likely to require resources to manage their health conditions than more recent, less-integrated migrants, according to a new study from **Rice University**, **Duke University** and the **University of Colorado at Denver**.

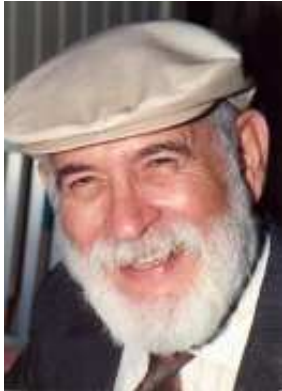
The research reveals that this pattern of declining health among immigrants who are in the U.S. the longest holds more strongly for men than women. Mexican-American men are at a particularly high risk of diabetes. However, among new arrivals, women report poorer health than men.

Bridget Gorman, associate professor of sociology at **Rice** and lead author of the study, which was published online this week in the peer-reviewed **Journal of Health and Social Behavior**, explains, "This could be in part because men are more likely than women to migrate to the United States in search of employment, often in physically demanding jobs and at younger ages." The study examines gender differences in Mexican immigrant health using data from the 1998-2007 **National Health Interview Survey**.

The findings led the authors of the study to observe that this is contrary to the belief that immigrants are taxing the U.S. health care system, and that the mechanism driving these patterns is mainly access to and utilization of health care. Women are more likely to use the health care system because of their roles as family caretakers; they are more likely to be in contact with doctors and, therefore, more aware of their ailments, according to the authors. "From a policy perspective, this highlights the necessity of improving access to and utilization of medical-care services among men," **Gorman** said. "Not only would this help address an important unmet health need for many men, it would also permit health researchers to more accurately assess and forecast medical-care need and use among residents."

Jose Rojo Passes Away in Houston

Jose Rojo, a Mexican-American civil rights attorney and activist who would often represent clients who couldn't afford to pay, died in December surrounded by family and friends after suffering from pancreatic cancer. He was 84. "He's the most wonderful man I've ever known," said **Raquel Clendening**, **Rojo's** daughter. "He was selfless and the most caring, loving and giving person I've ever known. He loved humanity, and he loved life. always thought about helping the little person. He went out of his way to treat everybody special, and he would go out of his way to do anything for clients, even if they could not afford it." **Clendening** remembers coming home to a new couch that one of his clients had paid him with. "Some people could not pay him anything, but he would still represent them like they were million-dollar client," she said.



He his a

He is described by friends as one of the last remaining Mexican-American civil rights attorneys and activists who fought for the community. The **Mexican American Bar Association of Houston** sponsored a "celebration of life" event for **Rojo** on Dec. 10. "He wanted to see his friends one last time before he departed," said **Lupe Salinas**, professor at **Texas Southern University** law school and former state district judge in **Houston**. "He looked so good and so well. I didn't think his death would come so soon. Nothing had changed except that he had obviously become weakened and was sitting in a wheelchair. His smile and humorous attitude were still there." **Rojo** and **Salinas** founded the local **Mexican American Bar Association** in 1972 when **Rojo** was deputy director of the **Houston Legal Foundation**, and **Salinas** was a law student at the **University of Houston**.


JFK in 1963

Salinas said the association works to provide a legal voice for Mexican-Americans and to improve the image and education of Mexican-American attorneys. **Rojo** was at the **Rice Hotel** to greet **President John F. Kennedy** at a **LULAC** function on Nov. 21, 1963 and rode in the motorcade the following morning in **Dallas**.

Hosted TV show

He was a co-founder of **Casa de Amigos**, a North Main Street clinic that served the underprivileged and hosted **Reflejos del Barrio**, a public service show on **KPRC** (Channel 2) for the Hispanic community in the '70s. His law partner was **John J. Herrera**, one of the lead attorneys of the **Hernandez vs. Texas U.S. Supreme Court** case in 1954, which led to Mexican-Americans being on juries in counties across Texas. "He and **Herrera** were like two peas in a pod," **Clendening** said.

Rojo was born in **Port Arthur** and was a Great Depression survivor. He joined the **Navy** to serve in **World War II** and attended the **University of Texas** under the **G.I. Bill**. He pursued theatrical acting and singing at Theater Inc. after college and decided to pursue law after facing discrimination because of his ethnicity. He did not finish law school but took the bar exam and became a licensed lawyer in 1956. He met his wife while acting, and they adopted triplets in 1959. **Rojo** is survived by his children, **Raquel Clendening**, **Ramon Jose Rojo** and **Roberto Burch Rojo**.



"We earned one year of college in high school through Early College Start."

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Pensamientos para enero

Pues aquí estamos en año 2011! Quien fuera pensado? Ahora con FaceBook, YouTube, y toda la tecnologia, el mundo de uno se esta cambiando. Millions of people now sit in front of their computer and are learning how to reconstruct their reality and reference groups. They share photos, tell stories, express likes and dislikes and send notes of condolences cuando se muero uno. Ahora nomas falta que alguien tira un pedo, y se da cuenta todo el mundo. (Just give it time and someone will come up with that invention.)

For those of us who follow current events y la politica, it comes as no surprise to see the Republicans and Tea Party people flexing their muscles as they take their seats at the tables where decisions are going to be made about public policy matters. It is also no surprise to see the activists who are concerned about social issues, equity, fairness, diversity y todo lo demas, sounding the alarm about what the Republicans are up to. But the fact of the matter is that the Republicans, particularly here in Texas were willing to work harder than the Democrats to get their voters out to the polls.

Out of the 13,269,233 registered voters who could vote on November 2, 2010, only 37.7% bothered to do so. This means 8,350,192 registered voters stayed home, went fishing, or spent the day watching TV. Los excuses de que uno no sabia, o no tenia ride no valen. Ya tenemos buen rato, más de 45 años desde que paso el Voting Rights Act de 1965, y todavía unos se hacen como que no sabian. At least those who tell you to your face that they are not going to vote and don't call back have the courage to do that. Pero los otros?

Well now comes decision time. The Republicans and Tea Party people are mad and they are going to do something about what they don't like. And there is plenty they are mad about. A number of community based organizations are sending out notices about the need to be in Austin or Washington to lobby and protest changes that are being contemplated. Will their words and actions fall on deaf ears? Are they wasting their time?

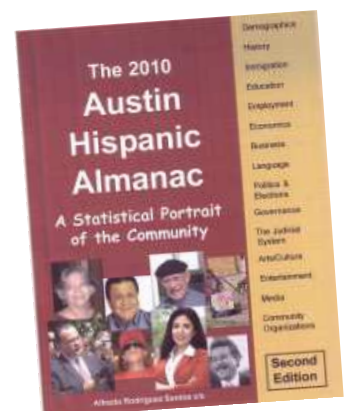
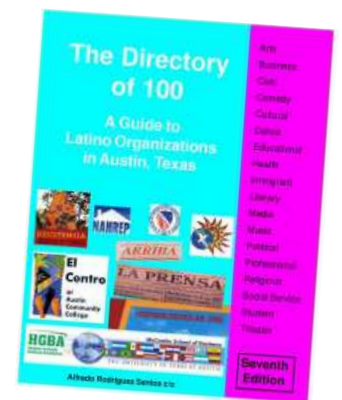
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There is no future without DREAM

By Enrique E. Figueroa

This article first appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

On June 28, 2007, the **U.S. Senate** voted to end debate on a comprehensive immigration bill. The bill was defeated 46 to 53; 34 Democrats and 12 Republicans supported the cloture vote. One provision of the comprehensive reform bill was the **DREAM Act**.

