# La Voz de Informando a la comunidad en Austin, Texas 78744 Dove Sorings Free Gratis

Volume # 2 Number 10 and 11

A Bilingual Newspaper

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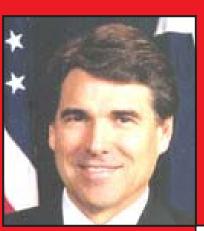
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# **People in the News**



Dr. Jaime Chahin Speaks About the Making of The Forgotten Americans

Dr. Jaime Chahin was at Austin Community College on Thursday, October 28th to show the powerful documentary titled: The Forgotten Americans. Chahin, who is a professor and dean of the College of Applied Sciences at Texas State University participated in a question and answer session after the film.

The Ethics Resource a project of the Department of Philosophy, Religion and Humanities sponsored the event on the Eastview campus and has other presentations on its calendar. Approximately 30 people were in attendance. Hector Galán, an Austin filmmaker was the producer and director.



Dr. Selina Vasquez-Mireles Pusing New Mix-itup Math Program

**Dr. Selina Vasquez-Mireles** of Texas State University is one of the co-directors of a recently awarded \$714,000 federal grant designed to improve the delivery of math and science education.

The new Mix-It-Up math and science program provides in

intense training and strengthening for middle and high school teachers. The program is currently accepting applications for its 2007 Summer Program which includes a \$1,800 teacher stipend, \$800.00 of teaching materials and graduate credit. School districts can use funds from Title I, IIA, IID, V, and VI in support of their participating teachers.

For more information visit the programs website at: www.bio.txstate.edu/%7escied/West/mixitup or contact Vasquez-Mireles directly via email at sv10@txstate.edu



Rudy Montoya Resigns from AISD Board

Rudy Montoya, Jr., presently the longest-tenured Austin School Trustees, who currently serves as Board Vice President, announced his resignation, effective Monday, November 13. In his Letter of Resignation, Mr. Montoya said, "it will be tough to say good-bye, but the opportunity to lead the Information Technology Division for the Attorney General's Office is an wonderful opportunity for my career and personal growth. I will always treasure my years of board service. It has been an incredible experience to serve the children, families, and staff of this great School District."

Mr. Montoya is an Austin native and third generation AISD student. He grew up in East Austin and graduated from Anderson High School. Mr. Montoya received his Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Texas A&M University in 1989. He and his wife Carol have two children who currently

attend AISD schools.

Austin School Trustees approved a process for filling the District 2 position and will appoint someone following the timeline below:

October 9 - Board action to approve an appointment process.

On/Before November 2 - Board forum with the District 2 community to obtain input on criteria for an appointment.

November 6 - Additional Board action to approve an appointment process.

November 7 - Publication of the application.

November 30 - Deadline for submission of applications.

December 4 - Board screening of candidates.

December 11 - Board interviews with selected candidates.

December 18 - Board action to appoint.





### Luis Orozco Join AISD District Wide Committee

Luis Orozco, a junior at Lanier High School in Austin, Texas has been appointed the Austin Independent School District Superintendents Taskforce for Strategic Plan Review.

Orozco, who is originally from Michoacan, Mexico and helped to lead the student walkout earlier this year at Lanier High School will participate in bimonthly meetings and give input from a student's point of view. Luis is also working with Austin Voices for Education and Youth as a youth mobilizer and attends the Social Justice Saturday School at The University of Texas at Austin.

For more information about Austin Voices you can contact Luis at 450-1880.



### Julie Cuellar HACA Caseworker at Johnston High School

**Julie Cuellar** is the Housing Authority of the City of Austin caseworker presently assigned to Johnston High School. In her position she works with students who reside in public housing who attend Johnston.

Cuellar, who dropped out of high school as a teenager knows first hand the difficulties many students encounter on a daily basis. She recalls how she struggled with remedial classes before getting accepted to St. Edwards University.

After graduating with a bachelors degree in Psychology in 1996 and a masters degree in counseling in 2004, her advice is classic, you can do it she says. It is going to require a lot of hard work, but getting an education is within your reach. Ask questions she advises, lots of questions.

Austin Independent School District
Board of Trustees
District 2 (SE Austin) Trustee Vacancy
Candidate Criteria Public Forum



# Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m. Martin Middle School Library, 1601 Haskell Street

The Austin ISD Board of Trustees will soon have a vacancy due to the announced resignation of Rudy Montoya, Jr., effective on November 13, 2006. Mr. Montoya represents Trustee District 2 which encompasses Southeast Austin.

