

La Voz FREE Gratis de

Volume 1 Number 2
September, 2024
A Bilingual
Publication

Denver Harbor News

Solamente el que carga el saco sabe lo que lleva adentro

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Editorial by
Carolyn Lopez**

Vara Family

**Celebrating the
Dedicated
Educators of
Denver Harbor**

**An Interview with
Denver Harbor's
Jesse Herrera**

In the Community

**On the Passing of Dr.
Tatvho Mindiola, Jr.**



**An Interview with
Jesse Herrera**



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



National Night Out at the Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center Building from 5pm to 7 pm **October 8th**

Hosted by DH Civic Club and DH CARES

¿Sabia Usted?

Houston, Texas is the home of one of the largest Hispanic publishing operations in the country. **Art Publico Press**, located at the **University of Houston** publishes more than 25 books a year on a variety of topics.

Hispanic Heritage Month serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggles for equity and inclusion faced by Hispanic communities. It's a time for advocacy and education about the issues that affect these communities, from immigration and civil rights and education.



Denver Harbor CARES Upcoming Events

**Listening Session with
DH Seniors** September 11

**National Voter Registra-
tion Day.** September 17th

**Comida Conver Harbor
CARES** September 23rd

Lotería with Rene Porras
October 6th

**Last Day to Register to
Vote** October 7th

National Night Out at the
Denver Harbor Multi-Service
Center Building from 5pm to
7 pm **October 8th**

**Buckles and Birdies Golf
Tournament October 7th,
2024**

Early Voting starts
October 21

Lotería with Rene Porras
October 27th

Last day of Early Voting
November 1

Presidential Election
November 5

**DH Civic Club Meeting First
Tuesday of Month Multi-ser-
vice Bldg**

PRODUCTION

EDITOR

Carolyn Lopez

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Arturo Eureste

WRITERS

Juliana Chavez

Kim Melchor

Alfredo Santosw c/s

DISTRIBUTION

Sam Robles

Rene Porras

MARKETING

Alina Merida

Roy Zermeno

La Voz de Denver Harbor News is published monthly. The business address is 843 Kress Street Houston, Texas 77020. Our telephone number is (832) 384-5483 or (512) 944-4123. The use, reproduction or distribution of this newspaper is strongly encouraged.

Por Cualquier Pregunta

Llamanos

(832) 384-5483 or

(512) 944-4123

EMAIL: lavotexas@gmail.com

Pensamientos

Welcome to the second issue of *La Voz de Denver Harbor News*. Let me begin by sharing that reaction to the first issue of the newspaper was beyond fantastic! Everywhere we went to drop off the newspaper people began picking it up after recognizing **Mr. Rene Porras** who was on the cover.

When I distributed papers at the **Denver Harbor Service Center**, I stayed a while and visited with the people who were there. What I saw almost brought me to tears. A number of them opened the paper slowly and began to inspect the contents. While I cannot read people's minds, I could tell by the smiles on their faces that what they were reading at hit the mark in terms of being relevant and timely.

If I may, I want to say that when people see others they know being written about there is a certain kind of chemistry that takes place. I don't know how to explain it except to say that the smiles says it all.

In this issue of the newspaper, we have several stories we hope you will find interesting. The first is on the **Vara** family. They are long time residents of **Denver Harbor** and **Cindy Vara Leija** is going to be sharing memories of growing up in **Denver Harbor** with her family. This first story is Part # 1, look forward to Part # 2 is subsequent issues of *La Voz*.

The next story we wish to call

to your attention is on Pages # 6 and # 7 that was written by **Kim Melchor**, one of our staff writers. The story is about some of the dedicated teachers who live and work in **Denver Harbor**. **Melchor** did an excellent job of bringing to light the motivation and pride these educators bring into the school. Let us know if you know of any teachers who also deserve to be featured in up coming issues of *La Voz*.

On Pages 8 and 9 you will find an interview with **Jesse Herrera**. **Jesse** grew up in **Denver Harbor** and has gone on to a long career in education. He currently serves as the **Principal** of the **Michael DeBakey High School for the Health Professions** here in **Houston**. In recognition of service and dedication he was recently awarded with an **Honorary Degree of Doctor in Humanities in Medicine** from the **Baylor College of Medicine**.

It is with great sadness that we bring you a tribute story on the late **Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.**, professor at the **University of Houston**. **Dr. Midiola** touched the lives of so many people in his almost 40 years he spent as the **Director of the Center for Mexican American Studies**. He was not only well known locally but all over the United States as a leader in advocacy for **La Raza**. **Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.** will be remembered for a long time for all his work and contributions.

Editorial



Carolyn Lopez
Editor

ola, Jr. will be remembered for a long time for all his work and contributions.

The 16th of September has been a special day for many **Mexicans** and **Mexican Americans** alike. It is when a small group of people in the state of **Guanajuato** and **Querétaro** decided that the time had come to rid themselves of Spanish rule.

For the next 11 years the was a continuous fight to oust the Spaniards which they did in 1821. Today, here in the **United States of America**, millions of **Mexicans** and their allies, commemorate the courage of that parish priest (**Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla**) and his compatriots for out out that rebellion came the country we know today as the **Republic of Mexico!** See Page # 4 for more information.



MÉXICO
CONSULADO GENERAL DE MÉXICO EN HOUSTON

GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL LULAC 4967

EL CONSULADO GENERAL DE MÉXICO EN HOUSTON Y LA LIGA DE CIUDADANOS LATINOAMERICANOS UNIDOS TE INVITAN AL GRAN

DESFILE PATRIO

EN CONMEMORACIÓN DEL 214 ANIVERSARIO DE LA *Independencia de México*

VEN CON TODA TU FAMILIA Y AMIGOS ¡NO TE LO PUEDES PERDER!

SÁBADO
14
SEPTIEMBRE
A PARTIR DE LAS 10 HRS.

EL TRAYECTO DEL DESFILE SERÁ POR LAS CALLES:
DALLAS ST, LOUISIANA ST, WALKER ST, SMITH ST Y LAMAR ST.

<https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/houston/>



National Voter Registration Day

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024
ONE DAY TO MAKE A BIG
IMPACT IN HOUSTON



Place your Business Card Here for as little as \$45.00 a month.

Call Alina Merida at 713-459-3605 or email her at: hello@meridaadvertising.com

*Hay unos que se la pasan criticando a otras. No te quejas!
Has algo para cambiar*

A·L·S·M
Consulting, LLC

Roy Zermeno, Marketing Director

roy.zermeno@yahoo.com ■ 713-560-6490

The Vara Family of Denver Harbor

Part # 1

by Cindy Vara Leija

My life began in 1958 at 1146 Majestic as did my brother Joe who arrived there six years earlier. Always being a curious child, I remember asking mom, how did we get to Majestic Street? I remember mom telling me that at the time they were living on 75th Street in Magnolia.

Mom and dad had four children (Rudy, Jr., Kandy, Richard & and she was pregnant with number five, my brother Joe. The house was becoming too small. She didn't drive at the time so she had a sister-in-law drive her to Denver Harbor which she had heard was a rather new neighborhood.

I don't even know if she looked at other houses in Denver Harbor. All I know is she spotted the one on the corner at Majestic and Larimer and the rest is history.

L.L. Pugh Elementary School was still in the process of being built. Fun fact, dad rode the bus home from work and it would leave him off at the corner of Larimer and Kress. He would stop at Pugh and would help the construction crew for a few hours.

Rudy, Jr., and Kandy attended Eliot Elementary until Pugh was ready. The younger siblings followed at Pugh, McReynolds and Austin High School. Well, except me. I broke the mold. I was sent to Catholic school starting in junior high but that's a story for later edition.

Mom and dad believed in giving back to the community and being involved. It didn't take long for Mom to join the PTA. She soon became a room mother and whatever else the school needed. She encouraged other mothers to join the PTA. When they brought up the fact that they didn't speak or understand English. Mom said no worries, come to the meetings and I'll translate for you. It's important that your children know that you care, she would tell them.