On December 18, 2010, the Senate voted on cloture on the **DREAM Act** and was defeated by a vote of 55 to 41, with 52 Democrats and three Republicans supporting it. It needed 60 votes to force another vote.

Closer, but no cigar. So what happened during these three-and-a-half years? Let's just call it a failure of leadership - from both political parties and, sadly, from Latino "leadership" as well.

Let's dissect this debacle. No, debacle is the right word. The **DREAM Act** would give the children of illegal immigrants a chance - through military service or college education - to stay. Earning their way to legal residency, in other words - for people who had no say in coming here in the first place and for whom the United States is likely the only country they know.

Many fingers will be correctly pointed at Republicans, but I note that the absence of six Democratic votes spelled the Act's demise in December. Perhaps we can have a new rallying cry going into 2011. "Remember the Six."

Essentially, senators from the party that purports to represent Latino interests best could not deliver. And, this, unfortunately, is a very old story.

Montana's **Max Baucus** and **Jon Tester** were consistent at least. They voted no both in 2007 and 2010. Joining them was **Arkansas Sen. Mark Pryor** and **Nebraska's Ben Nelson**. **Sen. Kay Hagan** of **North Carolina** voted against the **DREAM Act** in December but was not a senator in 2007. And neither was **Sen. Joe Manchin** of **West Virginia**, replacing **Sen. Robert Byrd**, who died last year. **Byrd** didn't vote for the **DREAM Act** in 2007. **Manchin** didn't vote at all for the bill in 2010.

But anyone involved with immigration reform knows that such legislation can't gain traction without Republican support, Senate rules being what they are. The minority party's ability to block and stall in that body is legend. And there was significant erosion of **GOP** support in 2010. Only two of the 12 senators who voted for comprehensive reform in 2007, voted for the **DREAM Act** in 2010. Four of the original were no longer senators in 2010 and one became a Democrat. But if even half of those senators who were supportive in 2007 had stayed supportive in 2010, the **DREAM ACT** would be law.

The reason is pretty obvious.

Both of Arizona's senators, **John McCain** and **Jon Kyl**, saw their state make headline news in 2010 because of a homegrown immigration law. **McCain** authored comprehensive immigration reform once upon a time. That, however, was before a bruising presidential campaign and a re-election campaign, both of which featured a perceived need to placate his party's hardcore right.

Sen. Orrin Hatch was one of the original co-sponsors of the **DREAM Act**. But he, too, got a message from the right - from the ouster of **Utah's** junior senator, **Bob Bennett**, by a tea party candidate in a 2010 primary election. So, **Hatch** abstained from supporting the **DREAM Act** in December, though **Bennett** did vote affirmatively.

Sen. Judd Gregg of **New Hampshire** was another one who didn't vote. And two votes counted on - **Lindsey Graham** of **South Carolina** and **Olympia Snowe** of **Maine** - voted no.

Four GOP senators who voted for comprehensive immigration reform in 2007 had been replaced by the time the 2010 vote came along, and their replacements did not support the **DREAM Act** in 2010. I suspect that Latinos had very little influence in their election. That kind of influence might have made a difference.

So, what does all this add up to? In November, the **Pew Hispanic Center** released a report titled, "National Latino Leader? The Job is Open." Sixty-four percent of Latinos surveyed could not name the most important Latino leader; 10% said one didn't exist. **Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor** received the highest score, at 7%.

I can only reiterate the survey's results. What the latest **DREAM Act** vote demonstrates is that Latino leadership was impotent and that the leadership job is indeed open. Filling it is imperative because others cannot be counted on to represent Latino interests.

Enrique E. Figueroa is the director of the Roberto Hernandez Center and associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

YHPA Austin's 5th Birthday Bash

by Monica Peña

Young Hispanic Professional Association of Austin will be celebrating their 5th year in existence at the **Mexican-American Cultural Center** on Friday, January 28th, 2011 starting at 6:00pm. The event will be hosted by **Leslie Montoya** of Univision's "Despierta Austin." The festivities will include a silent auction and DJ playing an assortment of Salsa, Cumbia, Tejano, and other dance music.

Proceeds from the evening will benefit the **YHPA Austin Scholarship Fund**. In partnership with **Hispanic Scholarship Consortium (HSC)**, four scholarships for this academic year have been awarded. Two new students studying at **University of Texas** were added in 2010, **Zuleyma Serrano**, majoring in Public Affairs Administration and Communication Studies and **Nallely Ruiz**, majoring in Pre-Nursing. Existing students that have reapplied and kept up their Grade Point Average's are funded each year they are in school. Through **YHPA's** fundraising efforts, \$8,000 in scholarships has been matched by **HSC** and the organization hopes to increase the number of recipients in 2011.

Throughout the years **YHPA Austin** members have assisted in various community service events such as **La Feria Para Aprender**, **Un Sabado Gigante in Engineering**, **El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros** (Children's Day/Book Day), and **Bridges to Education** (a commitment to mentoring Webb middle school students). Participating in membership appreciation, social/networking, and fundraiser events are just a few of the benefits of being part of the association. For more information on the organization and the upcoming event: www.yhpaa.org

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César Chávez Holiday To Be Eliminated in Texas?

"I Don't Think so..." Says Rep. Alonzo

by

Texas State Representative Roberto R. Alonzo

District 104 - Dallas

Legislation has been filed for the 82nd Legislature by Texas lawmaker, **State Rep. Tyron Lewis** of **Odessa** which would eliminate "**Cesar Chavez Day**" as a state optional holiday in **Texas**. That is shameful. That is unfortunate, especially when we consider everything that the civil rights icon, human rights advocate and civil rights activist has done for the poor, the disenfranchised, and the oppressed, not only in **Texas** but all over the country. **Rep. Lewis** yesterday filed House **Bill 505** which would eliminate "**Cesar Chavez Day**," and replace it with "**Texas Hispanic Heritage Day**," in **Texas** as an optional state holiday.



Roberto R. Alonzo

Cesar Chavez was a passionate advocate for social justice and civil rights for the poor and the disenfranchised, not only in **Texas**, but all over the United States. He was a role model for many hard-working average Americans, especially farm workers. He was truly an American hero and icon. In 1991, **Chavez** received one of **Mexico's** premier awards, **Aguila Azteca** (Aztec Eagle) for contributions made outside **Mexico**.

Additionally, in 1994, he was posthumously presented with our nation's highest civilian honor, the **Presidential Medal of Freedom**. As a former migrant worker myself, my family and I - like so many others across every geographic corner of the great **United States** - are honored and humbled indeed every year when we gather in unison to commemorate the day that honors this great man, this role model and giant, and the many accomplishments he achieved so that the rest of us could have a better quality of life and success in the future.

