

## Meet Adelfa Parrish

by Juliana Chavez

**Denver Harbor** is home to many long-time residents, and one in particular surpasses them all. **Adelfa Parrish**, a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, celebrated her 100th birthday earlier this year.

In speaking with her, we got insight on her rich wisdom and all the life experiences she's gained over the years. **Mrs. Parrish** is a **Mexican American** born in Wharton, Texas on July 12, 1924. She is a second generation Texan and spent her first couple of years here in the US. She attended **DeZavala Elementary** in the East End of Houston until the 6th grade.

The **Great Depression** then affected her family's income and forced them to cross the border to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico to live with relatives. **Mrs. Parrish** found a job with a Jewish family in Laredo, Texas where she worked as a live-in house maid at the age of 13. It was while living in Laredo, working as a seamstress, that she met her husband, **David Parrish**, who was serving in the military. They were married on May 17, 1941, and then began their family which consists of four sons and two daughters. This lineage now spans 5 generations including 8 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, with the newest great-great-grandchild to arrive in October!

Being a mother of six children did not keep **Mrs. Parrish** at home. Her daughter, **Gloria Ayala**, shared how her mother was an active parent and made it a point to be at every ball game her children played. She did this while working as a bus driver for disabled students in Houston ISD from 1960 to 1988. As a bus driver, she would complete her route, then drive her car to pick up her sons and drop them off at games, activities, or at the University. After helping her children start their careers, she focused on herself. She decided to earn her GED and at the age of 50, she enrolled in classes at **Houston Community College** to study and earn her GED!

Reflecting on her life, **Mrs. Parrish** said, "My family is very important to me. As a parent, it is important to pay attention to the children of the next generation and guide them." **Mrs. Parrish** believes morals are taught in the home first and stick with children for life. **Mrs. Parrish**, along with her children attend church regularly and believe it's most important to keep God first. **Mrs. Parrish** has been a faithful member of **Resurrection Church** for over 70 years.

Being involved in the civic affairs of the community has always been a priority. **Mrs. Parrish** is a registered voter and makes it a point to participate in every election. She is not affiliated with any political party but reviews every candidate and determines which ones aligns with her views. Throughout her life, she has seen and experienced many world events, including wars, conflicts, depression, inflation, good times, and bad times. She remembers every president since Roosevelt and when they took office. With all the changes she has seen, she continues to believe it is crucial to keep yourself informed and involved.



# Mexico's New President Claudia Sheinbaum



by Juliana Chavez

**Claudia Sheinbaum** is taking the media by storm as she becomes the first female president the country of **Mexico** has ever seen. She was elected on June 3rd, with almost 60% of the public vote, and took office on October 1st. Along with her extensive political resume, such as being the former Mayor of **Mexico City**, **Sheinbaum** is an environmental engineer with a doctorate and has dedicated her life to scientific findings on sustainability and helping the environment.

Born in **Mexico City**, her advocacy in her mother country started early in the 80's. She received her education from the **National Autonomous University of Mexico** and worked at **University of California-Berkeley**.

She is the first president of Jewish background in a country that is predominantly Catholic. She takes the place of **Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador**, with his blessing, and has promised to her country that she has nothing but the best intentions for her people. Millions of Mexican

citizens gathered to show their support, and acknowledge the importance of a female elected official in a country that has always been male dominated.

**Dr. Sheinbaum** has proven efficient as she has already begun appointing her cabinet. Despite differing opinions on the future president, it is undeniable the impact she has made on the country as we all watch what is to come from her presidency.

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# Pensamientos

**Bienvenidos otra vez a *La Voz de Denver Harbor News*.**

I want to personally thank you for your support as we work to establish this publication in the community. Everywhere I have visited, I have been impressed by the reception the newspaper has received. Some of our drop off locations are reporting that the papers are moving quickly. When we are notified, we do our best to replenish the stacks.

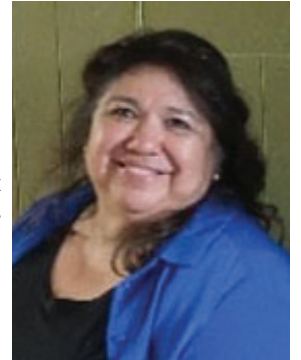
**T**urning to the contents of this month's issue we of course want to call to your attention our cover photo of **Mrs. Adelfa Parrish**. She is a long time resident of **Denver Harbor** and a well known figure at **Resurrection Church**. What is remarkable about her is that she is now 100 years young. Read **Juliana Chavez**' story to learn more about **Adelfa Parrish**. The Spanish version of the story is on Page 5.