Both mom and dad became Cub Scout and Boy Scout troop leaders. They joined the Denver Harbor Civic Club and along the way started the Denver Harbor Scholarship Drive which is still in existence to this day. Mom was also active at Resurrection Church joining the Catholic Daughters.

They were also politically involved. They believed in exercising their right to vote. And encouraged others to do their civic duty. This was in the late 1950's and at the time in order to vote, one would have to buy a "poll tax" to vote. And in helping to achieve that goal, mom set up a table at the local grocery store (Jack's on Market) and encouraged people to buy their poll tax so they could vote. Nobody got past her! Mom could easily switch from English to Spanish. Whatever it took to get that person registered to vote. In fact, she did so well she actually won a contest for having sold the most poll tax.

Their community involvement did not stop at the borders of Denver Harbor. They both got involved with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Mom and Dad helped to form the Go Tejano Committee.

Since it's origins in the early 80's, the Go Tejano Committee has been very instrumental in awarding thousands of dollars of scholarships to Houston high school students.

Mom and Dad loved their home in Denver Harbor and vowed that they would take their last breath there. Dad did just that on Christmas Eve, 2000. Mom followed him sixteen years later. Mom and Dad celebrated fifty nine years of marriage. They never had a desire to leave the home they created for their family. And in a loving gesture to our parents and all they did for us, the home is now owned by one of the Vara granddaughters.



ABOVE: Early photo of Mr. Rudy Vara standing with his neighbors

Though Mom & Dad are no longer on this earth, their legacy continues. At a later date, the Vara Family will share exciting news. A small hint - it involves education and is led by the oldest granddaughter. We paid attention!



Celebrating the Dedicated Educators of Denver Harbor

By Kim Melchor

Denver Harbor, a neighborhood rich in history and community spirit, is home to some of **Houston's** most dedicated educators. This article highlights the exceptional contributions of four individuals who go above and beyond for their students: Grade school teachers **Josie Mendez** and her sister **Lisette Saenz-Rodriguez**; **Cindy Suarez**, principal at **Resurrection Catholic School**; and **Kandice Melchor**, a standout educator at **McReynolds Middle School**.

The Sitters: Josie Mendez and Lisette Saenz Rodriguez's Inspiring Shared Passion for Education

Josie Mendez and **Lisette Saenz-Rodriguez**, the dynamic duo of education, are not just sisters but also fellow elementary school teachers deeply committed to their students and community. Their shared passion for education is inspiring and a driving force in their commitment. They frequently exchange advice and strategies, with **Mendez** explaining, "We are constantly talking to each other. She's a year ahead, and I'm always going to her and asking what she would do."

Saenz-Rodriguez, now in her 11th year of teaching, has taught at **Eliot** and **Raul C. Martinez Elementary** and will teach fourth-grade science at **Berry Elementary** this year. She initially went to **HCC** and later pursued her degree at the **University of Houston**, influenced by friends and family who saw her potential as an educator. **Saenz-Rodriguez** emphasizes the importance of relatability, noting that her background allows her to understand and empathize with her

students and their families. "This lady looks like my family. You fit in. You're not an outsider," she says, highlighting the connection she feels with her students.



Lisette Saenz-Rodriguez

Mendez, who has taught first and second grade for ten years at **Martinez Elementary**, was inspired by her experiences there as a child. "I jumped at the chance to teach there. A lot of people who were my teachers are at this school." She refers to **Mrs. Benge** as inspiration from her student days and is happy to work alongside her. **Mendez** holds a **Bachelor of Education** from the **University of Houston**.

The sisters' commitment to education was significantly shaped by their mother, **Eliza Saenz**. She was a secretary at **Martinez Elementary** for 20 years before moving to **Scarborough High School**. Her dedication to her work and her belief in the transformative power of education left a lasting impression on her daughters. **Saenz-Rodriguez** reflects, "She showed us that education is your way out. You have to prioritize that and get it done. This is the one thing that can't be taken from you. Education is your way to stability."

Teaching in their childhood community allows them to form lasting relationships with students and parents.

Mendez cherishes memories of **Pancho Claus** and fall festivals, highlighting the neighborhood's vibrant culture. She proudly states, "I live here too. I never left." This deep connection to the community enriches their teaching, as they can relate to their students' backgrounds.

Saenz-Rodriguez's experience in special education has equipped her with valuable skills for meeting students' diverse needs. "Kids come in with different abilities, and you have to meet them where they are," she says. She wishes that adults knew how tech-savvy kids are. "Parents may not fully understand what kids do on their tablets or the internet." She encourages parents to be mindful of who kids are talking to and how it's affecting them. "It's a whole other emotional and social level."

The sisters also address the issues they face as educators in the community. "Parent communication is one of the biggest challenges," **Saenz-Rodriguez** explains. "We can only do so much. Kids need better opportunities." She emphasized the importance of setting better expectations for parents and teachers to improve student outcomes.

Despite the challenges, the sisters remain optimistic about **Denver Harbor's** education future. **Mendez** looks forward to a time when parents choose neighborhood schools over charter schools. "Not just come back because they have to, but because they would want to." She adds, "I wish enrollment would reflect the work we are putting in." Both sisters are committed to making their schools a place where students thrive, and parents feel welcomed and supported.

Cindy Suarez: Leading with Compassion and Dedication



Cindy Suarez has served as the principal of **Resurrection Catholic School** with unwavering commitment. Her career began as a special education teacher at **HISD**, where she developed a passion for supporting bilingual students. "I was at the right place at the right time," she recalls. She noticed many students faced additional learning challenges due to language barriers, prompting her to become certified in bilingual education to better meet their needs. **Suarez** then joined the district's bilingual department, supporting teachers and helping them build their teaching repertoire.

After teaching at **Burnet** for 16 years, **Suarez** moved to **Galena Park ISD** and served as principal at **Cimmaron** for six years. She retired in December 2019 but returned part-time to assist new teachers before becoming the principal at **Resurrection Catholic School**. Reflecting on her career, **Suarez** emphasizes valuing staff and providing them with resources. "Give her everything she needs. She wouldn't ask for it if she didn't need it," she quotes her mentor, **Ted Villareal**.

Suarez credits other educators for shaping her philosophy. **Herminia**

Homenaje a los dedicados educadores de Denver Harbor

Uresti, her first principal, helped her build confidence by encouraging her to think through solutions. “*What do you think?*” **Uresti** would ask, pushing **Suarez** to believe in her capabilities. **Jose Hernandez** taught her about supporting learners of other languages, and **Thelma Garza**, her boss at **HISD**, inspired **Suarez** to strive for success. “*I knew if I was successful with her, I could be successful anywhere,*” she says. **Suarez** also credits her mother, **Stella Galaviz**, for her unwavering support during her career. “*Everything was possible because of my mom,*” **Suarez** reflects.

One of **Suarez’s** significant accomplishments was advocating for a new cooling system at **Burnet**, a school built in 1926. “*If you keep asking, at some point, they will cave in and grant it,*” she says. At **Cimmaron**, she improved student achievement significantly, although the pandemic prevented official records from reflecting this progress.

Working in the community where she grew up, **Suarez** finds joy in giving back. “*For those who have been given much, much is expected,*” she quotes. **Suarez** recalls a childhood filled with positive experiences, softball, swimming, and library visits. She emphasizes limiting cell phone use among today’s students to improve their cognitive skills. “*They are no longer hanging out as friends. They don’t spend time reading great books but are checking out who said what.*” She advises that students may be talking to someone they don’t know in a different state. “*It’s dangerous,*” she warns.

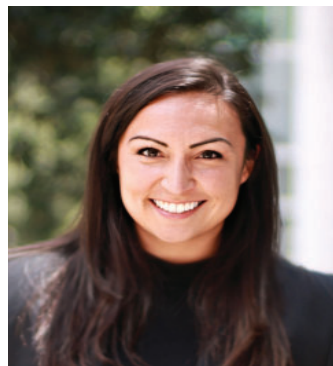
Suarez also expresses concern about the easy access to guns and the importance of securing them properly to en-

sure student safety. “*It’s always on my mind,*” she says, emphasizing the need for vigilance. She aims to incorporate the church’s traditions and values into the classroom, focusing on faith-based activities like celebrating **All Saints Day**.