The Board will appoint a new Trustee for this vacancy in December 2006, for a term that will extend until the General Election in May 2008. To accomplish this, the Board is aggressively seeking input from the community about the criteria it should use in making a final selection. In particular, Trustees want to know what they should look for in any person who represents District 2, i.e. what qualities and/or skills the new Trustee should possess.

## **PRODUCTION**

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### EDITORIAL BOARD

Currently looking for three members

# PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

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78744

# **Guest Editorial**

# Don't Vote on Election Day Unless... Eight Things to Look for in a Candidate

By James C. Harrington

Director, Texas Civil Rights Project

The Association of American Retired Persons is running elegant "don't vote" commercials on television, cleverly making the point that we shouldn't vote until we know how candidates stand on issues. Makes sense, of course, but many people really don't inform themselves before they vote.

The Texas Civil Rights Project doesn't have a budget for good citizenship ads like AARP's, but we can respectfully suggest to voters what we think are critical issues in this election, from a human rights perspective.

First, we need Congress members who will tighten laws that ban warrantless spying on Americans and prohibit warrantless gathering records of our phone calls and internet usage and what we purchase.

Second, we should vote for Congress members who will limit the Administration's attempt to avoid compliance with the Geneva Convention, and who will insist on no torture, access to counsel, and fair and public trials for anyone in American custody. If we hold ourselves out to the world as a leader in constitutional democracy, we have to practice what we preach. Hypocrisy undermines democratic leadership.

Third, we should support federal and state legislators who are seriously committed to real educational reform and willing to put significant resources and funding into that effort – and end the current sham testing regime. Education, after all, drives a democracy. Better pay and respect for teachers, smaller classes, and appropriate testing are a must.

Fourth, we need state and federal senators and representatives, who will vote for health care access for all people. It's a shame that 150,000 Americans go overseas every year for state-of-the-art medical procedures that cost one-fourth what they do here, paid for by their insurance companies. Those who don't have insurance or are in the middle class don't have this luxury and pay more for less care.

Fifth, it's time to elect officials who will raise the minimum wage to \$7.50/hour. It's been at \$5.15 since 1997. The dollar's buying power has dropped 25% since 1997. Raising the minimum wage to \$7.50 would benefit more than 8 million workers, including an estimated 760,000 single mothers and 1.8 million parents with children under 18. But even this increase would get them only to the poverty line. That's how bad it is now.

Sixth, we should support federal legislators who endorse comprehensive immigration reform that will speedily and fairly regularize the legal status of 12 million undocumented immigrants in this country, and integrate them fully into our democratic institutions.

Seventh, this country and this state need a fair and just system of taxation that doesn't disproportionately burden the middle class but which calls upon the rich, who have benefited greatly from this country, to share their wealth. Taxation should become a way of supporting our society in a just manner and not a means of gathering even more wealth.

Finally, we should elect candidates to federal office who support an immediate end to the war in Iraq and who will change the Administration's myopic view toward other nations. More than anytime in history, we are a global community, and the United States has to act accordingly, and responsibly. That will help undermine terrorism better than anything else this nation can do.

If a candidate for office doesn't subscribe to these principles, then we should not vote for him or her. Pure and simple.

The Texas Civil Rights Project, a nonprofit foundation, promotes civil rights and economic and racial justice throughout Texas.

# Harry Pachon, Professor at University of Southern California



Harry P. Pachon, Ph.D., has over 25 years of experience in basic and applied social science/policy research, as well as teaching and management experience in academic, governmental, and non-profit institutions.

Professor Pachon was the executive director for the National Association of Latino Elected Officials Educational Fund and an associate staff member on the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. He has authored several books, including Latinos and U.S. Foreign Policy (Rowman and Littlefield, 2000) and New Americans by Choice: Political Perspectives of Latino Immigrants (Westview Press, 1994). His numerous articles have appeared in Harvard Journal of Hispanic Policy, Hispanic Business, and Public Administration Review.

# Bill of Rights Dinner

Thursday, November 2nd • Hilton Austin
VIP Reception/Cocktails: 6:00 PM Dinner: 7:00 PM

Keynote Speaker: Leonard Pitts, Jr. 2004 Pulitzer Prize Columnist. First recipient of the

Mollylvins "Give Em Hell" Award.