I find the filing of **HB 505** by my colleague **Rep. Lewis** eliminating **Cesar Chavez Day** in **Texas** as an optional holiday, as a slap in the face, not only to migrant farmworkers, but to Hispanics all over the state and nation, but most particularly in **Texas** where we have already become the majority population in the state, and growing. The monumental civil rights icon, labor rights activists, representative for so many average day workers deserves better.

By eliminating **Cesar Chavez Day** as a holiday in **Texas** we are in essence turning back history and telling all Hispanics, particularly our children and grandchildren, that if you accomplish great things and make a positive difference in improving the quality of life for others, you will not be recognized if you are a migrant, Hispanic, or other minority. That to me, is shameful. **HB 505** is nothing more than an ultra-conservative, right-wing, anti-Hispanic, and anti-immigrant measure that will only serve to continue to hold back and reverse the advancements that we as Hispanics have struggled so much and hard for to improve the lives of Hispanics all over **Texas** and the nation.

My First Experiences with the Border Patrol

by **Alfredo Rodriguez Santos c/s**

Growing up in **Uvalde, Texas** I often saw the green caca colored vehicles that carried the **Border Patrol** emblems on the doors. The men inside almost always wore cowboy hats and aviator style sunglasses.



Sometimes I would see them driving really slow along the farm-to-market roads, looking out into the *monte* (brush). Whenever the *zopilotes* (buzzards) were circling above, it was inevitable that **Border Patrol** agents were coming into the area. I knew what had happened.

When my family and I would drive to **Piedras Negras**, or "*P'al otro lado*" as my **Uncle Lito** often referred to it, I saw what I thought were the same men in uniform. On the way back over the bridge, they would motion cars forward, check the *cajuelas* (trunks) and ask people the same question, "*Are you a United States citizen?*" In our less than perfect English, all of us in the car would answer in unison, "Yes!" and smile wide. I didn't know if the **Border Patrol** agents were different from the Customs agents who worked only the bridges, *para mi todos eran igual*.

My next contact with the men in green was in the summer of 1969. I had gone up North to work in the sugar beet fields of **Minnesota** and then over to **Wisconsin** to work at a **Del Monte** cannery. **Oscar Castro**, the guy who took us, had worked there the year before so he had all the connections. My friends and I worked the grave yard shift from 10:00pm to 6:00am. We were in the labeling and boxing section and were the last ones to see the cans of vegetables before they were

put into boxes for shipping. After we got off work in the morning we usually grabbed something to eat in the company cafeteria or would go gamble with **Paul**, the guy from **Florida** who drove the long black 1961 Cadillac limousine. **El Paul** was always ready to break out the dice.

One morning after losing \$20 to **Paul**, I headed back to the barracks. About 10 of us lived in each barrack and over time we got to know everyone and their personal stories. I had gone to sleep when all of a sudden the door burst open and people started yelling. I turned over and saw men in uniforms with guns. *En la madre!* A couple of them came over to where I was and asked me if I was an American citizen. "Yes", I answered. Then they asked **Oscar, Onofre** and **Alfred Valverde** the same question. They all answered in the affirmative.

But across the room I could see the man we called **El Grande**. He was standing next to his bunk speaking with a Border Patrol agent. We knew he was from **Mexico** and everyone liked him. He was a hard worker and a pleasant man. I didn't notice the other men who were also

standing next to their bunks, because my eyes were fixated on the tears coming out of **El Grande's** eyes. I heard when the Border Patrol agent in his broken Spanish told **Grande**, "*Recoje sus cosas, tu vas a venir con nosotros.*"

El Grande quickly began placing clothes and other personal belongings into a small bag. We could tell through the tears that he knew it was over for him. What ever dreams kept his spirit alive were being dashed by the reality that he was going to be shipped back to **Mexico**. By now we were dressed and standing next to our bunks.

We watched helplessly as the men from **Mexico** packed their things. But the thing that I remember the most was when **El Grande** realized that he could not fit everything into his small bag and made a gesture offering us a pair of his shoes. I believe it was **Oscar** who stepped forward to accept them. The look of sadness in his face is one that I can still see today.

The men were escorted out of the barracks and we watched as they were loaded into the same green caca colored vehicles we had in **Uvalde**. **Oscar**, myself, and the other guys just stared at the ground. We didn't know what to think or even how to think about what had just took place right before our eyes. It would not be until a few years later when we were in college that inhumanity of this event would settle into our minds forever.



ABOVE: Los amigos que se fueron pa'l norte in 1969

An Interview with Executive Director

In the world of business development and venture capital, **Teo Tijerina** is a name you are going to be hearing more often around the country. This **Stanford University** graduate has put together a team that helps others secure the talent and funding to turn ideas into successful commercial ventures. Tijerina sat down with **La Voz de Austin** recently to share some of what is going on with his company, **EDCO Ventures**.

La Voz: I first met you about two years ago. **Perla Cavazos** introduced us at a function at **Juan in a Million**. Since then I have been following you over the internet and you appear to be into a lot of venture capital activities. So let's start with this question: What are you into these days?

Tijerina: Well these days we are continuing to move forward by supporting innovation and high growth entrepreneurship in low income communities. In addition, we are also targeting founders who are underrepresented in this space. This would be women, Latinos, and African Americans.

La Voz: Ok, so would you say your group is a venture capitalist operation?

Tijerina: I would say that we are on our way to becoming one. We didn't start off with a model of being a financing institution. We started off being more of an incubator. We provide a lot of mentoring and assistance. We also make micro investments

because some of the most difficult capital to get is in the start up phase. And so now we are transitioning our model by launching **Innovación Investments** which will make us a much stronger financing organization in the venture capital space. But we want to differentiate ourselves by really becoming a community development venture capital operation.

La Voz: Are there any local examples of businesses that you have helped recently?

Tijerina: Yes. Some of the local companies that we have been working with include **Jason Aramburu**, a **Princeton** graduate from **San Antonio**, who designed a piece of equipment that converts bio mass into bio diesel. He is doing very well. He recently won a competition in **Amersterdam** for 200,000 euros and Hatachi recently gave him a 50,000 grant so he can further his innovations.

La Voz: And he is based here in **Austin**?

Tijerina: Yes, he is based here in **Austin**. We have also worked with **Gonzalo Banuelo** and his company **Pik Luk**.

La Voz: What does he do?

Tijerina: **Pik Luk** is a children's browser. It primarily deals with security issues for 3 to 9 year old kids and allows parents to control their children's access. We have also been working with **Elias Hermida** and **Cristian Nash**. Their company is called **1-800-Hispano**. It is also a local company here in **Austin**.

La Voz: When people want to start a business, how do they come to you?

Tijerina: We usually make contact through introductions, through our networks, and through our board. We also make contact through direct solicitations. Some folks go straight to our web page. They hear about us and are making direct contact. I would say that in the early days it was mostly networks. But today it is about 50/50. Half of the solicitations we are getting are coming online. We also attend a lot of conferences and other events where innovators are prospecting and looking for funders.