Looking ahead, **Suarez** dreams of increasing student enrollment at Resurrection and expanding fine arts programs. She envisions adding music, theater, drama, and dance to the classroom and possibly a chess tutor after school. She patiently says, “*One day at a time.*”

Suarez advises aspiring educators to be confident, value their teachers, and remain open to new ideas. “*There will be a lot of frustrating days. You won’t know all the answers, but surround yourself with smart people,*” she says. Reflecting on her career, **Suarez** concludes, “*When you come into a place of growth, the students learn.*”

Kandice Melchor: A Legacy of Excellence



Kandice Melchor, a teacher at **McReynolds Middle School**, represents the third generation of her family to serve the **Denver Harbor** community. With a distinguished educational background, **Melchor** attended **Texas A&M University** for her

undergraduate and master’s degrees, later earning a second master’s in administration from the **University of Houston-Clear Lake**. Her pursuit of academic excellence also led her to a prestigious five-year **STEM** fellowship at **Rice University**.

Melchor has been teaching for ten years. She began her career in 5th-grade science at **Goose Creek ISD**, where she piloted several programs, such as the **STEAM** club, running club, and drum line. Last year, she moved to **HISD**, where she teaches the Art of Thinking and social studies.

Melchor’s family has a long-standing history of dedication to education. Her grandmother, **Katherine Melchor**, served as a secretary at **Eliot Elementary** for many years and took great pride in the tight-knit neighborhood of **Denver Harbor**. **Melchor** spent time at **Eliot** with her grandmother, building relationships that inspired her to become an educator. Her uncle, the late **Albert Roland Melchor**, was a beloved teacher at **McReynolds** before moving to **St. Thomas High School**. Reflecting on her family’s influence, **Melchor** says, “*We loved talking about the different aspects of education, the influence of students’ socioeconomic status, and their achievements.*”

In addition to her teaching duties, **Melchor** coached both boys’ and girls’ soccer teams at **McReynolds** last season, demonstrating her commitment to student development beyond the classroom. Her holistic approach to education, emphasizing academic and extracurricular achievements, has made her a cherished figure in the school and the broader **Denver Harbor** community.

Melchor enjoys teaching in the same area where she lives. “*I love being able to relate to my students, the culture and history of our neighborhood, and things we can be proud of,*” she says. She strives to make her students aware of the positive aspects of their community that they may not be familiar with.

Melchor also highlights the challenges of parent involvement in education, noting that politics and unfamiliarity with the US education system can deter parents from involvement. She emphasizes the need for better communication and collaboration between parents and teachers. “*Some parents work a lot and are unfamiliar with ways to be involved in the school system. It can be intimidating,*” she explains. **Melchor** encourages parents to be proactive in their children’s education and to seek support when needed.

To bring the neighborhood’s history and culture into her classroom, **Melchor** incorporates local projects and prevalent issues in their community. She also encourages them to conduct their own research on the issues that impact them, such as local politics. “*It’s important for students to see the relevance of what they are learning and how it connects to their community,*” she says. **Melchor** is also active in other local initiatives, such as **Denver Harbor Cares**, because she wants to build a bridge between her students and the local area.

Looking ahead **Melchor** envisions a community that overcomes barriers like language and culture to ensure students’ success. “*I dream that students not only have opportunities but options,*” she says.

An Interview with Principal of the Michael DeBakey

Jesse Herrera is a proud native of **Houston, Texas**. He grew up in the neighborhood called **Denver Harbor** which is just east of downtown **Houston**.

After earning his bachelor's degree from **Sam Houston State University** in 1991, he became a school teacher and has now spent more than 30 years in education. Over the years he has moved into administration and currently serves as the **Principal** of the **Michael DeBakey High School for Health Professions**, which is ranked as one of the top high schools in the country.

Jesse recently received an honorary doctorate of humanities from the **Baylor College of Medicine** for all his hard work and it is with great pleasure that we bring you this interview with **Dr. Jesse Herrera**.

La Voz: First of all, congratulations on receiving an **Honorary Degree of Doctor in Humanities in Medicine** from the **Baylor College of Medicine**. You have had an amazing career thus far. I am sure there are many who expect you to continue going even further with more accomplishments.

Jesse Herrera: I am humbled by the recognition from **Baylor College of Medicine**. They have been very sup-

port of our work in the district and my role as a principal. Each year presents opportunities for us to improve ourselves from one year to the next.

Even in my current role as principal, I look for opportunities to coach other educators and administrators in providing strong instructional practices in their classrooms and campuses. I look forward to one day possibly joining the faculty of one our universities and provide direct coaching to aspiring school leaders.

La Voz: Let us take our readers back a bit and ask you to share some of your reflections growing up in **Denver Harbor**. Where exactly did you live?

Jesse Herrera: We lived on **Hoffman Street** and **Market**, right next to **McReynolds Middle school**. My parents were big about always living next to the schools we attended.

La Voz: As a youngster, did you know you lived in one of the largest cities in the **United States**?

Jesse Herrera: Yes, I had a large **Metro** city map with all the routes in the city. Any place I wanted to go I would just plot on the map and write down the routes.

La Voz: How was it that your parents picked **Denver Harbor** to live in?

Jesse Herrera: Well, we first lived a few years in **Magnolia Park**, and move to **Denver Harbor** in September of 1979. The neighborhood was close to my father's job. He worked for **Union Pacific** railroad.

La Voz: Where were your parents originally from from?

Jesse Herrera: My parents moved to **Houston** from **Matamoros, Mexico** in the late sixties.

La Voz: Share with us your grandparents history?

Jesse Herrera: My paternal grandparents lived in **Texas** in the early 1920's. My grandfather traveled with the railroad from **Beaumont** to **Bryan, Texas** and all cities in between. Our maternal grandparents were somewhere from the state of **Hidalgo, Mexico**.

La Voz: Did your siblings attend the same schools you did?

Jesse Herrera: We attended the same elementary and middle schools as siblings. An older sister and I attended **Barbara Jordan High School for Careers**. While my younger siblings attended **Wheatly High School**. I choose the high school to learn about **Culinary Arts**. However once I started the school year, I change to commercial photography.

La Voz: Where in the sibling order are you?

Jesse Herrera: I am the fifth, child



out of eight children. We were five boys and three girls.

La Voz: How old were you when you got your first car?

Jesse Herrera: I was like 21years old. I was just out of college.

La Voz: What kind of car was it?

Jesse Herrera: My older sister gave me an older model car she had when she bought a new car. It was a two-tone **Chevy Chevette**.

La Voz: They say that for guys, that first car is like a first love. Do you agree? What did that first mode of transporta-

Jesse Herrera

High School for Health Professions

tion mean to you? If that car could talk, what story would it tell us?

Jesse Herrera: That it was a working man's car. I was always doing two or three jobs while attending school. I did not have much of a social life.

La Voz: Was the idea of going to college something that was discussed in your home?

Jesse Herrera: Our parents always told us either go to school or get a job. The idea was to finish high school. No one in our family had ever gone away to college. In fact, my father would regularly encourage me to get a job as a mechanic or carpenter since I can always have a job.

La Voz: In 1992, you signed up to work on the **Rick Noriega State Representative** campaign. How did you meet Rick?

Jesse Herrera: I had attended a political presentation on immigration at the **University of Houston** over the winter break. As I was meeting new people, I had mention to them that I was a recent graduate from **Sam Houston State University** with a degree in public relations and promotions. Someone in the group mentioned **Rick's** name and that he was looking for help with the campaign. I interviewed for a possible job assignment doing publications or news stories. At the end he hired me to manage his campaign,

La Voz: How did that political race work out?

Jesse Herrera: I made many con-

tacts during the campaign and learned what it takes to run successful campaigns. Even though we did not win the race in a field of eight candidates, we made a huge impression in the community that **Rick** still went to **Austin** and joined **Senator John Whitmire's** team.

La Voz: What brought you into teaching?