Special Grust: Neal Katyal, Georgetown Law Professor, Argued and won historic

US Supreme Court Guantanamo detainee case, Hamdan y Rumsfeld.

Presenter: Molly livins, nationally syndicated columnist presents the first arrival

Molly lvins "Give "Em Hell" Award.

The Texas Civil Rights Project is proud to announce our 18th Annual Bill of Fights Dinner featuring keynote speaker, Pulitzer Prize wirning columnist Leonard Pitts, Journal Also scheduled to appear, Georgetown Law Professor Neal Katyal, lead counsel, Hamdan & Purnsfied. Humorist and syndicated columnist Molly kins will present the first annual Molly livins "Give 'Em Hell" Award and American University Washington College of Law Professor Michael Tigar will serve as master of ceremonies. Please join us for what promises to be a most enlightening and entertaining evening.

Mark you calendars now. For sponsorship and table information, please contact Valerie Phillips at 512-474-5073, Ext. 116 or at phillips@texascivilnightsproject.org.

# www.texascivilrightsproject.org

# Vote el 7 de noviembre

- 17 años de experiencia judicial
- Se escogió el candidato mas bien calificado en la enquesta de la barra de abogados del estado
- El primer México-Americano nombrado para este puesto



**Judge Jim Coronado** 

### Vote November 7

- 17 years judicial experience
- Voted best qualified in State Bar poll
- First Mexican-American nominated for this judgeship



Political advertising paid for by Judge Jim Coronado in complance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act.

# **News From Muchas Partes**



LULAC Council 650 will once again hold the annual Dennis R. Garza Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser on Monday, October 30, 2006 from 5-7 p.m. at the Tree House Italian Grill, 2201 College Avenue (Intersection of South Congress Avenue and East Live Oak Street).

The event is named in honor of Dennis R. Garza, an Austin attorney, civil rights advocate, and political activist who passed away in 2004 and who served as the Council's President for many years.

The top priority of LULAC Council 650 is the educational achievement of Hispanic youth. At last year's event, LULAC was able to raise \$7,000 and joined their funds with the Hispanic Scholarship Consortium (HSC) who matched the funds.

Along with HSC. LULAC Council 650 awarded \$14,000 in scholarships to seven outstanding Hispanic high school students in the Austin area. The funds raised will support scholarship fundraising efforts and assist to once again provide scholarships to Austin area Hispanic high school students who have demonstrated a record of academic achievement and civic involvement and are pursuing a college degree at a university.

Tickets are available for purchase at \$25 for adult and \$10 for youth. Sponsorships are available at the following levels: \$1,000 Doctorate Degree (Recognition in Program and 8 event tickets) \$ 500 Masters Degree (Recognition in Program and 6 event tickets) \$ 250 Bachelors Degree (Recognition in Program and 4 event tickets) \$ 100 Associates of Arts Degree (Recognition in Program and 2 event tickets)

# 5th African American Men and Boys Monthly Conference **Held at Pearce Middle School**

The African American Men and Boys 5th Monthly Conference was held on Saturday, October 28th at Pearce Middle School and again was a tremendous success.

Organized by Michael Lofton, a long time community activist, the conference began at 10:00 and lasted until 2:00 PM. There were 10 Workshops for Students, 3 Workshops for Adults and 3 Workshops for single mothers raising boys and refreshments were served.

The keynote speakers for the event were Judge Evelyn McKee, Dr. Clarence Bibby and Mr. Patrick Patterson.

"The African American Men and Bovs Conference is an outgrowth of what is needed to address the needs of the Community. We are losing 45% of our kids from AISD." says. Lofton.

"We have been focusing on signing up mentors and this has been very successful. On a monthly basis Black Men come together to provide the mental tools and strategies for young men to be successful in life, with a focus on educational needs and completing school and going to college."

For more information please contact Michael Lofton at (512) 585-6696

# GREATER AUSTIN HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS GRADUATION LUNCHEON

The Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GAHCC) and the Mexico Trade Center invite you to join us for the **Graduation** Luncheon to be held on November 15th at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel located on 300 East 4th Street from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The luncheon will be honoring the students that successfully completed the Mexico Trade Canter's International Trade Certification Program. Our November Distinguished Keynote Speaker will be Luis Medina, CEO TechBA Austin.