La Voz: So would you say your mission is has to do with community economic development?

Tijerina: Generally speaking, our mission is about helping low income communities improve their economic competitiveness through entrepreneurship. This is a fancy way of saying that we are working with them to create companies in their community that will provide better paying jobs, and will create local wealth. Companies not only create jobs, they also contribute to the tax base, which means more money for these communities to provide local services such as education, roads, health care, and other shared benefits. We also do a lot of work in **South Texas** and along the **Texas** border. There are many challenges for the region, but what we see as the biggest barrier to advancement is improving the quality of companies that are locally headquartered. Many often point to unemployment and education as the causes of regional

distress. However, the region's unemployment is comparable to the state and national average. And, education needs improvement, but providing education without economic development simply results in a Brain Drain. Let me explain what I mean. In 2009, **UT El Paso** and **UT Pan American** awarded 350 BS degrees and 160 MS degrees in Science and Engineering. An overwhelming number of those graduates are forced to leave the region to find employment in their field of study.

La Voz: I noticed from your website that you speak of impact investing? Share with our readers what you mean by "impact investing."

Tijerina: We recently began working on a social venture and nonprofit center in **Austin**, called **2C East**, but we have not been able to obtain sufficient local support, so its taking us a little longer than anticipated. Nevertheless, we know that **2C East** and other institutions have to be created to support the

emerging field of social ventures and "impact investing." Impact investors are typically persons who want to see both social and financial returns. **Texas** is way behind **California** and other areas in the realm of social ventures, especially in the cultivating a class or group of impact investors. Ironically, in my opinion Texas needs impact investing more than these other regions when one looks at our social indices and challenges. In light of this, **EDCO's** plan for **2C East** needs some tweaking, but the goal remains the same and our determination will not waver.

La Voz: I hear that **EDCO Ventures** was recently approved for a federal grant from the **Department of Health and Human Services**. Can you tell us about the project funded by this grant?

Tijerina: In Oct 2010, we received notice that we were awarded \$796,000 from the **Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Services**. The



"We were into providing a lot of mentoring and assistance and interfacing with entrepreneurs. . ."



"We recently began a social venture and nonprofit center in Austin, called 2C East,"

Teofilo Tijerina of EDCO Ventures

grant will allow **EDCO Ventures** to make a \$500,000 investment into **CherryFusion**, an emerging company in **El Paso, Texas**. **EDCO** will also be responsible for providing technical assistance for 3 years. This single investment has a multi-layered impact: it stimulates economic growth along the **US—Mexico** border region, it creates living wage jobs, and it helps reduce the area's carbon footprint through a green business model. This project truly represents **EDCO's** work, to inspire and support high-growth entrepreneurship development located in distressed communities. If we obtain our target projections, we anticipate creating approximately 45 jobs over a 5-7 year time frame.

La Voz: I understand that you have an engineering background and worked for a locally-owned manufacturing company in **El Paso** that decided to sell its ownership to a national franchise. I heard you became involved in organizing workers to buy the company so that it would stay local.



"The number one ingredient for the success of a startup is the entrepreneur and startup team."

Tijerina: When I first moved to **El Paso**, I worked as a Quality Engineer for **Rockwell Semiconductor Systems**, which subsequently spun off into **Conexant Systems**. The company ran a 3 shift operation, 7 days a week, and our sales ranged between \$60M-\$100M with about 1500 employees. When **Conexant** announced the sale of the **El Paso** division, we knew the most likely scenario was that the plant would shut down and someone would buy the intellectual property. In an attempt to keep the plant open, a few of the engineers and I organized a group of employees in an attempt to buy the plant.

Only 2 managers joined our group. At the time, the company had approximately \$30m in contract manufacturing sales, and we were profitable. We also knew that our contract clients were happy with the service and price they were receiving, so we believed the conditions were feasible to obtain financing. **Conexant** eventually sold the product line to a buyer in **California**, and practically gave away the **El Paso** plant assets to **Stoneridge-Pollack**. **Stoneridge** kept a much smaller version of the **El Paso** operation open for a couple of years, and now all those jobs are in **Juarez, MX**.

La Voz: Tell me about that experience and why you thought it was important for it to stay local?

Tijerina: **Conexant** was one of the few good places to work in **El Paso**. Most of the engineers

were local graduates from **Juarez** universities, **UTEP**, or **New Mexico State** in **Las Cruces**. At the time, I was very committed to living on the border. We didn't want to leave **El Paso**, and most importantly, this was one of the few places that offered a real career path in **El Paso**.

The silver lining from this experience was that a smaller group of us took what we learned, and went on to start our own company. Furthermore, these experiences in entrepreneurship began to shape the foundation and vision for **EDCO Ventures**.

La Voz: What is the number one ingredient for a successful business?

**The number one
ingredient for the
success of a startup is
the entrepreneur and . . .**

Tijerina: The number one ingredient for the success of a startup is the entrepreneur and startup team. The entrepreneur has to be a person that is financially and emotionally invested in their company. The individual must surround themselves with good advisors, have a firm grasp of what they know and don't know, be aware of their strengths and weaknesses, and a willingness to seek help in the areas where they have gaps.

The business model comes second. A thorough understanding of the value proposition, the competitive landscape, the competitive advantages, barriers to entry, and the market potential are essential. Along with the

business model it is important to create realistic financial projections with sound assumptions. Most financial projections for startups are too optimistic in sales growth and timeline, and they underestimate expenses.

La Voz: What is your proudest accomplishment?

Tijerina: Our proudest accomplishment to date is attaining the recent **Health and Human Services** award. **EDCO's** highest level of activity began in January 2009 when I became a full time employee and **Laura Bosworth** joined us as a Venture Executive. As we all know, 2009 was a brutal climate to fundraise. I began to hear folks in the community commenting about **EDCO's** progress, and this was naturally upsetting given how hard we were all working. The frustration was further magnified because some of our early setbacks were due to entrepreneurs not listening to our advice, which is beyond our control.

In general, **EDCO's** model is still not an accepted model by the philanthropic community. They have adopted micro-lending and other strategies, but my recent conversations with industry colleagues agree that the verdict is still out on high growth and innovation. **EDCO's** view is that everything is needed in today's economy.

In terms of **EDCO's** reception, the **Kauffman Foundation** and many other national foundations have shown interest, but they haven't written any checks. In fact, most technology incubators are almost entirely funded with local or state funding, and for

profit incubators are typically the playgrounds of entrepreneurs who have already made a lot of money. Getting this grant from an agency besides the **EDA** has become a validation of our business model, and we are eager to further demonstrate that what we have to offer is impactful.

La Voz: Share with our readers where you grew up and went to school.