Jesse Herrera: During the campaign, some of our volunteers, were educators and principals. One of the volunteers, **Sarah Harrington**, an **HISD** principal saw me working with high school student volunteers and teaching them about our candidate. She asked me if I had ever considered being a teacher.

After the campaign, I went to go be a substitute teacher at **Burbank Elementary** in the spring of 1992. During the semester, she would see me teaching and asked me to consider teaching as a career. That summer, I enrolled in the districts **Alternative Certification Program**. I completed the program and became a certified bilingual teacher.

La Voz: Wasn't your next move into administration?

Jesse Herrera: It took me six years of being a teacher, before I moved into administration. I was one of those people that would volunteer and learn something new to support the school. We had new bilingual teachers from other countries. I would work with them each week with lesson planning, grading and understanding the Amer-

ican Education system.

Another Principal that I worked with saw how I worked with these teachers and push me to go into administration and coach teachers. I got my first administrative position in 1998 after completing my **Masters in Administration and Supervision**. I have served as a school principal in five different campus in all levels since that time.

La Voz: Didn't you get married around this frame?

Jesse Herrera: I met my wife **Natalie** just before finishing my master's program at the **University of Hous-**



ton. We got married the following year, after dating for a year and a half. She has been my inspiration throughout my career in education.

La Voz: I recall seeing you in **San Antonio** in the early 2000s?

Jesse Herrera: Yes, I became the **Chief Operating Officer** for **AVANCE, INC.** in 2013. This organization is an American non-profit headquartered in **San Antonio, Texas** with locations across the United States.

It was formed in 1973, to provide free parenting and early childhood education programs to low-income, predominantly Hispanic, families with children of up to three years of age

I stayed working in this position for around three years. Since I had worked in education for a while, it gave me the skill set to collaborate with different school districts throughout the state and nation.

La Voz: And then you came back to **Houston**?

Jesse Herrera: Yes, I went back to work for the **Houston Independent School District** as an administrator.

La Voz: Was this with the **De-bakey** program?

Jesse Herrera: Yes. I was offered the opportunity to help create and implement a **Health Science** program at the middle school level through a partnership with **HISD** and **Baylor College of Medicine**. From there we grew the program all the way to the high school level.

La Voz I read somewhere that **US News & World Report**, recognized the school as a "top ten HS in Texas."

Jesse Herrera: Yes, I think I read that somewhere also.

La Voz: Well, it would be an understatement to say you have done a good job. Actually you have done a great job!

Jesse Herrera: Thank you for including me in **La Voz de Denver Harbor**.

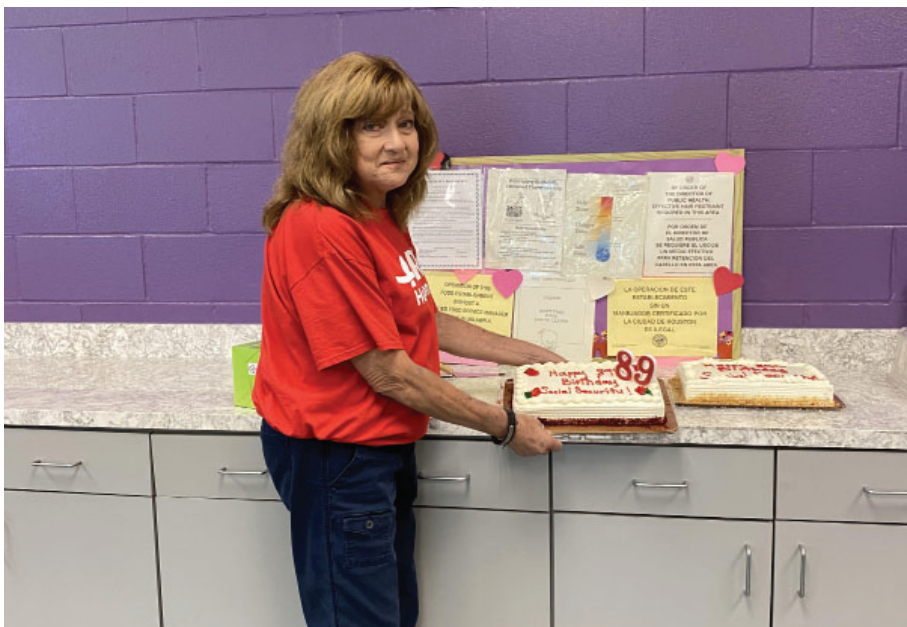
En la comunidad



Outreach Coordinator Alba Garcia demonstrated how to use voting machine Denver Harbor Senior Center Workshop.



ABOVE: Denver Harbor seniors checking out the first issue of *La Voz de Denver Harbor News*. There is something special about reading a publication that comes close to home.



ABOVE: The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) celebrated its 89th birthday with a cake at the Denver Harbor Multi-purpose Center



ABOVE: A group of folks with the American Association of Retired Persons stand with Houston City Council member Julian Ramirez At-large.

In the Community



ABOVE: Denver Harbor seniors checking out the first issue of **La Voz de Denver Harbor News**. There is something special about reading a publication that comes close to home.

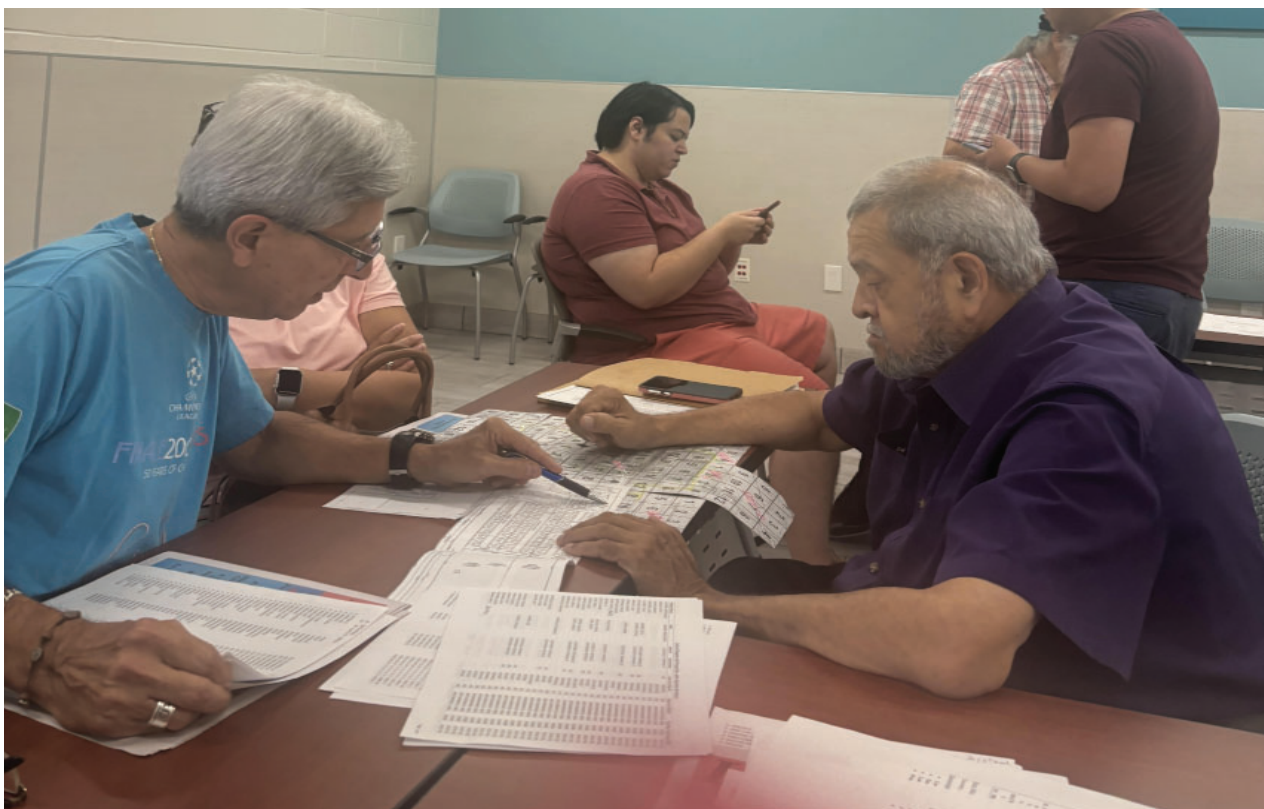


ABOVE: Kandace Melchor and family go to Olympics in Paris, France.