The MTC will be introducing the TechBA Austin program to the GAHCC Members. The Mexico-Austin Technology Business Accelerator was designed to support the top-tier Mexican companies in bringing their innovative technology, products and services to the U.S. and global markets.

**M**oreover, the students will receive a special recognition from Austin City Council on November 16th at 5:30 PM at a Citizen's recognition ceremony celebrated at Austin City Hall.

For more information, please contact Nayeli Gallegos, Director of Mexico Trade Center, Tourism, and Events at (512) 411-1930 or ngallegos@hitspanicaustin.com.





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# The Residents of Dove Springs Come Out and Show Their Pride



**BELOW:** On October 21st, the River City Youth Foundation sponored its annual Pride March. Each year it is getter bigger and better. Mona Gonzales is one of the hardest working community activists in the City of Austin.





### **ABOUT**

The mission of River City Youth Foundation is to increase the number of Dove Springs youth who practice safe, healthy and positive lifestyles, including being college and career bound, so they can achieve their highest potential in education, personal and social responsibility.





# River City Youth Foundation Organizes Another Successful Event



ABOVE: As always, face painting is a big hit witht he children in Dove Springs.



## **ABOUT**

The Vision of RCYF is to be the model of comprehensive neighborhood-based youth services

that maximizes every child's potential and improves communities.

River City Youth Foundation is a nonprofit youth organization and technology center based in southeast Austin that provides educational, technological and life enhancement programs for "at-promise" youth and their families. Founded in 1983, RCYF has served nearly every lower income community in Austin.

While RCYF has worked with literally thousands of youth all over Austin, today the organization focuses on low-income, highrisk children and families living in Dove Springs in Southeast Austin. In 1998, RCYF, together with many corporate and individual partners, transformed an abandoned site into a beautiful 2-acre parkland and youth facility called the Success Center. The center has become a source of pride for a neighborhood that had once lost its hope and community spirit. In 1999, the improvements fostered by RCYF in Dove Springs were recognized nationwide as the organization traveled to Washington, DC to accept a first place National Keep America Beautiful Award.

Thanks to the many people that have shared this vision, River City Youth Foundation has been able to give low-income, high-risk youth the opportunities and infrastructure to break the mindset of poverty, illiteracy and crime in their communities.

Our goals for youth continue to grow because we know that targeted efforts really do make a difference.

**M**usic runs in my family. My great grandfather wrote a wedding song for **Pancho Villa**, my uncle played saxophone, my grandfather favored the trumpet, as well as my dad. I've been playing trumpet for about 5 years now, and my 7<sup>th</sup> grade sister recently picked up the saxophone and is now in Wind Fnsemble

**M**y grandfather was in a **Mel Brooks** movie titled *The Silent Movie*, performed with Henri Mancini, was in the Houston Symphony, played in a mariachi, taught music classes, and, last but not least, was in a jazz band. Try living up to that reputation.

**M**y love for music started the first time mv dad woke me up by playing Reveille. You can imagine how "thrilled" I was. I woke with such a start that my heart was beating in my throat, my eyes were wide open, and I lost my breath. As I grew older my love for music expanded from country, hard and classic rock, to some rap. In fact my nickname in middle school, to my close teachers, was "Hippie" because I enjoyed bands such as Chicago, Eagles, Blood, Sweat, and Tears, Led Zeppelin, and ZZ Top. Then of course Country was what I mainly grew up on, especially George Strait and Garth Brooks

I began to realize how music matches my attitude when my cousin ran away about four years ago. I was angry, frustrated, and felt betrayed so I played an Evanescence CD.

I was hurt by the fact I might never see my cousin again, and my thoughts were between whether I should stay enraged or forgive. Later I would listen to country or mariachi ballads. One song would be of forgiveness, another of love, while mariachi ballads are almost the same except more of poetry. Music matched my feelings, and thoughts.

# Música es Vida

by Sara Guajardo

Another time I felt somewhat love struck over and would listen to love songs on the radio and dream of a life in an unrealistic world. Music can also cause you to have feelings you didn't think of. For example, I fell asleep listening to Sarah McLaughlin's In The Arms of an Angel and had a dream of seeing my grandfather in the after life.