**A**s we all know, the presidential election is coming in a few weeks. Early voting starts on October 21st. Make sure you have all your documents in order when you go vote. This year, the **Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center** will be an **Early Voting** location. Election Day voting locations include, **Elliot Elementary School**, **Scroggins Elementary School**, and the **Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center**. Remember, an educated voter makes one a powerful citizen, and a powerful citizen gets respect from everyone.

**S**ince school has just started, we thought the story of **A Touch of a Teacher** would be most appropriate in this issue of **La Voz de Denver Harbor News**. We also thought that since we recently celebrated **Mexican Independence Day**, it would be good to know one of the lesser known stories that brought about the country we call **Mexico**. **Doña Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez**, as you will learn, played a key role in the **Mexican Revolution**. This story is especially timely because **Mexico** has for the first time in its history elected a woman to lead the nation. **Dr. Claudia Sheinbaum** will serve as **President of Mexico** for six years.

**F**inally on Page 19, you will find some descriptive statistics relating to voters in **Denver Harbor**. These numbers are from the **Harris County Clerk's Office** and help to paint a portrait of **Denver Harbor's** civic participation in elections.

## EDITOR



**Carolyn Lopez**  
Editor





**ABOVE: La familia de Adelfa Parrish** Edward, Gloria, David, Mrs. Adelfa Parrish, Richard, Thelma, and Frank



# Conozca a Adelfa Parrish, ¡Residente de Dever Harbor de 100 años!

by Juliana Chavez



**ABOVE:** Marina Gonzales, Father Oscar Dubon and Sister Adelfa Parrish

**Denver Harbor** es el hogar de muchos residentes de larga tiempo, y una en particular los supera a todos. **Adelfa Parrish**, una madre, abuela y bisabuela amorosa, celebró su cumpleaños número 100 a principios de este año.

Al hablar con ella, pudimos conocer su rica sabiduría y todas las experiencias de vida que ha adquirido a lo largo de los años. La **Sra. Parrish** es una Mexicana nacida en Wharton, Texas el 12 de julio de 1924. Es una tejana de segunda generación y asistió a la **Escuela Primaria DeZavala** en el **East End** de Houston hasta el sexto grado.

La Gran Depresión afectó los ingresos de su familia y los obligó a cruzar la frontera hacia Nuevo Laredo, México. Durante este tiempo, la **Sra. Parrish** encontró un trabajo con una familia judía en Laredo, Texas donde trabajó como una servienta a los 12 años de edad. Mientras ella vivía en Laredo trabajando como una costurera, ella conoció a su esposo, **David Parrish**, quien estaba sirviendo en el ejército. Se casaron el 17 de mayo de 1941 y luego comenzaron su familia, que consta de cuatro hijos y dos hijas. Este linaje ahora abarca 5 generaciones, incluyendo 8 nietos, 12 bisnietos y el primer tataranieto que llegó en octubre.

Ser madre de seis hijos no mantuvo a la **Sra. Parrish** en casa. Su hija, **Gloria Ayala**, compartió cómo su madre era una madre activa y se esforzaba por estar presente en todos los partidos en los que jugaban sus hijos. Y lo hizo mientras trabajaba como conductora de autobús para estudiantes discapacitados en el distrito escolar independiente de **Houston** de 1960 a 1988. Como conductora de autobús, completaba su ruta y luego conducía para recoger a sus hijos y dejarlos en sus partidos, actividades y la universidad. Después de ayudar a sus hijos a comenzar sus carreras, se centró en sí misma. ¡Decidió obtener su **GED** y, a la edad de 50 años, ella se matriculó en clases en **Houston Community College**!

Al reflexionar sobre su vida, la **Sra. Parrish** dijo: “Mi familia es muy importante para mí. Como madre, es importante prestar atención a los hijos de la próxima generación y guiarlos”. La **Sra. Parrish** cree que la moral se enseña primero en el hogar y que los niños la aprenden de por vida. La **Sra. Parrish** y sus hijos asisten a la iglesia regularmente y creen que lo más importante es mantener a Dios en primer lugar. La **Sra. Parrish** ha sido una miembro fiel de la **Iglesia de la Resurrección** por más de 70 años.

Participar en los asuntos cívicos de la comunidad también fue una prioridad. La **Sra. Parrish** es una votante registrada y se esfuerza por participar en todas las elecciones. No está afiliada a ningún partido político, pero analiza a cada candidato y determina cuáles se alinean con sus puntos de vista. A lo largo de su vida, ha visto varios acontecimientos mundiales como guerras, conflictos, depresión, inflación, los buenos tiempos y los malos tiempos. Recuerda a cada presidente desde **Roosevelt** y todas sus inauguraciones. Con todos los cambios que ha visto, sigue creyendo que es fundamental mantenerse informada e involucrada.