August Readership Contest Winner



ABOVE: Robert Martinez went over to **Porras Prontito** to pick up a \$100.00 bill as the winner of the August, 2024 **La Voz Readership Contest**. **Mr. Rene Porras**, standing with **Mr. Martinez**, handed over the money.



ABOVE: Denver Harbor CARES getting ready for the upcoming election on November 5th, 2024.



Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr. Passes Away in Houston, Texas

May 6th, 1939 - August 17, 2024

**A Tribute by Dr. Emilio Zamora
and Dr. Angela Valenzuela**

Tatcho, the son of **Hortencia** and **Tatcho Mindiola Sr.** and a retired **Professor** in **Chicano Studies** and **Sociology** at the **University of Houston**, passed away on August 17 with his wife, **Cindy Mindiola**, and all his children by his bedside.

Tatcho was a major figure in **Mexican American Studies**. He excelled as an author of numerous sociological studies (his most recent book-length ethnography, *Race Talk in a Mexican Cantina*, 2021, the longtime director of the **Center** (the precursor of the current **Center for Mexican American and Latino/a Studies** at the **University of Houston**, and a public intellectual in the Mexican social movement (most notably as the two-term Chair of the **National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies Association**, 1987-88 and 1988-89, and a major figure in **La Raza Unida Party**, 1972-78).

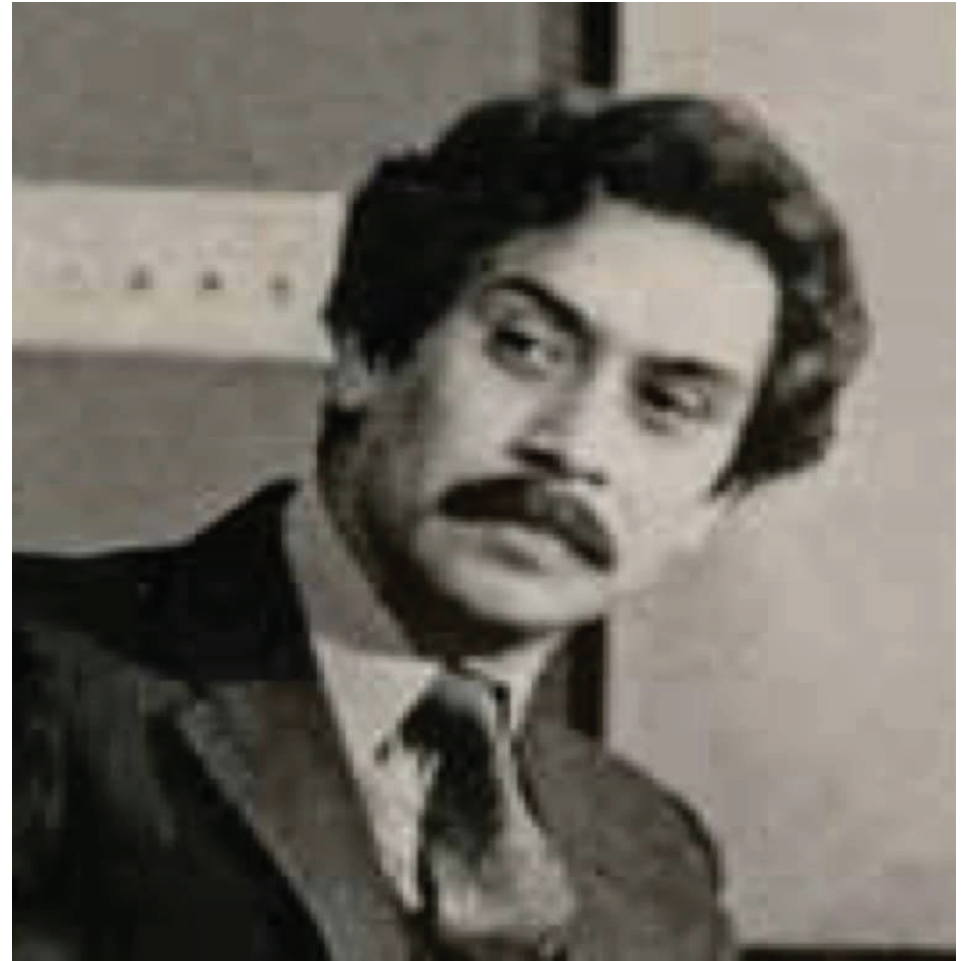
Tatcho was prominently involved in developing the **Center for Mexican American Studies** into one of the leading urban-based programs in the country with a publications unit, a faculty fellowship and recruitment program, and an extensive student recruitment initiative

that is still operating at the **University of Houston**.

Tatcho also faced numerous contentious challenges successfully and with grace, including an uphill fight for tenure due to a denial of status for publications and professional service in **Chicano Studies** by Higher Education institutions, and an initiative to secure direct funding for the Center from the **State Legislature** when the university failed to provide adequate support.

Our recent visits with **Tatcho** and **Cindy** are now precious reminders of his importance in our lives. As always, he was kind and welcoming and still carried himself with an upstanding sense of composure. Possibly because of the long road that we have travelled, **Tatcho** was especially interested in talking about our long friendship, the numerous friends and colleagues living throughout the country who we shared, as well as special memories from his life. One of his rec-

Dr. Emilio Zamora and Dr. Angela Valenzuela were good friends of **Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.** **Dr. Zamora** and **Dr. Valenzuela** were also both affiliated with the **University of Houston**.



ABOVE: Left to right: Dr. Angela Valenzuela, Sindy Mindiola, Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr. and Dr. Emilio Zamora pose for a photo in early August of this years in front of the Mindiola home in Houston, Texas..

Tatcho Mindiola Obituary

Dr. Tatcho Mindiola Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and respected member of the **Houston** community, passed away peacefully with his wife and all his children by his bedside on August 17, 2024, at the age of 85. Born on May 6, 1939, in **Houston, Texas**, to **Hortencia** and **Tatcho Mindiola Sr.**, **Tatcho's** life was marked by his love for his family and his deep commitment to his community.

Tatcho is survived by his devoted wife of many years, **Cindy Mindiola**; his cherished twin daughters, **Maricela** and **Maribel**; and his sons, **Trae** and **Gilbert**. He will be greatly missed by his grandchildren, **Luca, Liv, Matias** and **Aden**, all of whom brought immense joy to his life. **Tatcho** is also survived by his loving siblings: sister **Dolores**, and brothers **Robert** and **Ronnie**. He was preceded in death by his three brothers **Rudy Richard, Mondo**, and **Gilbert**, and his sister **Gloria**, who welcomed him with open arms.

Tatcho enjoyed spending time reading several daily newspapers and books, discussing politics, listening to music, going to movies and plays, watching the **Cougars, Rockets, Texans**, and **Astros**, playing dominos and cards, attending his parish church where he had many supportive friends, and being around his children and family members. He loved to travel visiting **Spain, France, Mexico, Argentina, Costa Rica, Peru, Cuba** and multiple states across the US.

He especially loved celebrating holidays and birthdays with his children and grandchildren, and any occasion that gave him a reason to see them brought him an immense amount of joy. He would always ask "When are the kids coming over?" and the morning following a celebration he would always say, "That was such a good time, let's do it again very soon."

Tatcho was the fifth of eight children. His father worked as a baker, while his mother stayed home to raise their children and worked part time selling Avon products. He grew up in **Houston's Sunset Heights** in the 1940s, where they were one of the first **Mexican American** families to move into the community. He attended **Alamo Elementary, Hamilton Middle School**, and graduated from **John H. Reagan High School** in 1957.

Tatcho then enrolled in **South Texas Junior College** but after taking two courses he left school and enlisted in the **U.S. Army** to take advantage of their college program upon discharge. During his **U.S. Army** deployment overseas, his interest in higher education and political affairs continued to grow as a result of influential conversations with fellow soldiers who were college graduates.