Tijerina: I was born in **Reynosa Tamaulipas**, just across the border from **McAllen, Texas**. I graduated from **McAllen High School** in 1991, and then obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering in 1996 from **Stanford University**. While in **El Paso**, I enrolled at the **University of Texas El Paso**, in their MBA program. After a few courses, I switched degree plans to pursue a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS). The **MAIS** program was better aligned with my interests. I was able to design my own course plan, and I participated in independent study focused on Economic Development and courses that dealt with the interrelationships between business and society. I am a few courses shy of completing the **MAIS** program because I moved to **Austin** in 2004 to live a little closer to home.

La Voz: Well, I want to thank you for taking the time to visit with us. I am sure our readers will benefit from reading this interview and understanding a little better what it is you are up to.

Tijerina: Pues muchas gracias por haber hecho la invitación para esta entrevista. And let me invite your readers to visit our web page at www.edconline.org.

Are the Republicans Com

With the switch of **Texas State Representative Aaron Peña** from the **Democratic Party** to the **Republican Party** a few weeks ago, many are beginning ask if the **Republicans** are coming? Are the recent victories of Hispanic Republicans not only here in **Texas** but around the country indicative of a change that is growing?

Here are some numbers to ponder: In the 2010 elections, the **Republican Party** in **Texas** had 28 Hispanics running in the March Primary.(This figure does not reflect judicial or county level contests) A total of 10 of them won their primary bid and four had to go into a run-off to win their nomination. Fourteen Hispanic Republicans made it into the General Election and 8 were victorious. (See table to the right)

The **Democratic Party** had 55 Hispanics running in the March Primay. A total of 43 of them won outright and one had to go into a run-off election in order to secure the party's nomination. Out of the 44 who made to the General Election in November, 30 won the seat they were seeking and 14 lost. See Table 1 below.

Table 1
Number of Hispanic
Candidates in 2010

	Win	Lose
Democrats	30	14
Republicans	8	6
	38	20

Source: Texas Secretary of State, Elections Division

The **Republican Party** has made many attempts to field Hispanic candidates over the years. Table 2 below shows how well the party has done since 2000 in non-judicial or county level contests

Table 2
Number of Hispanic Republican
Candidates 2000 to 2010 in Texas

2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
5	23	13	12	13	28

Source: Texas Secretary of State, Elections Division

Hispanics in Texas who Ran as Republicans in the 2010 March

Candidate	Office Seeking	Incumbent	Primary Election Votes and Percent	Run-Off Election Votes	General Election Votes
1. Melecio Franco	U.S. Rep Dist 8	No	1,565 (2.3%)	Did not advance	
2. Eddie Zamora	U.S. Rep Dist 15	No	4,201 (32.53%)	1,558 (56.75)	39,964 (41.59%)
3. Daniel Garza	U.S Rep Dist 15	No	3,310 (25.63%)	Did not advance	-
4. Bill Flores	U.S Rep. Dist 17	No	21,479 (33.04%)	21,913 (65.13%)	106,696 (61.80%)
5. Joseph "Jaime" Martinez	U.S. Rep. Dist 20	No	3,510 (29.68%)	957 (28,25%)	Did not advance
6. Fransico "Quico" Canseco	U.S. Rep. Dist 23	No	9,210 (32.15%)	7,210 (52.63%)	74,853 (49.39%)
7. Jessica Puente-Bradshaw	U.S. Rep. Dist 27	No	3,097 (15.75%)	Did not advance	
8. Daniel Chavez	U.S. Rep. Dist 28	No	4,792 (26.01%)	Did not advance	
9. Roy Morales	U.S. Rep Dist 29	No	4,137 (58.35%)	-	22,825 (34.09%)
10. Victor G. Carillo	Railroad Commissioner	Yes	474,409 (39,26%)	Did not advance	
11. Eva Guzman	Justice, Supreme Court Place 9	Yes	722,258 (65.29%)	-	2,919,054 (60.34%)
12. Rose Vela	Justice, Supreme Court Place 9	No	383,936 (34.70%)	Did not advance	-
13. Carlos "Charlie" Garza	State Board of Ed. District # 1	No	34,845 (100.00%)	-	112,167 (51.14%)
14. Daniel Chavez	State Senator District 29	No	10,841 (100.00%)	-	33,303 (39.75%)
15. Nicholas Rodriguez	State Rep. Dist 33	No	1,212 (31.55%)	Did not advance	
16. Raul Torres	State Rep. Dist 33	No	2,629 (68.44%)	-	12,499 (52.50%)
17. Jose Aliseda	State Rep. Dist 35	No	5,136 (100.00%)	-	15,324 (52.81%)
18. Rebecca Cevera	State Rep. Dist 41	No	1,684 (100.00%)	-	8,012 (43.01%)
19. Larry Gonzales	State Rep Dist 52	No	4,093 (37.50%)	3,584 (71.36%)	25,430 (57.44%)
20. Yolanda Sotelo Garza	State Rep Dist 74	No	880 (19.20%)	Did not advance, lost to Thomas (T.C.) Kincaid, Jr.	
21. L. Rene Diaz	State Rep Dist 78	No	276 (3.52%)	Did not advance	
22. Ysidro Gutierrez	State Rep. Dist 84	No	954 (8.20%)	Did not advance, lost to Mark Griffin	
23. Victor Leal	State Rep Dist 87	No	5,166 (44.83%)	Did not advance	
24. John V. Garza	State Rep. Dist 117	No	3,814 (100.00%)	-	14,705 (51.88%)
25. Juan J. Hinojosa	State Rep. Dist 119	No	932 (32.79%)	Did not advance, lost to Michael Holdman	
26. Syliva Spivey	State Rep Dist 137	No	1,420 (100.00%)	-	
27. Gilbert Peña	State Rep. Dist 143	No	801 (100.00%)	-	3,438 (31.69%)
28. Fernando Herrera	State Rep. Distr 148	No	1,326 (53.79%)	-	9,790 (47.76%)

ning? ¿O ya estan aquí?

h Primary

Winner

Blue - Democrat
Red - Republican

Kevin Brady (R)

Rubén Hinojosa (D)

R. Blake Farenthold (R)

Bill Flores (R)

Charles Gonzalez (D)

Francisco Canseco (R)

Henry Cuellar (D)

Gene Green (D)

David Porter (R)

Eva Guzman (R)

Carlos Garza (R)

Jose R. Rodriguez (D)

Raul Torres (R)

Jose Aliseda (R)

Veronica Gonzales (D)

Larry Gonzales (R)

Pete Gallego (D)

Dee Margo (R)

John Frullo (R)

Four Price (R)

John V. Garza (R)

Roldand Gutierrez (D)

Scott Hochberg (D)

Ana E. Hernandez (D)

Jessica Farrar (D)