When I found out last year that my mother had Sarcoma, a form of cancer, I grew weary and nervous of how me and my family's life would drastically change. To somewhat ignore my emotions I played a Nickelback CD.

Some people may not realize it, but without music we could not have a lot of celebrations. For example, one Christmas my family went to Port Lavaca, TX to visit my dad's side of the family. This included aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents. But what made this Christmas special was that a large portion of our family from Mexico was coming to visit.

Our family tradition during the holidays is to perform some sort of talent for the family. Everyone gathered in the living room awaiting the first volunteer. My sister and I were the first to volunteer. My sister played her saxophone, and I played the trumpet. Because the majority of the family was from Mexico I played mariachi songs so that they could sing the lyrics. After me, Ita, or my grandmother, and her sister, my Tia Tomi sang a duet to a popular mariachi song from Javier Solis.

The room was silent as everyone listened to the CD and the sisters singing. Everyone started to laugh when, in the middle of the song, Ita and Tia Tomi forgot the words. Next to volunteer was my Uncle Eddie, my dad's cousin, Gerardo, and Tio Umberto. They put arms around each other's shoulders and began to attempt to sing, by memory, another mariachi song called Cuckurrucucu. They could hardly sing because they were too busy laughing at each other because they were acting to the lyrics, drunk. Everyone laughed and Gerardo's dad had to sit down because he was laughing so hard. Then my cousin, Marinda, sang a country song called Could You Buy These Shoes. Marinda sang so beautifully that, those who understood English began to cry. Then Tio Umberto's daughter sang a Spanish song, which I don't know the title of, and those who understood Spanish. were captivated by her soothing voice. Then my mom and cousin, Alexa, did the comedy act of doing a "river dance" while sitting on rocking chairs. Everyone laughed as they waved their arms in the air attempting to have some sort of dance routine. Meanwhile they tapped their feet quickly on the hard wood floor. Music affected routine. Meanwhile they tapped their feet quickly on the hard wood floor. Music affected the family on that joyful day because we celebrated with music. Without music I would not have such a humorous and wonderful memory to look back upon.

It is also exciting to observe the different atmosphere when a new style of music is being played. For example, A few nights ago Gerardo came to visit my dad, sister, and myself for a couple of days. Gerardo brought with him a mariachi CD and we listened to it that night. Our spirits were bright with the singing trumpets and the fast violin strings, our legs and feet begged to dance with the jumpy beat of the guitar, and out hearts leapt and screamed with Gerardo asked to dance with us. He asked for my hand to dance to the song La Negra. I smiled with excitement as we skipped around in a



circle in my dad's room and taught me to double tap my feet with each quick step. I taught him how to fold your partner in your arms and to unwrap them. As the final dance maneuver, **Gerardo** went down on one knee, holding my hand, extending his other arm out, I put my right foot on his bent knee, and together we smiled at an invisible audience and laughed with joy.

Music allows the people to relate to what they hear. If the listener is joyful then the music should be upbeat and cheerful, like jazz. If the listener is in love, then the music should make you feel passion, like The Temptations. Something I always liked about playing a musical instrument is that no matter how you feel you can always express it. Music can change anyone's mood simply by changing the tempo, the sound, the dynamics, the rhythms, and the style of your tonguing. Music doesn't sound the same because in a way it's like people.

People are different just as every band and genre has their own uniqueness. Music, to me, means freedom. And something that is hard to find in many families is a liking for music that is very diverse. It is hard to find a person(s) that listens to every type of music, and yes that includes country. Music, in my family, is as good and precious as freedom of speech. You can't stop the music; so learn to enjoy it while you can.

Sara is a student at LBJ High School in Austin, Texas.



# No Es Mi Problema It's Not My Problem

### Mouse Story ...

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. "What food might this contain?" The mouse wondered - he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.

Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning. "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The pig sympathized, but said, "I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap—alone.

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house — like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught.

The snake bit the farmer's wife.

The farmer rushed her to the hospital and she returned home with a fever. Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient . . . . the chicken.

But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig.

The farmer's wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them.

The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness.

So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember — when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk.

We are all involved in this journey called life.

We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.

REMEMBER: EACH OF US IS A VITAL

THREAD IN ANOTHER PERSON'S TAPESTRY;

OUR LIVES ARE WOVEN TOGETHER FOR A REASON.

One of the best things to hold onto in this world is a friend.