Using the **GI Bill** and while working, **Mindiola** graduated from the **University of Houston** with an undergraduate degree in **Business** and then a masters in **Sociology**. He then enrolled in the doctoral program at **Brown University** in **Providence, Rhode Island**. After spending some time in **Rhode Island**, and while still enrolled and working on his dissertation for **Brown University**, he returned to **Houston** in 1974 when the **University of Houston** hired **Mindiola** as the first **Mexican American** faculty in the **Sociology Department**.

As he continued to work towards his doctorate, **Mindiola** taught classes at **UH**, where he helped to pioneer sociological studies on the **Mexican American** community in **Houston** and also developed unique courses dealing with the working class, **Mexican Americans**, and other minority communities. **Mindiola** earned his Ph.D. from **Brown University** in 1978 and was one of the first **Mexican Americans** to receive a doctorate from **Brown** at a time when very few Hispanic students attended **Ivy League** schools in general.

At the end of the 1970s, **Mindiola** became embroiled in a long and tenuous battle with **UH** over tenure. The battle stemmed largely from his 1974 joint appointment in sociology and **Mexican American** studies. At the time, **Mexican American** studies was not viewed in the same light as more traditional fields, and **Mindiola's** work and accomplishments in **Mexican Amer-**

ican studies were not afforded their proper weight. Undeterred, **Mindiola** continued his fight and his work, and ultimately in 1985 he was finally granted tenure, securing not only his role as a scholar, but also further cementing the legitimacy of the field of **Mexican American** studies.

During this time, he was appointed **Director** of the **Mexican American Studies Program**. As director, **Mindiola** pushed for more office space, the recruitment of **Mexican American** students and faculty, and pursued successful, yet controversial, lobbying efforts to receive funding from the **Texas Legislature** in 1983, 1987, and 1990. Longtime friend and **State Representative Roman Martinez** from **Houston** was instrumental in these efforts.

As a professor, **Mindiola** developed innovative courses in **Mexican American Studies** at the **University of Houston**, and pursued new directions in sociological research, including cross-cultural and comparative race studies. **Mindiola** devoted great attention to the success of his students and combined pedagogical goals and community service. He established a chapter of the **Raza Unida Party** in **Houston** and recruited students to assist him in registering and turning out voters.

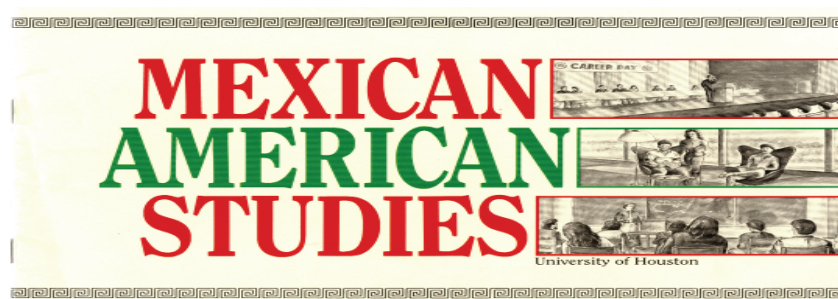
Through community outreach, he introduced the plight of the **Mexican American** community into his academic scholarship to create working solutions to poverty, illiteracy, and crime. He presented papers at conferences around the country and published many of his findings in a wide range of journals. He and other scholars established the **National Association of Chicana and Chicano Scholars (NACCS)**, the first organization of its type, and he served as its **Chairman** for two terms, 1987-1988 and 1988-1989.

Mindiola spent years doing exit polls for local, state, and national elections and became a commentator on **KPRC Channel 2** where he presented his results. He investigated Black-Brown relations in **Houston**, which was the source to one of his books, and he conducted a long-range homicide study, and a multi-year study of **Mexican Americans** in the State of **Texas**.

In his tenure as the **Director** of the **Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS, now CMALS)**, **Mindiola** established programs, scholarships, and fellowships that resulted in a significant increase in the number of **Mexican American** students enrolled at the **University of Houston**. In the 1980s, **CMAS** established an annual **College Career Day** that brought over 30,000 low-income high school students to campus. He created the **Visiting Scholars Program**. To date over 40 professors have gone through the program with more than 40% employed by **UH**. He also established a publishing component in conjunction with **Texas A&M Press**. It was through the **Visiting Scholars Program** that "*Ethnicity In the Sunbelt: A History Of Mexican Americans in Houston*" by **Professor Arnoldo De Leon**, the first such history, was published in 1989.

In the 1990s, **CMAS** founded the **Graduate Fellowship Program** and began sponsoring a scholarship banquet to raise funds to provide undergraduate and graduate scholarships and fellowships. Over the years, **CMAS** brought in many speakers and hosted numerous conferences that addressed issues and concerns in the **Mexican American** and greater Latina/o community in **Houston** and throughout the United States. **Mindiola's** work as a community activist and advocate for academic diversity intertwined in his effort to raise public awareness of the **Mexican American** experience in the **Houston** community.

Dr. Mindiola's love for family, impact on his field, and his dedication to those around him will be remembered fondly. His career and his work served as a bridge between the worlds of activism, higher education, race, and politics. Although he will be missed greatly by those he helped and his numerous friends and family, may they find solace in the fact that he lived a full life, and that his memory will live on through all the lives he touched and the impact he left.



Tributes for Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.

Lorenzo Cano

The passing of Tatcho Mindiola has brought a sadness among many people from different walks of life in Houston and throughout the country, especially around fellow current and past academics. We were friends for over 50 years and worked together early on with the Raza Unida Party and later, at the then Center for Mexican American Studies Center at the University of Houston. He came out of the barrio in the Northside of Houston near Main Street and returned to Houston with a doctorate in Sociology and soon became a role model for many students at UH. Together we built a strong financial foundation for the Center as we "lobbied" for a historical line-item from the State Legislature in the mid 1980's. We organized conferences, College Career Days and much more over the years. He was a true friend, a close colleague, and a camarada.

Estevan Flores

Colleague and friend, Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Professor emeritus at the U. of Houston, passed away yesterday at age 85. We Chicano/a scholars established Chicano/a Studies in the 1970s. A story: In 1985 I directed Mexican American Studies, MAS, at SMU in Dallas, Tatcho directed MAS at U of Houston and Jose Limon, MAS at U. of Texas at Austin. We three coordinated a Cesar Chavez (UFW) speaking tour as he came to SMU first and I hosted him, Cesar next went to Houston and spoke at U of H with Tatcho hosting, and finally Cesar spoke at UT Austin with Jose Limon hosting. I was able to get a \$3,000 honorarium for Cesar which went to the UFW (Cesar had taken a vow of poverty), and Tatcho and Jose also got the union good stipends. We thus circulated the UFW's boycott of lettuce and grapes and their struggle. Tatcho was all in for the movement over his many decades at the U of H getting students to graduate, getting graduate students' doctorates and building a curriculum for the study of Mexican Americans in the U.S. He retired in 2015, same year as me, but his contributions will live on through his students, writing and relationships he established. Tatcho Mindiola, a life lived well, Presente!

Richard E. Reyes

Seems like all my old friends are passing on. Sad to see the passing of Dr. Tatcho Mindeola. He was always supported of my work and offered financial help to many of my students through the Decades through his Mexican . American studies program at the U of H Descansa en paz mi querido amigo

Sylvia Garza

The year was 1967. My friend and I, from Victoria, had enrolled at UH to finish our degrees. One evening we met a young man who worked at the bookstore and MAYO came up in the conversation...the rest is history. Thank you Tatcho for all the work that you did for the Mexican-American community and at the University of Houston; you touched many lives. Now, Rest in Peace. Please accept my condolences.
Sylvia Flores Garza

Rick Noriega

Tatcho Mendiola...great leader and friend. He was one of the first calls I made when looking for guidance and support for my efforts to introduce legislation... "The Texas Dream Act." Tacho led a study which validated the number of students in some HISD schools who would benefit from this law. Today over 40k Texas students have benefited.

