The life of legendary community leader, American G.I. Forum founder and civil rights activist Dr. Hector P. Garcia will be observed on Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 10-11 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The event takes place the day before the special state observance honoring Dr. Hector P. Garcia.

The celebration, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by Student Government Association (SGA), Islander Cultural Alliance (ICA), and the African American Cultural Society. Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

University President Flavius Killebrew, State Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa, state Reps. Todd Hunter, Abel Herrero and Solomon Ortiz Jr. and family members Cecilia Garcia Akers and Wanda Garcia will be in attendance to honor the Corpus Christi physician who fought valiantly for civil rights, education and veterans affairs and ranks as one of the most important figures in Mexican American history.

Prior to the event, the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi will perform patriotic music and a documentary created by Alice High School students will be shown beginning at 9:45 a.m.

The celebration will feature the unveiling of a new highway sign for the Dr. Hector P. Garcia Memorial Highway and the presentation of a bill which created the Hector P. Garcia Day to Dr. Tom Kreneck, associate director for Special Collections & Archives. In addition, more than 30 Lamar Elementary School students, four teachers and Principal Dr. Christine Marroquin, attending the event will receive school supplies from

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the African American Cultural Society. Immediately following the event, Dr. Garcia’s papers will be available for viewing in the Mary and Jeff Bell Library, Special Collections Department. For more information, contact SGA at 361.825.5745 or ICA at 361.825.2539.

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