# I WILL VOTE

★ ★ ★

## REMIND YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

### ELECTION DAY LOCATIONS

**Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center Gym**  
6402 Market St., Houston, TX 77020

**Eliot Elementary School**  
6411 Laredo St., Houston, TX 77020

**Scroggins Elementary School**  
400 Boyles St., Houston, TX 77020

For additional locations, visit [harrisvotes.org](https://harrisvotes.org)

### NOVEMBER 2024 ELECTIONS

<b>OCT 7</b>	<b>LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE</b> Check your if you're registered at <a href="https://VoteTexas.gov">VoteTexas.gov</a> Update your registration if you have moved
<b>OCT 21</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF EARLY VOTING</b> <b>Location:</b> Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center 6402 Market St., Houston, TX 77020  For hours & sample ballots, visit <a href="https://harrisvotes.org">harrisvotes.org</a>
<b>OCT 25</b>	<b>BALLOT BY MAIL APPLICATION DEADLINE</b>
<b>NOV. 1</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF EARLY VOTING</b> <b>Location:</b> Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center 6402 Market St., Houston, TX 77020  For hours & sample ballots, visit <a href="https://harrisvotes.org">harrisvotes.org</a>
<b>NOV. 5</b>	<b>ELECTION DAY</b> Open 7 AM to 7 PM If you are in line before 7 PM, you can vote! Don't forget to bring your Photo ID!

## GET YOUR VOTER GUIDE AT PORRAS IN OCTOBER



Denver Harbor Cares Inc | [denverharborcares.org](https://denverharborcares.org)

# Noriega Named



The Texas ESGR Committee is pleased to announce retired **General Richard J. (Rick) Noriega** has been appointed as the next **Texas ESGR Committee Chair**. He will assume his duties on October 1, 2024 replacing **David Blackorby**, who is completing his second and final three-year term as the **Texas ESGR** state chair.

**Noriega**, a native Houstonian, is a veteran of the **U.S. Army Reserves** and **Army National Guard**. His assignments during his 37 years of service included: **Assistant Division Commander-Support** for the **36th Infantry Division**, **Texas Army National Guard**; **Laredo Border Sector Commander Operation Jump Start**; **Garrison Commander** for the **Kabul Military Training Center, Afghanistan**; **Commander 71st Information Operations Brigade**; and **Commander 1-141 Infantry Battalion 'First Texas.'**

He retired as the **Assistant Adjutant General** for the **Texas Army National Guard**, in 2018, and was promoted to **Major General** (Brevet).

**Noriega** earned a bachelor's degree in communication from the **University of Houston** and a master's degree in public administration from the **John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University**.



# Denver Harbor Community's Ties to the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

By Kim Melchor

The **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo** (HLSR) is a major annual event that draws people from all over Texas, providing entertainment and scholarships to help local students achieve their college dreams. One group helping drive these scholarships is the **Houston Metro Go Texan** committee. While the committee represents a broad spectrum of counties—including **Harris**, **Brazoria**, and **Galveston**, member **Anita Hinojosa** estimates that about 15 volunteers from **Denver Harbor** have contributed over the past few years.

For **Hinojosa**, a **Denver Harbor** native and captain of the subcommittee, the motivation to participate in the **Go Texan** subcommittee is deeply personal. Growing up in the local neighborhood, she recalls her family's challenges. *"When it was time to go to college, my parents were working, and I had to ask, Is college possible?"* The subcommittee aims to address these challenges by raising funds to support scholarships for high school seniors who may not have other means to attend college.

The scholarships offered by the **HLSR** do not require students to be in agricultural programs like the **FFA**—a common misconception **Hinojosa** works to dispel. She emphasizes that students from all walks of life can apply if they meet basic criteria. This accessibility is a vital part of the subcommittee's work, ensuring that more students know about and can apply for these opportunities.

Volunteer efforts extend far beyond the rodeo season, with fundraisers and events held throughout the year. One of the major fundraising events hosted by the **Go Texan** subcommittee is the annual January cookoff, which **Hinojosa** describes as an opportunity for families to come together for fun and friendly competition. *"If you have a family that loves to cook, this is a way to get involved,"* she says. The event, which will be held at the **Northshore Pavilion**, features live entertainment, a silent auction, and vendor opportunities for local craftspeople. There's room for 50 cooking teams for those looking to participate, and children as young as five can compete.