Eva Guzman
Justice
Texas Supreme Court



Carlos "Charlie" Garza
State Board of Education
District 1



Quico Canseco
U.S Congress
District 23



John V. Garza
State Rep. Dist 117



Jose Aliseda
State Rep. Dist 35



Larry Gonzales
State Rep. Dist 52



Bill Flores
U.S. Rep Dist 17



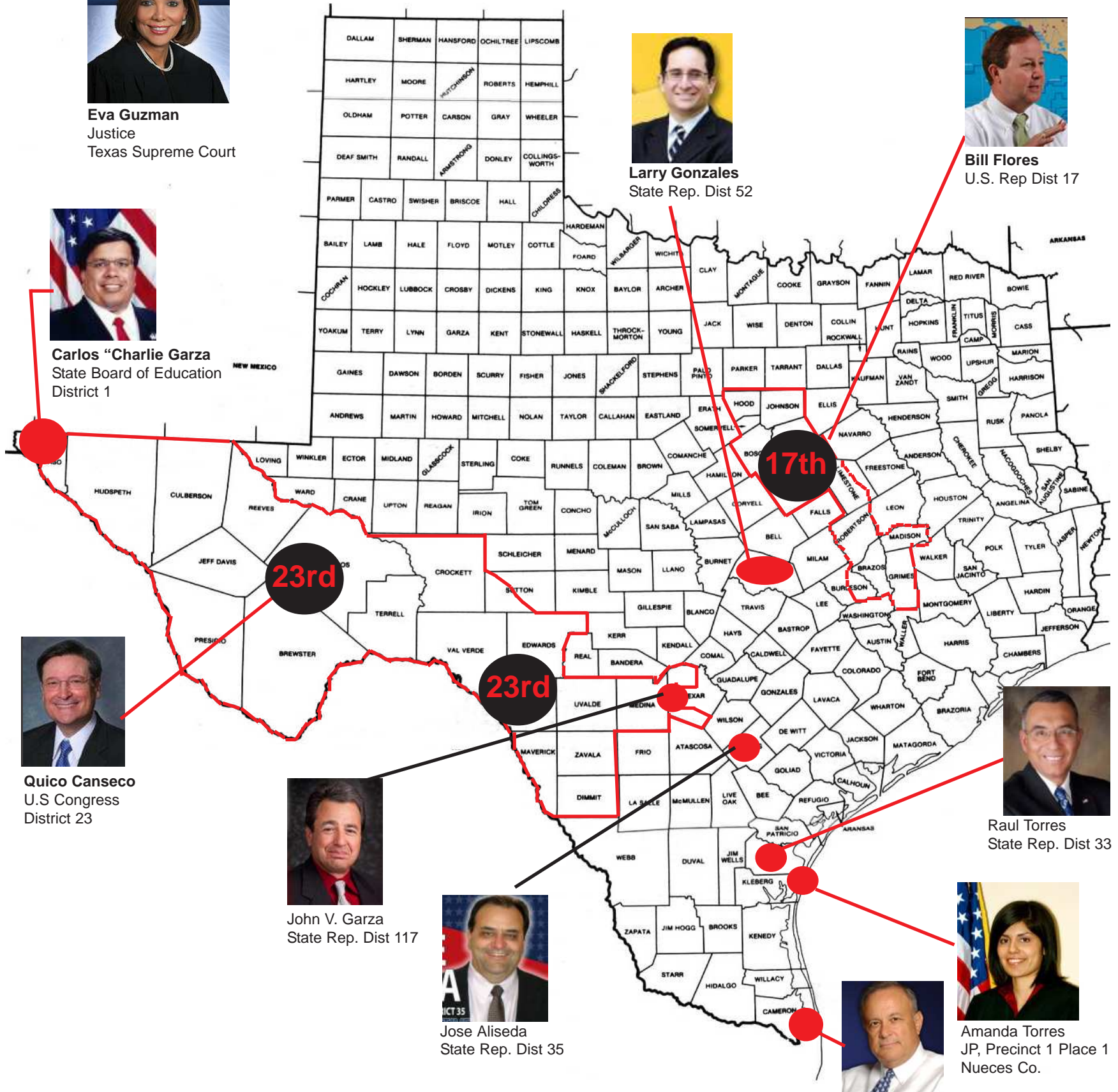
Raul Torres
State Rep. Dist 33



Amanda Torres
JP, Precinct 1 Place 1
Nueces Co.



Carlos Cascos
Judge, Cameron County



The Numbers Behind the Continuing Immigration Debate

As the debate heats up in 2011 about immigration policy, it is important that numbers be a part of the discussion. Much of what makes its way into the popular press is charged with emotion, anger and ignorance. The tables and graphs on these two pages provide but a small quantitative look at what is sure to be a hot topic in the coming year.

Table 1 at the bottom of this page shows how many people successfully obtained permanent legal status starting in 1850. As the table shows, there is an increase up until 1920. Then it drops off and does not show an increase until 1950. In 1990, more than a million and a half people became legal permanent residents of the United States. In 2000, this number dropped 46% to 841,002 people. In 2009, the number of people who received legal permanent status was 1,130,818.

Table 2 shows who and how people received legal permanent status in 2009. Most received this status through family members already in the United States.

Table 2 Persons Who Obtained Legal Permanent Status by Type and Major Classification of Admission in 2009	
Family Sponsored	211,859
Immediate Relatives of U.S. Citizens	535,554
Employment Based Preferences	144,034
Diversity	47,879
Refugees	118,836
Asylees	58,532
Parolees	2,385
Children Born to Alien Residents	587
Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Act	296
Cancellation of Removal Status	8,156
Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act	552
Other	2,148
Total	1,130,818

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 6

Table 3 Top 15 Countries of Persons Who Obtained Legal Permanent Status by Country of Birth in 2009		
1.	Mexico	164,920
2.	China	64,238
3.	Philippines	60,029
4.	India	57,304
5.	Dominican Republic	49,414
6.	Cuba	38,954
7.	Vietnam	29,234
8.	Colombia	27,954
9.	South Korea	25,859
10.	Haiti	24,280
11.	Jamaica	21,783
12.	Pakistan	21,555
13.	El Salvador	19,909
14.	Iran	18,553
15.	Peru	16,957

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 3

Table 4 shows how many people filed petitions to become a United States citizen. The table also shows how many were denied.

Table 4 Petitions for Naturalization Filed in 2009		
743,715	Petitions Naturalized	
726,043	Civilian	
7,100	Military	
109,813	Petitions Denied	

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 20

Definitions

An Undocumented Alien is a person in the country without formal permission.

A Lawful Permanent Resident is a person who is authorized to live and work in the United States of America on a permanent basis. In the United States, the Permanent Resident Card was informally known as a green card from 1946 till 1964.

A Lawful Permanent Resident can apply for United States citizenship, or naturalization, after five years of residency. Naturalization is the acquisition of citizenship and nationality by somebody who was not a citizen or national of that country when he or she was born. This period is shortened to three years if married to a U.S. citizen, or four years if permanent residency was received through asylum. Citizens are entitled to more rights (and obligations) than permanent residents (who are still classified as aliens in this respect). Permanent residents who reside in the US must pay taxes on their worldwide income, like U.S. citizens.

Table 5 shows the number of people who became U.S.citizens in 2009 by their country of birth. As in table 3 with legal permanent residents, Mexico continued to lead all other countries.

