MEDIA ALERT
DATE: September 20, 2011
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***************PHOTO/MEDIA OPPORTUNITY***************

WHO: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi’s History Area and the University Community
WHAT: Dr. Hector P. Garcia Celebration
WHEN: Wednesday, Sept. 21, from 11 a.m. to noon
Best media opportunity: 11:30 a.m. to noon
WHERE: University Center, Lone Star Ballroom

Life of Civil Rights Leader Dr. Hector P. Garcia Honored During Celebration at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – A celebration honoring the life of civil rights leader Dr. Hector P. Garcia will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 21, from 11 a.m. to noon in the University Center, Lone Star Ballroom at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

The celebration, which observes the Dr. Hector P. Garcia state holiday, will include special guest, Cecilia Garcia Akers, daughter of Garcia; and short excerpts from the documentary, “The Longoria Affair,” which memorializes the 1949 incident in which Army Pvt. Felix Longoria was denied a wake at a funeral home where whites were interred. The incident sparked a national movement for Mexican-American civil rights. Garcia, a World War II veteran and founder of the American G.I. Forum, was a champion of issues confronting Mexican-Americans and other minorities.

The program will also include remarks from Dr. Pat Carroll, University professor and author of “Felix Longoria’s Wake;” a question-and-answer session; and a corrido performed by Santiago Hernandez.

-A&M-Corpus Christi-