For **Denver Harbor** residents, this cookoff offers a chance to enjoy a good time and contribute to a cause that directly benefits local students. **Hinojosa** encourages community members to attend or even volunteer, highlighting the event as a way for people to give back while enjoying a unique and festive atmosphere. As the **Houston Metro Go Texan** committee continues to raise scholarship funds and promote the rodeo, **Gonzales** hopes to see even more involvement from her childhood community. While **Denver Harbor** does not have its dedicated chapter, it falls under the jurisdiction of the nearby **Galena Park** chapter. With the next cookoff just around the corner, now is the perfect time for residents to deepen their connection to this important Houston tradition. For more information on how to participate in the **Go Texan** committee or upcoming events, visit [HLSR.com](http://HLSR.com) or contact **Anita Hinojosa** directly.



# The Touch of a Teacher

## How a little time in the life of a child can make all the difference in the world

Most Texas schools are now in session for the 2024-2025 academic year. Most students began the term with new clothes and all the nervousness that comes from advancing to the next grade. But not all the children started the new school year at the same time. Some have spent the summer up North with their parents working in the agricultural fields. They arrived in mid September or even October.

The story you are about to read concerns one of these students. It was written by his fifth grade teacher. If you are a teacher, you may have had a student like **Juan Garza** in your class. Or maybe you knew a student like him when you were going to school.

**Juan's** letter came today and now that I have read it, I will place it in my cedar chest with the other things that are important in my life. The letter started out with: "I wanted you to be the first to know. . . ."

I smiled as I read the words he had written and my heart swelled with a pride that I have no right to feel. I have not seen **Juan Garza** since he was a student in my class some 17 years ago. It was early in my teaching career. I had only been teaching two years but from the first day that he stepped into my classroom, I disliked **Juan**.

Teachers are not suppose to have fav-

orites in a class, but most especially they are not to show a dislike for a particular child. I thought I was quite capable of handling my personal feelings along that line until **Juan** walked into my class.

I'm sorry to say it, but **Juan Garza** was one student I disliked. First of all he was dirty. Not just occasionally, but all of the time. Second, he smelled. He smelled like the crops he and his family were picking. And of course the smell varied with whatever was being harvested.

His hair hung low over his ears and he actually had to hold it out of his eyes as he worked on assignments in class. By the end of the first week of school, I knew he was hopelessly behind all the others. And not only was he behind, but he was also just plain slow.

### As each day passed, I began to withdraw from him

As each day passed, I began to withdraw from him. While I didn't actually ridicule the boy, my attitude was obviously apparent to the rest of the class for he quickly became the class goat, the outcast, the unlovable, the unloved.

He knew I didn't like him but he didn't know why. He also knew that other teachers in the school didn't like him either. As the days rolled on we made



it through the fall festival, Halloween and Thanksgiving. By the time the Christmas season arrived I knew **Juan** was going to have to repeat the entire school year.

To justify holding him back, I went to his cumulative folder from time to time. He had very low grades for the first four years but no grade failures. How he made it, I do not know. I closed my mind to the personal remarks that had been written by other teachers over the years. Remarks like:

1st grade - **Juan** shows promise but has a poor situation at home.

2nd grade - **Juan** could do better, but his mother is terminally ill. He receives little help at home.

3rd grade - **Juan** is a pleasant boy, but misses too many days of school. Mother passed away

at the end of the school year.

4th grade - Very slow but well behaved. Shows some talent for art. Father believed to be working in **California**.

Well they passed him four times, but he will certainly repeat the fifth grade. "Do him good," I said to myself.



The day before the holidays arrived we had a school Christmas party. Teachers always get gifts, but for some reason this party seemed bigger and more elaborate than ever. There wasn't a student who hadn't brought me a gift. And each unwrapping brought squeals of delight as the students tried to guess who it was from. **Juan's** gift wasn't the last one I picked up . . .

In fact, it was somewhere in the middle of the pile. It's wrapping was accomplished with a brown paper bag. For decorations he had colored Christmas trees and bells all around it and used masking tape to hold it together. The tag said: *For Miss Johnson from Juan.*

### **The class was completely silent as I began to unwrap Juan's gift.**

The class was completely silent as I began to unwrap **Juan's** gift. As I removed the last bit of masking tape, two items fell out and onto my lap. One was a gaudy rhinestone bracelet with several stones missing. The second item was a bottle of dime store cologne that was half empty. I could hear the snickering and whispers of the other children. At first I was embarrassed. Then I thought no . . . there is no reason for me to be embarrassed.

I looked at **Juan** and said "Isn't this lovely?" I placed the bracelet on my wrist and asked him to help me fasten the clasp. There were a few oohs and aahs as I dabbed the cologne behind my ears. I continued to open gifts until I reached the bottom of the pile. We drank our refreshments and played games until the bell rang signaling the end of school for the holidays. Everyone gathered their belongings and filed out of the room with shouts of Merry Christmas. Everyone except **Juan**. He stayed behind.