Table 5 Top 10 Countries of Persons Who Were Naturalized by Country of Birth in 2009		
1.	Mexico	111,630
2.	India	52,889
3.	China	37,130
4.	Vietnam	31,168
5.	Cuba	24,891
6.	Dominican Republic	20,778
7.	El Salvador	18,927
8.	South Korea	17,576
9.	Jamaica	15,098
10.	Haiti	13,290

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 21

Table 1 Number of Persons Who Obtained Legal Permanent Status from 1850 to 2000															
369,980	153,640	387,203	457,257	455,302	448,572	1,041,570	430,001	241,700	70,756	249,187	265,398	373,326	524,295	1,535,872	841,002
1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 1

Los Números detrás del Debate de Inmigración

The United States Government has been keeping track of Border Patrol apprehensions since 1925. In that year, 22,199 people were taken into custody for being in the United States without authorization. During the 1930s and early 1940s, annual apprehensions were between 10,000 and 20,000. In 1946, the number climbed to 99,591 and continued into the hundreds of thousands until 1954 when it topped out at 1,089,583. This was the year that **Operation Wetback** was put into place.

It wasn't until 1976, that the number of Border Patrol apprehensions would once again reach one million plus. In 1986, the United States government passed the **Immigration Reform and Control Act** in November. That year close to two million people were apprehended by the Border Patrol.

According to the **Yearbook of Immigration Statistics**, in 2009, a total of 613,003 people were apprehended. Of this number, 528,139 or 86%, claimed Mexican nationality. The second largest group were Guatemalans. Table 6 shows apprehension figures along the Southern border from 2000 to 2009. As enforcement actions have increased, there have been significant decreases in apprehensions. This is believed to be the result of fewer people coming into the United States or changes in their ports of entry.

Once an individual is caught by the **Border Patrol**, two things can happen: an order of removal with administrative or criminal consequences can take place, or an individual may simply be returned to his home country based on a voluntary agreement. In 2009, the **United States** government ordered the removal of 393,289 inadmissible aliens and returned 580,107 others.

Most people would not be surprised to learn that many of those returned to their home country were Mexicans. The second largest group of those returned were people from **Canada**. In terms of removals, people from **Mexico** were at the top of the list followed by those from **Guatemala**.

Table 7
Top 5 Countries of Persons Who Were Removed by Country of Birth in 2009

1.	Mexico	111,630
2.	Guatemala	22,750
3.	Honduras	19,959
4.	El Salvador	14,186
5.	Brazil	3,040

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 38

Table 6
Border Patrol Apprehensions Along the US/Mexico Border from 2000 to 2009

Sector	2000	2005	2009
San Diego, CA	151,681	126,909	118,712
El Centro, CA	238,126	55,726	33,520
Yuma, AZ	108,747	138,438	6,952
Tucson, AZ	616,346	439,090	241,667
El Paso, Tx	115,696	122,689	14,998
Marfa, Tx	13,689	10,536	6,357
Del Rio, Tx	157,178	68,510	17,082
Laredo, Tx	108,973	75,342	40,571
Rio Grande Valley, Tx . .	133,243	134,188	60,992

Source: 2009 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Office of Immigration Statistics, Table 35

Notice that in the **Yuma, Arizona** sector, **Border Patrol** apprehensions dropped from 108,747 in 2000, to 6,952 in 2009. **El Centro, California** also experience a significant decrease in apprehensions over this same time period.

After the 911 attack in 2001, major changes in the way the United States oversees immigration laws and enforcement were enacted. One of these changes was the merger of the investigative and interior enforcement elements of the **U.S. Customs Service** and the **Immigration and Naturalization Service** into a agency called **ICE**, Immigration and Customs Enforcement in 2003.

Through a new focus called the **Secure Communities** strategy, **ICE** has changed the way the way the government identifies and removes undocumented aliens from the United States. When someone is arrested for a crime and booked into local law enforcement their fingerprints are checked against **FBI** and **Department of Homeland Security** records. **ICE** officials then determine if immigration enforcement actions are required, and consider the severity of the crime and the alien's criminal history.

A recently released **ICE** report shows that 392,862 people were removed from the United States as of September, 2010. **ICE** has three Secure Communities criminal offense categories and designates them as levels. (See Table 8)

Level one offenses include: Homicide, Kidnapping, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Threats, Cruelty Toward a Child, Weapons, and Drug offenses where the sentence is more than one year. Level two offenses are: Arson, Burglary, Stolen Vehicles, Forgery, Fraud, Embezzlement, Stolen Property, Smuggling, and Money Laundering. Level three offenses include: Family offenses, and Public Order offenses.

Using these categories, **ICE** identifies and apprehends removable aliens, detains them and removes them from the U.S. The process prioritizes the apprehension, arrest and removal of convicted criminals, based on the offense categories and those who pose a threat to national security.

It is expected that the number of undocumented aliens who are apprehended and removed will continue to increase as enforcement actions of the U.S. government continues to grow and expand.



Table 8
2010 ICE Removals based on Criminal Status

Non Criminal	
	197,090
Criminal	
Level One	64,466
Level Two	85,761
Level Three	45,545
Sub Total	195,772
Grande Total	392,862

Source: 2010 ICE report, Office of Homeland Security. Data excludes U.S. Marshall prisoners, juveniles in custody and care of the Office of Refugee Resettlement and MIRP.

ABOUT

Part of the information for this story came from the **Transaccional Records Access Clearinghouse** (<http://trac.syr.edu>) which is located at **Syracuse University**. Found in 1989, this organization seeks to provide oversight about the staffing, spending, and enforcement activities of government agencies.

Austin/Travis County HHS

Work-Based Learning Program/Summer Youth Employment

Summer 2011 Youth Employment Opportunities

What We Do:

The WBLP/SYE provides the opportunity for young people to develop competence and confidence as well as workplace skills in a “real-world of work” environment. Youth will be exposed to career awareness and exploration while developing their career plans and a commitment to lifelong learning. The Program expands young people’s choices by preparing them with necessary workforce skills needed to succeed as citizens and productive employees. Youth have the opportunity to see knowledge applied in the “real-world of work” while being offered interaction with positive, successful adult role models who provide guidance in setting and achieving goals.

Who Can Participate:

Youth between the ages of 14 to 17 (14 to 22 for youth with disabilities)
(must be 14 years of age no later than April 1, 2011)

Youth must reside in the City of Austin and/or Travis County

Youth must attend school in the City of Austin and/or Travis County

Requirements:

Complete 15 hours of job-readiness training (JRT)

Valid Student ID or report card for the current school year

Social Security Card

Must commit to a 5-week work session during the 2011 summer program

Parents can register youth for Job-Readiness Training beginning January 3, 2011 by calling 5128544590. All training must be completed no later than March 31, 2011.



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Dorothy Day

The 2011 *Social Justice* *Saturday School* in Austin, Texas



Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Before **Rosa Parks** refused to move to the back of the bus in December of 1955, she spent time at the **Highlander Folk School** in **Mount Eagle, Tennessee** learning about the history of social protest. Before **Cesar Chavez** began organizing farm workers in **California** and undertaking the table grape boycott in the 1960s, he spent time at **Saul Alinsky's Industrial Areas Foundation** in **Chicago** learning how poor people can build power in their communities. Even **Dorothy Day**, the founder of the **Catholic Worker Movement**, went back to "school" to learn about the gospel of social change.

