



Councilman Ramsey English Cantu

Councilman Ramsey English Cantu was elected to the Eagle Pass City Council on May 13, 2006 leaving an impressionable mark in Eagle Pass History as the youngest individual ever to be elected to the Council at the early age of 22. A life-long resident of Eagle Pass, Texas Councilman Cantu is the son of Raul "Pecas" Cantu and Byrdie English Cantu. He is the grandson of the late Tomas Cantu Flores and Rosa Cantu Galindo and the late Walter Willis English and Elvira Saucedo English. Cantu graduated from Southwest Texas Junior College with an Associates of Arts degree in 2004 and is currently pursuing his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Sul Ross State University Rio Grande Campus here in Eagle Pass.

Councilman Cantu is an active parishioner of Our Lady of Refuge Church and in conjunction with the Catholic Diocese; he is a strong and sincere advocate for all citizens in our community. For the past 13 years, Cantu has been a volunteer for the Teleton Navideño, a non-profit organization. Cantu actively participates in collecting funds that in turn help out our citizens who are financially burdened and in need of emergency financial assistance to pay for basic life necessities, e.g., medical care and/or utility expenses. Since 2003 Councilman Cantu has served as president of this wonderful organization. This year the Teleton Navideño raised over \$42,000.00 for OUR community.

An advocate for the youth and our children, Councilman Cantu was highly instrumental in the formation of a student government association at our local Southwest Texas Junior College campus. As president of the student government along with team effort from his peers, he advocated on behalf of the student body at dean forums resulting in the expansion of the college facilities to include the addition of two classroom buildings, parking establishments and faculty offices. Said additions are now accommodating our rapidly growing student body enrollment and our children, the future leaders of our community who are receiving a quality education in our city at Southwest Texas Junior College.

Councilman Cantu's commitment and civic responsibility to his community are evident in the organizations that he supports and actively participates in our community. He has been appointed by the American Cancer Society Governmental Affairs Division to serve as an Ambassador for our congressional district to join other congressional leaders and lobbyists in Washington, D.C. this coming September at the 2006 "Celebration on the Hill" to lobby and obtain additional funding in the race to find a cure for cancer. In addition, he is an elected representative of the poor for the Community Action Social Services & Education (CASSE) organization whose sole purpose is to provide assistance to citizens of Eagle Pass who are undergoing financial hardships. He also serves as a board member for the Camino Real Mental Health, Mental Retardation Center (MHMR). He promotes awareness to our public library as a Library Foundation Board Member by raising funds and using funds raised to promote literacy and provide our citizens and young children with adequate research and educational resources. As a board member of the Eagle Pass Art's Council, Councilman Cantu joins the effort to bring culture and awareness to our City. He also volunteers his time promoting literacy with the Eagle Pass Independent School District and is a member of the Our Lady of Refuge School Board. Apart from all his involvement in the community he is also employed with The Herring Law Firm, PC.

In closing, Councilman Cantu states " My family roots and history go back four generations in this City and I feel blessed to have been raised in Eagle Pass. I was brought up with strong morals and values and I am now using those morals and values instilled upon me to better serve and promote our great City. I will work hard to make city government accessible to residents and help them take advantage of the various programs and projects the city has to offer. "I want residents to access City Hall and its resources. After all, these services are here for them."

In addition to making the city more accessible to residents, Councilman Cantu wants to maintain and enhance revitalization efforts in this city, as well as focus on programs for youth and senior citizens. More

importantly, he plans to continue meeting with residents to find out about their concerns and issues. By personally meeting with residents, he says, he will be able to determine which issues and projects will take priority.

Councilman Cantu concludes by saying, "I am honored and humbled to represent this great city of Eagle Pass and I want residents to know that I am accessible to them. I want to meet with them and work on the issues of our City's neighborhoods as a team".