With just us in the room, **Juan** walked toward my desk clutching his books. "You smell just like my mom," he said softly. "Her bracelet looks real pretty on you too. I'm glad you like it."

Then he quickly left the room.

I locked the door to my classroom, sat down at my desk and wept quietly. When the tears stopped I resolved to make up for the way in which I had been treating **Juan**. For months I had deliberately deprived him of a teacher who truly cared.

Beginning in January, I stayed after school every afternoon with **Juan**. We did extra problems in math. We did extra work in reading and spelling. Slowly but surely, he started to improve. By April, he was really moving along. Even the other students noticed that something was very different about **Juan**. Only once did I panic when he missed several days of school. It turned out that had to go help his father.

When the school year ended **Juan** had one of the highest averages in the class. And even though I knew he would be leaving for **California** to work in the strawberry fields. I believed he had found a new confidence and outlook on who and what he could be.

When the school year ended **Juan** had one of the highest averages in the class. And even though I knew he would be leaving for **California** to work in the strawberry fields. I believed he had found a new confidence and outlook of what and who he could be.

I continued to teach and never again heard from **Juan** . . . until seven years later. He wrote me a letter from **Watsonville, California** that started out

Dear **Miss. Johnson**,

I wanted you to be the first to know, I will be graduating from high school next month, second in my class.

Very truly yours,  
**Juan Garza**

What a surprise. I sent him a card of congratulations and a small pen and pencil gift. **Juan Garza**, I wondered what he would do after graduation?

Four years later, **Juan's** second letter came. It had a postmark from **Ann Arbor, Michigan**:

Dear **Miss Johnson**,



I wanted you to be the first to know, I was informed I'll be graduating first in my class. The University has not been easy. Although I received a small scholarship from the farm worker's union, I had to work part-time all four years to help cover the costs. But I loved every minute of it.

Very truly yours.

**Juan P. Garza**

**Juan** is graduating from college? I thought back for a moment at how quickly the years had passed and the fact that he still remembered me. I also recalled that Christmas party. I decided to send him a nice pair of sterling silver monogram cuff links and a card. I was so very proud of him. The **University of Michigan at Ann Arbor** is a very good school.

Today, I received **Juan's** third letter with a postmark from the **Boston** area. Like his other letters he started it with:

Dear **Miss Johnson**,

I wanted you to be the first to know that as of this writing I am now **Juan P. Garza, M.D.** How about that! **Harvard** was hard but I have no regrets. I will be returning to **California** to do a residency at **UCLA** and work on pesticide issues as they effect farmworkers.

And I am going to be married in July . . . the 27th, to be exact. I wanted to ask you if you could come and sit where Mom would sit if she were here. I'll have no family present as Dad died last year. It would mean a lot to me. I can send you the plane tickets.

Very truly yours,  
**Juan**

I'm not sure what kind of gift one sends to a doctor upon completion of medical school. I'll have to think about it for a moment But my note cannot wait.

Dear **Juan**,

Congratulations. You did it by yourself in spite of those like me, and not because of me. This day has come for you. God Bless you. I'll be at that wedding with great joy.

Very truly yours,  
**Miss Johnson**

We know there is a **Juan Garza** in every school in America. But is there is a **Miss Johnson** in every school? Where are the **Miss Johnsons**?



# En la comunidad





# In the Community





# En la comunidad



As fall rolls in, it's time to kick off another season of Denver Harbor Baseball, Football, and Cheerleading!



Denver Harbor celebrated the start of the fall sports season with a lively parade on September 28th



# In the Community



**ABOVE: Denver Harbor residents at the Denver Harbor Cares Dinner on September 23, 2024.**



**ABOVE: Rene Porras Vice President of Denver Harbor CARES delivering remarks at Comida con Denver Harbor CARES about importance of voting**



**LEFT: Denver Harbor Seniors Celebrating Fiesta Patrias at their center located at DH Multi-Service Building**

# Doña Josefa Ortiz

## La Corregidora

The 16th of September, el diez y seis de septiembre, celebrates the start of a revolt in 1810 that led to **Mexico's independence** from **Spain** in 1821. People who know about this event can usually tell you about **Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla**, the parish priest from **Dolores, Guanajuato** and how he rang the church bell to announce the time had come to rise up against **Spanish** rule.

What most people can't tell you is the story of **Doña Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez**, the woman who played a key role in helping to launch the revolt for which **Father Hidalgo** is given so much public credit. In addition, most people do not know that the **16th of September**, was not supposed to have happened.

### A Little Background

Toward the end of the 18th century (1790-1800) a cultural movement called the **Age of Enlightenment** gained increasing popularity in **Europe** and **America**. One of the major ideas in this movement was the reform of society using the power of reason and the "advanced knowledge" of the sciences rather than relying on tradition, faith or revelation.