Blanca Blanco

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of an extraordinary individual, Professor Tatcho Mendiola. His unwavering dedication to inspiring Latino students to pursue higher education was nothing short of remarkable.

Dr. Mindiola's legacy will continue to live on through the countless lives he touched and the incredible impact he had on the world. He will never be forgotten, Dr. Mindiola wrote many inspiring stories in my publication Viva Magazine Live and he graced the front cover. My sincere condolences to the Mindiola family and especially Cindy. May the Lord give strength and peace to guide you thru this difficult time. Rest In Peace, Dr. Mindiola.

Olga Selley

Tatcho's impact was felt beyond the UH walls. It was Tatcho along with Yolanda Navarro Black who fought for and got the city to create and fund the Library's Hispanic collections archivist position. He was passionate about the importance of preserving our history. RIP

Russell Contreras

A mentor who encouraged me to pursue journalism and cover the people 'who are right outside this window in that neighborhood over there.' RIP, Dr Mindiola.



Casa Ramirez FOLKART Gallery

Another profound loss for Houston: We share in the sorrow over the passing of Dr. Tatcho Mindiola. His commitment to education and culture was lifelong and will live on in the UH Center for Mexican-American and Latino/a Studies, which made this announcement today:

"We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Tatcho Mindiola Jr., a leader whose vision, dedication, and unwavering commitment have left an indelible mark on the University of Houston, the CMALS community, and all who were fortunate enough to know and work with him. His leadership inspired us to strive for excellence and to believe in the power of unity and purpose. Dr. Mindiola's legacy will continue to inspire us as we carry forward the mission he so passionately championed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all those whose lives were touched by his remarkable life."

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON



Unos Amigos de Tatcho

ABOVE: This photo was taken by **Dr. Esteban Flores** at **Colorado College** at a **National Association of Chicano Studies** conference in 1979. Most of those in the photo earned their Ph.D and became professors. **Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.** spent his career at the **University of Houston**.

	NAME	UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE	GRADUATE DEGREE		NAME	UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE	GRADUATE DEGREE
1	Unidentified			8	No information		
2	Roberto Calderon	Brown University	UCLA	9	Cecilia Flores	Southern Colorado State	
3	Cynthia Orozco	University of Texas at Austin	UCLA	10	Rodolfo Fosales	St. Marys Univ.	University of Michigan
4	Albert Mata	University of Oklahoma	Notre Dame	11	Devon Peña	University of Texas at Austin	UT Austin
5	Emilio Zamora	Texas A& I University	UT Austin	12	Victor Nelson Cisneros	Texas A& I University	UCLA
6	Gilberto Cardenas	Cal State Los Angeles	Notre Dame	13	Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.	University of Houston	Brown University
7	Valeria Gonzales	UT Austin	Our Lady of the Lake	14	Rosa	No one could remember her last name	

EL GRITO DE INDEPENDENCIA DE MÉXICO SE LLEVARÁ A CABO EL 15 DE SEPTIEMBRE DEL 2024

By Irma Orozco

Todos los integrantes de la comunidad mexicana del área metropolitana de la ciudad de **Austin** y del centro del estado de **Texas** están cordialmente invitados a asistir a la **Fiesta del Grito de la Independencia de México** que se llevará a cabo de las 6 a las 9 de la noche del domingo 15 de septiembre de 2024 en **Republic Square Park**, 422 Guadalupe Street, en **Austin**. Este día marca el 214 aniversario de la declaración de independencia de España por el cura mexicano **Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla**. El evento es gratuito y abierto a todo el público. Para obtener boletos, visite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/la-fiesta-de-independencia-de-mexico-tickets-994079106367>.

El punto culminante de la noche será cuando el **Cónsul General de México Humberto Hernández Haddad** dé el **Grito de Independencia**. El programa de entretenimiento incluye la presentación del **Ballet Folclórico de Roy Lozano** y el **Mariachi Capital**. El evento incluirá un mercado con expositores de arte y artesanías de **México**.

La Asociación de Ciudades Hermanas de Austin y Saltillo (ASSCA) está organizando el evento en asociación con el **Consulado General de México en Austin**, la **Fundación Downtown Austin Alliance**, el **Departamento de Desarrollo Económico de la Ciudad de Austin**, el **Museo Mexic-Arte**, el **Consejo de Asuntos Mundiales de Austin**, **Austin Sister Cities International** y el periódico **El Mundo**.

Sinopsis Histórico

La Nueva España, que incluía el actual territorio de **México** y el estado de **Coahuila y Tejas**, había sido una colonia española durante 300 años, desde 1521 hasta 1821. El movimiento de independencia fue resultado del tumultuoso clima político en **Europa**, donde el emperador francés **Napoleón Bonaparte** expandió su alcance por todo el continente. La deuda de guerra provocada por los esfuerzos, tanto a favor como en contra de **Napoleón**, llevó a la corona española a confiscar propiedades de la iglesia en la **Nueva España**. Además, la interrupción del comercio con **España**, junto con las cosechas fallidas en las colonias, causó una recesión económica para

Nueva España. Los criollos, hijos e hijas de padres españoles nacidos en el Nuevo Mundo, ya se encontraban en desventaja debido a la falta de representación en la administración, el ejército y la iglesia de **Nueva España**, así como a la prohibición del comercio con otras naciones.

Sin embargo, los peones indígenas analfabetos, la mayoría de la población en la **Nueva España**, tenían una situación aún más precaria. Como siervos por contrato, trabajaban la tierra en las haciendas con salarios de miseria y se encontraban endeudados con los ricos terratenientes criollos o españoles, quienes les vendían bienes a precios exorbitantes en la tienda de raya. Las comunidades con derechos comunales a menudo tenían tierras infértiles, ya

que la iglesia católica, así como los terratenientes españoles y criollos, poseían la mayoría de las tierras cultivables. En consecuencia, el apoyo a un congreso local entre los colonos creció cuando **Napoleón** instaló a su hermano **José** como emperador de **España** tras la abdicación del rey **Fernando VII** en 1808.

Mientras tanto, se había formado un grupo de insurgentes en **Nueva España** que buscaba la destitución del virrey español **Francisco Javier Venegas** y la representación en el gobierno. El grupo estaba compuesto por **Miguel Domínguez**, alcalde de **Querétaro**; **Ignacio Allende**, un oficial militar y pequeño terrateniente; **Juan Aldama**, capitán español y terrateniente; **Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla**, sacerdote de **Dolores**, **Hidalgo**; y **Doña Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez**, esposa del **Corregidor Miguel Domínguez**, quien organizaba reuniones en su casa en **Querétaro**. Los rebeldes planeaban una insurrección contra la corona española para diciembre de 1810, pero al ser descubiertos, **Doña Josefa** envió un mensaje a **Hidalgo**, y el sacerdote convocó a los campesinos a tomar las armas contra la corona española. El 16 de septiembre de 1810, el padre de la libertad reunió a varios cientos de sus feligreses, al tocar la campana de la iglesia y pronunció el grito de guerra: **“¡Viva América!” y “¡Muerte al mal gobierno!”**, con lo cual comenzó el movimiento de independencia de **México**. Se libraron muchas batallas en todo **México** en los 10 años siguientes, y en 1821 **España** se rindió y **México** se convirtió en una nación soberana, libre e independiente.

Vínculos con México

En la actualidad, el Quince de Septiembre se celebra en todo el territorio de los **Estados Unidos de América** debido a la gran población mexicana de más de 35 millones de personas y mexicano-estadounidense que se mantiene orgullosa de sus raíces.

Texas tiene una larga historia compartida con **México** que comenzó desde 1689, cuando ambos formaban parte de **Nueva España**. En 1821, **México** logró su independencia de **España**, y tres años después, la **Constitución Mexicana** creó oficialmente el **“estado de Coahuila y Tejas”** con la capital en **Saltillo**. Este año 2024 se conmemora el Bicentenario de la creación de **Coahuila y Texas**. Estas dos regiones permanecieron como un solo estado hasta 1835. En 1836, **Texas** obtuvo su independencia de **México**, pero el idioma español, la historia, las tradiciones y las costumbres siguieron formando parte del legado de la frontera temprana de **Texas**.