# La Voz de Dove Springs

www.lavoznewspapers.com

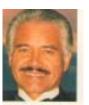
# **Word Power**

# 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 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 de Dove Springs*.

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

Ropa	Clothes
Paper	Papel
Keys	Llaves
Butter	Mantequilla
Eggs	Huevos
Bacon	Tocino
Ham	Jamón
Bed	Cama
Chair	Silla
Card	Tarjeta
Sleep	Dormir
Wake Up	Despertar
Snore	Roncar
Talking	Hablando
Silence	Silencio
Noise	Ruido



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# You Don't Know Me

I see you every day in the hallway. I know you see me too. Sometimes we smile at each other. Sometimes you stop me to ask a question. I am polite and always wear a big smile. But the reality is that even though we talk and you know my name, you really don't know

It's not your fault. It's no one's fault really. The fact of the matter is that there are two of me, maybe even three or four of me. I choose to present myself in different ways to different people. I do this because for me it is way to



survive. Am I two faced? Am I three faced? I don't know. What I do know is that I have learned that certain people expect certain things from me so I give them what want. Other people don't expect anything of me and so I don't have to give them anything. Does my life sound complicated? It's not. It's just the way things

As I was growing up I would watch my parents. When the telephone would ring and it was a bill collector they would pretend that they couldn't speak English. "Que? Who you want? You speakee Spanish? No? Si. Ok. Bueno bye!" This was before caller ID became popular. Now when a bill collector calls, they just look at the screen and don't answer.

When I was 8 or 9 there were days when I did not come to school. My grandmother was living with us and when she had to go to the doctor I would go with her to translate. I didn't like sitting in the health clinics with all the sick people. There was coughing and sneezing and I thought for sure I was going to catch something.

When they would call my grandmother's name we would get up together and I guess the nurses knew what my role was going to be. I didn't like knowing about all of my grandmother's health issues. But it was my job to make sure the doctor understand what she was saying. Sometimes I felt like an adult even though I was just in the 4th grade.

When I would go to school the next day, the note always said that it was me who was the sick one. It was a lie of course. So now here I am in high school and I wear masks to hide how I really feel. I hide behind masks so no one will know what is really going on in my mind. Maybe I am afraid to let people know what is going on in my head. Maybe I don't know how to trust and tell the truth. Maybe someday I will take off my masks and you will find out who I really am.

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# Austin Voices for Education and Youth

# Mejorando la educación... Incrementando las oportunidades

### Give AISD Your Opinion at Community Open House

Last year, the Austin school district created a five-year plan to guide their work. Now they want to hear what you think about their first year's progress to:

- · improve student learning,
- · make sure schools are safe and supportive,
- · provide teachers with what they need to be successful, and
- use their resources wisely

You are invited to give your opinion at a community Open House on Thursday, November 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Goodwill Community Center. Goodwill is located at 1015 Norwood Park Blvd, on the bus line for bus #339. A light dinner will be served from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Spanish translation services will be available. Your ideas will be part of a report and recommendations that go to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees.

Photos from the Austin Voice's Stand Up Rally last month at Saltillo Plaza. Over 300 people turned for this all day event.



ABOVE: Liam lays down the cool beats

# Changes at Local High Schools

The Austin Independent School District has big changes underway at many area high schools. Johnston High School has been divided into three academies, Akins High School is developing career pathways for all of its students, Reagan and LBJ High Schools will be assigning every student a "Family Advocate"—one school staff member who will be their advisor the whole time they are at the school. This Family Advocate would be someone who follows the student's progress, makes sure he or she is on track to graduate, and is available for the student's family to contact.

We'd like to hear what you think. Tell us:

- · Are things changing?
- · What do you like about the changes you are seeing?
- · What concerns you about the changes?
- · How would you like to be involved?

Please call in or mail your thoughts to Alfredo Santos c/s at d.santos@sbcglobal.net and they could be published in the next issue of La Voz.

# STAND UP to stop dropouts!

Did you know that in America a student drops out of school every 26 seconds? It's time for that to change! Student and parent STAND UP clubs are being formed at Akins, Johnston, Lanier, LBJ, and Reagan High Schools. Club members will have the chance to find out why students are dropping out and what changes are coming as part of the district's plans to change the high schools. Club members will also be trained to reach out and get people involved so that we can keep kids in school. Call Alfredo Santos c/s or Tim Eubanks at 450-1880 to get involved.



