

2/20/88

DEDICATED TO: DR. HECTOR P. GARCIA  
FOUNDER-AMERICAN G.I. FORUM

Enero 28, 1988

Para el Dr. Hector Perez Garcia

Con mucho carino y regocijo  
estos versos yo dedico  
a un hombre de gran corazon  
que por el Mexico americano a luchado  
y fundo nuestra organizacion

Yo no soy compositora ni lo pretendo ser  
pero en esta fecha inolvidable  
no la puedo dejar perder  
de honrar a un heroe, a un hombre incomparable  
que mucho mas a de merecer

El Dr. Hector Perez Garcia  
que a luchado sin descansar  
hoy en este especial dia  
lo quiero felicitar

En este ano 1988 con orgullo festejamos  
el 40 aniversario de nuestra organizacion  
y al fundador con cantos y poecias honramos  
por habernos organizado El American G I Forum

Organizacion de familia de veteranos  
fundada para combatir la descriminacion  
unidos siempre como hermanos  
para luchar por nuestra nacion

En el ano 1948 El American G I Forum fue fundada  
por El Dr. Garcia y su familia que le ayudaba  
todo fue por un soldado que en la guerra su vida perdio  
como era Mexico americano su pueblo no lo acepto  
su nombre fue Felix Longoria y en la guerra perrecio  
Que Dios lo tenga en la Gloria por lo mucho que el sufrio

Al Dr. Hector Perez Garcia  
con carino recordamos  
por ser nuestro fundador  
apoyandolo siempre estamos

Muchos trofeos a recibido  
y medallas de mucho honor  
este gran medico tan conocido  
que es nuestro fundador

Estas palabras son muy poco  
de lo mucho que quisiera decir  
de este doctor tan famoso  
que a muchos a hecho feliz

Dr. Garcia muchas felicidades  
por festejar tan bella ocacion  
que hoy se unen nuestras ciudades  
por esta gran celebracion

BY: CHRISTINA GLORIA  
HAIRPERSON WOMEN'S

## 3 Corpus Christians are honored for contributions to Hispanics

Former *Corpus Christi Caller Times* publisher Edward H. Harte, his wife Janet, and the newspaper's managing editor, Norma Sosa, were honored at a dinner at Manhattan Steakhouse yesterday given by the Dr. Hector P. Garcia family.

Harte, son of the late Houston Harte Sr., co-founder of the Harte-Hanks Communications Inc. chain, retired from the newspaper in December after 25 years as publisher.

Dr. Hector Garcia, a local physician and founder of the American GI Forum, told the gathering of about 100 Corpus Christians that Harte had been a friend to the Hispanic people of South Texas and had championed many causes on their behalf.

"We are honoring him tonight for his love, understanding for our language, our culture and our people and being the protector of wild creatures," Garcia said. "He is a man in love with his country,

his community and his wonderful family."

Garcia credited Harte with working through the newspaper to keep the Naval Air Station open many years ago, founding the Padre Island National Seashore, and achieving desegregation not only in the local schools, but also on political bodies.

Harte, who downplayed his personal involvement in the issues, said he believed it was the newspaper's role to take a firm stand on issues affecting the community.

Garcia noted Harte's work as chairman of the National Audubon Society, his knowledge of Spanish, his writings on Mexican politics and his long-standing friendship with the Mexican-American community and with Garcia himself.

Janet Harte was recognized for her work with the Rev. Elliott Grant, pastor of St. Matthew Baptist Church, in curbing interracial

violence after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

Ed Harte told the group he believed the newspaper's leaders first recognized the civil rights problems faced by Mexican-Americans while defending the rights of blacks. He said since then, the major focus of the civil-rights struggle for South Texas has been on the rights of Mexican-Americans.

Dr. Xico P. Garcia presented Ed Harte with a *charro's sombrero* on behalf of the Garcia family.

Dr. Clotilde P. Garcia welcomed Norma Sosa, a Corpus Christi native, back to the community as a good example of a "local girl who made good."

Dr. Clotilde Garcia noted Sosa's accomplishments as a journalist with the *Chicago Sun Times*, the *Wall Street Journal* and most recently the *New York Times*. She said she was proud Sosa had returned to a management position.