La **ASSCA** ha mantenido lazos con **México** a través de su vinculación con **Saltillo, Coahuila**, su ciudad hermana. La organización se estableció el 7 de noviembre de 1968 y ha incluido 55 años de delegaciones de funcionarios de gobierno y de empresarios, así como diversos intercambios culturales y educativos, programas de seguridad pública y formación, comercio y exposiciones de arte.

Este proyecto es apoyado en parte por el **Departamento de Desarrollo Económico de la Ciudad de Austin**.

Mexican Independence Day: 50 Years Ago, We Were 9 Million. Today. We Are 53 Million

A Quick Look Back

New Spain, which included present day **México** and the state of **Coahuila y Tejas**, had been a Spanish colony for 300 years from 1521 to 1821.

The independence movement was a result of the tumultuous political climate in **Europe** where **French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte** expanded his reach across **Europe**. War debt spawned by efforts, in both support and against **Napoleon**, caused the Spanish crown to seize church properties in **New Spain**. In addition, the disruption of trade with Spain coupled with failed crops in the colonies resulted in an economic downturn for **New Spain**.

Creoles, sons and daughters of Spanish parents in the New World, already found themselves at a disadvantage due to the lack of representation in the **New Spain** administration, the military, and the church as well as the prohibition of commerce with other nations.

However, illiterate indigenous peons, the majority of the population in **New Spain**, had an even more precarious situation. As indentured servants they toiled the soil on plantations at starvation wages and found themselves indebted to the rich **Creole** or Spanish landowners who sold them goods at exorbitant prices. Communities that had communal rights often had infertile land as the **Catholic Church**, as well as the Spanish and **Criollo** plantation owners, held the majority of the arable terrain. Consequently, support

of a local congress amongst the colonists grew when **Napoleon** instated his brother **Joseph** as the emperor of Spain with the abdication of King **Ferninand VII** in 1808.

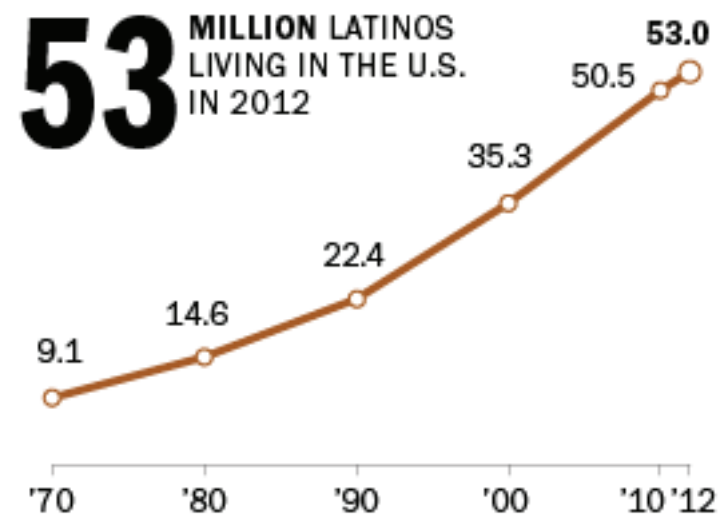
Meanwhile, a group of insurrectionists in **New Spain** had formed which sought the destitution of the **Spanish Viceroy Francisco Javier Venegas** and representation in government.

The group consisted of **Miguel Domínguez**, **Querétaro** mayor; **Ignacio Allende**, a military official and small landowner; **Juan Aldama**, Spanish captain and landowner; **Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla**, **Dolores**, **Hidalgo** priest; and **Doña Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez**, wife of **Domínguez**, who hosted meetings at her home in Querétaro.

The rebels planned an insurrection against the Spanish crown for December 1810 but once discovered, **Doña Josefa** sent word to **Hidalgo** and the priest called for peasants to take arms against the Spanish crown.

On September 16, 1810, father of liberty gathered several hundred of his parishioners, and rang the church bell and pronounced the war cry, "¡Long live América!" and "¡Death to the bad government!" with which **México's** independence movement began. Many battles were fought throughout Mexico in the 10 years that followed and in 1821 Spain surrendered and México became a free, independent and sovereign nation.

U.S. Hispanic Population



Ties with Mexico

Today **El Diez y Seis de Septiembre** is celebrated throughout the **United States** due to the large **Mexican** and **Mexican American** population of more than 35 million who remain proud of its roots.

Texas has a shared history with **México** which began as early as 1689 when both were part of **New Spain**. In 1821, **México** achieved its independence from **Spain**, and three years later, the Mexican constitution officially created the state of **Coahuila y Tejas** with the capitol in **Saltillo**.

This year marks the bicentennial of the creation of **Coahuila y Tejas**. These two regions remained one state until 1835. In 1836, **Texas** gained its independence

from **México**, but the Spanish language, history and many traditions and customs remain part of the Texas early



Win \$100.00

Readership Contest

Gana \$100.00

10 Questions

10 preguntas

Answer correctly these 10 questions and send them to the address below. If you are selected you could win \$100.00 cash. The winner will appear in the October issue of La Voz. (One entry per person)

1. Who is on the cover of this issue of La Voz?
2. What does La Voz mean in English?
3. Where did you pick up La Voz?
4. Who was Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.?
5. How do you say, "Did you hear what happened?" in Spanish
6. How many pages does this publication have?
7. What is/was your favorite subject in school?
8. Where was Rene Porras born?
9. Which days of the week start with the letter "T"?
10. How long have you lived in Denver Harbor?

To participate in this Readership Contest send your answers to **La Voz** 843 Kress Street, Houston, Texas 77020 or you can email your answers to lavoztexas@gmail.com. Be sure and include your return address

Contesta correctamente estas 10 preguntas, envíelos por correo ordinario o por correo electrónico, y usted será elegible para un premio en efectivo de \$100,00. El ganador aparecerá en el ejemplar de octubre de **La Voz**. (Una entrada por persona).

1. ¿Quién está en la portada de este número de La Voz?
2. ¿Qué significa La Voz en Español?
3. ¿Dónde levanto La Voz?
4. ¿Quién era el Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, Jr.?
5. ¿Cómo se dice, "¿Escuchaste lo que pasó?" en Español
6. ¿Cuántas páginas tiene esta publicación?
7. ¿Cuál es o fue su clase favorito en la escuela?
8. ¿Dónde nació Rene Porras?
9. ¿Qué días de la semana comienzan con la letra "T"?
10. ¿Cuanto tiempo tiene viviendo en Denver Harbor?

Para participar en este concurso envíe sus respuestas al periódico **La Voz**, 843 Kress Street Houston, Texas 77020 o puede enviar sus respuestas a lavoztexas@gmail.com. Asegúrese e incluya su dirección de devolución.



6301 Market St Houston, TX 77020

Hours:

5:00 AM - 8:00 PM



Pan Dulce pa Aventar pa Arriba!

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.

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

What?

Qué?

Are you sure?

¿Estás seguro?

Who told you that?

¿Quién te dijo eso?

When did this happen?

¿Cuándo pasó esto?

Did the police get a good ?

¿La policía consiguió un buen ?

Who saw him last?

¿Quién lo vio por última vez?

Has he ever been in?

¿Alguna vez ha estado en?

Who would have thought?

¿Quién lo hubiera pensado?

Never underestimate anyone

Nunca subestimes a nadie

That just goesw to show you

Eso solo te demuestra que

People can drive

La gente puede conducir

Unassuming cars

Autos modestos

Just because someone has

El hecho de que alguien tenga

that does not mean they have

eso no significa que tenga

I prefer the simple life

Prefiero la vida sencilla

No one needs to know

Nadie necesita saberlo

I am just happy to be

Estoy feliz de poder

able to go to the store and

ir a la tienda y

come back safely

volver sano y salvo

Oh, don't forget to vote

Oh, no te olvides de votar

La Voz de Denver Harbor News - September, 2024

Congratulations Denver Harbor News!



“As a native of Denver Harbor, I am thrilled to support my local community newspaper!”

Judge Richard C. Vara

Retired Justice of the Peace Pct. 6-1