As far back as 1550, people were questioning the whole idea of why they needed to be ruled by kings and queens. They questioned the influence of the powerful **Roman Catholic Church** and why an intermediary was needed in order to have a relationship with God. They also questioned the idea of whether the earth was really flat. This last point is important because it provided the basis for the notion of "heaven and hell" and thus the premise upon which **Catholic** ideology was built and used to control the faithful.

As the philosophers of the day offered their take on what life might look like without kings and queens, the **Industrial Revolution** made possible the more economical printing of books. People with inquisitive minds formed study groups and literary societies to read and discuss these "radical

ideas," many of which were banned by the **Catholic Church**. Among those who were influenced by this movement were **Benjamin Franklin** and **Thomas Jefferson** in America, a priest in **Guanajuato** named **Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla** and the wife of a very highly placed Spanish official in **Querétaro** named **Doña Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez**.

### The Protagonists of the Revolt

**Father Hidalgo**, in addition to his duties as a parish priest, enjoyed intellectual engagement and had a passion for the poor. Born in 1753, he was sent at the age of 14 to **Valladolid** (now **Morelia**), **Michoacán** to study at the **Colegio de San Francisco Javier** with the **Jesuits**.

His education for the priesthood was traditional, with subjects in Latin, rhetoric and logic. Like many priests in **New Spain**, he learned some Indian languages, such as **Nahuatl**, **Otomi** and **Tarascan** and he also studied Italian and French, which were not commonly studied in **New Spain** at this time. He was considered cultured and clever, earning the nickname **El Zorro** (the fox) from those at his school.

**Hidalgo's** knowledge of French allowed him to read the works of the **Enlightenment** that were current in **Europe** even though these ideas were forbidden at the time in **New Spain**.

### As Corregidor, he was the official representative

**Doña Josefa**, was the wife of **Miguel Dominguez**, corregidor of the city of **Querétaro**. As corregidor, he was the official representative of the Spanish government with respect to administrative and judicial issues. She was born in **Valladolid** in 1768 and was educated at the prestigious **Colegio de las Vizcainas**, from which she graduated in 1791. In that same year she married **Miguel Dominguez**. The young couple went to live in **Querétaro**, where her husband exercised his functions. On both sides of her family, **Josefa** was of pure Spanish ancestry. But this fact did not breed affection for the mother country.

Like many members of the **Creole** elite into which she was born, **Josefa** was highly antagonistic toward the gachupines (Spaniards born in Spain). **Josefa's** anti-Spanish attitude was also related to her intellectual development.

Both **Father Hidalgo** and **Doña Josefa** were members of the same literary society which met in several cities between and around **Querétaro**.

### A Time to Act

In 1808, **Napoleon Bonaparte** had invaded **Spain**, and decided to impose his brother **José Bonaparte**, as king of **Spain** (1808 -1810). The people of **Spain** did not like this and talk of revolt was the topic to the day in cafes throughout the country. On this side of the ocean **Father Miguel Hidalgo**, **Doña Josefa** and their literary friends decided now was the time to declare independence. **Venezuela** had already done so on April 19th, 1810, and people were becoming anxious in other countries as well.

The original plan was to take advantage of the mass movement of people during the month of December when they traveled to various cities and pueblos to celebrate **El Día de La Virgen de Guadalupe**. **Hidalgo** believed that moving weapons under this cover would reduce the chances of getting caught by the authorities. But on September 14th, the plan had been uncovered. It is believed that the postman of **Querétaro**





# de Domínguez de Querétaro

ro, who was a member of the literary group, was the one who betrayed them. When the **Correidor Miguel Domínguez** found out his own wife was involved in the planning of this revolt, he exploded in anger and ordered her locked in her room as he went in search of the others.

## Getting Word to Father Hidalgo that They had been . . .



**Doña Josefa de Domínguez**

Confined to her room, **Doña Josefa**, managed to smuggle a note out of her locked room with the help of a servant warning **Father Hidalgo** that they had been discovered. The horseman who rode the entire distance to **Dolores, Guanajuato**, found **Father Hidalgo** late in the evening the next day. Upon reading the note from **Doña Josefa**, **Father Hidalgo** realized he had only two alternatives; either abandon their plans, or move faster and start the revolt immediately.

In the early hours of September 16, 1810, **Father Hidalgo**, rang the bell of his little church, and issued his grito calling everyone to fight for liberty and against the Spanish. . This would be the beginning of the **War of Independence** which would last 10 years.