In January of 2011, the **Center for Mexican American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin**, **Austin Voices for Education and Youth**, **Austin Community College's Center for Public Policy and Political Studies**, and the **Mexican American Center for Community and Economic Development** have joined together to sponsor the fifth annual **Social Justice Saturday School**. This 7 week program at **The University of Texas at Austin** will provide high school students with opportunities to learn about the social change process and how to organize and improve their schools and neighborhoods.



Cesar Chavez



Saul Alinsky



Students pay close attention to each guest speaker during the sessions at Lanier High School

Students who attend the **Social Justice Saturday School** will take short courses in:

1. Social Movements in History
2. Economics & the Origins of Poverty,
3. Agenda Setting in the Community
4. The "ins and outs" of Texas prisons and jails
5. The Use of Public Narratives: The Story of You, Us and Now
6. Understanding the Education Pipeline
7. Superman was an Illegal Alien: Immigrations and the story of America

Students will also have numerous opportunities to hear guest speakers, watch documentary films, and participate in class discussions, debates and skits.

Alfredo Rodriguez Santos c/s will be directing the Social Justice Saturday School and believes that those students who participate in this project will come away with a unique understanding of how they too can become creative community activists.

**January 22nd, 2011 to
March 5th, 2011 at
The University of Texas at Austin**

TO APPLY to the 2011 Social Justice Saturday School please fill out an application (www.mexicanamericancenter.com) and send it to maced1234@sbcglobal.net or mail it to:

**If you have any questions about the Social Justice Saturday School please call:
(512) 944-4123 or (512) 450-1880**

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EDUCATION
and YOUTH

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Calendar of Events

January 8th, 2011 - Vamos a Platicar: Panel Discussion 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tour of **Austin History Center** 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Panelists will be **Sylvia Orozco, Margo Gutierrez** and **Gloria Espitia**. Audience members will be encouraged to participate in the discussion as well as offer suggestions on how to make local history exciting and informative to future generations. This program is free and open to the public. For more information click on this link: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/news/nr20101215.htm>

January 11th, 2011 - **LULAC Advocacy Day** in Austin, Texas. Meet at the State Capitol.

January 13th, 2011 - **Teatro VIVO’s Rupert Reyes** is performing his one man show Route 307 at 8pm at Frontera Fest at Hyde Park Theatre. Seats are limited. Ticket info at www.teatrovivo.org

January 16th, 2011 - Last day to view the Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County Exhibit at the Austin History Center at Guadalupe and 9th Street in Austin, Texas

January 17, 2011 - **MLK March in Austin, Texas**. To celebrate the national MLK day holiday, the Heritage Council is sponsoring the Community March. The purpose of this 17th annual Community March is to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy while uplifting diversity and multi-culturalism in our city. The MLK Community March kicks off at 9 a.m. with a short program at the MLK Statue on the University of Texas campus. We will then march to the historic Huston-Tillotson University, where exciting activities are planned. For more information contact Carol Wright at (512) 323-6773 ext. 102.

January 20th, 2011 - Maria Canchola Birthday Party and Campaign Kikckoff event at El Gallo Restaurant, 2910 S. Congress in Austin, Texas Event starts at 5:30pm. For more information visit: www.mariacanchola.com

January 22, 2011 - **Social Justice Saturday School** begins at UT Austin. 30 college and high students will the about the art of civic engagment and how to become effective community activists in their communities and schools. For more information contact Alfredo Santos c/s at (512) 944-4123

January 29th, 2011 - **Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County** Closing Reception Palmer Events Center 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The reception will honor the thirty-two Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers. A 10 minute documentary produced by the Austin History Center entitled “Abriendo Brecha/Making our Way will be shown during the event as well as segments of the Oral History Video Interviews produced by the **Camacho Activities Center**. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact: **Gloria Espitia** Neighborhood Liaison to the **Mexican American Community Austin History Center** 810 Guadalupe Street P.O. Box 2287 Austin, Texas 78768-2287 512.974.7498

January 29th, 2011 - **Feria para Aprender** from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the North Lamar Events Center in Austin, Texas. For more information contact One Musel-Gilley at (512) 576-0219

January 30, 2011 - **36th Annual TACHE State Conference** January 30 - February 2, 2011 **Dr. Criselda C. Leal**, President Elect of **TACHE** (Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Educationin) vites you to the conference which will be held in Austin, Texas at the **Crown Plaza Hotel** 6121 North IH 35 The conference will afford you the opportunity to get involved in a shared vision of TACHE's commitment to the improvement of educational and employment opportunities for Hispanics in higher education. For more information call: (361) 698.2238

February 9th, 2011 - **Leading the Nation: A Texas Retrospective on Educational Reform**, hosted by the **Texas Center for Education Policy** at the **University of Texas at Austin**. This is a statewide educational conference and legislative awards ceremony that honors the legacy of revered populist giants, **Oscar** and **Anne Mauzy**. As we all know, Texas has led the nation in education reform and this conference provides an opportunity to reflect on accomplishments as a state, together with emergent, trends, challenges and directions. There will be a nominal conference fee of \$30. The event will be held at **Austin Hilton Downtown**. Seating is limited so call or e-mail **Angela Valenzuela**, Director, at (512) 471-7055 or tcep@austin.utexas.edu now to reserve a seat.

February 17, 2011 - **Abriendo Brecha** is an annual conference held at the **University of Texas at Austin** dedicated to activist scholarship - that is, research and creative intellectual work in alignment with communities, organizations, movements and networks promoting social and economic justice. Some themes for this year's conference include struggles over land, resource distribution, gentrification, prisons, cross-racial alliance and immigrant rights. Location: Texas Union Contact: **Tiffany-Kay Chizuko Sangwand** | 512-495-4579 Sponsor: **Division of Diversity and Community Engagement** Admission: Free

Word Power

En 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 bi-lingual or trilingual or multi-lingual is about being edu-cated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of **La Voz de Austin**.

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 de Austin** una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

Toda la gente	All the people
están hablando	are now talking
de que los Republicanos	about how the Republicans
ahora van a empezar	are now going to start
a cortar fondos	cutting the funding
de varias programas	of various programs
La gente está diciendo	The people are saying
“Ay dios mio”, pero como	“Oh my God,” but how
puede pasar esto?	can this happen?
La respuesta es sencilla	The answer is simple
Cuando uno no sale a votar	When one does not go out to vote
Entonces entran candidatos	Then candidates come in
a puestos y cargos donde	to positions and power where
y hacen los que ellos quieren	and they get to do what they
quieran, y les importa poco	want, and they could care less
de la necesidades de la gente	about the needs of the people
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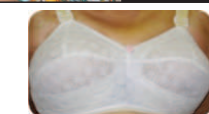
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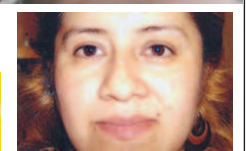


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