LEFT: Charlie speaking the truth to power about the lack of educational justice in the schools.



LEFT: Jay Rojas a graduate from Reagan High School shared his thoughts with the crowd at the Stand Up rally last month at Saltillo Plaza.

### Vote November **Democratic Ticket**

Esta ELECCIÓN es muy importante para el futuro del estado de Texas, para nuestras comunidades y nuestras familias. ¡Su VOTO es su VOZ!



Chris Bell For Governor, State of Texas Luchando por nuestro futuro – sí, se puede!

### Maria Luisa Alvarado For Lt. Governor, State of Texas

One Texas for all





Judge Jim Coronado For 3rd Court of Appeals, Place 2 17 years judicial experience

## Judge Orlinda Naranjo

For Judge, 419th District Court Your elected judge for 12 years



Rep. Eddie Rodriguez State Representative, District 51 Doing what's right for Texas families

# Margaret Gómez

**County Commissioner, Precinct 4** Takes care of your money and your needs



Raúl A. González For Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4 Proven public service





### **VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7...**

Pct. Site and Address

LBJ High School, 7309 Lazy Creek Drive 121 122 YMCA East Community Branch, 5315 Ed Bluestein Blvd.

Carver Museum, 1165 Angelina Street

David Chapel Portable Building, 2211 East MLK Blvd.

129

409

Sims Elementary, 1203 Springdale Rd. Galindo Elementary School, 3800 South 2nd St. Allison Elementary School, 515 Vargas Road 423

South Austin Recreation Center, 1100 Cumberland Road

Govalle Elementary School, 3601 Govalle Ave.

Allan Elementary School, 4900 Gonzales St.

429 Austin Public Library, Ruiz Branch, 1600 Grove Blvd.

Cantu/Pan Am Recreation Center, 2100 East 3rd St. Dawson Elementary School, 3001 South 1st St. 439

If you vote Election Day, you must vote in your precinct

## ...OR VOTE EARLY THROUGH FRIDAY, NOV. 3

at any early vote location:

Travis County Airport Blvd. Offices	5501 Airport Blvd.
Travis County Courthouse	1000 Ĝuadalupe
Fiesta Mart	3909 North IH-35 at 38½ St.
HEB East 7th 2701 Ea	ast 7th St. (temp. building in parking lot)
	1 Airport – lower level by old JCPenney
o .	el nivel bajo enseguida de ICPenneu

**Regular Location Hours:** 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. noon-6 p.m. Sun.

Special Mall Hours: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Sat. noon-6 p.m. Sun.

Visit TrueBlueTravis.com or call 476.5100 for Election Day information and other early voting locations

### SPECIAL NOTE: SPECIAL ELECTION

- 1. Vote in the Congressional Special Election at the top of the ballot in District 21 and District 25; then
- 2. Vote the "Straight Democrat" ticket.

Where do I vote? Am I registered? ...... 476.5104 ¿Dónde voto? ¿Estoy registrado? I need a ride to the polls ...... 476.5105 ¿Quién llamo para un paseo a las encuestas?

# Tejano Blues

The Road to Victory Goes Through East Austin! The Historic Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th St. 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4

Cyril Neville & Tribe 13 • Omierta Ignored The Blues Specialists featuring Mel Davis Roger Velasquez

> Free to the public • BYOB Get out the vote for Democratic candidates. Come see gubernatorial candidate Chris Bell and dozens of local candidates.

Sponsored by True Blue Travis, Travis County Democratic Party Coordinated Campaign 476.5100

# It's Easy To Vote Early or on Election Day!



Use the **SELECT** wheel and ENTER button to enter the 4-digit code the clerk gives you. Your precinct number and ballot will appear.

2 In certain areas of town, you must vote in the Congressional special election before voting a straight

Democratic ticket. Turn the SELECT wheel to vote a straight Democratic ticket OR to select your candidates.

- 4 Use the SELECT wheel or NEXT button for the bond propositions at the end of the ballot.
- Use the PREV and NEXT buttons to page through the ballot.



Press the CAST BALLOT button to record your vote. The flag tells you your vote has been recorded.

If you have questions. a voter clerk will assist vou.



www.VoteTravisVote.org

Su Voto es Su Voz • Your Vote is Your Voice