Two days later, after **Father Miguel Hidalgo** delivered the **Grito de Do-**

**lores** (the Cry from Dolores) his followers reached the city of **Celaya**, which joined the revolution on (September 21), and then **Guanajuato** (September 28), **Zacatecas** (October 7) and **Valladolid** (October 17) The Spanish now realized this rebellion was growing quickly and had to be stopped. On October 19, 1810, in **Valladolid**, **Father Hidalgo** issued a decree freeing the slaves and on November 29, in **Guadalajara**, he extended it to all of **New Spain**.

**Father Hidalgo** would not live to see **Mexico** free. In an attempt to seek support for the revolution, he set out for the **United States**, but he was caught and taken prisoner at the **Wells of Baján** (Norias de Baján) near **Monclova, Coahuila**, on 21 March 1811. He was then sent to **Chihuahua**, where, on July 30, 1811 he was shot.

**Doña Josefa** paid dearly for helping to start the **War of Independence**. She was first confined to the **Santa Clara** convent in **Querétaro** and then transferred to **Mexico City** for trial. Her husband tried to defend her but he failed to secure even an acquittal. Found guilty, she was confined to another religious institution, the convent of **Santa Teresa**.

So outspoken was the **Corregidora** in denouncing her captors that she was transferred to yet another nunnery, **Santa Catalina de Siena**, where discipline was stricter. She was not released

until the war ended in 1821.

**Though defiant of Spanish royal authority, she was proud of her Spanish blood and bitterly condemned Guadalupe Victoria, Mexico's first president, when he expelled all Spaniards from Mexico.**

**Doña Josefa's** opposition to unjust authority was not limited to European imperialism. Though defiant of Spanish royal authority, she was proud of her Spanish blood and bitterly condemned **Guadalupe Victoria, Mexico's** first president, when he expelled all Spaniards from **Mexico**. Earlier on she had contemptuously refused to be a lady of honor in the court of the puffed up adventurer, **Iturbide**, who gran-

diosely styled himself **Agustín I, Emperor of Mexico**. She also refused to accept any remuneration for the services she had rendered the liberation movement. **Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez** died in 1829, at the age of 61. She was first buried at **Santa Catalina** but her remains were later shipped to her home city of **Querétaro**.

There the state congress declared her **benemérita** (meritorious). She was also honored in **Mexico City**, where a statue stands in a plaza that bears her name. For her independent spirit, for the subtle but decisive influence she exercised on her husband, and for her hatred of all forms of oppression, **Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez** was as much a symbol of Mexican emancipation as any of her male colleagues in the freedom struggle.



**El Pueblo de  
Dolores Hidalgo**





## Origins of Hispanic History Month

The term **Hispanic** or **Latino** (or the more recent term **Latinx**) refers to a person's culture or origin—regardless of race. On the 2020 Census form, people were counted as **Hispanic** or **Latino** or **Spanish** if they could identify as having **Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban**, or “another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.”

**Hispanic Heritage Month** actually began as a commemorative week when it was first introduced in June of 1968 by **California Congressman George E. Brown**. The push to recognize the contributions of the Hispanic community had gained momentum throughout the 1960s when the civil rights movement was at its peak and there was a growing awareness of the United States' multicultural identities.

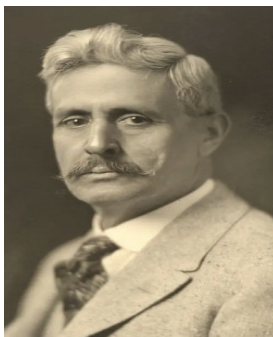
**Brown**, who represented **East Los Angeles** and a large portion of the **San Gabriel Valley**—both heavily populated by members of the Hispanic and **Latinx** communities—wanted to recognize the role played by those communities throughout American history.

On September 17, 1968, **Congress** passed **Public Law 90-48**, officially authorizing and requesting the president to issue annual proclamations declaring **September 15 and 16** to mark the beginning of **National Hispanic Heritage Week** and called upon the “people of the United States, especially the educational community, to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.” **President Lyndon B. Johnson** issued the first **Hispanic Heritage Week** presidential proclamation the same day.

## First Hispanic Senator Sworn in

Dec. 7, 1928

**Octaviano Ambrosio Larrazolo** of **New Mexico** is sworn in as the country's first Hispanic senator. The **Republican** attorney, born in **Mexico**, immigrated to the **United States** when he was a boy. He served one term as governor of **New Mexico** and later was elected twice to the state **House of Representatives** before running for the **U.S. Senate**. But his time in **Washington** didn't last long: In January he fell gravely ill and returned to **New Mexico** where he died April 7, 1930.



6301 Market St Houston, TX 77020

**Hours:**  
**5:00 AM - 8:00 PM**



**¡Pan Dulce pa Aventar pa Arriba!**



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 August 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. Who is thinking about running for President of the USA?
4. What does "tengo hambre" mean in English?
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 did Rick Noriega go to school?
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](mailto: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 agosto 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. ¿Quién está pensando en postularse para el Presidente de los Estados Unidos?
4. ¿Qué significa "Tengo hambre" en Inglés?
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 asistió a la escuela Rick Noriega?
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](mailto:lavoztexas@gmail.com). Asegúrese e incluya su dirección de devolución.

**FAITH MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
PRESENTS**

# Love

*Thy  
Neighborhood*



**FOOD • FUN • GAMES • MUSIC**

## FALL FESTIVAL

### 2ND NOV 2024

*FREE ENTRY  
FROM 3PM - 8PM*

*SELENA QUINTANILLA PEREZ PARK  
6402 MARKET ST,  
HOUSTON, TX 77020*

SCAN ME!





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## 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.

Don't forget to vote	No te olvides de votar
Why is it important to vote?	¿Por qué es importante votar?
Is it easy to vote?	¿Es fácil votar?
Were your parents voters?	¿Tus padres eran votantes?
When was the first time you voted?	¿Cuándo fue la primera vez que votaste?
Sometimes elections are	A veces las elecciones se
Decided by just one vote	Deciden por un solo voto
In some countries, people	En algunos países, la gente
Stand in line of hours just	hace cola durante horas solo
To cast the vote	para emitir su voto
That is how important	Así de importante es para
Voting is to them.	ellos votar.

## MUSEO GUADALUPE AZTLAN





# Denver Harbor by the Numbers: Voting Statistics

The following information paints a portrait of the civic involvement of the residents of Denver Harbor.

Number of Registered Voters in Denver Harbor (Zip Code 77020)

**6,891**

Number of Denver Harbor residents who turned out to vote in the March 2024 primary:

**581**

This turnout represents

**8.4%**

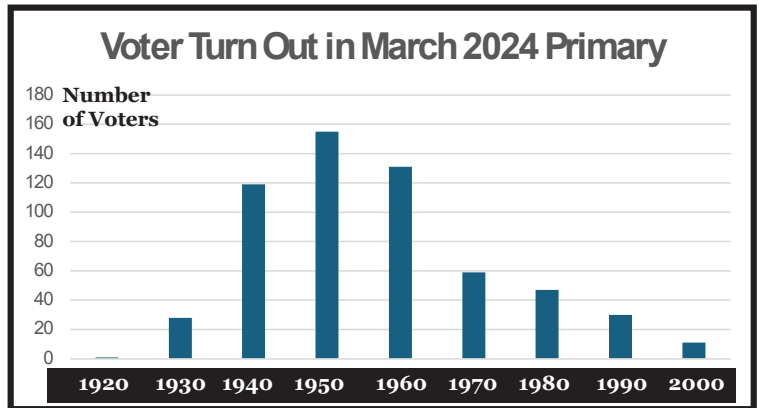
In terms of gender, more females turned out to vote than males.

**Females 302**  
**Male 279**

In terms of party affiliation this is how the 581 Denver Harbor residents voted:

**Democrat 382**  
**Republican 199**

The graph below shows voter turnout by age group. Only one voter was born in the 1920s. The largest group of voters came out of the decade of the 1950s 155 voters.



SOURCE: Harris County Clerk's office

## On the Importance of Voting

In a number of countries around the world people walk for miles to cast their vote. Sometimes they wait in line for hours to do the same. Here in the United States of America the history of voting is filled with examples where people have had to fight for the right to vote. At one time in Texas, people actually had to pay a "poll tax" in order to vote.

Today we find ourselves in Texas where large numbers of people do not bother to turn out to vote. They can remember where to buy lottery tickets or the next baseball is taking place, but taking the time to go and vote – it is the last thing on their mind. Why is that?

Basically it comes down to caring. It appears at times that people just don't care. And if this is true, then the question becomes how does a democratic society maintain itself if the participation of the electorate continues to decline? Some people say that people don't vote because they do not know how to vote. Is there something else going on inside a person's head that has to do with the drive or desire to vote? What do you think?

# BLOOD DRIVE

## Resurrection Catholic Church

Sunday, October 20  
10:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Gym

All successful donors will  
receive a Free Football T-Shirt

Contact Carolyn Lopez (713) 299-4049  
sponsor code: Z195



*Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome.*



*Anthony, blood recipient*



Gulf Coast Regional  
Blood Center

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

*Save lives on  
the go with*



Complete your Health History Interview before you  
come in for your donation.

Go to <https://cflexpress.giveblood.org/> and complete  
the same day as your appointment